

picturesque ever witnessed in Dunedin, and in preparing for this part of the programme, Miss Hamann is most loyally supported by the participants who are making every effort to perfect themselves in the dances and evolutions. It is needless to say that the tug-of-war contest is exciting much interest, and the number of teams that have signified their intention of competing, is in excess of those taking part in any previous contest. The committee are now actively engaged in completing the arrangements, the details of which will contribute in a marked degree to the comfort and convenience of patrons. Those who have received books of tickets are again reminded that it is most necessary to have blocks of sold tickets returned without delay. On Saturday afternoon Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., and the members of the Management Committee met the stallholders at His Majesty's Theatre, when the positions for the various stalls were allotted.

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHEDRAL CHOIR.

The annual meeting of St. Joseph's Cathedral Choir was held recently in St. Joseph's Hall. The president (Rev. Father Coffey, Adm.) presided, and there was a large attendance of members.

The report, which was read and adopted, showed the choir to be in a very satisfactory condition. During the past year a number of new members had joined, and more interest was taken in the work. There were still, however, a few members who did not seem to recognise the importance of attending the practices and the evening services. It was pointed out that the very essence of the success of the choir's work was that the practices should be regularly attended. During the past year Mr. Vallis, choir-master and organist, completed the twenty-first anniversary of his appointment, and due recognition was made of his excellent services at a function held in February last. Miss Callan still gives valuable help as assistant organist, and thanks are due to her. Mr. T. Deehan, who has been conductor since Easter, takes very great interest in the work, and his assistance has been much appreciated. On Labor Day, Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., again entertained the members at a picnic at Waitati, when a most enjoyable time was spent, and members desire to place on record their indebtedness to him for his kindness. The thanks of the choir are due to Messrs. McGrath and Poppelwell for their services in rendering the music of the Proper of the Mass on special occasions. The choir recently sustained a loss by the departure of Mrs. Fraher from Dunedin. This lady had always been a valuable member in choral and solo work, and her departure is much regretted. Upon the whole the choir is in a very satisfactory state, and the new year promises to be a very successful one.

After the election of officers, a musical programme of a highly meritorious character was submitted, the following contributing:—Songs—Miss Violet Fraser, Miss I. Poppelwell, Messrs. McGrath, Poppelwell, and Mee; flute solo, Mr. Deehan. A most enjoyable evening was spent, and before its conclusion it was announced that Father Coffey would give the annual picnic to the members on Labor Day.

A few evenings ago the gentlemen of the choir entertained the lady members at a social gathering in the Rata Tea Rooms, Stuart street, when a very enjoyable evening was spent.

Christchurch North

The Marist Fathers will open a mission in St. Mary's on Sunday, October 12, when special arrangements will be made for the children.

On Sunday Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament was held at St. Mary's from the 11 o'clock Mass until after evening devotions. The usual procession took place in the evening, and was followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

A meeting of the collectors in connection with the parish fund was held in Ozanam Lodge on Sunday night after devotions. It was well attended, fully fifty being present. The Very Rev. Dean Hills, S.M., V.G., presided, and, judging by the enthusiasm displayed, good results are expected.

MANAIA

A very large number of the residents of Manaia and surrounding districts assembled in the Town Hall on Wednesday evening, September 17, on the occasion of a valuable presentation to Mr. Charles Garrigan, who is leaving Manaia for Southbridge after a residence of over 15 years (says the *Waimate Witness*). There could certainly be no doubt about the popular esteem in which the guest of the evening was held. The costly and splendid gift of which he was the recipient as well as the fact that all classes of the community were represented in the proceedings and the personal tributes of the various speakers were all proof in that respect.

Mr. J. J. Meldon, who presided, said Mr. Garrigan's departure from amongst them had caused a feeling of widespread and very genuine regret in the community and also an equally widespread feeling that his services, extending over a period of 15 years, should not be allowed to go unrecognised. For the Hibernian Society he had done faithful and valuable work and by long years of untiring zeal and hard work he had been chiefly instrumental in making it one of the most flourishing branches of the institution in the colony.

Mr. A. G. Bennett was pleased to have an opportunity of publicly putting on record his testimony of the splendid services rendered to Manaia and its various institutions by Mr. Garrigan.

The Rev. Father Saunderson said their esteemed friend, Mr. Garrigan, was a man of whom he was justly proud. He was always willing to put his shoulder to the wheel in assisting every good work along. What he had done for the Hibernian Society was patent in the position it occupied to-day. He had been very intimately and usefully connected with Church work, and from that standpoint it was a pleasure to know, as well as a tribute to the liberal and broadminded instincts of the people, that that did not lessen but rather increased the esteem in which he was held by the public. Father Saunderson concluded by wishing him God speed and every success in his new home.

Mr. D. J. Hughes also complimented Mr. Garrigan on his many attractive qualities and generally endorsed the remarks of previous speakers.

Mr. Meldon then read a brief address to Mr. Garrigan from the parishioners, the H.A.C.B. Society, and his many friends in Manaia and the Waimate Plains, signed by Father Saunderson, Mrs. O'Donnell (Inaba) on behalf of herself and family, F. Mourie, and 130 others. He then handed him a gold watch, chain, and locket, the gift of his many friends in recognition of the esteem in which he was held.

Mr. Garrigan, speaking in feeling tones, sincerely thanked his friends for the magnificent proof of their esteem. He was very sorry he was going, and it certainly was some gratification to know he was leaving behind so many friends who had been associated with him during all these years. He had certainly put his heart into the work of the Hibernian Society, and it was a pleasure to know that, although one of the youngest, it was one of the strongest branches in Taranaki. He thanked Father Saunderson for speaking so highly of him. He did not deserve such valuable presents, for which he again thanked them sincerely. The proceedings concluded with a verse of 'For he's a jolly good fellow.'

Mr. J. A. G. Cosgrove, who succeeds Mr. Garrigan as secretary of the local branch of the Hibernian Society, was secretary of the presentation committee, and the *Witness* pays a well-deserved compliment to him for the admirable manner in which he managed the business.

The Maori of to-day, unlike his ancestors, is a great believer in personal comfort. A Native travelling on the Main Trunk train last week astonished the occupants of a carriage by producing an eider-down quilt, with which he made himself snug for the remainder of the night. The quilt was like Joseph's coat—of many colors.