

DIocese of Dunedin

The Sisters of Mercy desire to assure the kind benefactor who sent a donation for St. Anthony's bread, that the Sisters and children of St. Vincent's Orphanage have commenced a novena to St. Anthony for "the special intention." They hope to hear if their prayers have been answered.

The devotions at St. Joseph's Cathedral in honor of the Blessed Virgin during this month (dedicated to the Holy Rosary), are being well attended. These include Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament each Tuesday and Thursday evening.



VISIT OF THE APOSTOLIC DELEGATE

DUNEDIN RECEPTION ARRANGEMENTS.

A preliminary meeting to initiate arrangements for extending a suitable reception to his Excellency the Most Rev. Archbishop Cattaneo, Apostolic Delegate to Australasia, on his expected arrival in Dunedin, was held on Wednesday evening week, at St. Joseph's Hall, Rattray Street. Very Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., presided, and read a tentative programme of functions to cover the week (from his arrival) that the Apostolic Delegate is likely to remain in this city, a copy of which he (the speaker) had forwarded to his Lordship the Bishop. Meanwhile, beyond preparatory work, nothing definite could be arranged until the actual hour of the Apostolic Delegate's intended arrival in Dunedin could be ascertained. Father Coffey said he thought it would be advisable to adjourn the meeting till Sunday evening, when, with the prospect of a large attendance, it would be possible to elect a general and the necessary sub-committees. This course being deemed expedient, the meeting terminated.

A largely-attended meeting of the parishioners, including representatives from St. Patrick's parish, South Dunedin, and from the suburban districts of St. Joseph's Cathedral parish—North-east Valley, Mornington, and Kaitorai—was held after devotions on last Sunday evening. Very Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., presided, and outlined what he suggested would be a suitable programme to be carried out, including the Apostolic Delegate's reception and subsequent ceremonies, social functions, and visits to Catholic institutions. A general committee to carry out the necessary arrangements (with Mr. H. Poppelwell as secretary) was then appointed, consisting of Messrs. C. A. Shiel, J. J. Marlow, J. B. Callan, T. J. Hussey, J. A. Brown, J. Hally, J. O'Neill, M. McAllen, O'Connell, Gullen, Kelleher, W. Glass, H. L. Gallien, E. Byrne, M. J. Hade, J. O'Connor, and J. J. Wilson.

A ladies' committee, consisting of the following, with power to add, was also appointed:—Mesdames M. A. Jackson, J. Hally, H. Poppelwell, Comer, J. J. Marlow, M. J. Hade, and Sandys, Misses Heley, Drumm, Holden, Columb, Crowley, Brady, Tarleton, and McQuillan.

Very Rev. Father Coffey, Rev. Father Delany, Messrs. J. B. Callan, T. J. Hussey, C. A. Shiel, and J. J. Marlow were appointed an address committee. Father Coffey invited the general committee to meet again on next Sunday evening, when he hoped to have definite information on several important matters.



Invercargill

(From our own correspondent.)

October 17.

A topic of general interest is the forthcoming garden fete, at which the Dominican Nuns will entertain their friends on Saturday, November 26. His Lordship Dr. Whyte has kindly consented to open the fete, and this alone will make the occasion a marked one. The well-known Hibernian Band, under Mr. Robert Wills, is to give special selections during the afternoon, and probably in the evening also; it is not necessary to say that a musical treat may be expected. Numerous prizes of exceptional beauty and value await successful competitors, whilst the goods to be offered for sale will be their own advertisement. The Nuns should realise a handsome amount as the congregation is in warm sympathy with the

object in view—the erection of a new convent and schools—and an afternoon spent in the convent grounds is always most enjoyable.



THE TRUTH ABOUT SCHOLARSHIPS

FATHER COFFEY'S REPLY TO STATEMENTS OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE.

Very Rev. Father Coffey, Administrator of St. Joseph's Cathedral, Dunedin, has addressed the following letter to the general secretary of the Catholic Federation, Westminster, London:—

St. Joseph's Cathedral,
Dunedin, N.Z., 14/10/21.

Dear Mr. Mara,

You will notice from the enclosed cutting from the *Christchurch Press* for September 9 (which statement was also published in other daily newspapers of this Dominion), that Sir Robert Stout, Privy Councillor, Chief Justice of New Zealand, one time Premier, Lecturer on Free Thought, and ardent Sponsor of New Zealand's public school system of Free, Secular, and Compulsory Education, has been enlightening the English public on the advantages and excellencies of our Public School System. I should have taken no notice of the notorious vagaries, nor even of the taradiddles of our Chief Justice, had he confined himself to bestowing his blessings on our Free, Secular, and Compulsory System of Education which is filling our Courts with juvenile criminals, giving plenty of work to our Magistrates and Judges, and keeping the birth-rate at about the lowest of any country within the Empire. God knows the System requires all the blessings even a Chief Justice can bestow on it. Speaking of the Secondary Private Schools, the Chief Justice is reported to have said; "nor have their supporters achieved much distinction in open competition. In the secondary schools very few scholarships have been won by their pupils, while the Roman Catholics have obtained none at all." This statement is absolutely contrary to fact, and untrue. Speaking for only three small Catholic Secondary Schools in this town of Dunedin, our pupils, within the last five years, have won fourteen junior scholarships, nine senior National Scholarships, and four higher leaving certificates. In 1919 one of our boys from the Christian Brothers' School gained the highest number of marks for the whole of New Zealand, while another gained the highest for all the province of Otago in open competition with the much favored and judicially blessed public schools. The Chief Justice should have known these facts. There is not one of our secondary schools that has not won scholarships in competition with the public schools and won more than their due proportion of the National scholarships. This fact is so well known, notwithstanding the ignorance of our Chief Justice of it, that an agitation has been got up by the public school teachers and the secularists to prevent our successful pupils from taking out their scholarships in our Church schools. And I am sorry to say that the agitation has been so successful that the Government which in 1914 granted that right has now taken it away. As the Education Act stands at present, the pupils attending Church or private schools may sit for the National Scholarship examinations, but, if they win them, they have to take them out in the Public Schools or forgo them. Such is the spirit of injustice which our Chief Justice upholds.

I remain, dear Mr. Mara,

Yours sincerely,

JAMES COFFEY,
Administrator St. Joseph's Cathedral,
Dunedin, N.Z.

CASSIDY, AMODEO & JACOBSON

SOLICITORS,

ALLIANCE ASSURANCE BUILDINGS,

135 HEREFORD STREET, CHRISTCHURCH.

(2 Doors from Bank of N.Z.)

MONEY TO LEND ON APPROVED SECURITIES.

Taylor & Son,

Catholic Undertakers and Monumental Sculptors
Telephone Address: 'TAYSON'

CEMETARY TRAM STOP
KARORI, WELLINGTON