

In his 'Political Economy' (one of the Stonyhurst Manuals of Catholic Philosophy) Mr. Charles S. Devás says: 'Strikes are only justifiable when they aim at some benefit for the workmen, which it is unjust in the master to refuse, and which can only be obtained in this way; and it is only too unlikely that these conditions will not be fulfilled, and that the strike will in consequence be an injustice. And in some industries and employments which minister to the daily wants of society, strikes produce such inconvenience, that if they become frequent, no civilised Government could endure them: for example, general strikes of coal-miners, or dock-workers, or even local strikes of workers on railways, or tramways, or in gasworks. The conditions laid down by the Catholic economist are manifestly sound, and in view of the facilities afforded in New Zealand for settling industrial disputes by conciliation and arbitration, the continuance of the existing strike cannot possibly be justified, however much one might desire to see the men's legitimate grievances redressed.'

General d'Amade and Rome

A French General—d'Amade the name of him—lately ran amok in an interview with the anticlerical Paris journal, the *Matin*. The result is that he has had to be sent into retirement—for a space—so that he may have an opportunity of acquiring the knowledge—even more useful to fighting men than to men of peace—of how to keep his feet warm and his head cool. We take the liberty of suggesting that an ice-bag would be a useful adjunct to the scene of his retirement. The General, says the Rome correspondent of the London *Tablet*, of October 16, 'alleged that the Vatican was inciting and encouraging the Spaniards in Morocco in order to prejudice French interests there, and he alleged as a proof of this that the Holy See had removed all the French missionaries in the country and replaced them by Spanish Friars. The truth is, the *Osservatore* points out, that Morocco has been for a long time a Vicariate-Apostolic entrusted to the Spanish Franciscans. When the French Government sent its expedition against the Chouias it failed to send any military chaplains with the troops. They were lovingly assisted by the Spanish missionaries, who received warm personal thanks from the soldiers who benefited by their ministrations. But the Holy See did not stop at that. At the instance of French Catholics it used its influence with the Vicar-Apostolic of Morocco to secure the temporary assistance of French Franciscans to attend to the French soldiers, and these French religious remained with the troops until the latter were withdrawn. The *Osservatore* very pertinently turns the argument against the French authorities by pointing out that when France took possession of Tunis it lost no time in securing the removal of the Italian Capuchins, who had been in the country for a long time and had done good work on the mission, and Spain, showing itself anxious for the presence of its own missionaries in Morocco, was only following the conduct of all other countries with foreign possessions.'

This disposes of General d'Amade's 'fairy tale of a far-off land.' The reader will duly note how plain a tale has put him down.

DIocese OF DUNEDIN

Six students of Holy Cross College, Mosgiel, will be ordained to the priesthood in St. Joseph's Cathedral on Sunday.

There was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Joseph's Cathedral on Sunday from the last Mass until Vespers. In the evening there was the usual procession.

The following are the results of the practical music examinations held by Mr. H. St. George, of Trinity College, London, at the Dominican Convent, Queenstown, on December 2. Senior division—M. McCarthy, 85 (honors); J. Aldridge, 84 (honors); R. McNeill, 67. Intermediate—R. Holt, 81 (honors); Juniors—F. Valentin, 83 (honors); S. Robertson, 73; N. Lynch, 72; K. Kelly, 70. Preparatory—F. Gillies, 81; M. McBride, 78. All the candidates presented were successful. At the theory examinations, held in June last, the following results were obtained—Senior—R. McNeill, 81. Intermediate—R. Holt, 83 (honors); Juniors—K. Kelly, 96 (honors); J. McIsaac, 82 (honors); M. Luckie, 74; N. Lynch, 64.

The annual concert by the pupils of the Santa Sabina Convent, North-east Valley, was given in the schoolroom on Friday night, in the presence of a large and very appreciative audience. The concert was an artistic success, and the vocal and instrumental items reflected the highest credit on the performers and on their teachers, the Dominican Nuns. Several of the items were encored, a compliment which would, no doubt, have been extended to the whole of the performers were it not that the audi-

ence felt that such a course would unduly prolong the concert. The programme was such as to show the excellent musical education imparted at the convent. A feature of the concert was the operetta, 'The Spirit of the Wood,' by the pupils, who made a very pretty picture on the stage in their varied and artistic costumes. They were letter-perfect in their parts, and went through the operetta with credit to themselves and their teachers. The kindergarten also did remarkably well in their chorus and dance. Miss Nellie Chandler gave a recitation, 'The last token,' with much dramatic effect. The following was the programme: Duet, two pianos, 'Sandmauchen' (Heins), Misses Cromiar and Douglas; chorus and dance, kindergarten; vocal solo, 'Berceuse' (Gounod), Miss Wood; duet, two pianos, 'L'Hiver,' Misses Elvina Millow, Nellie Thompson, Masters R. and H. Botting; vocal solo, 'The promise of life,' Miss B. Hislop; operetta, 'The Spirit of the Wood,' vocal solo, 'Twas a lover and his lass' (Macfarren), Miss A. Heffernan; duet, two pianos, 'Il bacio,' Misses Stanaway, D. Gore, N. and L. Lynch; vocal solo, 'Out on the rocks,' Miss N. Dane; recitation, 'The last token,' Miss Nellie Chandler; vocal solo, 'Ave Maria,' Miss Beulah Mitchelson; piano solo, 'Spring song' (Mendelssohn), Miss E. Chandler; vocal solo, 'April morn,' Miss J. McNee; piano duo, 'Impromptu mazurka' (Lack), Miss E. Chandler, and Miss Stanaway; vocal solo, 'Dermot Astore' (Crouch), Miss C. Kerr; piano duet, two pianos, 'Tanantelle' (Pietzouk), Miss Stanaway, and Master Eric Strain; vocal duet, 'Sea breezes,' Misses J. McNee and N. Dane. The greater part of the accompaniments were played by Miss M. Bernick. Prior to the final item Rev. Father O'Reilly took the opportunity of congratulating the performers and the Dominican Nuns on the excellence of the programme, and of thanking the audience for their attendance.

Oamaru

(From our own correspondent)

December 6

At the examinations held recently in Oamaru in connection with Trinity College, the following pupils of Miss Cartwright, A.T.C.L., were successful:—Higher examination—Aimee Piper, A.T.C.L., 97 (honors). Senior grade—Hannah Cartwright, 92 (honors). Junior grade—Vera Rankin, 92 (honors). Preparatory—Dora Daly, 89 (honors). In the higher examination Miss Piper, A.T.C.L., has so far the honor of gaining the highest marks in New Zealand. In connection with the examination of the Associated Board of the R.A.M. and R.C.M. the following candidates were successful:—Elementary—Annie Archibald, 130 (distinction); Elsie Ramsay, 120; Olive Diver, 118.

Mosgiel

A crowded and appreciative audience greeted the rise of the curtain at the convent school concert on the evening of November 26 (says the *Tairāhiti Advocate*). The programme included two pianoforte quartets and two trios, the players being Misses V. Jones, K. Walsh, M. Turnbull, K. Inglis, I. Keys, M. Kovalevske, N. Christie, and L. Hawke. The playing of these young ladies reflected the greatest credit on their tutors and themselves. 'Two little tots'—Doris McLutye and Amelda Hawke—sang a duet about a bird's nest. The audience recalled them, and Doris appeared by herself and recited 'What I have.' After hearing this the audience were not satisfied until she returned and repeated the item. A number of boys sang a chorus, which was full of humor, about 'The travelling tinkers.' Masters John O'Brien and Vincent Hawke sang a comic duet, and were obliged to respond to an encore. The choruses 'The rainbow' and 'Flower song' by the junior girls, were very pleasing items, and much appreciated. 'The old brigade' chorus and march was full of color and spirit, and so pleased the audience that a double encore was called for. The soloists in this were Messrs. A. Hawke and J. Walsh. Another equally successful item was the patriotic march and chorus, 'The British Dominions.' The British dependencies were each represented by a banner, carried by a girl, and supported on each side by boys in uniform. Another chorus and march that was both well received and well performed was 'Zealandia.' The children formed the letters composing the word 'Zealandia' and afterwards with the assistance of some boys sang the chorus. Another pretty item was 'Roaming on the hills,' given by Misses Mary McCann, Lizzie Daly, Ivy Freeman, Maria and Alice McGettigan, Eileen and Aggie Stevenson, Mary Tansy, Mary Harty, and E. McGettigan. The promoters of the concert were fortunate in securing two solos from Mr. E. Woods, of Dunedin. To judge by the applause and encore, the audience were delighted with his singing of 'I triumph, Sincerity, and Rocked in the cradle of the deep.' The other item on the programme not already referred to was the operetta, 'The King's Awakening in Fairyland.' The scenes were the prettiest, the music the sweetest, and the movements, the brightest on the programme, consequently the piece was a very good one. The accompaniments were played by various members of the company.