

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

July 25.

Mr. T. Cahill, president of the Christchurch Council of the Self-Determination for Ireland League, received the following cable from Mr. de Valera:—"Thanks most heartily support Christchurch League." This was in reply to the message sent from the North Canterbury District Provincial Council.

Rev. Father Cooney, who recently visited Ireland, has expressed his willingness to deliver a lecture under the auspices of the Hibernian Society, on "Ireland To-day." The lecture will probably be given on Monday, August 1.

With the object of assisting the archconfraternity stall in connection with the sale of work in aid of the Cathedral Catholic schools, an enjoyable entertainment, organised by Mrs. Greenlees, was recently given in the Hibernian Hall. There was a crowded audience. The programme numbers contributed by the "Juvenile Merry-makers," most of the performers being prize-winners at the local competitions, met with due appreciation. An efficient orchestra added to the success of the entertainment, and Mrs. Greenlees deserves to be congratulated on her efforts in presenting so much youthful talent and on its results.

At the recent meeting of St. Matthew's branch of the H.A.C.B. Society, Sister G. Baker presiding, two new members were initiated. It was decided to hold a euchre and social in the Hibernian Hall on August 4. The following are the office-bearers for the ensuing term:—President, Sister G. Baker; vice-president, Sister E. Gleeson; secretary, Sister M. B. Sloan; treasurer, Sister M. Smyth; warden, Sister K. Lockhart; guardian, Sister E. Rodgers; sick visitors, Sisters Blackaby, M. Nolan, and T. Nolan; assistant secretary, Sister K. Bridgman. The installation was carried out by P.P. Sister R. Rodgers.

An enjoyable social, in aid of the local Catholic church building fund, was held on last Wednesday evening in St. Paul's Schoolroom, Papanui. There was a very large attendance. The euchre prizes were won by Misses Campbell and Hanrahan, Messrs. Campbell and Dolan, and in presenting them Father Seymour thanked the energetic committee for its efforts and the patrons for their support.

An enjoyable evening, with the object of assisting the Cathedral Tennis Club stall in the forthcoming sale of work, was held during the week at the Catholic Girls' Hostel. The function proved successful.

A social organised by the committee of St. Anne's Church, Woolston, was held on Thursday evening, July 14, in the local Oddfellows' Hall, when there was a crowded attendance. Excellent music was supplied by Mrs. Baxter. The euchre prizes, presented by Mr. D. G. Sullivan, M.P., were won by Mrs. Strothers and Mr. Higgins. Rev. Father Gallagher thanked the committee and all who assisted to make the social a success.

Timaru

(From our own correspondent.)

July 25.

At the girls' school hall on the 20th inst. Rev. Father Hurley, S.M., gave a very interesting and instructive lecture in the presence of a very large and appreciative audience. The lecturer did full justice to his subject, and used a powerful lantern and beautiful slides, which were procured from America. The concluding portion of the lecture is to be given at an early date. The lamp was ably manipulated by Mr. Cuthbert Knight.

Last Sunday the Self-Determination for Ireland League committee took up a collection for the distressed families in Belfast (Ireland). The parishioners generously responded, and the sum of £70 was subscribed. The committee at St. Andrews will take up their collection next Sunday.

The Rev. Father Hurley has lately received from Rome a reliquary of chaste design containing the relics of saints. These are to be exposed for the veneration of the faithful on suitable occasions.

ST. MARY OF THE ANGELS' BUILDING BAZAAR

On next Saturday evening his Grace Archbishop O'Shea will open in the Town Hall, Wellington, the St. Mary's Rebuilding Bazaar. For several months active preparations have been going on, and stallholders and their assistants have been getting together all kinds of dainty and choice wares to tempt intending purchasers. There are five well-stocked stalls named after five great ecclesiastical sees and their respective cathedrals or beautiful churches. The names of the stallholders and stalls are as follows:—St. Patrick's, Armagh Stall—Mesdames R. Dwyer, D. Dalton, and Miss K. Whelan; Westminster Cathedral Stall—Mesdames T. Crowdson and H. Tyson; Rheims Cathedral Stall—Mesdames D. Burke and E. Healey; St. Peter's Basilica Stall, Rome—Mesdames R. Lawlor, T. P. Halpin, T. R. Hackett, and C. Pearse; St. Mary's, Wellington—Madame E. R. O'Connor. Huge paintings of these beautiful churches have been very artistically executed by Mr. Ernie Leaming, and these will be hung around the walls of the Town Hall, serving as a very effective and unusual decoration. A pretty color scheme has been worked out by Mr. Cook, of the D.I.C., who has kindly offered his services as decorator. Special attention has been paid to the entertainment side of the bazaar. Braund's Elite Orchestra has been specially engaged for the bazaar period. The principal dancing teachers of Wellington have arranged special dancing displays by their pupils and an excellent pierrot troupe will delight the hearts of patrons. There is a complete change of programme every evening. A number of unique side shows and a host of games of skill will help to lure the silver coin from the curious and the venturesome. The queen competition is a source of great interest and keen competition between the respective stalls, each of which is running a queen candidate. The bazaar will run for a fortnight, opening on Saturday, July 30, and closing on Saturday, August 13. Two special matinees will be held on Saturday, August 6, and Saturday, August 13, at 2.30 p.m. The bazaar opens every evening at 7.30. St. Mary's has always appealed to Wellingtonians because of its time honored associations. It was here that Father O'Reilly of saintly memory built the first Catholic church in Wellington—the old St. Mary's—so well known to past generations. It was the mother church of Wellington, and we feel quite certain that the good people of all parts of Wellington will rally round us during this rebuilding bazaar and thus help by their loyalty and generosity a great and noble work. Stupendous difficulties have been encountered in the prosecution of the work. One grand united effort is now asked for on the part of our people, and such effort will go far towards crowning with success this great undertaking—the building of a very beautiful church to the glory of God and the honor of Our Blessed Lady.

Te Kuiti

(From our own correspondent.)

July 22.

On July 3 a meeting of about 30 residents of Te Kuiti formed themselves into a branch of the Self-Determination for Ireland League of New Zealand. The office-bearers elected were:—Chairman, Mr. W. F. Hoffman (an Anglican); secretary, Mr. L. F. M. McKeefry; treasurer, Mr. J. Daly; committee, Messrs. Atkins, Dooley, O'Connell, and McSweeney (cousin of the late Lord Mayor of Cork). The branch has progressed rapidly, and it now numbers over a hundred members. The annual subscription appears to be too small for some members, who insist on larger donations. Hence many £1 subscriptions are the result. As the League's aim is to educate the general public and enlist their support, an invitation has been extended to Mr. Hall Skelton (president of the Auckland council), to repeat in Te Kuiti his lecture on the "Irish cause from a Protestant standpoint," which he delivered recently in Auckland. There are so many here holding anti-Irish opinions inculcated by the daily press, that the success of such a lecture is a foregone conclusion. Mr. Skelton has a way of convincing his audience, and we look forward to heavy enrolments as the result of his lecture.

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