

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

A successful "Five-hundred" and euchre social was held in St. Joseph's Hall on last Thursday evening, under the auspices of St. Joseph's Cathedral Choir, the proceeds being intended to supplement a fund to re-condition the hall piano. The prize-winners were Miss N. Dunn, Mrs. Keenan, Signor Squarise, Messrs. F. Heley, R. Donaldson, and E. Sharp. Refreshments were served by the lady members of the choir, and an enjoyable musical programme was contributed to by Mrs. L. Woods, Misses Athy and A. McCreedy, Messrs. H. Poppelwell and D. Fogarty. Mr. A. Vallis played the accompaniments.

The members of the Children of Mary Sodality of St. Patrick's Basilica, South Dunedin, made a presentation last week of a framed picture of the Sacred Heart to Miss Martha Layburn, on the occasion of her approaching marriage. In handing the gift to Miss Layburn, Rev. Father Delany referred to the recipient's faithfulness to the sodality, and wished her every blessing in the new sphere of life she was entering upon.

Another of the series of social evenings promoted by the members of St. Joseph's Ladies' Club was given the other evening, friends of the club being guests on the occasion. An enjoyable programme of card games, music, etc., was provided and the large gathering was entertained in a manner which marked the function as one of the most pleasurable of the many recently organised.

The members of St. Patrick's Sodality of Children of Mary, South Dunedin, held a successful euchre party in the local Catholic schoolroom last week. The prizes were won by Mrs. Ryan and Mr. McEneaney. Musical items were contributed by Misses Dunbar, Keileher, and M. Keyes.

On Friday, 30th ult., a General Communion of the Children of Mary, Mosgiel, closed a very successful Retreat, which was conducted by Rev. Father Vincent, S.M. The attendance throughout was most gratifying. On the previous evening Rev. Father Collins (spiritual director) received several new members into the sodality.

At the Competitions held recently in Winton the following pupils of the Sisters of Mercy were successful:—Intermediate Division—Pianoforte solo, "Humoresque": Rose Driscoll (first). Pianoforte duet, "Rustic Dance": Rose Driscoll and Jean McNaught (second). Senior Division—Pianoforte solo, "Valse Arabesque": Minnie Balch (first); Myrtle Goodall (second). Pianoforte duet, "Valse Brilliant": Minnie Balch and Myrtle Goodall (first). Essay—"A N.Z. Industry": Primary school children, Auona Veame (first).

The Sisters of Mercy, South Dunedin, desire to express their cordial thanks to the ladies of the Kaikorai branch of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, for a useful parcel of clothing forwarded to the orphanage during the week.

Results of the examinations in musical knowledge in connection with Trinity College of Music, London, show that 34 students of St. Philomena's College, South Dunedin, were successful in the following grades:—Higher local, 1; senior honors, 3; senior pass, 1; intermediate honors, 4; intermediate pass, 3; advanced junior honors, 1; junior honors, 5; junior pass, 2; preparatory honors, 11; preparatory pass, 1.

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHEDRAL.

The devotion of the Forty Hours' Adoration was commenced at St. Joseph's Cathedral at 9 a.m. on Friday last. At the conclusion of Mass there was a procession of the Blessed Sacrament preparatory to exposition. In the evening, after the recital of the Holy Rosary, a sermon on the Blessed Eucharist was preached by Rev. Father Vincent, S.M., and was followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. There were similar devotions on Saturday evening, when the Cathedral was thronged continuously by parishioners attending in adoration. The Cathedral clergy were engaged in the confessions till a late hour. At the early Masses on Sunday (Rosary Sunday) many hundreds approached the Holy Table. In the afternoon at 3 o'clock a procession in honor of the Holy Rosary was participated in by the boys of the Christian Brothers' School and girls of the Dominican Nuns, who assembled at their respective schools, and with numerous banners, held aloft, proceeded to the Cathedral reciting the Rosary on the way and concluding with the five Glorious Mysteries after arrival there. parts of the devotion being sung by the pupils of the Dominican Nuns. A large number of the adult parishioners also assisted. In the evening the Cathedral was crowded in every part for the concluding solemnities of the Quarant' Ore. After Compline, Rev. Father Vincent prefaced a fine discourse on Reparation to Our Divine Lord in the Blessed Sacrament by saying how deeply he had been impressed by the strong and practical faith of the people as exemplified, not alone during the period of the Forty Hours, but also in their attendance that morning in such great numbers at the Holy Table. The ceremonies throughout (he said) were such that a stranger like himself to their city could not feel otherwise than convinced that our Holy Faith was a firm and living force in Dunedin, and in the diocese. After the singing of the Litany of the Saints, and closing prayers of the devotion, there was procession and Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

October 3.

At the recent quarterly meeting of St. Patrick's branch of the Hibernian Society, the president (Bro. H. C. Upjohn) presided over a full roll of office-bearers and a good attendance of members. Rev. Fathers T. Hanrahan and Skinner, and representatives of St. Mary's branch, were also present. A welcome to the meeting was extended by the president to Bro. J. T. Mahony, of Invercargill. After Bros. McSwigan and Lafferty (sick visitors) gave their report, allowances amounting to £13 7s 6d were passed for payment. A letter was received from Miss E. Brophy, on behalf of St. Matthew's (ladies') branch, expressing appreciation of the generous assistance rendered by the brothers in the interests of the recent sale of work in aid of the Cathedral Catholic schools' fund. One member was initiated and two nominations were received. Accounts amounting to £149 4s 6d were passed for payment: these represented M.A. fees (£83 15s), dispensary dues (£28 10s), and maternity bonuses (£18). On behalf of the branch, Father Hanrahan presented Bro. T. P. O'Rourke with a gold emblem medal in recognition of his excellent services to Hibernianism. Bro. O'Rourke expressed appreciation of the kindly regard shown him.

At a recent meeting of St. Mary's branch of the Hibernian Society, after the ordinary routine business was transacted and a new member initiated, an interesting letter from Very Rev. Dean Regnault was read descriptive of his visit lately to Ireland, and interview with Mr. de Valera, Professor McNeill, and other Irish leaders.

A visit was made last Thursday evening by members of St. Patrick's branch of the Hibernian Society to the New Headford branch, with the object of accepting a challenge from the latter to a cards match. The contest resulted in the defeat of the visitors by four games. A cordial welcome was extended by the country brethren to those from the city, and, aided by a varied programme, an enjoyable evening was passed.

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Timaru

(From our own correspondent.)

October 3.

The members of St. Anne's Guild have been busy the last few months preparing for a sale of work, which is to take place next Saturday, when it is hoped the parishioners will attend in large numbers to purchase the bargains offered.

The annual outdoor procession of the Blessed Sacrament took place yesterday (Sunday) afternoon. The route of the procession through the church and convent grounds was tastefully decorated with banners and religious insignia. Two temporary altars were erected from which Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was given. It is estimated that 2000 people participated in the procession, including the clergy, religious, children of the Catholic schools, parishioners of Timaru, and many from other districts. The ceremonies were concluded in the Sacred Heart Church, which failed to accommodate the huge crowd. Rev. Father McCarthy, Marist Missioner, preached a sermon appropriate to the solemnities, which were concluded with Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

CORRESPONDENCE

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

IRISH HISTORY EXAM.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir.—It will interest all who are desirous of the success of the effort to promote the study of Irish History amongst the school children in New Zealand, to learn that the prize list is likely to be considerably augmented by friends. The Very Rev. Father O'Donnell, Gore, gives two guineas, and others will help, too. Knowing the enthusiasm of many of the school teachers for the spread of knowledge regarding Ireland's chequered story, it may be confidently relied on that they will impart much of that enthusiasm to their pupils, with the most gratifying results.—I am, etc.,

JAMES O'NEILL.

Presbytery, Waikiwi, October 3.

OUR REPRESENTATIVES' MOVEMENTS

We wish to notify our northern readers that our three representatives have commenced a special visit to the North Island. Mr. T. J. Sheahan, Marton to New Plymouth; Mr. E. Hanrahan, Wellington to Napier; and Mr. J. M. Houlahan, Auckland City and surroundings. A visit to other parts of the Island will follow.

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