

sick visitors, Bros. P. Brosnahan and F. Lennon; auditors, Bros. T. Purcell and Jas. Brown; delegates to United Friendly Societies' Association, Bros. Wm. Bryant and F. Lennon.

During the past few years many popular Catholic families have taken their departure from Ashburton, but all will agree that the impending departure of Mr. and Mrs. E. A. O'Malley and family will be received with general regret. Mr. O'Malley has been manager for Pyne, Gould, Guinness, Ltd., in Ashburton for the past 5½ years, having been promoted from Geraldine, where he had been stationed for 18 years. He has now been promoted to take charge of the Waimate branch of the company. During their period of residence in Ashburton, members of the family have identified themselves with any deserving Catholic cause. Being musically inclined, their names have always been to the fore on programmes at Catholic con-

certs and social functions, and their departure is one long regret. Mrs. O'Malley has been a tower of strength in connection with Catholic gatherings, and her absence in this respect will be keenly felt. The choir will lose two of its best members; Miss Madge O'Malley also filling the position of organist on several occasions. Local farewells will be tendered in the near future. Members of the staff of Pyne, Gould, Guinness, Ltd., recently met and presented Mr. O'Malley with a well filled purse of notes as a token of their respect. The Associated Auctioneers presented him with a gold-mounted fountain pen, and from the Ashburton Volunteer Fire Brigade he received a travelling bag and rug. Waimate is indeed fortunate in having as residents the O'Malley family, but it is unnecessary for me to state that the Catholic community of Ashburton are loath to part with such a popular family.

## Sacred Heart College, Christchurch

### REPORT FOR THE SCHOLASTIC YEAR.

The distribution of prizes took place in the big school room on December 12: the prize list appearing in the *Tablet* issue for December 31.

The report for the year showed that the numbers were steadily increasing, the roll number at the end of the year being 216.

#### INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

All the classes up to Standard VI were examined in September by the Education Board's Inspectors, Messrs. Evans and Raymond. The following is their report:—

"This school is well organised and ably conducted. The teachers are earnest and painstaking in the discharge of their duties, and are doing their best to meet the demands of the syllabus. In the upper classes, reading, recitation, writing, composition, and grammar are especially pleasing. In the lower department commendable progress is made by the majority of the scholars, their efforts in reading, recitation, spelling, writing, and arithmetic showing special merit. Written tests are very neatly set out and methodically arranged, and good programmes of work are in operation. Singing and physical drill are receiving due recognition. A fine spirit of industry is in evidence. The discipline and tone throughout the school are very good."

#### SPECIAL LECTURES.

During the year the pupils of the upper divisions were treated to a very fine series of lectures by Rev. Dr. Kennedy, of Hokitika, who gave them a most interesting and instructive account of his recent tour through America and Europe. They were able to visit in spirit all the great cities of Canada and the United States and to realise the marvellous growth of the Catholic Church in these lands. It happened that while the Rev. Dr. was in New York the death of an old priest who had labored in that city for over sixty years served to bring to notice among other things how considerably the position of Irish immigrants had improved in

that time. When this good priest first took up work in the poorest quarter of New York his parishioners were predominantly Irish. When he died there was not one Irish family in his parish. They had all moved to better parts of the city and their place had been taken by Italian and other European immigrants.

In Europe, the tour included a visit to Monte Casino—the nearest approach on earth to the first Paradise—more than one visit to the high functions taking place in St. Peter's, the Vatican on the historic occasion of the visit of King George V and Queen Mary, Venice, Vienna, Warsaw, which is redolent with memories of our present Holy Father, Berlin where Catholics are at last obtaining an opportunity of asserting themselves, Cologne, Paris, Lourdes, now the greatest place of pilgrimage in the world and Lisieux the second, across to London, where in spite of all that is said of its slums there are fewer scenes of congestion and poverty and more order and cleanliness than in any of the great American cities. In Ireland there were visits to Mount Melleray, to the Lakes of Killarney, to Galway, Dublin, and Belfast, and then a trip across to Scotland, Glasgow, Edinburgh, and the Trossachs. Such a bare outline cannot, of course, give any adequate idea of the multitude of interesting and important facts and side-lights which embellished each lecture and made the whole series a never-to-be-forgotten treat for those privileged to listen to them.

Equally fortunate were we in securing from Rev. Father T. Hanrahan, on his return from the Chatham, a first-hand account of his visit, much of which has since appeared in the *Tablet*. In the month of November, in order to impress upon the senior pupils the unbroken continuity of the Church's practice of praying for the dead Rev. Father gave a most impressive description of his visit to the Catacombs which made those listening feel as if they themselves were stepping down into those marvellous vaults and making their

way along the miles and miles of winding passages lined on either side with Christian tombs, the slabs on the outside of which still in a state of almost perfect preservation, begged prayers for the repose of the souls of the first Christians buried there. Perhaps most impressive of all was the story of the lately discovered chapel which being cut off from the outside air still contains the altar arranged for the celebration of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the sacred vessels, the cruets, etc., almost the same as in a modern church. Hundreds of early Christians had been surprised here by Roman soldiers who had sealed up the entrance, and now after all these hundreds of years the forms of their bodies are to be seen in the white dust which covers the floor. Communion cups and articles of devotion are scattered here and there among them.

His Lordship Bishop Brodie, after distributing the prizes and reading the year's report viewed the large display of plain and fancy needlework and dressmaking exhibited as a result of the year's work by the pupils of the primary and secondary departments. His Lordship took occasion from this to impress upon the girls the importance of the art of housekeeping, especially in its branches of sewing and cooking and general economy. In the long course of his ministry he had come across many homes in which a neat and careful mother had been enabled by her skill to do wonders with comparatively little money. In conclusion he urged them to keep up during the holidays the good practices they had learnt at school during the year and in this way he was sure they would be a comfort and a blessing to their parents.

The school then closed until February 3, 1925.

The attention of persons entitled to a vote at parliamentary elections is drawn to a public announcement appearing on page 36 of this issue in regard to compulsory registration of electors. By the Legislature Amendment Act, past last session, an obligation is placed on every person qualified to be registered as an elector to enrol, whether his name is already on the roll or not. A further obligation is that every person, after he has become registered, is to notify change of residence.

#### CONNEMARA RELIEF FUND.

Collected by Mrs. O'Connell (Onehunga) and Mrs. Riordan (Newton):—

Mrs. M. D., 10s; Miss Minnie Lyons, £1; Mrs. Nash, 10s; Miss Morrison, 5s; Mrs. O'Connell, 10s; Mr. Monaghan, 2s 6d; Mr. J. J. Sullivan, 10s; Miss T. Lavery, £1; Mrs. Miller, 2s; Mr. R. O'Connell, 5s; Mary O'Connell, 1s; Miss Leahy, 2s; Mrs. Coyle, 1s; Mr. O'Connor, £1; Mr. Beaver, 2s 6d; Mr. Convery, 2s 6d; Mrs. M. O'K., 10s; Mr. P. Sugrue, 10s; a friend, 3s; small sums, 6s; H. Kaney, 10s 6d. Total, £11 10s.

#### SUBSCRIPTION IN AID OF THE IRISH FAMINE FUND.

Jack Coyne, 10s; W. Lucas, 5s; Tim Macken, 5s; Pat Conlan, 5s; Timothy Riordan, 10s; Jack Burke, 5s; Mat Doran, 5s; Moss Carey, 5s; Tom Devan, 5s; F. Delahunty, 5s; Jack Ruane, 5s. Total, £3 5s.

—Adv.

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