

it no one has at any time access except the Sister in charge and her senior assistant. The family names—the Christian names even—are known to no one save the two mentioned. Each young woman entering the institution is given an arbitrary name, and by this arbitrary name alone while she is in the Refuge is she ever recognised. Who she is, whence she came, whither she goes on her departure, nobody but the Sister in charge and her assistant know. I honestly believe that I speak the perfect truth when I say that the Sisters' methods subserve to the securing of brighter and happier lives to the bulk of their wards. By another of those curious coincidences (if such they be) a Bill was brought before Parliament containing a clause—in reference to dwellings in which illegitimate children under two years old are housed—which, if passed into law, would break down this salutary rule of protective secrecy. Archbishop O'Reilly notified the State Children's Council that, if this clause became law, he would avoid conflict with the Statute by dismissing every child under two years old at the Refuge, and, in dismissing it, would dismiss the mother also. He at the same time intimated that, in the event of the clause becoming law, the young unwedded mothers who sought the shelter of Fullarton would be required to leave the institute, with their offspring, as soon as they were strong enough to do so with safety. And then the State Department might provide for both mothers and children as to it might seem good. The Bill referred to above became law in due course. But the objectionable clause was substantially modified, so as to exclude benevolent institutions from its operation. Fiction, especially of the anti-Catholic kind, flies like thistle-down. Garbled versions of the facts of the Fullarton-Kapunda Institutes may at any time reach our shores. If so, these summary paragraphs will meet them on their arrival from over-sea. And in every event, the Archbishop of Adelaide has done well to place on record the remarkable series of letters—remarkable chiefly by the overwhelming case which he presents—in connection with incidents that in due course will take their place in the web and warp of the Catholic history of South Australia.

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

The Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., who had been at the Catholic Congress, returned to Dunedin on Friday evening.

The week's retreat for the Children of Mary, which was conducted by the Rev. Father Lynch, C.S.S.R., was brought to a conclusion on Sunday afternoon. Father Lynch preached in St. Joseph's Cathedral on Sunday evening.

It has been decided to tender a farewell, in connection with the silver jubilee of his ordination to the priesthood, to the Rev. Dr. Cleary, on Monday evening, November 29. The Rev. Dr. Cleary leaves Dunedin for Wellington on the following morning, where he will join the *Ionic*, which sails for Montevideo on December 2.

A very successful entertainment in aid of the renovation of St. Patrick's Parish School was held in the Town Hall, South Dunedin, on Wednesday evening. There was a very large attendance, including the Rev. Fathers O'Malley and D. O'Neill. Mr. W. Carr presided in the unavoidable absence of Mr. J. J. Marlow. The programme was a varied and interesting one, and was highly appreciated by the audience, who encored every item. Key's Orchestra played two selections, the remainder of the programme being contributed by the following:—Songs—Mrs. J. Saunders ('Come back to Erin'), Miss Mahoney ('Molly Bawn'), Miss C. Kerr ('My ain Folk'), Mr. D. McNamara ('The Bugler' and 'The Minstrel Boy'), Mr. A. McLeod ('Roses'), Mr. A. J. Downing ('Asleep on the Deep'), Mr. R. Kerr ('The Last Watch'), Mr. Poppelwell ('Nirvana'); musical monologues—Miss T. Brennan ('Christmas Bells'), Miss M. Carey-Wallace ('Johanie, Me and You'); recitation—Mr. J. H. Brennan ('King Claudius on Repentance'). With one or two exceptions the accompaniments were played by Mrs. J. Woods. At the interval the Rev. Father O'Malley explained that the proceeds of the entertainment were to be devoted to the renovation of the Parish School and the improvement of the school grounds. He thanked the audience for attending in such large numbers, and the performers for providing such an excellent evening's entertainment. The Committee, of which Mr. J. Saunders was secretary, are to be congratulated on the excellence and variety of the programme submitted, and on the success of the entertainment from every point of view.

Greymouth

(From our own correspondent.)

October 30.

The annual oratorical competition in connection with the St. Columba Catholic Club was held in the Club Rooms last Monday evening. Mr. E. Casey (vice-president) occupied the chair, and there was a large attendance. Mr. A. A. Adams (head master of the Grey District High School) was judge, and the following club members competed:—Messrs.

Wm. Meates ('Cardinal Newman'), A. F. O'Donoghue ('W. E. Gladstone'), P. Smyth ('George Washington'), T. M. Heffernan ('Henry Grattan'), M. Keating ('J. E. Fitzgerald'), J. McGlone ('Daniel O'Connell'). The judge, in giving his decision in favour of Mr. T. M. Heffernan for first place, and Mr. A. F. O'Donoghue for second, congratulated all the speakers on their excellent speeches, and remarked that the efforts of the younger members were remarkably good. The winner received a handsome gold medal, donated by the Club Executive, and a diploma from the Executive of the Federated Catholic Clubs. The winner also has his name inscribed on the Club honours board as Club Champion for 1909. The previous winners of the Club Championship are J. F. Devonport (1905), D. Butler (1906), T. Barry (1907), E. Casey (1908).

St. Patrick's College, Wellington

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

A movement for worthily celebrating the silver jubilee of St. Patrick's College, Wellington, was initiated in St. Patrick's Hall on Thursday evening. Mr. Martin Kennedy, K.S.G., presided over about forty ladies and gentlemen, representative of both clergy and laity. Before the meeting closed the earnestness of those present had materialised in subscriptions, totalling within £20 of a thousand pounds.

In moving the first resolution—'That the meeting affirm the desirability of celebrating in a worthy manner the silver jubilee of the College, which opens on June 1, 1910'—the chairman gave an interesting résumé of the history of the College since its foundation in 1855, and delivered an eloquent eulogy on the self-sacrifice of its directors, the Marist Fathers. The total expenditure to date under all headings, he said, had been £40,400. Of this sum the original cost of site, building, and equipment accounted for £21,300. Of that amount £10,000 was subscribed, principally by the people of the Wellington and Christchurch dioceses. The balance, less the amount of a mortgage of £5,000 taken over by the Rector, was paid by the Marist Fathers. Unfortunately, it had not yet been possible to liquidate the mortgage in question. Additional expenditure represented in the £40,400 included cost of additional class-rooms, £4,750, whilst a large deficiency between receipts and working expenses absorbed £7,800. Interest payments accounted for another £6,500. These amounts also had been paid by the owners—nominally the Fathers were such, but, of course, the College practically belonged to the community, and was carried on for the benefit of the Catholics of this diocese and also of the Dominion. Sound secular and religious education for the children of Catholic parents had been the aim of the founders, and how well this aim had been realised the results testified more eloquently than words: A thousand students had passed through the school, and of these some thirty had entered the priesthood, whilst in the learned professions and the Civil Service and elsewhere, ex-pupils of St. Patrick's bore an honourable part in the affairs of the Dominion. If the College had done nothing else than provide thirty recruits for the priesthood it would have done an enormous service. In the achievement of these results the parents of the students, he ventured to say, had not made any sacrifice whatever in the matter of payment. In any of the State's endowed colleges the cost to the parents would have been as great. Well, it might be more so. Then, how was it that tuition at St. Patrick's College compared so favourably in the matter of cost with that at institutions having large endowments? It was to the self-sacrifice of the Marist Fathers that this was due. They gave their services and accepted no salary in return, whereas at any of our endowed colleges this item would account for fully £3,000 a year. That, said Mr. Kennedy, amid applause, is our endowment! We have no other! The Marist Fathers really endow the College to the amount of £3,000 a year. He appealed to those present to join enthusiastically in a movement to fittingly celebrate the jubilee of so valuable an institution.

The Very Rev. Father O'Shea, S.M., V.G., seconded the resolution. He mentioned that he was among the very first students of the College, and hoped that the celebrations would be worthy of their chief educational establishment in the Dominion.

The second resolution, moved by the Hon. R. A. Loughnan, affirmed—'That it is desirable to raise a fund, to be known as the St. Patrick's College Jubilee Fund, to be applied to (a) the building and the equipment of science laboratories (so urgently required) in connection with the College; and (b) the reduction, if not the complete extinction, of the existing mortgage debt on the College.' The laboratories, it was explained, would have the first claim upon the fund. The gross mortgage debt amounted to some £7,000.

Mr. Loughnan dealt interestingly with the influence exerted by St. Patrick's on the life of the community. In the engineering and other professions they found men upholding the honour of their alma mater, whilst they had only to consult the records of Victoria College to know that in the university life of the Dominion St. Patrick's had made a very fine mark for itself. He strongly commended the proposal to establish a science laboratory.