

Diocesan News

Archdiocese of Wellington

(From our own Correspondent.)

January 9.

His Grace Archbishop Redwood has visited Masterton, and is now visiting Wanganui.

The Retreat for ladies, held annually at the Convent of the Sacred Heart, Island Bay, was this year preached by the Rev. Father Loughnan, S.J., and was a great success. All the retreatants expressed themselves as delighted with the result of the Retreat. Spiritually they profited by the exercises, and physically by the clear pure air of Island Bay.

The Retreat for men is to be held, as before, at St. Patrick's College, and will commence on the 23rd of this month. The men always enjoy these Retreats greatly. The old college is always crowded, and after the Retreat many reunions take place of friends who have little time for social intercourse in everyday business life. The spiritual value of the Retreat need scarcely be emphasised. It will be preached by a Marist Missioner.

There are many favorable notices of Miss Eileen Driscoll's recital in the Wigmore Hall, London, in conjunction with the pianiste, Miss Valeria Corliss. Miss Driscoll is known here as a singer with a pretty and sympathetic voice. Wigmore Hall is a hall much loved of musical debutantes. Miss Driscoll sang two Maori songs, the music of which is the work of Miss Doreen Walshe. The singer was greatly applauded for them. London is taken with such works at present. Folk songs of all countries are in great demand. Negro spirituelles, Maori songs, Serbian ballads, and the wonderful old Irish ballads, resurrected by the Celtic Renaissance, are the favorites there.

Infantile paralysis is causing much anxiety here at present. Beyond observing the ordinary health rules, it would appear that parents can do little to protect their children. It seems such a sporadic thing that its place of infection cannot often be detected. Children that have never been to the sea-shore or been playing with affected children catch it. As in the great epidemic panic does almost as much harm as the disease. Fear is useless in any case.

The Kilbirnie school is well under way. The brick work portion has now been reached, and the school will soon show its outlines. This growing parish is not going to let the demand get ahead of the supply of room, and it is wise.

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Masterton

(From our own Correspondent.)

January 9.

The annual concert of the pupils of St. Patrick's School drew a very large attendance, and the Assembly Hall was unable to fully accommodate the numbers who sought admission. The programme was a well-filled one, and the children acquitted themselves very creditably, a number of the items being heartily applauded.

The year just concluded has, in many re-

spects, been a most successful one for both St. Bride's and St. Patrick's Schools. Considerable improvements have been effected at St. Patrick's School, where an up-to-date heating system provides a good deal of comfort. The front portion of the grounds, too has now been asphalted, thus greatly improving the general neatness of the play area. The festival of Christmas was observed with more than ordinary ceremony this year, when the occasion was marked by the appearance of the beautiful crib which has lately been indented from America. Rev. Father Walsh, from Australia, was present at the Christmas observances, preached to a large congregation at Midnight Mass.

His Grace Archbishop Redwood was a visitor to the parish during the week end, and on Sunday evening imparted the special Papal blessing. His Grace gave a very interesting resumé of his travels to the recent Eucharistic Conference, and of his visit to Rome, being accorded a wonderful reception wherever he went.

Diocese of Auckland

(From our own Correspondent.)

January 8.

Two Retreats were conducted by the Rev. Father Walsh, C.S.S.R., at St. Mary's Convent, Ponsonby. The first was for the professed Sisters, and the second (which is proceeding now) was for the novices.

The Sisters of Mercy have successfully negotiated for the purchase of a very beautiful property at Howick, consisting of 17½ acres and a house, for the purpose of establishing a girls' orphanage in this fine little suburb. The property was owned by Mr. Haliburton Johnston, and is ideally situated, fronting Howick Beach, well timbered, and within easy distance of the pier. It is proposed to make extensive alterations to the buildings, and the plans and specifications are already in course of preparation by the architects. The Sisters believe in losing no time, and it will not be very long before the establishment is opened. No better site for an orphanage could have been secured in the Auckland district, and the Sisters of Mercy are to be congratulated on their enterprise and progressiveness in opening such an institution in this rising and progressive suburb—perhaps one of the most progressive in the Auckland district.

The residents of Papatoetoe and the surrounding district are very anxious to have a church in their midst. A working-bee, therefore, has been formed, and it will not now be long before an edifice is erected as a monument to the industry and energy of the Catholics at Papatoetoe. A full report of the organisation working for the accomplishment of this great work will be sent to the *Tablet* on the completion of the building.

A very pretty wedding took place in the Catholic church at Morrinsville recently. The contracting parties were Mr. J. Verner, sixth son of Mr. and Mrs. Verner, Morrinsville, and Miss Hilda R. Keogh, daughter of Mr.

and the late Mrs. Keogh, of Morrinsville. The bride was charmingly attired in brocaded crepe-de-Chine with veil and a wreath of orange blossoms. Miss Rose Verner, as bridesmaid, wore champagne satin and black hat. Marjorie Greenslade, as a flower girl, was in pale pink georgette and black hat. Mr. P. Keogh, of Auckland, was best man. After the ceremony a reception was held at the home of the bride's father.

Diocese of Christchurch

(From our own Correspondent.)

January 10.

The utility and convenience of the Catholic Girls' Hostel was greatly shown and enjoyed during the Christmas and New Year holidays, when all available accommodation was taken.

The annual Retreat for men, to be held at St. Bede's College, commences on the 16th January, and will be preached by Rev. Father McGrath, S.M.

The death occurred on the 7th inst., of Mrs. Tansey, wife of Mr. T. Tansey, of the Excelsior Hotel, Christchurch. The deceased was well known and highly respected, and her many friends who attended the Requiem Mass at the Cathedral, and the interment at Bromley cemetery, testified to the esteem in which the deceased was held. The Requiem Mass was celebrated by Rev. Father Ardagh, nephew of deceased. Miss K. O'Connor presided at the organ. Many local and visiting clergy, assisted at the Requiem Mass and the funeral, which was one of the largest seen in Christchurch for some time.—R.I.P.

His Lordship the Bishop, who attended the diamond jubilee celebrations of Rev. Mother Mary St. Clare, at Hokitika, returned to Christchurch on Thursday.

Rev. Father Roche, S.M., of St. Mary's, spent a few days on the West Coast during the week, and returned to Christchurch on Friday, accompanied by Rev. Father Herbert.

The manager of the Grand Theatre kindly entertained the children of the various orphanages to the screening of the picture, "The Thief of Bagdad" on Friday morning.

The many friends of Mrs. T. Cahill will be pleased to hear that she is recovering from her recent illness, and is now able to leave Lewisham Hospital.

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Ashburton

(From our own Correspondent.)

January 8.

The 21st annual meeting of the St. Patrick's branch (No. 426) of the H.A.C.B. Society was held on Monday evening last, the retiring president (Bro. B. L. Brophy) presiding over a large attendance. Correspondence was received from the N.Z. District and discussed. The sick visitors' report showed two members to be on the sick fund. Two nominations were received for membership. The election of office-bearers for the ensuing year resulted as follows:—President, Bro. H. Lennon; vice-president, Bro. Neil Hansen; treasurer, Bro. Very Rev. Dean O'Donnell; secretary, Bro. F. Lennon; warden, Bro. J. Williams; guardian, Bro. T. O. McIntyre;

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