

O'Malley in Dunedin, and could endorse the remarks of the previous speakers. He was not surprised at the wonders Father O'Malley had worked in Invercargill. This meeting showed the deep Catholic spirit that existed in Invercargill, and it was pleasing to note that Father O'Malley, who was everything that a good priest ought to be, had been appreciated.

Mr. E. Columb (president of the Hibernian Society) said he was sure he was voicing the opinion of the whole of the members of the society when he said they were truly sorry at Father O'Malley's departure. They recognised that the society had lost a good and staunch friend.

Father O'Malley, on rising to reply, was greeted with prolonged applause. He said he could scarcely tell them the great pleasure he felt at seeing again so many familiar faces. It was the duty of a priest to be the vigilant watchdog of the House of Israel, to know his sheep, so that they may recognise the sound of his voice. Being the physician of souls, it was the duty of the priest to look after the waifs and strays, and to bring them back to the paths of righteousness. There were certain things which tended to make the life of a priest a happy one, and he had been fortunate in the people amongst whom his lot was cast. In his daily rounds he was always received with a genuine, hearty welcome. Another thing which struck him very forcibly about the people of Invercargill was their constant generosity towards the church building fund. Freely and generously they gave their contribution (sometimes even the widow's mite), thus showing that they were determined not only to clear off the debt, but also to complete the decoration of the church and to make it the most splendid ecclesiastical edifice in Invercargill. Not only were the Catholics of Invercargill practical, but they are also sturdy colonists, efficient citizens, and well able to hold their own in the battle of life. The Catholic young men of this town were pre-eminently deserving of a word of recognition and praise. Their zeal and activity were known to all. There were in the parish a literary society and an athletic association, and both were in a very flourishing condition. But there were two societies of which the young men might feel proud, the Hibernian Society and the Hibernian Brass Band. The Hibernian Society, though established only a little more than a year ago, had progressed by leaps and bounds and had given rise to four kindred branches, full of life and vigor. The utility and efficiency of the band were displayed a few weeks ago in the unprecedented demonstration of welcome given to his Lordship Bishop Verdon. Within twelve months after its establishment, the Hibernian Band was thoroughly equipped and efficient. Its success, to a great extent, was due to the indefatigable energy of its conductor, Mr. Wills. Invercargill was fortunate in its pastor. Without flattery, Dean Burke was a true specimen of a *soggarth aroon* and an ornament to the sacerdotal calling. When the wet day came it was a pleasure to enter his room, to converse with him on literary or historical subjects, or to discuss philosophical and theological topics. In concluding he thanked all from the bottom of his heart. He hoped to see them at his home in South Dunedin, and he would always be glad to hear of the welfare of this fair southern city.

During the evening a concert programme was gone through, to which the following contributed:—Mrs. Matheson, Misses Kirwan, Shea, and Bonner, Messrs. Byrne and Pasco, Masters Arthur and Wills.

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

May 15.

As the Rev. Father O'Meara, of Feilding, is still unwell a priest from Wellington relieves him of his duties every Sunday.

Last Wednesday the members of St. Anne's Club and the Children of Mary held a euchre party and social gathering in the local club rooms, Newtown.

Mr. W. J. Mahoney, lately a prominent member of St. Mary's Church, has been appointed Deputy Registrar of births, marriages, and deaths at Hawera.

Rev. Father Kimbell, S.M., left Wellington on Friday for Nelson, where he will join the Rev. Father O'Connell, S.M., and both will conduct a mission in the district during the next three weeks.

There was a large attendance of members at St. Anne's Club last Tuesday evening, when the debate, 'Is the present system of volunteering sufficient for the defence of

the Colony?' took place. After an animated discussion those present decided in the affirmative.

A ladies' branch of the St. Vincent de Paul Society was inaugurated last week in the Thorndon parish. Twenty-five active members have already taken part in the work.

Messrs. M. H. McCarthy and Dwyer have been elected vice-presidents of the St. Joseph's Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Bro. Savage has taken up the secretarial duties of the Particular Council during Bro. Reichel's absence in Europe.

Mr. E. J. Fitzgibbon, B.A., LL.B., last Friday addressed the boys of the St. Aloysius' Club, Newtown, on 'How to read and how to speak.' There was a large gathering of members present, who took great interest in the various points and instructions brought forward by the speaker.

At the fourth annual meeting of the delegates to the Wellington Literary and Debating Societies' Union which was held on Friday, Mr. M. O'Kane was elected hon. treasurer of the Union. The meeting passed a vote of thanks to Mr. A. H. Casey, who has retired from the vice-presidency after being actively connected with the Union since its inception. Both the above gentlemen are prominent officers of the Wellington Catholic Club. There are now twelve societies in the union, nine of whom took part in the annual debating tournament.

The Society for Promoting the Health of Women and Children held its first annual meeting last Friday afternoon in the Town Hall. His Worship the Mayor (Dr. A. K. Newman) presided. There was a large number of ladies present. The annual report mentioned that over 1000 visits had been paid by the Plunket nurse during the year, over 200 in one month. The members spoke highly in praise of the Plunket nurse, Mrs. Macdonald. Rev. Mother Mary Joseph Aubert and Mrs. A. A. Corrigan were elected on the committee for the ensuing year.

The boundary line between Thorndon and Te Aro parishes has been adjusted under the decree of his Grace Archbishop Redwood. Starting from the entrance of the Queen's Wharf, across the Post Office Square to Grey St., thence to Kelburne Avenue, across Wellington Terrace, to the Tramway Avenue, proceeding along the Kelburne tram line to its present terminus in Kelburne, thence by Upland Road as far as its junction with Plunket St., by Cemetery Road to Highbury Road, along Highbury Road to the sea coast.

At the annual fortnightly meeting of the St. Patrick's branch of the H.A.C.B. Society, held on May 10, a vote of condolence with Bro. J. J. Ward on the death of his wife was passed. As the next triennial movable meeting of the District Board will be held in Wellington next February a strong and enthusiastic committee was formed for the purpose of entertaining the delegates from the various branches throughout the Dominion who are expected to take part in the meeting. Bro. Jas. McCusker was elected to the position of secretary of the committee. Bro. M. Sheahan, J.P., of Auckland, paid a visit to the local branch meeting. Bro. Pender, late president of the Christchurch branch, who has now taken up his residence in Wellington, has become a member of the St. Aloysius' branch. Newtown.

DIocese OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

May 17.

Large congregations attend the month of May devotions in the Cathedral, when appropriate sermons are preached by the resident clergy.

An attractive entertainment is being arranged to raise funds for liquidating a small liability on the church at Sumner. It is to be given in the local public hall.

There was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Mary's, Christchurch North, from the 11 o'clock Mass on Sunday, followed by the customary procession after vespers. The May devotions at St. Mary's are being largely attended.

His Lordship Bishop Grimes presided at a presentation of awards by the Prime Minister, Sir Joseph Ward, at the Alexandra Hall on last Thursday afternoon, in connection with the Christchurch Centre examination of the Trinity College of Music. There was a large attendance. His Lordship said that it was his pleasing duty to welcome the Prime Minister, and to thank him cordially for turning aside from grave and onerous duties to present the medals and diplomas of Trinity College of Music to the successful candidates of the Christchurch Centre. The medals had been given by Mr. A. Kaye and the Dresden Piano Company. Sir Joseph Ward's presence was a proof that he believed, with Plato, that the study of music should form

GEO. T. WHITE
NOVELTIES AT LOWEST PRICES.

Importer, Watchmaker, Manufacturing Jeweller, Medallist
COLOMBO STREET, CHRISTCHURCH.
LAMBTON QUAY, WELLINGTON. Established 1878.