

WAIHI

(From our own correspondent.)

June 9.

The annual concert, given last night, by pupils of the Waihi Convent School, was a success from every point. An excellent programme of choruses, tableaux, and action songs was given. Prior to the entertainment the Waihi Federal Band played selections outside the hall. The proceeds of the concert will be devoted to erecting an iron fence around the church property.

The local branch of the I.A.C.B. Society have decided to establish a gymnasium as an attraction for the winter nights. The members are endeavoring to secure a site to build a hall of their own.

During the 'N.Z. Tablet's' representative's visit to Waihi the Very Rev. Father Brodie spoke on the advantages of having a reliable Catholic paper in every home.

Members of the Nobility in Convents

The conversion of Princess Ena to Catholicism recalls to mind how many of the "old faith" are still to be met with in the smart drawing-rooms of London (writes "M.A.P."). Among those who have recently joined the Roman Catholic faith may be mentioned Theodosia Lady Cottenham, and her daughter, Lady Mary Pepys. The latter is noted as a singer, and has studied under Madame Thénard of the Comédie Française. The Hon. Mary and Hon. Margaret Russell, daughters of the late Lord Russell of Killowen, are now both nuns in the Convent of the Holy Child at Mayfield, Sussex; and also the Hon. Violet Gibson, the pretty daughter of Lord and Lady Ashbourne. Writing of nuns brings to mind the number of high-born women who have elected to spend their lives in the seclusion of a convent. The Duke of Norfolk has two sisters who are nuns: Lady Minna Howard belongs to the Carmelite Order, and Lady Etheldreda Howard is a Sister of Charity. Lady Edith Feilding, sister to Lord Denbigh, is another Sister of Charity, and cheerfully endures exile at a convent in China. Lady Maria Christina Bandini, daughter of Lord Newburgh, is at a Sacre Coeur convent on the Continent; and Lady Frances Bertie, sister to Lord Abingdon, resides in a convent at Harrow; and Lady Leopoldina Keppel, sister to Lord Albemarle, is a nun of the Sacred Heart. Then, Miss Mary and Miss Edith Clifford, sisters of Lord Clifford, are both nuns; Miss Ellen and Miss Maria French, sisters of Lord French, are also nuns; Miss Leonie Dormer, sister to Lord Dormer, is a nun; and yet another religious is Miss Cicely Arundell, sister to the twelfth Lord Arundell of Wardour. No fewer than four sisters of the present and fourteenth Lord Herries, are nuns, as are three sisters of the present and fourteenth Lord Petre. One of them is a Sister of Charity, and the others belong to the Order of the Good Shepherd, and reside in convents at Cardiff and Glasgow. And in bygone days there were four sisters of a dead and gone Lord Camoys who had one and all taken the veil, but most of these ladies have now passed away.

'The publication of an advertisement in a Catholic paper shows that the advertiser not only desires the patronage of Catholics, but pays them the compliment of seeking it through the medium of their own religious journal.' So says an esteemed and wide-awake American contemporary. A word to the wise is sufficient.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

We ask you to do business by mail direct with our Office, without putting us to the expense of sending canvassers and collectors to your door.

As an inducement we offer to send you the N.Z. Tablet for ONE POUND A YEAR, paid strictly in advance.

Booked Subscriptions still continue at 25/- per year. No agent, canvasser, or collector has power to alter these terms.

NOTE THE DIFFERENCE:

	Year.	Half-year.	Quarter.
By Mail in Advance	20/-	10/-	5/-
If Booked	25/-	12/6	6/6

MANAGER N.Z. Tablet.

Catholic Outlook in London

In the course of an article under the above heading the London 'Daily Telegraph' of a recent date says:—

'It is estimated that the Catholics in London number 200,000, and their body includes practically the entire Irish element of the population, just as the Presbyterian Church counts among its adherents most of those of Scottish birth. Many of these immigrants from the sister isle are to be found among the very poorest of the slums, and, according to Mr. Charles Booth, constitute in that stratum of the population "a class apart, being, as a rule, devout, and willing to contribute something from their earnings towards the support of their schools and the maintenance of their religion." It is one of the strangest characteristics of the Church of Rome that she alone among the denominations has discovered the secret of grappling to herself with books of steel men and women from every rank of society and every grade of culture. Whatever their worldly position, whatever their degree of intellectual development, her power over them is a real and binding one. It is only those with some personal knowledge of her adherents who have any idea of the diversity of individual conviction which attains repose under the apparently rigid and unbending system by which her authority is exercised. Yet, though she is perhaps the most varied, as well as the most united and compact force in the religious world, and though there is a general tendency to follow her example of pressing the arts into her service, her converts are not numerous. On the other hand, oddly enough, when they do come it is usually from the affluent and highly-educated classes, and not a few of the most cultured sceptics turn to her at last in their despair and become her zealous supporters. Though their proportion is not a large one, the doctrinal unity, coherence, and discipline of the Catholics give them a unique position among the denominations.

The 'Telegraph' proceeds to give a statement received by it from an eminent divine, who is fully qualified to speak the view of the Catholic clergy on the present moral condition of London and its relation to religious observance.' According to this statement there is much in the life of the metropolis which influences adversely both the faith and morality of Catholics. Amongst the clergy, and especially those who are in daily and intimate touch with their flocks, there seems to be a practical consensus that in numbers, organisation, and in spiritual life, the Catholic Church in London is stronger in every way than she was twenty years ago. Human nature and the temptations of a great city are always with us, and the great problems of stemming the evils of drink and immorality have always to be faced, but the efforts made and the agencies employed are steadily increasing, and the results become more hopeful. A priest who has labored in London for some forty years, and who has exceptional opportunities for forming a just estimate, not long since expressed his conviction that at no time in the past was the Catholic Church, in her numbers, her agencies for good-doing, and the moral tone of her members, stronger than she is to-day. The attendances at church have increased, as well as the number of churches. At Westminster Cathedral, which may be taken as a prominent example and register, the numbers attending the services on an ordinary Sunday have been found to average between four and five thousand, and, what is more notable, no less than 47 per cent. are men. And the other churches have not suffered any noteworthy diminution of their numbers by the affluence to the Cathedral. The services in the churches have also increased. In Lenten time, in nearly all, there are missions and retreats for men and women and for children, and for various confraternities, and in these the great truths of the Gospel are brought home to the people by special preachers. In Holy Week, besides the presentments of the Liturgy, to which, as the great setting forth of the doctrine and lesson of the Atonement, the Church attaches paramount value as a teaching and spiritual influence, there are in nearly all our churches many devotional exercises, and the numbers who devoutly take part in these acts of religion are certainly as great as, if not considerably greater than, at any period in the past. The number who go to Confession and receive Holy Communion in London during Lent exceeds 130,000, comparing favorably with the numbers which could have been obtained twenty years ago.

That which is too little for luxury is abundantly enough for nature.

It is an eminent mark of wisdom for a man to be always like himself.

KINGSLAND and FERGUSON UNDERTAKERS AND MONUMENTAL MASONS, SPEY AND DEE STREETS, INVERCARGILL. Funerals conducted to or from any part of Southland.

Every description of Monuments in stock. We supply and erect all kinds of Grave Fences. Inscriptions neatly cut. Telephone 25