

OAMARU CATHOLIC MEN'S CLUB

(Contributed.)

A thoroughly successful evening was spent by members of the above club on Saturday, December 5, on the occasion of their first banquet. Originally it had been decided to hold a "mock banquet," but, though the function was more in the nature of a reunion, ample justice was meted upon the mock element of the evening. Arrangements were well in hand and a fair measure of success is due to the fact that the committee, practically speaking, "put their hearts into the job." Mr. Hogan presided over a company of 30 guests including Fathers Ardagh, Fenelon, and Finlay (some-time student in Paris). His Lordship Dr. Whyte regretted that duty prevented him from attending, but wished success to the entertainment.

The following toast list was honored: The loyal toast; "The Club," proposed by Mr. J. Griffen, replied to by the president and secretary; "The Patrons," proposed by Mr. I. Mackinnon, replied to by the clergy; "The Hibernians," Mr. G. Firth, replied to by the president, secretary, and treasurer of that body; "Catholic Teachers," Mr. W. Quinn, replied to by Mr. P. J. Duggan and Father Ardagh; "Parliament," Mr. A. G. Ny, replied to by Mr. A. E. Ahern; "Ireland," Mr. Cooney, replied to by Father Fenelon and Mr. P. J. Duggan; "City Fathers," Mr. E. J. O'Donnell, replied to by Messrs M. J. Hanley and W. Connors; "Ladies Club," Mr. A. Cahill, replied to by Mr. P. Flynn; "The Entertainers," Father Finlay, replied to by Mr. M. Kerr; "The Chairman," Mr. W. Simons, replied to by Mr. W. Hogan.

Replies to the various toasts brought to light information that has seldom been the lot of the men of the parish—especially the younger men to hear. Apart from matters relating principally to the club, members were treated to a fine history, briefly given of the H.A.C.B. Society from its origin down to the solid institution it is to-day. In Oamaru Monsignor Mackay established the society, and its first president was Mr. A. Direen. The fifty years' self-sacrifice of our Christian Brothers and Dominican Nuns in their efforts to imbue Christian men and women with principles of practical religion was brought forcibly home to us. We owe them our support and our gratitude. Mr. Duggan was in reminiscent mood, and those members who have not been actively associated with him and his teaching have every reason now to feel proud of the patriarch of the parish. Each one must appreciate the fact that Catholic youth must be taught by Catholic teachers.

It is not possible, here, to do justice to the treatment of the toast to Ireland, suffice to say that knowledge of the "Great Irish effort" may not again be so easily acquired.

During the evening interest was effectively maintained by items from Messrs. M. Kerr, A. Ahern, F. Shanahan, E. Dell, W. O'Leary, F. McBride, and W. Connors.

It is great folly not to part with your own faults, which is possible, but to try instead to escape other people's faults which is impossible. Marcus Aurelius.

NAZARETH HOUSE, CHRISTCHURCH
SUCCESSFUL GARDEN FETE.

(From our own correspondent.)

On Sunday afternoon week the presentation of the balance sheet of the garden fete and art union held for the benefit of Nazareth House recently, was the occasion for a general assembling of the stallholders, their assistants, and others who worked in conjunction with the executive. The Sisters once more showed what they are capable of doing with their young charges in the way of entertainment, and a very choice and varied programme was thoroughly enjoyed by the large gathering of visitors, amongst whom were his Lordship the Bishop, Rev. Fathers Bartley, S.M., Joyce (Cathedral), and Bosance, of the Goulburn diocese, N.S.W. Action songs, chorus work, step and fancy dancing, and recitations were really well performed by the children, and items that call for special mention were the song "Dublin Bay" by Alma Chandler; sword dance by Alberta Collings, and a recitation "Help Yourself Do," by little Nellie O'Loughlin. Mr. T. Cahill (hon. secretary) read the balance sheet showing the stalls as follows:—Cathedral Stall—Per Mesdames Brittenden and Dobbs, £274 4s; Mesdames Brophy and Blackaby, £123 8s; Mrs. Greenlees, £44 6s 6d; Miss Malley, £39 4s 6d; Celtic Club, £6; total, £487 3s 3d. Cashmere Stall—Misses Hayward and Morkane, £383 13s 8d. St. Mary's Stall—Mesdames Clifford and Vincent, £206 3s; Miss Enright, £102 6s; total, £308 9s. Halswell Stall—Misses McCarthy and Walsh, £277 11s 1d. Addington Stall—Miss Sloane, £170 15s. Gate receipts, £50 1s. Entrance fees for competitions, £3 13s. Total, £1681 6s 0d. The expenses amounted to £96 4s 8d, leaving the handsome credit balance of £1585 1s 4d. The sale of tickets for the art union produced £859 12s, and the expenditure being £124 12s, a return of £735 was to hand. The net proceeds for the double function was £2320 1s 4d, and a cheque for this amount was handed by the Bishop to the Rev. Mother. In doing so his Lordship referred to the run of ill-luck that preceded the actual holding of the garden fete—it having to be postponed again and again. He complimented the stallholders and all the workers on the splendid result achieved, and paid a tribute to the supervision and excellent organisation due to the tactful ability of Mr. T. Cahill. Very feelingly the Bishop touched on the work of the Sisters and heartily thanked them for their excellent entertainment. Father Joyce returned thanks for the Sisters. Afternoon tea was dispensed to the visitors.

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THE OTHER CHILD.

I never see a child at play
Along some green, dusk-darkened street,
Chasing the flying fringe of day
With happy little running feet,

But that I pause and think upon
That other Child, Whose holy breath
Stirred all the fragrant flow'rs that shone
Along the slopes of Nazareth.

I think I see Him as He stood,
The sunset on His rosy hands,
Chasing the shadows in the wood,
Among the old grey olive-lands.

Did He within that whispering place,
His laughter on the twilight still,
Stop in His merry play and trace,
Outlined upon a lonely hill,

The shadow of a Cross? Did He,
With Eyes upon the sunset's rim,
Look with an awful dignity
Down the long years that loomed for Him?

I never see a child at play,
Along the evening pale and mild,
But that I take upon my way
The Sorrow of that other Child!

—MYRA MORRIS.



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