

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

January 27.

The new Convent of the Sacred Heart at Island Bay will be publicly opened on Sunday week, and will be ready to receive pupils next month.

The convent schools are to re-open on Monday next. Owing to the annual retreat of the Marist Brothers now being conducted in Christchurch, the Boulcott street school will not re-open until the following week.

The annual retreat for the clergy of the archdiocese will begin at St. Patrick's College on Wednesday, February 7, and conclude on the following Monday, when the annual Synod will take place. The retreat will be preached by the Rev. Father Cleary, C.S.S.R.

The Very Rev. Father Lewis, V.G., has gone to Feilding, where he is to open the new convent erected there for the Sisters of St. Joseph. The foundation stone of this convent was laid some time ago by his Grace the Archbishop.

The following pupils from St. Patrick's College were successful in the Junior Civil Service examination: B. Kelly, R. Hill, T. Boyce, A. Cullen, G. Miller, H. Seymour, J. Duggan, T. Walshe, F. Kelly, P. Kavanagh, R. Miller, and L. Chapman. The first two pupils gained forty-fourth and fifty-third place respectively for the whole Colony.

The new home of the Redemptorist Order here and the head house for New Zealand occupies a very prominent site overlooking Oriental Bay, and commanding the very best view in the city. The present house consists of seventeen rooms, and the grounds are a little more than an acre and a half in extent. The reverend Fathers took up their quarters in their new home on Tuesday last, and on Wednesday his Grace the Archbishop blessed the building, and celebrated the first Mass in the little chapel that will be used until other arrangements for this purpose are made. On week days Mass will be celebrated at 7 a.m. and on Sundays at 7 and 9 a.m., with devotions at 4 p.m. The place has been named St. Gerard, after a lay Brother of the Order. The Order has, in consequence of their purchase, incurred a heavy debt, and further liabilities will also have to be faced in the near future. The work of the Order is one that strongly commends itself to the Catholics of New Zealand, and the Redemptorist Fathers may rely on generous assistance.

(From an occasional correspondent.)

The half-yearly meeting of members of St. Patrick's branch H.A.C.B. Society was largely attended. Bro. C. Foley (president) occupying the chair. The sub-committee set up to make arrangements for celebrating St. Patrick's Day reported that it was intended to hold the gathering this year at Day's Bay on Saturday, March 17, and also a concert in the Town Hall on Monday, March 19. The order paper for the District Board's meeting was fully discussed. It was agreed to instruct the branch's delegate to vote against the motion to be moved by the Onchunga branch re increasing the secretary's salary, as it was thought that the matter should be referred to the next triennial meeting of delegates for discussion. The election of officers resulted as follows:—President, Bro. J. W. Callaghan; vice-president, Bro. T. O'Brien; secretary, Bro. P. Kelleher; treasurer, Bro. O. Krohn; warden, Bro. M. Condon; guardian, Bro. E. F. Reichel; sick visitors, Bros. M. Condon and P. O'Callaghan; delegate to District Board, Bro. J. B. P. Stead; auditors, Bros. Feeney and Moroney; medical attendants, Drs. Cahill, Cameron, Mackin, Herbert, and Shand; delegate to Friendly Societies' Dispensary, Bro. P. Kelleher.

Wanganui

(From our own correspondent.)

January 27.

The results of the public examinations to hand bring news of the success of three pupils of the local convent school. Miss Nellie Dwyer passed the Solicitors' General Knowledge and Matriculation examinations, Miss E. Mahoney Matriculation and Junior Civil Service, and Miss Josephine Lloyd the Junior Civil Service. Misses Mahoney (49) and Lloyd (116) are both gazetted as having 'passed with credit' the Junior Civil Service examination. These latest successes afford additional proof of the thorough education imparted at the Wanganui Convent School.

There was a large congregation at St. Mary's Church last evening, when five young ladies were received into the Order of the Sisters of St. Joseph, and three others made their profession. The Rev. Father Lynch, C.S.S.R., of Perth, West Australia, officiated, and delivered an address appropriate to the occasion. The five young ladies received were—Miss Sophie Georgetti (Sister Bernardine), Miss Parker (Sister Claude), Miss Lily Dalziell (Sister Agnes), Miss McNamara (Sister Berchmans), Miss Alice Casey (Sister Gerard). Sisters Rita, Ursula, and Raphael made their profession. The Rev. Fathers W. Tynmons, of Palmerston North, and J. Tynmons, of Wellington (brothers of Sister Ursula), were present. A special feature of the ceremony was the singing of the choir, which was composed exclusively of the nuns.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

January 29.

His Lordship the Bishop celebrated Mass at Summer on Sunday last.

The schools of St. Mary's parish re-open after the Christmas vacation to-day, and those of the Cathedral parish on next Monday.

The annual retreat of the Sisters of the Missions was opened last week at the Sacred Heart Convent by the Rev. Father Cleary, C.S.S.R., and is being continued by the Rev. Father McDermott, C.S.S.R.

At Vespers in the Cathedral on last Sunday evening the Rev. Father McDermott, C.S.S.R., preached a practical and impressive sermon on Christian charity.

The annual retreat of the Sisters of Mercy (including the branch convent at Darfield) at St. Mary's Convent, Colombo street, was conducted by the Rev. Father Lynch, C.S.S.R., and concluded last week.

The Superiors of all the convents of the Order of Our Lady of Missions in the province of New Zealand are at present assembled at the mother house in Christchurch to deliberate on matters of importance in connection with the Order.

Two pupils of the Sisters of the Missions of the Sacred Heart Convent High School passed the Civil Service examination—Miss Irene O'Connor (with credit) and Miss Annie de Garvey. Master Philip Dwyer, a pupil of the Marist Brothers' Schools, also passed with credit.

The destruction wrought by the recent wind storm to the main building of the Exhibition, now in course of erection, has proved not so extensive as at first estimated. According to expert opinion, after an independent survey the total loss is about £700. It is stated that the incident will not in any way affect the progress of the Exhibition.

The Rev. Father Marnane (St. Mary's, Manchester street) and Rev. Father Tubman (Timaru) intend leaving shortly on a visit to the Old Country. It is understood that the Rev. Father Hickson will assume temporary charge of St. Mary's, and that the Rev. Father Galerne is to be transferred from Hastings to replace the Rev. Father Mahony at the Cathedral.

Mr. J. R. Hayward presided at a recent meeting of the tennis club in connection with the Christchurch Catholic Club. Thirty members were in attendance. Arrangements were made for the formal opening of the Club's courts at the 'Grove,' Brougham street, Sydenham, on next Saturday afternoon. It was decided that the annual subscription should be half a crown. The following officers were elected: President, Mr. J. R. Hayward; treasurer, Mr. J. J. Canavan; secretary, Mr. P. McNamara; committee, Messrs. M. O'Reilly, D. O'Connell, and Hayward.

The balance sheet of the Catholic excursion and picnic held on Boxing Day, which is to be presented at a meeting of the committee on Tuesday evening, shows receipts from all sources to be £96 9s 0½d. The expenditure, including prizes for the children and sports events, was £63 11s 6d, thus leaving a credit balance of £32 17s 6½d. This is a very satisfactory result, when it is remembered that all the children were conveyed and provided for free.

There was a well attended meeting of members of the Christchurch Catholic Club on last Tuesday evening to consider matters in connection with the tennis club, and also a proposal to hold fortnightly general meetings. The president, Mr. J. R. Hayward, occupied the chair. As it was found that the establishment of the tennis club is complete and satisfactory, it was decided to open the courts on Saturday, February 3. The proposal to hold fortnightly general meetings was well received, and a sub-committee was formed to assist the executive in arranging and carrying out the winter programme.