

Temuka

(From our own correspondent.)

March 21.

There was a large attendance of parishioners on Monday evening last in the Catholic Hall, to bid farewell to Rev. Father Kimbell, S.M., who was recently transferred to Fairlie, and to welcome Very Rev. Dr. Kennedy, S.M., and Rev. Father Galerne, S.M., who have been appointed to Temuka. The first part of the programme consisted of musical items arranged by Mrs. T. Hally, after which speeches were made by the chairman (Mr. T. Knight), Messrs. J. Kyne, J. Scott, and T. O'Connor. A presentation of a wallet of notes was also made to Rev. Father Kimbell. After the recipient's reply, Very Rev. Dr. Kennedy was welcomed. Returning thanks, Dr. Kennedy mentioned that he was succeeding an old friend as pastor, and eulogised Father Kimbell for the good work he had done in the parish. He (the speaker) hoped to also have the co-operation of the people in future undertakings.

Having suffered a breakdown in health, Rev. Father Hoare, S.M., who recently received notice of transfer, will remain here for some time to recuperate.

On last Friday night a most successful national concert, to commemorate the Irish national festival, was given in the Dominion Theatre in the presence of a crowded audience. The programme was of a high order, and, with the exception of one of the cello solos, was strictly confined to Irish minstrelsy, every number being honored by a recall. The school children sang two splendid choruses, "Beautiful Ireland" and "Let My Soul Pass Through Ireland." Miss Sugrue gave "The Dear Little Shamrock" and "The Wearing of the Green" very acceptably. Mrs. T. Hally sang with expression and sweetness "The Last Rose of Summer." She also artistically played the accompaniments. Rev. Father O'Leary was the outstanding success of the evening in his interpretations—"The Irish Emigrant," "The Minstrel Boy," and a triple-encore response, "Danny Boy." Miss Perniskie sang very nicely "Come Back to Erin," and Miss P. Geaney also sweetly gave "She is Far From the Land."

Some very nice dances were also given. The Misses Lynch delighted all with a four-hand reel and a set of jigs. Mr. J. Lynch stepped with excellent time an Irish hornpipe. Very Rev. Dr. Kennedy produced a charming tone on the 'cello, and gave a selection of Irish airs and a minuet by Paderewski. Mr. Curson gave one of his popular recitations. Miss A. McGarva gave a recitation entitled "Ireland's Appeal," and a final item of the programme was an Irish jig by Miss J. Lynch and Mr. Meagher.

Taumarunui

(From our own correspondent.)

March 18.

The Convent School children's annual picnic was held in commemoration of St. Patrick's Day. The weather was beautifully fine, and the children, after attending nine o'clock Mass, marched to the railway station, taking the train for Matapuna. The arrangements, which were in the hands of an efficient committee, were well carried out, and the children spent a very happy day indeed, returning to Taumarunui about 5.30 p.m. During the day a games and sports programme was carried out. In the latter John Sachs and Della Loveridge were successful in winning the boys' and girls' championships respectively.

The Irish national concert, which took place in the Theatre Royal on St. Patrick's Night, proved one of the most successful yet held in Taumarunui. The artists who assisted were Misses Stevens and Dixon, Messrs. McKenna and Kenny (Auckland), Miss M. O'Connor (Wellington), and Messrs. Potter and Love-day (Ohura). Two orchestral selections were also given by the Lyric Orchestra, under Mr. McKenize. The accompaniments were played by Mrs. Lawler and Miss Stevens. All the items were most enjoyable, the audience showing their appreciation by recalling each performer. At the conclusion of the concert the performers were entertained by Father Duffy at the presbytery, and were very sincerely thanked by him for rendering such highly appreciated services, gratis, and making the function such a pronounced success.

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