

Dunedin Catholic Students' Club.

On Saturday last the Dunedin Catholic Students' Club (the first of its kind in New Zealand) brought a most successful and beneficial year to a close with two very enjoyable functions. In the afternoon a large number of the students visited Holy Cross College, Mosgiel, at the invitation of the rector, Rev. Father Morkane. The afternoon being beautifully fine, a delightful time was spent in the college and grounds. Afternoon tea was served in the charming garden of the college, and a very pleasant afternoon ended with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, the music being devotionally rendered by the college choir. On Saturday night a social was held in the Assembly Room of the Christian Brothers' School, when there was a large gathering of students. The rooms had been tastefully decorated by members of the committee, who, as on previous occasions, spared no time or trouble to make the meetings so successful. A dainty supper was provided in an adjoining room. Special thanks are due to the members of the committee, who are to be congratulated on the success of their efforts. The students are very grateful to Mesdames O'Neill, Todd, Hall, and Ross, who kindly attended and helped the students to spend a most enjoyable evening.

During the year, in addition to the social gatherings, the following lectures were given:—"The Origin and Development of Universities" and "Evolution and Ethics," by the Rev. Father Morkane, M.A.; "Evolution," by Dr. Burns (who recently gained the Medical Travelling Scholarship); "Impressions of France and Belgium," by Mr. J. B. Callan, B.A., LL.B. (lecturer at Otago University); "Rome and Roman Life," by the Rev. L. T. Buxton, M.A., D.C.L.; "The Bible in the Catholic Church," by the Rev. E. A. Andersen, M.A., of Holy Cross College. His Lordship the Bishop (Right Rev. Dr. Whyte) has taken a deep interest in the welfare of the club, and on several occasions has honored the students by his presence at the meetings. The success of the club must prove particularly gratifying to Father Morkane, who, since founding the club, has spared no effort to further its development. The grateful thanks of the students are due to the Christian Brothers who so kindly placed the school at the disposal of the club, and also to the Dominican Nuns for various kindnesses during the year. The club will resume its meetings next March, with every promise of even greater success. It is to be hoped that all Catholic students who enter Otago University will avail themselves of the advantages to be derived from membership of the club.

Hospital Matron Honored.

SISTER MARY GONZAGA: SILVER JUBILEE IN AUCKLAND.

(From a Special correspondent.)

What fitting phrase shall be found to express the feelings which were experienced by the hundreds of friends of the good Sisters of Mercy, both in New Zealand and Australia, in connection with the red-letter day in the history of the Mater Misericordiarum Hospital, Auckland, which occurred on Wednesday, September 27? The occasion marked the attainment of her silver jubilee by the matron of the institution, Sister Mary Gonzaga, who made her profession at St. Mary's Convent, Ponsonby, 25 years ago, since when, for 20 years, she has occupied her present position at the hospital. To celebrate the event the members of the Order arranged a reception, the success of which will cause it to be long remembered in the Catholic community. Of this more presently.

As a sincere Protestant friend of the Sisters the writer desires here to record something of his knowledge of the guest of honor on the day referred to. Of her it may truly be said that she has, all her life, taken to heart the admonition of Oliver Goldsmith to "learn the luxury of doing good." Sister Mary Gonzaga can look back upon a quarter of a century of service to others. Ever imbued with the sweet spirit of charity, she has aided the afflicted, comforted and nursed the sick, prayed for the suffering, and sacrificed herself for those in distress. Thinking of her noble life one is forcibly reminded of those lines of Whittier's from "The Robin" which run:

"Prayers of love like rain-drops fall,
Tears of pity are cooling dew,
And dear to the heart of Our Lord are all
Who suffer like Him in the good they do."

It is only those who have been privileged to come into an intimacy of acquaintance with Sister Mary Gonzaga who really know her worth.

The gathering at the Mater Hospital to do honor to this noble Sister was a striking testimony to the fact that her good deeds have not gone unnoted. The guests numbered nearly 300. Among them were, the Coadjutor-Bishop, Dr. Liston, Chancellor Holbrook, Mgr. Ormond, Fathers Fay (Society of Mary), Forde, Spierings, Bowen, Taylor, O'Connor, Brady, W. Skinner, Curlew, Dore, and Shore. The Marist Brothers were represented by Brothers Denis (Provincial), Borgia (Superintendent of the Sacred Heart College), Benignus, and Eusebius (Superintendent of Vermont Street School). The medical profession was represented

by the numerous surgeons and physicians of Auckland. The other visitors comprised ex-patients of the institution and many friends. The Sisters of Mercy from St. Mary's, Ponsonby, and various other houses, were there in strong force, headed by the Rev. Mother Liguori.

Most of those who attended the function had either sent gifts or brought them with them for Sister Mary Gonzaga. The majority of these were in the appropriate silver, and the whole formed a collection which paid an eloquent testimony to the good matron's hold upon the esteem and regard of her numerous friends. In addition she received cablegrams from Australia, wireless messages from ships at sea, and scores of telegrams from all parts of the Dominion, all offering her congratulations upon the proud occasion of her 25th anniversary as a Sister.

The reception was to have taken the form of a garden party, but the Clerk of the Weather had other ideas, and showers of rain kept the proceedings beneath the roof of the new building and that of the old one. So great was the crush that the hostesses—the Sisters, the nurses, and the staff of the hospital—had much ado to distribute the trays full of delectable afternoon tea refreshments. However, with the aid of several willing helpers, this act of hospitality was duly performed to the satisfaction of all. Needless to say Sister Mary Gonzaga was the centre of attraction, receiving so many congratulatory hand-shakes in the course of the afternoon that she was all but overwhelmed. Numbers of those present were glad to avail themselves of the opportunity afforded to them of looking over the institution, especial interest being displayed in the operating room, which is second to none in the Dominion. For the rest the function was in the nature of a happy reunion, the Sisters evincing the utmost pleasure in greeting old friends.

An enjoyable musical programme added to the festive atmosphere of the gathering. An orchestra comprising pupils of St. Mary's and Holy Cross convents played selections. Songs were given by Mrs. Foote ("Joy be Thine"), Mrs. Towsey ("Mother's Song"), Miss Nora McManus ("In a Tiny Garden" and "Fair Roses"), Miss Eileen Madigan ("In the Garden of my Heart"), a vocal duet by Mrs. Foote and Miss R. Nicholas ("Maytime"), a recitation by Miss Y. McVeagh ("The Bride's First Pudding"), and a piano solo by Miss N. Ormond ("Swedish Mazurka"), the last-named lady also providing the accompaniments. Finally the orchestra played "A Perfect Day" and "Auld Lang Syne," the gathering joining in the strains of the latter.

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

September 30.

The Marist Brothers' Old Boys' Association held their final social for the year on Wednesday evening last at the Alexandra Hall. The decorations consisted of the club's colors (green and white), the shaded lights included, the effect being very pleasing. Much praise is due to the energetic committee and lady helpers who contributed to the success of the social which was enjoyed by the large number present.

St. Anne's bazaar was opened at St. Anne's Hall last evening by the Ven. Archdeacon Devoy. There was a large attendance and excellent business resulted. The bazaar, which is for the liquidation of the parish debt, will continue for ten days. Mr. W. H. Giles is honorary secretary.

It has been ascertained by late advices from the Old Country that his Grace Archbishop O'Shea was still in England, where he had made an interesting visit to Oxford, and spent a couple of pleasant weeks in Devonshire.

Rev. Father Rockliffe, who recently arrived from England to take up work in the Archdiocese, and who, for the past few months has been stationed at St. Joseph's, Buckle Street, will do duty at Hawera during the absence of the Right Rev. Mgr. Power, who has left for Australia in company with his Grace Archbishop Redwood.

Another old identity in the person of Mrs. Smith passed away last week at her residence, Kelburge. The deceased, who was a sterling Catholic, had been a resident of Wellington for very many years. Mr. C. K. Smith (of Messrs. Smith and Smith, Ltd.) and Mr. J. Smith (of the N.Z. Railways), are sons of the deceased, and to them is extended the sincerest sympathy of a large circle of friends.—R.L.P.

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Wanganui

(From our own correspondent.)

September 28.

On Tuesday, 12th inst., and Feast of the Holy Name of Mary, we had Solemn High Mass at St. Mary's, Rev. Father Mahony was celebrant, Father McGrath deacon, and Father Buckley subdeacon. There was a very big