

Our Colleges and Schools

Sacred Heart College, Auckland

ANOTHER BRILLIANT YEAR.

(From our own correspondent.)

The Sacred Heart College students held their annual prize-giving ceremony in the Concert Chamber of the Town Hall on Wednesday evening, the 16th inst. The hall was packed to the doors by parents and friends of the college. The report submitted by Rev. Brother Borgia, B.A., Director of the college, showed ample evidence that the college had achieved another brilliant year. The examination results for 1924 were:—Six passes gained for University Entrance Scholarships; eight Higher Leaving Certificates (University Bursaries); 21 passed Matriculation (9 M.S.P.'S); 32 intermediate and senior National Scholarships, and 9 Public Service Entrance Examinations were won by students.

The Director stated that he had been in charge of the college for four years, and had ample opportunities of studying the boy on which the Dominion's future depended. "I find nothing wrong," he said, "with the mental and physical endowments of the New Zealand boys, but I have gradually come to the conclusion that if we wish to maintain a virile race in this Dominion, we must attain a fuller realisation of the vital importance of the early training of our boys."

The Director stated that the parents and home influence should be the paramount factor in moulding the character, more particularly in the early years of childhood. If this were so, there would be little trouble when the period of self assertiveness arrived. Generally speaking the boys of to-day are sons of educated parents, who should realise the urgent need of parental care and vigilance. Yet I am very doubtful if, as educators, they compare favorably with their pioneer fathers, who, in their simple way, seemed to have a surer grasp of their fundamental duties to their children. There are, of course, many excellent homes where the educational functions of the parents are understood and practised conscientiously, but I am afraid the general tendency is in the direction of side-stepping parental responsibilities.

The college had achieved distinction, both as regards scholarship and sport. The record has been an excellent one, and very gratifying to the teachers and parents. For the first time in the history of the college, day pupils numbered over 100. The increase was principally due to the establishment of a system of day scholarships. Several permanent day scholarships had recently been awarded, tenable for three to four years.

A FINE ENTERTAINMENT.

Prior to the prize distribution, the students presented a very attractive and entertaining programme of items which helped materially and pleasurably to glide away the passing hours. The college orchestra was responsible for two bright and tuneful overtures which excellently opened up the pro-

gramme in each half. The college junior choir sang delightfully and tunefully "Sweet Vale of Avoca," "Ave Maria," "Hush 'Tis the Twilight," and "Ireland, Beautiful Ireland." The work of the chorus was well balanced and showed evidence of careful training under the able conductorship of Brother Dionysius. This indeed was one of the most pleasing performances on the programme, and Brother Dionysius must be congratulated on the excellence of his work. The pianoforte duet, "Galop Brilliant," by Terence O'Brien and John Prendergast was spiritedly and appropriately rendered. The scene from Dickens—"Nicholas Nickleby," was well cast and intelligently interpreted. M. Hawken as Mr. Squeers struck the spirit of the part, and the remainder of the characters acted well up to him. Mr. G. Lanigan played a very tasteful violin solo. The Forest Scene from Shakspeare's "As You Like It" was well spoken. Wallace as the banished Duke spoke the lines well, and "Touch stone" was in the capable hands of M. Hawken, who infused a good deal of life into the lines, and together with his comedy with "Audrey," created great amusement. The Lords were suitably depicted by Masters Brosnahan and G. Doherty, and the lines of "Jaques" were correctly delivered by Master D. Reilly. Perhaps the most delightful item of the evening was the vocal solos of Master Tom O'Brien, who has a soprano voice of true quality. But for a little too much tremolo, the solos would have been perfect. As it was the performance was a rare treat. Master Cuddon-Large did not quite grasp the true spirit of "An Incident in the French Camp." He, however, delivered the lines intelligently and made the recitation enjoyable. The "Burlesque" was a highly diverting piece of humor in which Maurice Hawken was the life and soul of the party. It was keenly enjoyed by the audience, who showed their appreciation by pronounced applause. Mr. Finer made an excellent accompanist, and the orchestra was in the capable hands of Mr. Dimery.

It was pleasing to see Dr. Liston present, who attended owing to the illness of Dr. Cleary. Mr. M. J. Sheahan, in a neat speech welcomed his Lordship, and the audience showed their appreciation by giving him three hearty cheers.

The following is the prize list:—

Form Va.—Special prizes: The Coolahan medal for good conduct (presented by Bishop Cleary): Richard Gilhooly. Religious knowledge (presented by Monsignor Cahill): Richard Gilhooly. The Arthur Foster memorial prize: Philip Soljak. Dux of the school (the director's prize): Philip Soljak. Latin and French in sixth form: Philip Soljak. Mathematics in sixth form: Harold Wallace. Aggregate merit in form V: James O'Farrell. Science in form V (the Val Blake memorial prize): George Foy. The McVeagh memorial prize essay: Basil Quin 1, Peter Burke 2. The old boys' prize essay: Rupert Keenan 1, Philip Soljak 2. The Barry Farley memorial prize for history in form V: Dec-

lan Reilly. Sports championship: Senior, Maurice Hawken; junior, Thomas McCarthy. Jumping event (gold medal presented by Mr. M. Flynn): E. Brill. Handball championship: Senior, Nicholas Bradanovich; junior, Angus Macdonald.

Form VIa.—Second in aggregate merit: R. Keenan. Science: F. Redman. Application: C. French.

Form VIb.—Aggregate merit: R. Gilhooly 1, D. Maher 2, N. Bradanovich 3. English essay: E. Murphy.

Form V.—Aggregate: G. Foy 2, J. Bradbury 3.

Form IVa.—Aggregate: R. Parker 1, J. Rodgers 2, R. Duggan 3. Religious knowledge: B. Mulhern.

Form IVb.—Aggregate: S. Rockel 1, J. Curran 2, T. Hickey 3. Religious knowledge: E. Doherty.

Form IIIa.—Aggregate: R. Cuddon-Large 1, M. Smith 2, B. Quin 3. Religious knowledge: I. Martinovich.

Form IIIb.—Aggregate: J. Jamieson 1, M. McQuaig 2, T. Toye 3.

St. Mary's College, Wellington

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES.

Happy in the thought of meeting one another once more, and ready to extend a welcome to new scholars, the students of St. Mary's College returned in April of this year to their *Alma Mater*.

Strenuous and generous efforts were needed if the college were to maintain its well-known standard of efficiency, for many weeks had been lost by reason of the unavoidably long vacation. Be it said then, to the credit of teachers and pupils, that lost time has been redeemed.

The usual examinations have been entered for, and results to date amply reward the untiring devotedness of the Sisters and the ready response of the students.

Portrait painting, still-life painting, pen painting, leather embossing and modelling are features of the school curriculum, and very many of the scholars excel in dress-making and in practical domestic economy.

The spirit of the college is one redolent of happiness and contentment and replete with perfect sympathy between the Sisters and the children.

The spiritual Retreat for the children was eloquently preached by Rev. Paul Kane of the Marist Missionary staff.

The prize-winners are as under:—

Good conduct, senior boarders (gold medal, gift of Mr. Denton): Mildred Sim; next in merit: Ima Schollum. Norma Vallance, E. Wilkinson, Elsie Boniface, Clarice McLeod.

Good conduct, day pupils, senior (gold medal, gift of Rev. P. J. Smythe): Eileen Mansfield; next in merit: Minnie Khouri, Madge McMahon, Nancy Sloane; hon mention: Flora Smith.

Christian doctrine (gold medal, gift of Mrs. Margaret O'Connor): Patricia Connor; prizes: Flora Smith, Eileen Mansfield, and Dorothy Dealy.

English composition (gold medal, gift of his Grace Archbishop Redwood), Edna Wilkinson.