

year conduct the board's practical examinations in New Zealand.

At the distribution of clothes by the Two Garment Society, which took place yesterday, the Home of Compassion among other institutions received parcels of clothing. Mrs. A. A. Corrigan has taken over the duties of secretary of the society.

At the Ohio Home on Friday evening some members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society entertained the old people with several musical and gramophone items. A number of lantern views were also given. The inmates thoroughly enjoyed the evening's programme.

Mr. P. J. O'Regan gave an instructive address to the boys of the St. Aloysius Club on Friday in St. Anne's Club rooms, taking for his subject 'The Words of Great Men.' The boys enjoyed the address, taking a great deal of interest in the various suggestions brought forward.

On Tuesday evening, at St. Anne's Club rooms, the members of the literary and debating branch held a mock banquet, at which there was a large attendance of members, and on Thursday Messrs. Tracey kindly gave an exhibition of sparring, which was greatly appreciated by the members present.

A very successful gathering of members and friends of the Wellington Catholic Club took place on Wednesday evening in St. Patrick's Hall. The proceedings took the form of a progressive euchre tournament, in which close on 100 people were engaged. The ladies' prizes were won by Misses Luke and Crawford, and the gentlemen's by Messrs. McCormick and W. Frost.

Quite a large number of people have taken advantage of the opportunity given them of inspecting the H.M.S. Challenger whilst moored alongside the wharf during the last fortnight. At the 9 o'clock Mass at the Basilica on Sunday there were about fifty of the sailors present. During their stay many visited the Catholic Club and various Catholic entertainments which took place during the fortnight.

Major J. G. Hughes was married at St. Joseph's Church, Buckle street, to Miss Marion de Vere O'Connor, eldest daughter of Mr. Robert de Vere O'Connor, of Wellington, on May 8. Major J. Gethin Hughes, D.S.O., one of the staff officers of the Defence Force, and superintending officer of Defence Rifle Clubs, has been promoted to the position of assistant to Major Joyce, officer commanding the Nelson district.

Next Tuesday, June 1, the St. Patrick's College Old Boys' Association will hold a smoke concert, at which old boys will be afforded an opportunity of bidding farewell to the Very Rev. Father Keogh, S.M., B.A. (president of the association), who is relinquishing the Rectorship of the College after several years of valuable service. It is expected that there will be a record attendance, as several old boys from different parts of the Dominion intend to be present.

It is with regret that I have to record the death of Mrs. Margaret Amelia Chase, wife of Mr. Chas. Chase, who died at Amesbury street, Palmerston North, on Saturday. The remains were taken to St. Mary's Church, and from thence to the Karori Cemetery on Monday. The deceased was much respected in Palmerston North and Wellington, and her death is much regretted. She leaves a husband and four children, for whom the greatest sympathy is felt. Mrs. E. Carroll, of Wellington, is a sister of the deceased.—R.I.P.

The St. Patrick's branch of the H.A.C.B. Society intend holding their annual social about the third week in July, and as the proceeds are to be devoted to the fund for entertaining the delegates at the triennial movable meeting, which takes place in Wellington next February, the delegates reception committee will also take over the management of this function. The St. Aloysius branch, Wellington South, intend holding their social gathering in Victoria Hall on June 3. Bros. W. J. O'Meara and E. Simon are the joint secretaries of a strong committee which has been formed.

The Sailors' Rest was crowded with seafaring men and their friends on Monday night at the concert given by the Wellington Catholic Seamen's Conference. A very enjoyable programme was gone through, the following contributing appreciative items:—Misses Bradley and Murphy (duet), Barton (song), F. and A. Flanagan (pianoforte duet), Jameson (song), M. Strickland (song), K. Sullivan (song), F. Tregonning (song), Mrs. Cole (piano solo), Messrs W. Chris (comic song), J. Knowles (song), J. Wilson (violin solo), E. Pollard (flute solo), Master Frank Walsh (song). The accompaniments were played by Mrs. Cole.

Notice is given by the Inspector-General of Schools (Mr. G. Hogben) in the *Gazette*, that a Civil Service junior examination will be held in November, 1909, beginning on or about the 20th. A Junior National Scholarship and

free place examination will be held on or about the 1st and 2nd days of December, and a Civil Service senior examination and an examination for teachers' certificates of Class C and Class D will be held in January, 1910, beginning on or about the fifth day of the month. Entries for the Civil Service junior examination and special examination for senior free places will be received by the Inspector-General of Schools, at Wellington, until September 15, 1909, or, with a late fee of £1, until September 22, 1909. Entries for the January examinations will be received by the Inspector-General of Schools, at Wellington, until September 30, 1909, or, with a late fee of £1 in addition to the ordinary fee, until October 15, 1909.

### Feilding

(From an occasional correspondent.)

On the eve of the departure of Mr., Mrs., and Miss Desmond for Auckland, where they intend to reside, a farewell social was tendered them on Wednesday evening, May 19, by the parishioners of Feilding. Mr. and Mrs. Desmond were amongst the pioneer residents of the district, when the Catholic population was very few and far between. In matters pertaining to their holy religion they are always most devoted, and generous helpers in the interests and welfare of the Church generally. The bright example they set in the early days of settlement, when the Church was struggling for an existence, is one that may be followed with advantage by many. Always kind and hospitable, they will be long remembered as true friends and good practical Catholics. Advantage was taken of the occasion to present Miss Desmond with a handsome gold bracelet in recognition of the valuable services rendered by her to the Church. In making the presentation, the Rev. Father O'Meara spoke in appreciative terms of Miss Desmond's many good qualities, and her long connection with the choir and assistance in Church matters generally. With socials, bazaars, and other entertainments Miss Desmond—always generously and cheerfully gave her services. With her bright and genial disposition, having always a happy smile and kind word for everyone, the loss occasioned by her leaving Feilding will be keenly felt and her place difficult to fill. All regret that owing to ill-health of Mr. Desmond the family are obliged to seek a home in another part of the Dominion, and all just as sincerely trust that ere long he will regain his wonted vigor and that many years of health and happiness may be their portion.

### DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

May 24.

The Rev. Father Dahdah, pastor of the Maronite rite, is at present on a periodical visit to the Syrian members of his flock in this city.

The balance sheet in connection with the late All Seasons Carnival is ready for presentation at a meeting to be convened on the return of the secretary, Mr. E. O'Connor.

The committee having in hand the presentation of a testimonial to the church secretary, Mr. E. O'Connor, met on Sunday afternoon in the Bishop's House. The Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., presided. Satisfactory progress was reported. A final meeting is convened for next Sunday afternoon at the boys' school, at which all the former pupils of Mr. O'Connor are expected to attend.

Much interest is being manifested in the approaching illustrated lecture on Ireland by his Lordship the Bishop, under the auspices of the Hibernian Society. The proceeds of the lecture are, I understand, to be devoted to the requirements of the schools, which, apart from the excellence of the lecture and the splendid views to be exhibited, should act as an incentive in securing a crowded audience.

The Rev. Father O'Connell, S.M., has been conducting a series of missions in the Nelson district, spending a week each in Waimea West, Takaka, and Wakefield. Later he was joined by the Rev. Father Kimbell, S.M., and together they conducted a week's mission in the town of Nelson. From Nelson the missionaries go to the West Coast, where they will resume their labors throughout the parish of Ahaura.

His many friends throughout the Dominion will regret the fact that the Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., acting on expert medical advice, is obliged to relinquish duty for a time, and take a complete rest. It is the intention of Father Price to join the Manapouri at Wellington this week en route to the Islands and California. On his return he will probably come by way of Japan, spending some little time in the East, being away altogether about five or six months.

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