

them and others to do even more for God's greater glory and the good of their immortal souls.

Thanking you, in anticipation, for your kindness in affording me the hospitality of your columns,

I remain, dear Rev. Sir, yours faithfully in Christ,

✠ J. J. GRIMES, S.M.,
Bishop of Christchurch.

The Catholic Congress

Preparations are moving at a great pace for the Second Australasian Catholic Congress, which is to be held in Melbourne from October 23 to October 30 of the present year. We learn from a Melbourne correspondent that the magnificent new hall is completed and that, with its grand central hall and its numerous and spacious committee rooms, etc., it will admirably suit the requirements of the Congress.

The Union Steamship Company have granted a 10 per cent. reduction in fares from New Zealand to Melbourne, and have promised to reserve a special cabin for each of our Bishops, provided suitable notice is given as to the dates of their Lordships' departure. Railway concessions are also expected on both sides of the water.

The membership fee to the Congress is a modest half-guinea, which entitles members to all the privileges of the meetings, etc., and a free copy of the bound volume of the Congress Papers. In the case of the Melbourne Congress, as of that of Sydney, the volume of the Congress papers will no doubt represent a value far in excess of that of the slender fee for membership. The secretaries for the various dioceses of New Zealand are the following:—Wellington, Very Rev. P. Power, Hawera; Christchurch, Very Rev. Dean Foley; Dunedin, Rev. H. W. Cleary. We understand that the Right Rev. Mgr. O'Reilly (Thames) acts for Auckland. Interding members in New Zealand should communicate to the secretaries of the respective dioceses in which they reside.

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

April 16.

In the Druids' Hall on Wednesday evening the St. Patrick's Day celebration committee held a highly successful social gathering. An interesting and varied programme of vocal and instrumental items was presented. A great deal of the success of the social was due to the untiring efforts of the secretary, Mr. J. W. Callaghan, and to those ladies and gentlemen who generously donated and supervised the refreshments.

Mr. J. C. Quinlan, of the telegraph branch of the Post and Telegraph Department, who has been transferred here from Christchurch, took up his new duties on Thursday. Prior to his departure from the southern city he was presented by his fellow-officers with a handsome travelling bag, suitably inscribed. Mr. Quinlan also received a send-off from the members of the Christchurch Catholic Young Men's Society, of which he was secretary. He will be a welcome addition to the local Young Men's Society.

There was a large attendance at St. Joseph's Church, Buckle street, on Thursday morning at the reception of four novices into the Order of Our Lady of Compassion. His Grace Archbishop Redwood presided, assisted by the Very Rev. Father Lewis, V.G., and the Rev. Fathers Holley and O'Shea. A choir, under the conductorship of Mr. McLaughlin, sang the incidental music. The ladies received were Miss Lucy Smart (Sister Mary de Sales), Miss Lizzie Fay (Sister Mary Alphonsus), Miss Mary Walker (Sister Mary Camillus), and Miss Kathleen Wells (Sister Mary Patrick). His Grace delivered a short address suitable to the occasion.

Palmerston North

(From our own correspondent.)

April 10.

On Sunday next, 17th inst., his Grace Archbishop Redwood will lay the foundation stone of the new convent. The ground was cleared and levelled by volunteer

labor during Eastertide. Given fine weather, everything points to a record attendance of the public and parishioners at the ceremony.

In addition to the new convent, it has been decided to build a large hall, fronting Broad street, which has been found absolutely necessary since the closing of the Theatre Royal to the public. The building, when completed, will seat over 800 in the body of the hall, not including the gallery, and will be the largest and most up-to-date of its kind in Palmerston. Tenders are already being called by Mr. O'Donnell, architect, and when arrangements are completed the work will at once be proceeded with.

Napier

(From our own correspondent.)

April 14.

On Palm Sunday at St. Patrick's Church 40 members of the recently formed Catholic Young Men's Club made their first quarterly Communion in a body. It was an edifying sight, and doubtless gratifying to Rev. Father Goggan who has worked so strenuously for the Club's welfare. After Mass the members adjourned to St. Patrick's Hall, where a splendid breakfast had been provided by Mr. J. Ruston.

In St. Patrick's Church on Easter Sunday morning Farmer's Mass was given with full orchestral accompaniment, under the direction of Herr Lehmann. The soloists were Mesdames Allen and Halpin (soprano), Misses Evans and Freeth (alto), and Messrs. Twohill (tenor), and Armstrong (bass). The solos and quartettes were finely sung, and the music as a whole splendidly rendered. As an offertory Herr Lehmann played Gounod's 'Ave Maria.'

The members of the choir of St. Patrick's Church, who assisted in the rendering of Farmer's Mass on Easter Sunday, were entertained by Father Goggan at the presbytery to mark his appreciation of their efforts. During an interval in the proceedings Father Goggan thanked the choir for the assiduous manner in which they had worked in preparing the musical portion of the services held at Easter.

The net proceeds from the St. Patrick's night social were £52 4s, which is a record.

The cadets of the Marist Brothers' School, under the command of Brother Charles, were in camp last week for seven days at Farndon Park. Notwithstanding the bad weather, much useful, instructive work was gone through.

At the Meanee mission church on April 13 two well known young residents of Taradale, Mr. G. H. Colello and Miss Theresa Neagle, fourth daughter of Mr. J. P. Neagle, were married by the Rev. Dr. Kennedy. The bride was given away by her father, Miss K. Neagle being bridesmaid and Mr. P. O'Shannessy best man. Numerous wedding presents showed the high esteem in which the young couple are held in the district.

Wairoa

Easter Sunday was celebrated in a special manner in St. Peter's Church, Wairoa. At 7.30 Mass was celebrated by the Rev. Father Le Pretre, at which there were a large number of communicants. At 10.30 a Missa Cantata was sung by Rev. Father Le Pretre, who preached a short but impressive sermon on the Resurrection. The choir, under the baton of Mr. A. Vicars, sung Turner's 'Mass of St. Cecilia,' assisted by Messrs. Moloney (violin) and A. Allan (flute), the soloists being Misses L. Poyzer and K. Clifford (alto), Messrs. A. Vickers (tenor), and A. Horton (bass). As an offertory Mozart's 'Ave Verum' was given by Miss Poyzer (organ), Messrs. J. Moloney (violin), and A. Allan (flute). At the end of Mass Miss Poyzer played a march by Chander. In the evening at seven o'clock Vespers were sung, the soloists being Mesdames Horton and E. Clifford. As on former occasions the altar was tastefully decorated.

Westport

(From our own correspondent.)

April 7.

Mass was celebrated at Charleston and Addison's Flat on Easter Sunday by the Rev. Father Malloy, large congregations being present at both places.

An old West Coast identity, in the person of Mr. M. McDonagh, passed away at Westport on the 5th inst. The deceased, who was 58 years of age, and a native of Canada, was much esteemed in Westport, where he carried on the business of a storekeeper for many years. He leaves a family of six sons