

## Diocesan News

### ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

August 5.

Gold nuggets to the value of £75 and other valuable prizes are being offered in the art union in aid of the Grey Lynn Convent rebuilding fund. On Tuesday, September 6, 1921, the famous production, "Fabiola," will be screened in the big Town Hall. A special choir is being trained to render the incidental music. It is to be hoped that the financial result will benefit the convent fund considerably.

The Rev. Father John T. Taylor and his parishioners are to be heartily congratulated on the erection of a beautiful presbytery in Matamata, and which is nearing completion, and will be opened in the very near future.

Rev. Father Bradley, though having unfortunately suffered a set-back from a cold, is making steady progress. The doctor advises a long rest, and Father Bradley leaves for Ireland in a month's time. His many friends wish him heartily a speedy return to health and work.

August 20, 1921.

Death has claimed another of Wellington's oldest identities in the person of Mr. Michael Bohan, which occurred at his residence, Riddiford Street, on Wednesday, at the ripe age of 87. He was born at Templemore, Ireland, and came to this country when quite a young man. He was one of the founders of the Hibernian Society in New Zealand, having been one of those who made requisition for the establishment of the first branch of the Society in New Zealand. Mr. Bohan was elected the first president of the Charleston branch in 1869, and lays claim to the distinction of being the first elected president of the Hibernian Society in New Zealand, as the first president of the Addison's Flat branch was appointed for a month by the deputy from Ballarat, which in those days was the head office of the Society in Australasia. In 1874 Mr. Bohan was instrumental in having the Wellington branch formed, and has been actively connected with the Society ever since, having filled the president's chair on several occasions, and was the treasurer (after the resignation of that office by the late Mr. Alexander McDonald) for a term of seventeen years. Up to the date of his death Mr. Bohan was a familiar figure at any function, religious or social, organised by the Society. He was a staunch Catholic and true Irishman. The deceased gentleman leaves a grown-up family of five daughters, Mrs. C. O'Driscoll, Mrs. P. O'Driscoll, of this city, Mrs. Hunter, Melbourne, and Misses D. and K. Bohan. Mr. E. J. O'Driscoll the popular secretary of the M.B.O.B. Association is a grandson. The late Mrs. Bohan predeceased her husband some years ago. The interment took place on Friday, at Mount Street Cemetery, members of the Hibernian Society acting as pallbearers. Requiem Mass was celebrated by the Rev. Father Sweeney at St. Anne's. He also officiated with the Ven. Archdeacon Devoy, at the graveside.—R.I.P.

Mrs. Leydon, wife of Mr. J. L. Leydon, of Patrick Street, Petone, died on Thursday. Mrs. Leydon was the daughter of the late Mr. J. L. Doogan, of Greymouth. Much sympathy is felt for Mr. Leydon in his sad bereavement.—R.I.P.

St. Mary's rebuilding fund bazaar concluded on last Saturday evening and was a complete success, over £5000 being netted. The successful queen was Miss Mary McEvedy, daughter of Dr. McEvedy.

Mr. Michael Maher, a well-known parishioner of Thorndon parish, died recently. For many years he was in the railway service, having been stationmaster at the Upper Hutt and Eketahuna. Mr. E. J. Healy, the well-known conductor of St. Mary's Choir, is a nephew.—R.I.P.

Dr. Roche-Kelly, from Dublin, has commenced practice in this city as a doctor of medicine.

The meeting of the Dominion Council of the Catholic

Federation will take place at Dustin's Rooms, Cuba Street, on Wednesday, August 31.

### DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(From our own correspondent.)

August 19.

Bishop Cleary presided at Vespers and gave Solemn Benediction on August 17 Sunday at St. Patrick's Cathedral. His health has not been, nor is it at all good. It is sincerely hoped by all his people the sea trip and change will restore him.

Father Bradley attended on Sunday evening, assisting during Vespers and Benediction, and although looking thin and worn, he seemed on the high road to restoration to health. He leaves early next month on a trip to Ireland.

The School Inspector—Mr. G. Plummer—made the annual visitation to St. Patrick's Schools this week. He seemed pleased with the success attending the efforts of the Sisters, who carry out peculiarly difficult work with noticeably good results. The church committee have set themselves to the task of necessary improvements in the schoolrooms and playground, and good progress has been made, mainly by the working-bee organised by the committee.

The cafe chantant, which was so successful when held in Devonport, is to be repeated in the Town Hall early in September, when it is to be hoped it will be well patronised by all on this side of the Harbor. The proceeds are to be devoted to the forthcoming bazaar to be held to reduce the debt on "All Souls' Church, Devonport."

Mr. Hall Skelton, during the last fortnight has addressed crowded meetings of mixed audiences at the following places, at various Town Halls where very large numbers of people could not get in. He spoke at the theatre, Onehunga, and after a three-hour address a Maori walked up on to the platform, and holding out his hand to Mr. Skelton, said: "Put it there. I am a sun-burnt Irishman, and by corry my Irish blood is up to-night. The poor Irish have got the Maoris' sympathy." Mr. Skelton also spoke at Ellerslie, Panmure, and Howick, where he had crowded houses and enthusiastic audiences. Later he addressed meetings of a similar kind at Cook Street Hall, Devonport, Anglican Hall, at which Rev. Greenwood, Anglican vicar, presided, and he stated at the close of the address that it was the most eloquent and remarkable address dealing with the Irish question that he had ever heard in this or any other country. It made him feel ashamed to think that British administration in Ireland had been so shocking, and when men like the Archbishop of Canterbury and the leading Anglican bishops of England had given such strong public denunciation it was obvious that the British public, which were so slow to move, were at last awake, and their great force on public opinion would compel English party leaders to prevent the further "crucifixion of Ireland." At the theatre, Te Kuiti, Mr. Skelton had a splendid audience. An attempted diversion by opposition was made by ringing the firebell as a false alarm to cause the people to withdraw from the theatre, but not a soul left the building. At the Hamilton Town Hall on Wednesday night hundreds of people were turned away. It was estimated that over 60 per cent. of the audience were members of all denominations. Mr. Skelton held his audience spell-bound for over three hours, and the continuous cheering at the close showed that the audience had deeply appreciated the eloquent lecture. The Deputy Mayor of Hamilton occupied the chair, and his eulogy as a Methodist at the close is reported in the *Waikato Times*, a copy of which will be forwarded next week. Mr. Skelton speaks at Morrinsville, Te Aroha, Waihi, Thames, Huntly, Taupiri, Whangarei, and Dargaville, and after these addresses he is proceeding to the south of the North Island, and hopes to finish in the Wellington Town Hall, afterwards crossing to the South Island, where we are sure a cordial reception will be given him. In all his meetings there have been no interruptions, and no questions have been asked, so convincing are his arguments.