

The Bishopric of Port Augusta.

His Grace the Archbishop (says the Adelaide 'Southern Cross' of October 5) has received the briefs from Rome, notifying the appointment of the Right Rev. Mgr. Norton, V.G., and administrator of the diocese since the decease of the late Bishop, as the third Bishop of Port Augusta. Mgr. Norton is an Australian by birth, having been born in Victoria. He was educated at St. Patrick's Jesuit College, Melbourne. He afterwards studied at St. Kyran's College, Kilkenny, and the Propaganda in Rome. Mgr. Norton has been Vicar-General of the diocese for ten years, and pastor of Petersburg for twenty. At a meeting of the clergy after the death of the late Bishop Mgr. Norton was placed first on the list of nominations.

PALMERSTON NORTH

(From our own correspondent.)

October 14.

On Thursday last the State Schools Exhibition, promoted by the Wanganui Education Board, was opened by Mr. F. Pirani, the Chief Inspector (Mr. Braik), and the Acting-Mayor (Mr. S. Abrahams) in the Zealandia Hall, being brought to a close on Saturday night. This being the first time it has been held here, it met with liberal support. Many of the exhibits were of such exceptional merit that they have been ordered on to the Christchurch Exhibition. Our own Catholic schools easily head the lists in this respect. The children of our local convent and parish school were paid the unique compliment of contributing dances and choruses whilst the exhibition was open, and gained the admiration of all the visiting scholars and their teachers and the general public.

The annual convent concert was held in the Zealandia Hall on Wednesday last (Labor Day), and so far as the programme and attendance were concerned, it easily beat all previous records since the hall was opened. The concert programme was so pleasantly diversified that it received the entire approbation of the vast audience. The local convent has ever been noted for the development of the vocal capabilities of its pupils—a branch of the curriculum in which the Sisters excel, and last Wednesday night's concert was convincing evidence that there was no falling away from the standard set at their previous concerts. This was most noticeable in the items contributed by the younger pupils, their choruses being well balanced, and met with the appreciation they deserved. In elocution they were no less successful, Miss N. Minogue's recitation of 'Little Christabel' being of considerable merit, while a little dot, Miss Eva Brophy, quite charmed the audience by her recitation of the 'Mouse-trap' in the way she suited the action to the words. The following vocal items were of a high order:—Trio, 'Alas, those chimes,' Misses Gaustad, Cameron, and Simpson; duets, 'Venetian boat song' and 'Nocturne,' Mrs. Innes and Miss Porter; song, 'By the fountain,' Miss Clifford (encored); song, 'The last muster,' Miss Cameron (encored); part song, 'Hail to thee,' Mrs. Innes, and Misses Graham, Gaustad, Porter, Cameron, and Simpson; trio, 'Evening,' Mrs. Innes, Misses Cameron, and Simpson. Mr. Earnshaw gave an artistic interpretation of the 'Intermezzo' from 'Cavalleria Rusticana' as a violin solo. All the accompaniments were played by Miss F. O'Connor in a pleasing manner. After the concert Mr. Thompson, a recent arrival in Palmerston, gave a very clever exhibition of lightning sketches. The refreshments were supplied by the ladies of the parish.

NEW BOOKS

'Graphical History': A new way of teaching and learning history, by J. E. S. Henerie, B.L.—Every practical teacher of history must know the difficulty met with in making children get a correct knowledge of important events in history. Yet the true educational value of this subject lies mainly in giving important incidents their proper place in a connected series of events. The 'Graphical History' shows how to do this. By utilising the system of Graphs, history becomes to the youngest child a living, concrete subject. Great men, battles, rise and fall of nations, etc., take their allotted places in the graphical picture drawn by the child himself. Hand, eye, judgment, and memory of the pupil are actively engaged when following this excellent system of teaching history. The 'Graphical History' will be a decided boon to teachers. (W. P. Linchan, Melbourne; 1s 4d).

Interprovincial

On Thursday evening the Premier announced in the House of Representatives that the Land Bill would be dropped this session.

Mr. D. Gallaher, the well-known Auckland footballer, and captain of the 'All-Blacks,' was married last week to Miss Francis, a sister of Mr. A. Francis, another of Auckland's football favorites.

'We live in one of the finest corners on the face of the earth,' said Mr. John Lambie at Ashburton the other day. 'We have the finest climate, the most progressive Government, and the biggest public debt per head in the world.'

In ingenuity the heathen Chinese is a past master (says the Farmers' Union 'Advocate'). At present he is supplying new potatoes to citizens of Wellington before the grower has seen the color of them. His method is simple. He buys American seed, very much resembling new varieties—and on which he pays no duty—washes them well, and, presto!—new potatoes at a fancy price!

One of the most regrettable occurrences that have happened in connection with the Exhibition was brought to light on Friday in the fact that upon 20 cases being unpacked no fewer than 18 pieces of ornamental statuary, procured by Sir Joseph Ward on his recent visit to Rome, were discovered to be hopelessly broken and damaged.

Mr. Carnegie's private secretary has advised the Dannevirke borough authorities that the council's letter of July 7 has been received, and that Mr. Carnegie's cashier has now been instructed to arrange payment on the proposed library building as the work progresses to the extent of £2000. The writer adds: 'We should like to see plans of the building, which should be for the public service of the library only—no private living accommodation, etc.'

In reply to a request from the Wellington bakers that the 'barracouta' loaf should be recognised as fancy bread, the Minister for Public Health wrote as follows:—'Your representations have been carefully considered, and will have due influence on any legislation that may be introduced. I may state, however, that I think all bread should be sold by weight; in fact, there is no reason why all food-stuffs should not be so sold. I quite agree that the practice of taking back bread from a house where it had been delivered should be prohibited.'

The members of the Hibernian Society (writes a New Plymouth correspondent) held their first social in St. Joseph's schoolroom on Thursday, October 11. There was a good attendance, and all present spent an enjoyable evening. Bro. J. A. Clark acted as secretary to the committee, and it is due to his efforts, together with the ladies' committee, consisting of Mesdames Clarke, Whittle, McCabe, Batchlor, Hawkins, Duller, Misses Walsh, Foley, and Finn, that the social was such a success. Songs were contributed by Misses O'Donnell, Foley, and instrumental items were given by Misses Clarke and Radford.

Potato-growers in the Otaki district have been much concerned over the appearance of what was generally believed to be the dreaded Irish blight. It would appear, however, that their fears are at least premature. Specimens of the affected leaves were submitted to the Government biologist for examination, and he has forwarded the following reassuring report (says the correspondent of the 'Post'):—'A careful examination did not show any trace of Irish blight, the death of the tissues being due to frost. Potatoes which have been frosted are in consequence weakened, and thus fall an easy prey to fungoid attacks. It is therefore very important that they should be sprayed. Growers anxious to participate in the high prices now obtainable for new potatoes, have planted much earlier than usual, and consequently their crops have been affected by the frost. Only an isolated patch here and there escaped the blight last year, which was exceptionally wet; but as this season promises to be an unusually dry one, it is probable that the position will be reversed.'

Messrs. Hies and Poole, Princes street, Dunedin, direct attention to their hair preparation—Cantharides and Rosemary....

Visitors to the Exhibition are cordially invited to inspect the superior and extensive of Catholic standard works, articles of devotion, Church requisites, school prizes, and presents at the Catholic Book Depot, Barbadoes street, (opposite the Cathedral)....

J. C. GALDER, CARGILL ROAD & CUTTEN STREET, will open Dental Rooms at Cargill's Corner, South Dunedin, on October 8th. All dental work undertaken. Teeth extracted One Shilling.