

morning, you may depend upon it it is either the Angelus or a call to Mass. I visited the new Evangelical Cathedral of Berlin dedicated by the Emperor the other day, and proclaimed the St. Peter's of the Protestant world. It was closed. I asked the reason, and the guard told me it was open on week days from ten till six, but on Sundays it was open only one hour and a half in the forenoon and an hour in the afternoon. On week days strangers visited it; on Sundays nobody. On the other hand, the Catholic churches are thronged with worshippers at every Mass. It is so in Berlin, it is also so in Dresden. The presence of the great and unbending Centrum has made Catholicity respected in Berlin, and has given courage to Catholics everywhere in the Empire. Nothing is too good for a Catholic in the eyes of the Emperor, and no post or place too high for the aspiration of a German Catholic.

The Effect of Persecution

is here everywhere evident in a bold and demonstrative Catholicity. Catholics take off their hats to a priest in Berlin and Dresden, as they take off their hats to an old soldier in Paris. And for the same reason. The priest has been in the thickest of the fight and borne the brunt of the battle during the Kulturkampf. The people visit the churches and pay respect to the Blessed Sacrament. There is a live, active, virile Catholicity in the most Protestant sections of Germany that speaks volumes for the future of the Church in that country. It is becoming plainer and plainer to all thinking people in this country that religion spells morality, and Catholicity is synonymous with Christianity. Stubborn, irresistible truth!

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

November 18.

This year's session of the Catholic Young Men's Literary Society will conclude on Monday evening, when an oratorical competition will be held. The competition promises to be keen and interesting, and is open to the public.

The glee club formed in connection with the Young Men's Club holds its meetings every Tuesday evening, and, under the able tuition of Father Kimbell, is making good progress. It will, no doubt, be heard in public ere long at one of our social functions.

The Redemptorist Fathers have purchased the fine property at Oriental Bay recently occupied by the family of the late Auditor-General, Mr J. E. Fitzgerald. They will leave their present quarters in Kilbirnie early in the New Year.

The Ven. Archdeacon Devoy returned on Thursday from the West Coast. He went as far south as Hokitika, and was warmly received by his old friends on the Coast. He left this morning for Meane, where he will assist at the ordination ceremony there on the 26th inst.

Mr. F. C. Tracy, with his wife and daughter, returned to Sydney by the 'Waikare' on Saturday last, to start business there on his own account. The members of St. Anne's choir, Wellington South, took occasion prior to his departure to present him with a silver-mounted baton suitably inscribed. During his stay here Mr. Tracy, by his uniform courtesy and unassuming manner, made himself a host of friends, who wish him every success in his new venture.

The devotion of the Forty Hours' Adoration began in St. Anne's, Wellington South, on Sunday, and was concluded on Tuesday morning. On Sunday evening a special sermon was preached by the Rev. Father Graham, of St. Patrick's College. On Monday evening the sermon was by the Rev. Father Maples, of Petone. The congregations at the various services were very large, and great numbers approached the Holy Table. On Sunday morning next quite a large number of children will receive their First Communion, and in the evening there will be the solemn ceremony of the renewal of the baptismal vows, in which the whole congregation will take part.

On Sunday last the members of the St. Aloysius' and St. Patrick's branches of the H.A.C.B. Society received Holy Communion in a body, the former at St. Anne's, Wellington South, the latter at the Sacred Heart Basilica, Thorndon. At Wellington South, the members had breakfast together, and afterwards discussed the question of their club rooms with the parish

priest. A subscription in aid of the building fund realised over £40. Committees were set up to superintend the collection of subscriptions and the erection of the building and furnishing of the rooms. It has now been decided to have three rooms, one to be used as a billiard room, one as a reading room and social room, and one as a lecture hall. It is hoped to have the building erected before the close of the present year.

The Sacred Heart Basilica was crowded on Tuesday evening, when an organ recital was given by Mr. Maughan Barnett. Mr. Barnett's items consisted of Bach's 'Tocatta and Fugue in D minor,' the 'Pilgrim's March' from Mendelssohn's 'Italian Symphony,' Handel's rippling 'Concerto in F,' the 'Am Meer' of Schubert, Handel's dainty 'Minuet in G,' the weird 'Dornroschen' of Benda, Wely's 'Storm Fantasia,' and Guilman's 'Grand Choeur.' Mr. Barnett was assisted by four vocalists. Of these the soprano was Miss Lilian Irvine, who created such a favorable impression in the Town Hall quite recently. She was in capital voice, and sang 'Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets' from Mendelssohn's 'St. Paul,' and 'Salve Maria' with excellent effect. Mr. Ernest Parkes sang Faure's 'Les Rameaux,' and Mr. J. F. Carr gave 'Consider the lilies.' Miss Nora North-Barrett succeeded well with a very difficult solo, 'Like as the hart desireth.' During the programme his Grace the Archbishop expressed his pleasure at the attendance being so large. They were there, he said, to listen to good music—one of the most noble and inspiring of earthly delights, and also to assist in a good work. After paying a high compliment to Mr. Barnett, he thanked the vocalists who had contributed so acceptably to the programme. The collection yielded the sum of £20. This now leaves an unpaid balance on the organ of £95.

Wanganui

(From our own correspondent.)

November 18.

In the recent examination of Victoria College, Wellington, in connection with the N.Z. University, Miss M. C. Robson, a pupil of the Convent High School, Wanganui, succeeded in passing her 'First Terms.' Miss Robson's studies have been conducted by the Sisters for the past five years. Her career so far has been very successful. Within four years she has passed in succession Civil Service, Matriculation, Solicitor's General Knowledge, and now the 'First Terms.' Miss Robson intends keeping on her studies at the convent during the coming year. It is pleasing to note that the Wanganui schools have come so well to the front, this year being no exception.

In the recent musical examinations the pupils secured good marks, and Miss D. Carroll, after a study of nine months, passed the Certificated Pianist, securing high marks also in senior pass (singing).

The parish schools will be examined during the week by the Government Inspector.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

November 20.

His Lordship the Bishop returned to the city during the week, and preached at Vespers in the Cathedral on Sunday.

'If elected, would you be in favor of allowing the children of Catholic and private schools to compete for the National scholarships?' was a question put to a local candidate for Parliamentary honors. 'Now this is a sound question,' he replied, and answered 'Yes, most emphatically,' and continued: 'Any man who, from conscientious motives, puts his hand deep down in his pocket and pays for his child's education, should be allowed all the privileges enjoyed by those attending the State schools. There should be no distinction.' These sentiments elicited considerable applause.

The contract for the main building of the International Exhibition was signed during the week, and the work is being proceeded with with all possible despatch. The time allowed for completion of the structure is eight months from the signing of the contract. The work should therefore be completed early in July, or nearly four months before the time fixed for the opening of the exhibition. The ceremony of laying the foundation stone will take place on December 18, Canterbury's Anniversary Day. The laying of a railway line into the exhibition grounds is now proceeding rapidly, and the course of the next fortnight or three weeks should see railway communication an accomplished fact.

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