

beautiful city, but was somewhat disappointed at not seeing young New Zealand at work in the school.

Members of the board of the Particular Council of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, Dunedin, will meet the parishioners of the North-east Valley, in the Sacred Heart Schoolroom, on Thursday evening next, at 8 o'clock, in the interests of the local conference of the Society.

The Misses Cartwright, Oamaru, have received information from the secretary of the Royal Academy and Royal College of Music, London, that Sheila Brown has gained the highest number of marks in New Zealand in her grade—gaining distinction with 138 marks. Louise Tonkin and Roberta Hinkley also came very high on the list with 135 marks each. At the December Trinity College Theory Examinations Foss Shanahan and Jack Grant gained honors in the Junior Grade with 98 and 93 marks respectively.

The annual Irish national entertainment in celebration of St. Patrick's Day, to be given on Tuesday night next (the 17th inst.) in Burns Hall and Town Hall, South Dunedin, should attract large audiences and prove thoroughly enjoyable. As the proceeds are intended to assist worthy causes the promoters hope for the success that usually accompanies this popular function. An excellent programme, containing the names of a number foremost in the musical profession, will be presented, thus enabling patrons to hear the songs of the Old Land given in a manner at once pleasing and worthy of their appreciation.

CHILDREN OF MARY, SOUTH DUNEDIN

A successful eight days' Retreat was recently preached to the Children of Mary, St. Patrick's parish, South Dunedin, by Rev. T. A. Campbell, C.S.S.R. The members of the sodality lead busy lives, yet, in full force, they assembled in the Convent Chapel at 5.40 each morning and again in the evening, eager to take advantage of the spiritual exercises, the blessings of which are so helpful to them in their year's work. The sermons and instructions were well calculated to inspire those privileged to hear them with a greater love for their dearest Mother, and to foster that love by prayer, frequent reception of the Sacraments and the imitation of Our Lady's virtues. On Sunday evening the final ceremonies in the Basilica commenced with an impressive sermon by the zealous Redemptorist, who took for his text the words: "We fly to Thy patronage, O holy Mother of God." Rev. Father Campbell, assisted by the Sodality's Spiritual Director (Rev. Father Delany), performed a consecration ceremony, sixteen members receiving the long-coveted ribbon, medal, and manual of the Children of Mary. Thirty-one young girls received aspirants' badges.

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OBITUARY

SISTER MARY BRENDAN (LANGFORD), SOUTH DUNEDIN.

After a lingering illness extending over two years, Sister Mary Brendan passed peacefully to her rest as the convent bell was tolling the mid-day Angelus on Thursday 5th inst. The deceased Sister, who was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Francis Langford of Centre Bush, having passed with distinction through the Invercargill High School, entered the teaching profession under the Southland Education Board. Early in 1911 she resigned the position she held in the Nightcaps Public School and came to Dunedin, where she was enrolled amongst the students at St. Philomena's College to prepare for the Teachers' C. certificate which she obtained in February, 1912. She then resolved to devote her life and talents to the service of God and with this end in view began her term of probation in the Novitiate of the Sisters of Mercy. On December 10, 1914, she was professed by the late Right Rev. Monsignor Coffey. For some years Sister Mary Brendan was engaged in the work of education at the Head House of her Order. Later she taught in the schools attached to the Branch Convents at Mosgiel, Gore, and Alexandra, until three years ago when failing health forced her to relinquish active duties. Strengthened by the groves and consolations holy Church gives to her suffering children, the dear invalid bore with exemplary patience and resignation the trial of a long illness; and, when all hope of recovery was gone, she cheerfully awaited the coming of the welcome Angel of Death.

At 7 o'clock on Saturday morning, when Solemn Requiem Mass was offered for the repose of the late Sister's soul, there was present in St. Patrick's Basilica a large congregation, including Mrs. Langford (mother), Mrs. Hamilton, Centre Bush, and Mrs. Robins, Gore (sister); Mr. Langford (brother), Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Langford, South Hillend (aunt and uncle of deceased). His Lordship the Bishop presided in the sanctuary; Rev. C. Collins (Holy Cross College) was celebrant; Rev. B. Kavanagh (St. Joseph's Cathedral) deacon; Rev. E. H. Rooney, subdeacon; and Rev. J. P. Delany, master of ceremonies. A choir of children from St. Vincent's Orphanage sang the solemn incidental music. At 11 o'clock the funeral left the Basilica for the place of interment in the Southern Cemetery: Rev. E. H. Rooney, Rev. T. Hally, Rev. Brother Murphy, Rev. Brother Higgins, Rev. Brother Hynes, and Rev. Brother Goggin acted as pall-bearers, and Rev. Father Delany officiated at the graveside.—R.I.P.—

SISTER MARY IMELDA (O'NEILL), O.S.D.

With sincere regret we record the death at the Dominican Convent, Teshemakers, of Sister Mary Imelda (O'Neill). The deceased Sister was born in Ireland 68 years ago, and entered the Order at St. Dominic's Priory, Dunedin, some years after coming to New Zealand. Her religious life, strongly colored, as it was, by an especial devotion to the Holy Rosary, was a never-ending

source of edification both to her sisters in religion and to those of the outside world who came into touch with her. It has been said, and truly, that a volume of marvellous beauty might be compiled on the death of a Dominican religious, and those who witnessed the death of this revered Sister assure us that there would be no more beautiful chapter in that marvellous volume than that which would record the circumstances of Sister Mary Imelda's last hours, fraught, as they were, with the promise of a peculiar blessedness. May she rest in peace.

Invercargill

(From our own Correspondent.)

March 9.

The monthly meeting of the St. Vincent de Paul Society was held on Tuesday evening in St. Joseph's Schoolroom, Rev. Father Martin presiding. Members present were Mrs. Loughnan (vice-president), Mrs. G. W. Woods (secretary), Mesdames Fraser, Lenihan, Miller, Jackson, B. Ferry, Sheehan, Lister, and Gardiner. This society is progressing steadily, and thanks are due to those of the parishioners who have helped. There are still a number, however, who are slow in giving assistance. Smallest donations will be thankfully received, and as the winter is coming on, clothing suitable for making children's clothes will be most acceptable. Any case where help is needed should be made known to Rev. Father Martin or any member of the committee. The society also wishes to thank Dr. Collins for his kindly help.

Yesterday being the second Sunday in the month, was the Communion Sunday for the holy members of the Confraternity of the Sacred Heart, a large number approaching the Holy Table at the two early Masses. It was also the monthly Communion day for the Children of Mary, and it was indeed most edifying to see nearly two hundred girls in choir dress approach the Holy Table. During the Mass some very beautiful hymns were rendered. His Lordship Bishop Whyte, who celebrated the first Mass, referred most kindly to the singing, which was so devotional, also congratulating the sodality on its large numbers.

During these Lenten days one cannot but admire the altars, which are most artistically decorated in the shades of pale heliotrope and purple asters. The young ladies in charge deserve every praise for their work.

HOW YOU MAY HELP

The writer of the historical notes on the Church in New Zealand, now running through the *Tablet*, having in mind the added interest imparted by illustrations, would be very grateful if those possessing photographs of priests who formerly labored in the Dominion—the early missionaries especially—would forward such (with name, etc., attached) to the *Tablet* office. After being reproduced, these would be carefully returned to the owners.

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Thomas Munro

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