

The Catholic schools were examined by the Education Board Inspectors last week. Mr. Hill examined the Convent school, and Mr. Smith the Brothers' school.

The quarterly conference of the priests of this district was held at Waipawa on Wednesday last, Rev. Fathers Goggan and O'Connor of this town being present.

Although counter-attractions were strongly in evidence last Wednesday evening (says the 'Daily Telegraph'), the Catholic social held in the Gaiety Theatre was carried to a successful issue. The secretary, Mr. J. W. Coe, provided for the pleasure of the patrons in good style.

The Hastings branch of the Hibernian Society are uniting with the Catholic Young Men's Club of that town for the purpose of devising means for the erection of a hall at a cost of about £700. At a meeting held on Sunday evening, the Very Rev. Dean Smyth, who presided, promised £20, Mr. Dennett £20, Father Quin £5.

**DIocese OF CHRISTCHURCH**

(From our own correspondent.)

September 2.

There was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Cathedral on Sunday from the eleven o'clock Mass until after Vespers, followed by the usual procession and Benediction.

The Catholic Club has resumed operations, which were temporarily suspended during the season of the Spanish-Columbian Festival, in connection with which the greater portion of the members were occupied.

His Lordship the Bishop presided and preached at a ceremony of reception and profession of Sisters of Mercy during the week in the chapel of St. Mary's Convent, Colombo street. A number of the clergy were present, and also Sisters from the various convents of the Order in the district.

Through the kindness of a friend I was shown a letter which informed the president of the Marist College in Ireland of the intention of a generous donor to establish a bursar for the education of a secular priest for the diocese of Christchurch. The name of the generous donor is not divulged.

At the Cathedral on Sunday evening his Lordship the Bishop commenced a course of lectures on the subject of the 'Relation of the Creator to the Creature.' The necessity of religion for man as an individual formed the basis of the opening discourse, the subject being treated in a singularly impressive manner by his Lordship. There was quite a large congregation.

**DIocese OF AUCKLAND**

(From our own correspondent.)

August 30.

At Manawaru the foundation stone of a new church was laid on Sunday, August 11, by the Right Rev. Mgr. O'Reilly, assisted by the Rev. Father McGuiness, pastor of the district.

The Dunedin branch of the Hibernian Society has forwarded two guineas, subscribed by its members, to his Lordship Dr. Lenihan towards St. Patrick's Cathedral building fund. This was sent as an appreciation of the Bishop's kindness to the Hibernian delegates when in Auckland last March. The Dunedin branch also sent a telegram on Tuesday, August 27, congratulating Dr. Lenihan upon his silver jubilee to the priesthood. The Bishop has publicly referred to this message from Dunedin, and expressed great pleasure at it.

At the Bishop's house last Tuesday the Very Rev. Dean Hackett, Paeroa, was the recipient of a beautiful present in commemoration of his silver jubilee as a priest. Right Rev. Mgr. O'Reilly, senior priest of the diocese, made the presentation, on behalf of the priests, and expressed their high appreciation of the many sterling qualities of the Dean of whom they all felt genuinely proud. Dean Hackett replied in felicitous terms, and thanked his old friend, Monsignor O'Reilly, and his brother priests for their kindness towards him. He could remember with pride that he was held high in their esteem and affection, and what more could one desire from those with whom he was so closely united in the great work of

God and His Holy Church? Dean Hackett was ordained in Rome on March 4, 1882.

At St. Patrick's Cathedral on last Monday evening at the commemoration of the Right Rev. Dr. Lenihan's silver jubilee, the Right Rev. Mgr. O'Reilly read the following letter, which the Monsignor said was like, a 'Voice from holy Ireland.'

S.S. Sonoma, February 6, 1907.

My dear Rev. Father Holbrook,—I have heard quite accidentally that his Lordship the Bishop proposes to celebrate the twenty-fifth year of his ordination to the priesthood some time during the present year. As the occasion will not only be one of profound interest to his Lordship himself, but of great joy to the priests and people of his diocese, I have no doubt it will be made an event worthy alike of the Bishop and his people. If it were my good fortune to be in New Zealand I should consider it an honor and a privilege to join in the universal demonstration of affection and reverence which will characterise the jubilee celebrations. But as I cannot be there I trust you will allow me to express the hope that the unbounded love of his people, the confidence of his priests, and the warm regard of all creeds and classes may in some degree compensate him for all the troubles and responsibilities incidental to his great office during the eleven years of his splendidly fruitful episcopate. If a stranger may be allowed to join in this public tribute, I shall ask you to accept the enclosed ten guineas—the small expression of my warm appreciation of an ideal Bishop, a generous friend, and a true patriot. I trust every happiness and success may pursue his Lordship in all the future years. With warm regards to yourself, I am, my dear Father Holbrook, yours ever sincerely,

JOSEPH DEVLIN.

Over one hundred letters and telegrams from all parts of the Colony have reached his Lordship, congratulating him upon his silver jubilee as a priest.

**Rotorua**

(From our own correspondent.)

The Rev. Father Schoonhof is conducting a mission among the Maoris at Whakarewarewa, and his labors are meeting with great success.

The local band is assiduously practising for the forthcoming contest to be held at Thames, commencing on November 9.

The collection taken up in aid of the jubilee of his Lordship Dr. Lenihan proved very satisfactory, the sum totalling £10.

Very Rev. Dean Lighthouse left for Whangarei and Wellington last week, and will be absent about three weeks.

The Rev. Father Costello, of Palmerston North, who has been in Rotorua for the past seven weeks, undergoing a course of treatment, has returned to his parish, greatly improved in health.

The end of the present month will witness the passing of Rotorua into the hands of the Tourist Department, and for that purpose Mr. Donne, manager of the Department, arrives here next week.

Very Rev. Dean Lighthouse and Father Wientjes have returned to Rotorua from a visit to the Urewera Country. In conversation with the Dean he stated that the work to be carried on there will be very difficult, owing to the influence of tohungaism.

Although the weather conditions of the past few Sundays have been of an inclement nature, the congregations at St. Michael's have been exceedingly good. The excellent work done by the Dean during his short residence in our midst has already shown itself, especially among the Maoris, who will, in the near future, require a church of their own, if their attendance keeps on increasing at its present rate.

The Rotorua Rugby Union's representatives have just concluded a successful tour of the Thames and Auckland. At the Thames on Saturday, August 17, they were defeated by 6 points to 3. On the following Wednesday they met and defeated the Auckland Trades Unions' representatives by 5 to nil. On Saturday last they met the Auckland representatives—the second best team—which, by the way, included three of the famous 'All Blacks, besides a number of other prominent players who were unable to make the southern tour with Auckland's representatives, and after a very even contest a draw resulted, both teams securing 6 points each.

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