

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

February 10.

St. Patrick's College is to re-open on Thursday next.

His Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne and Bishop Higgins of Ballarat reached the city on Thursday, and left for the south the same evening. As the clergy were on retreat, our distinguished visitors were met and entertained only by his Grace the Archbishop and the Very Rev. Father Lewis, V.G.

Owing to the very inclement state of the weather on Sunday last, the opening of the Sacred Heart Convent by his Grace the Archbishop had to be postponed. In spite of the weather, however, quite a number of visitors called at the institution and were shown through the building by the Sisters.

The banquet given on Thursday night in the Town Hall to Sir Joseph Ward on the eve of his departure for Rome to attend the Postal Conference there, was in every respect a splendid tribute to the guest of the evening. It was a truly representative gathering of citizens, who were not prevented by political opinions from joining to show their keen appreciation of a very able and worthy public man. Quite a feature of the gathering was the high standard of the various speeches, that of Mr. C. P. Skerrett being especially fine.

The report and balance sheet of the local Young Men's Club, to be presented at the next half-yearly meeting, disclose highly satisfactory state of affairs. In fact, the term just closed ranks as one of the best yet enjoyed by the Club. A pleasing feature is the almost total absence of liabilities. The revenue for the term was so buoyant that the club was enabled to liquidate the debt on the piano recently purchased. The members are to be congratulated on the success achieved, which has been due to a great extent to the attention and ability of its executive. The question of the erection of a Catholic Hall will be brought under the consideration of members at the half-yearly meeting.

The executive of the Young Men's Federation is making preparations for the annual conference of delegates from the various affiliated societies to be held here during Easter week. Quite a number of delegates have intimated their intentions of being present. The executive has decided on the design of their diplomas, and the execution of them is now in the printer's hands. When completed they will present a very fine and artistic appearance, being designed in various colors, and containing the photograph of his Holiness and his Grace the Archbishop, with their respective coats of arms. Scenes typical of New Zealand also adorn the diplomas, which will be of merit and of honor.

The members of the newly-formed United Irish League met on Monday evening and arranged for the holding of a public meeting on Wednesday next, at which addresses will be delivered on the Irish question, and steps taken to raise funds for the Irish Parliamentary Party. A strong committee was set up to make the necessary preparations for the meeting next week.

I regret very much to record the death of Mr. Richard Duignan, which occurred early on Thursday morning. Deceased was a native of Roscommon, Ireland, arrived in Australia in 1862, and soon afterwards came to New Zealand, settling in Wellington, where he has remained ever since. He had been in ill-health for a considerable time, and succumbed to heart disease. Deceased was a very practical Catholic, generous on all occasions where the Church and its works were concerned, and held in high esteem by a large circle of friends. He had attained the age of 67 years and leaves a son and four daughters, who have the heartfelt sympathy of their many friends.—R.I.P.

DIocese of CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

February 12.

His Lordship the Bishop intends leaving for Rome immediately after Easter, and expects to return to the diocese about the end of the year.

The Rev. Father C. Graham, S.M., who has been on a trip to Australia, passed his B.A. degree with honors, and has rejoined the staff of St. Patrick's College, Wellington.

The Particular Council, Society of St. Vincent de Paul, met at St. Mary's Presbytery, Manchester street, on last Tuesday. The president stated that all reports and details of New Zealand Conferences were now in the hands of the officers of the Superior Council, Sydney, for inclusion in the annual report to be issued shortly. By rotation, the next meeting will be held at the Cathedral on Tuesday, March 6.

Whilst giving evidence at the Waltham Orphanage inquiry—I remember, said the secretary of the Charitable Aid Board, 'getting two boys from the Orphanage into the Royal Navy. They turned out very well, very well indeed. One of them died, and the other is, I think, still in the Navy.' Amid the laughter of those around him, the secretary hastened to make his meaning clear by saying that one of the boys had turned out very well, and the other had been a model until he died.

The Cathedral girls' school renovation committee met on last Thursday evening week, when the secretary (Mr. M. O'Reilly) presented a balance sheet showing receipts and expenditure to date. Since taking up the work last July the committee have expended £114 8s 2d, the receipts being derived from the following sources: Collected at doors of Cathedral, £41; collected by members of the committee and school children, £31 15s; proceeds of 'Festa Oriental', £26 3s 9d; discount, etc., £1 4s 2d. A debit balance is thus shown of about £11, which the committee intend clearing off before continuing the general scheme of improvement. This latter includes renewing the windows with more suitable glass for school purposes, extending the partitions of the various class-rooms with glass frames to the ceiling, and renewing the school furniture with more up-to-date appliances (new desks, etc.).

The pretty little tennis court at the 'Grove,' Brougham street, Sydenham (formerly part of the property lately acquired by the Sisters of Nazareth, who kindly granted the exclusive use of it to the Christchurch Catholic Club), was formally opened on last Saturday afternoon week by his Lordship Bishop Grimes in the presence of about 100 enthusiasts (members and friends). Several clubmen were early on the scene perfecting arrangements. Arriving on the grounds, his Lordship, accompanied by the Rev. Father O'Connell, was greeted with three hearty cheers by the gathering. In opening the court, the Bishop expressed pleasure at the duty he had accepted. He was pleased at the scene which was presented, and believed the members and their lady friends would spend many a pleasant hour in such an admirable playground. Good sport and recreation, such as tennis, tended in the right direction, and in the pursuit of such pleasant pastimes their lady friends could participate with social and physical advantage. Afternoon tea was provided by Mr. J. R. Hayward, president of the Club, and dispensed by Mrs. Hayward, Mrs. G. Dobbs, assisted by Miss McGill, Miss Cronin, and Miss M. Cronin. Members of the Club prominent in attending to the enjoyment of the visitors were Messrs. O'Reilly, Haydon, Canavan, Hallins, Kane, D. Carey, T. and D. O'Connell, and J. Mahar. Several photographs were obtained by Mr. J. Hilary, and the weather being perfect a very enjoyable afternoon was spent by players and onlookers. Quite a number of new members were enrolled on the ground. At the close of the proceedings Mr. G. Dobbs, on behalf of the Club, cordially thanked Mr. Hayward for the excellent arrangements carried out under his supervision. His remarks were followed by cheers for the president and Mrs. Hayward.

(By telegraph from our own correspondent.)

February 13.

Prelates and clergy visited Nazareth House on Monday morning, and were shown over the institution, of which they expressed great appreciation. Later on they went to Leeston in motor cars. On the way back they visited Mount Magdala, where they met with a most cordial reception and were suitably entertained. The visiting prelates leave by the midday express for the south to-day (Tuesday), breaking the journey at Timaru.

The Neapolitan Massage Cream, which can be procured from Mr. A. M. Hendy, toilet specialist, Princes street, Dunedin, is a genuine toilet medicine, and will be found most effective in the removal of wrinkles, crow's feet, freckles, etc. It heals, nourishes, and beautifies the skin, and will be found a most acceptable requisite on every lady's toilet table....

Messrs. Louis Gille and Co., of Melbourne and Sydney, have just received the second edition of the 'Catholic Home Annual' for the current year. The Annual has been greatly enlarged, is beautifully illustrated, and has a splendid selection of articles and stories from the best Catholic authors....

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