

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

July 18.

Mr. John Finlay has resigned from the position of secretary to the United Irish League, owing to pressure of other duties. Mr. M. O'Kane will fill the vacancy.

The parish authorities at South Wellington have decided to let a contract for the building of Catholic club rooms, at a cost of £260. This sum will only cover the cost of erecting the shell of the proposed rooms. The members themselves will do the necessary lining and finishing work.

I regret to record the sudden death, on Monday last, of Mr. Michael O'Sullivan, at his residence, Ellice street. Deceased was a native of County Cork, Ireland, and had attained the age of 67 years. The interment took place on Wednesday, a large number of friends and sympathisers—among them the members of the Hibernian Society—following the remains to the cemetery.—R.I.P.

The members of the St. Patrick's College football team, who have been on a tour in the north, returned yesterday by the 'Victoria.' At Napier the team played the Napier junior representatives, and suffered their first defeat by 11 points to 6. The Rector of the college (Very Rev. Father Keogh) is highly satisfied with the results of the tour, and especially with the conduct of the boys. The tour, from an educational standpoint, sufficiently justified its undertaking.

A pleasant function took place in the Petone Convent school yesterday on the occasion of the feast day of the Rev. Father Maples. A delightful entertainment was provided by the convent pupils. The Rev. Father delivered a feeling address to the little ones at the conclusion of the entertainment. In the evening Father Maples was the guest in the schoolroom of the Children of Mary, when he was presented with tokens of their esteem.

Quite a romantic page in the history of Art in Wellington has been supplied by the events in connection with the loss of the Leader picture from the Wellington Art Gallery. The thief opened negotiations through an intermediary with the Mayor for its return. He wanted £150 at first, but after three months' negotiations he accepted £50, which has been paid by the Mayor. The picture now hangs in the Art Gallery, but the action of the Mayor is not generally approved of by the citizens.

On Monday evening last the Catholic Literary and Debating Society met a team from the St. John's (Presbyterian) Society to discuss the motion, 'That the trend of Wellington municipal politics is not in the best interests of the city.' Mr. A. H. Casey presided over the debate, and Mr. J. W. Poynton officiated as judge. A very even contest resulted, and at the conclusion the judge awarded as follows: Catholic Club, 243 points; St. John's Society, 242 points. For the Catholic Club the speakers and the points scored were—Messrs. O'Kane 73, Frost 80, Butcher 70; for combined treatment 20; total 243. For St. John's Society—Messrs. Douglas 73, Thompson 71, Redgrave 80; for combined treatment 18; total 242.—The debate was held under the auspices of the Wellington Literary and Debating Societies' Union.

(From an Occasional Correspondent.)

July 18.

Mr. J. E. Fitzgerald, a member of the Wellington Catholic Club, intends to contest the new Wellington Suburbs seat at the forthcoming Parliamentary election.

The committee of the new Catholic Hall Building Fund have decided not to commence building operations until £2500 is actually in hand. It is earnestly hoped that those who make promises will redeem them as soon as possible.

Rev. Father Venning, S.M., of St. Mary's, has been appointed chaplain of the St. Patrick's branch of the H.A.C.B. Society in lieu of the Very Rev. Father O'Shea, S.M., who has resigned owing to his time being now taken up with his other duties.

A number of members of the Wellington Catholic Club journeyed to Petone at the invitation of the local Catholic Club on Thursday evening, and, notwithstanding the inclemency of

the weather, a very enjoyable social evening was spent. These inter-club visits are doing great good, and creating much enthusiasm among the young men.

At the half-yearly meeting of the St. Aloysius branch of the H.A.C.B. Society, held on Monday evening, the following officers were elected for the ensuing six months:—President, Bro. J. L. Murphy; vice-president, Bro. J. Owen; secretary, Bro. W. J. O'Meara; treasurer, Bro. A. Guthrie; guardian, Bro. E. Simon; warden, Bro. J. Sheehan; sick visitors, Bros. R. Murphy and J. Sheehan. After the installation of officers a pleasant evening was spent with the members of the new St. Anne's Catholic Club.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

July 20.

The Rev. Father Nouyoux, M.S.H., arrived last week, to labor in the diocese. Two other priests of the same Order are shortly expected.

His Lordship the Bishop returns to the city from the Ashburton district this week, and on Sunday next will make an episcopal visitation at Rangiora.

The first to sign the visitors' book at the New Zealand Pavilion, Anglo-French Exhibition (writes the London correspondent of the 'Lyttelton Times'), was the Right Rev. Dr. Lenihan, Catholic Bishop of Auckland.

The Very Rev. Dean Ginaty, S.M., V.G., succeeds the late Very Rev. Father Marnane, S.M., as Rector of St. Mary's, Manchester street. At Mount Magdala the Rev. Father Bell will assist in the capacity of chaplain.

A quarterly general meeting of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be held under the Particular Council of Christchurch on next Monday evening at the Cathedral conference meeting room in honor of the feast of St. Vincent de Paul.

The Rev. Father Peoples, S.M., who for over three years has labored zealously in the Cathedral parish, is being transferred to another scene of activity. During the time he has been in this city, his life has been a particularly strenuous one, and included a round of duties well and faithfully carried out. Enduring evidence of his good work is manifest at Addington and Halswell, portions of the parish which have practically been under his missionary control. As chaplain of the hospital and other public institutions he has been most attentive, and altogether he leaves a record of well-doing that any young priest might well be proud of.

The adjourned quarterly meeting of the H.A.C.B. Society (St. Patrick's branch) was held in the Hibernian Hall, Barbadoes street, on last Wednesday evening. There was a large attendance of members, including delegates from the Kaiapoi branch. Owing to the state of the weather, expected representatives of the Leeston and New Headford branches were prevented from attending. The officers for the ensuing six months were installed. Bro. W. Rodgers, past president, officiated as installing officer, assisted by Bro. James Nelson, P.P., as installing warden. After this business was transacted, the meeting resolved itself into a social gathering, musical and vocal items being contributed by a good number of those present.

Making an episcopal visit to Ashburton, after an interval of three years, his Lordship Bishop Grimes in his address stated that when recently in the Eternal City rendering an account to the Holy See of the progress of Catholicism in the Dominion, he wished he could have reported that the Church in Ashburton had been renewed from its foundation to its roof, or that the present structure had been disposed of and that another had been erected on perhaps a better site. He had spoken about the presbytery, but it would have been a great consolation to both himself and the Very Rev. Dean O'Donnell if he had been able to inform the Sovereign Pontiff of the erection of a new church here. He hoped that on the occasion of his next visit to the town he would have the satisfaction of either laying the foundation-stone of or opening a new and worthy sanctuary.

A Bible-in-schools agitation is in progress at Kaiapoi. At the annual meeting of householders recently for the election of a school committee a proposal was made to take a plebiscite to decide whether or not religious instruction should be permitted during school hours. Such a move was strongly resented by

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