

the meantime services are to be held on the third Sunday in each month at the residence of Mr. F. J. Lissington, and the first took place on December 20, when the large room provided was filled to overflowing. The celebrant of the Mass was the Rev. Father Hickson, who took occasion to heartily thank Mr. and Mrs. Lissington for their kindness in meeting the need of the Catholics of the town. In the afternoon presentation of prizes to the Sunday school children was made by Archbishop Redwood, who was accompanied by the Rev. Father Bowden. His Grace referred to the good work done by the teacher, Mr. J. Costall, and to the satisfactory progress being made by the children. He also thanked Mr. and Mrs. Lissington for having for a long time past given the use of a room for the holding of Sunday school instruction, and for now allowing the room to be utilised for Divine service.

The Sisters of Notre Dame des Missions are expected to reach Petone from Christchurch in the middle of January after their annual retreat. The Sisters, eight in all, will be accommodated at Richmond street, Petone, until their new convent is ready.

The triennial election of the Mother Superior of the Sisters of Mercy was held at the Hill Street Convent, Thorndon, on December 23, when Sister Mary Francis was elected to the position.

Last Sunday, December 20, a presentation of prizes to the Brooklyn Sunday School children was made by the Very Rev. Dean Regnault, Provincial.

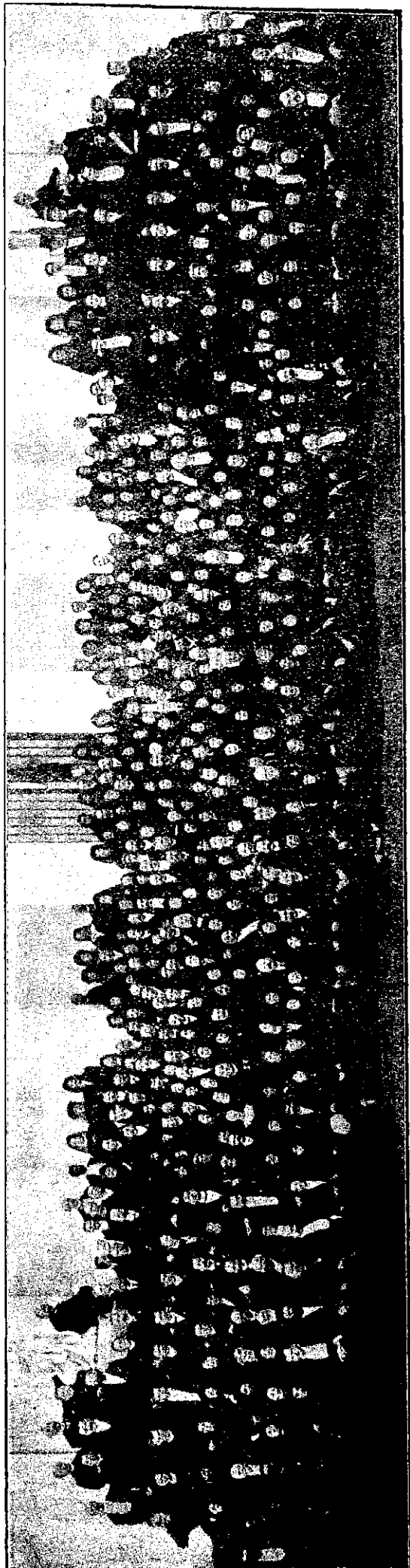
The quarterly meeting of the Hibernian Society, St. Patrick's branch, took place on Monday night, Bro. J. W. Callaghan (president) in the chair. A committee was formed to celebrate next St. Patrick's Day in an appropriate manner. Visiting members from Christchurch (Bro. G. J. Sellars, P.D.P.), Greymouth (Bro. Burke), Dunedin (Bro. Clancy), and Newtown (Bro. J. L. Murphy) were present, and addressed the meeting. The night's takings amounted to £65.

The members of the Wellington Catholic Club congratulate Mr. Charles J. Gamble (one of their number) on his success in the recent law examination.

The next annual conference of Catholic clubs takes place at Blenheim during Easter, 1909, and the Federation Executive is now taking active measures to make the gathering a success.

It is with very great regret I record the death of Mr. Michael J. Andrews at Christchurch on December 20. The deceased was sixty-five years, and was for twenty-five years a member of the staff of the Bank of New Zealand, and for some time manager of the Wanganui branch. When the headquarters of the bank were at Auckland he was accountant there. Deceased was president of the Newtown Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. He leaves a widow and one son, resident in Wellington. R.I.P.

Mr. J. E. Fitzgerald, who was defeated at the second ballot for the Suburbs seat at the general elections, was entertained at a complimentary social gathering in the Concert Chamber of the Town Hall on Saturday evening, December 19. He was presented with an illuminated address, one hundred sovereigns, and a gold sovereign case. The Hon. J. A. Millar, who made the presentation, said it gave him a great deal of pleasure to represent the Ministry on the present occasion. Mr. Fitzgerald should feel proud of the great fight he had put up in the Liberal cause. His defeat should not make him down-hearted. The successful candidate against whom Mr. Fitzgerald had put up such a splendid fight had served for many years on local bodies, and his name was a household word throughout Wellington. Their guest was a young New Zealander, and it was upon such that the Government of the country must rest in a very short time. He should make up his mind that although defeated he had simply been indulging in a preliminary canter. He had given the public a slight sample of what was in him. There was no doubt about it that the time was not far distant when Mr. Fitzgerald would be welcomed within the walls of Parliament. Judging from the manner in which Mr. Fitzgerald had conducted the campaign, he was the stamp of man needed in Parliament. Mr. Fitzgerald returned thanks for the kind things which had been said about him. If he had been approached about the present function he would have been in opposition to it, because his friends and supporters had been put to quite enough trouble on his account. He had been placed in a position which any man might feel proud of. The loyalty and enthusiasm displayed on his behalf did not deserve disappointment. Although defeated, he thought he was the greatest gainer of them all. He was practically unknown when he entered upon the fight; and he had gained the warm, whole-hearted friendship of many people whom he had never known before.



THE RECENT ENGLISH PILGRIMAGE AT ROME
Bishop Lenihan of Auckland (the only Bishop present when the photograph was taken) is in the middle of the group