

MARIST BROTHERS' SCHOOL, AUCKLAND

The annual entertainment by, and distribution of prizes to, the pupils of the Marist Brothers' School was held in St. James' Hall on the evening of December 14. His Lordship the Bishop, Rev. Fathers Wright, Carran, Ormond, Rev. Brother Clement, the Brothers from the Sacred Heart College, and a crowded congregation were present. The entertainment was an excellent one. Rev. Brother George read the following report:— Throughout the year a roll of 200 has been maintained, and the attendance has been, on the whole, very satisfactory. The annual inspection visit was paid in August by Mr. J. S. Goodwin, board inspector. He expressed himself as well pleased with the nature and methods of instruction and the general progress of the pupils. Nineteen boys were successful in gaining either certificates of proficiency or competency last year. While it is gratifying to note that more parents are leaving their boys at school long enough to pass Standard VI., it is still to be regretted that a large number do not avail themselves of the facilities now afforded for secondary education. The Sacred Heart College authorities offer annually a scholarship of three years of the yearly value of 35 guineas; and yet this year, although several were eligible, no one from this school competed for this scholarship. Notwithstanding the exceedingly restricted playground area, the boys of this year have attained a high degree of excellence in athletic sports, and their neat appearance, methods of play, and general sportsmanlike conduct, have been most favorably commented on. In this connection I would like to record on my own behalf and that of the parents our gratitude to Mr. Paul McNamee, one of our old boys, who has generously given to the pupils of the upper classes practical lessons in life-saving and resuscitation. The conduct and general behaviour of the boys during the past year have been remarkably good. As an evidence of this, it may be mentioned that on a proposal being made to found a Sodality of Children of Mary among the bigger boys, the number of aspirants who wished to enrol themselves in this sodality was thirty-five. The clergy of the various city parishes have shown themselves most assiduous in visiting the school and looking after the children of their respective flocks. We wish to thank the donors of prizes, and also Mr. Harry Hiscocks for his great generosity and the interest he has taken in the boys during the whole year.

The following was the programme:— Overture, Mr. Harry Hiscocks; chorus, 'A night good crew,' pupils; address, Master Wilber Clarke; chorus, junior pupils; solo, 'Ben Bolt,' Master J. Baskiville; trio, 'Ye shepherds, tell me,' Masters Moore, Leo, and O'Connor (2); King, Fairweather, Clark, Alder, and Moodabe; chorus, junior pupils; chorus, 'O'Donnell Abu,' pupils; operetta, 'Michael's Hammer.'

At the conclusion of the programme His Lordship the Bishop expressed his great pleasure at the excellent work of the Brothers and their pupils that evening. To him it was also a great comfort and consolation for the future to know that he would have behind him the lads around him on the platform. Their efforts were admirable, while their singing led him to think what excellent material there was for their church choirs later on. He congratulated them upon their success during the past year, and trusted that further successes would attend them during their courses in the coming year.

The following was the prize-list:—

- Campbell gold medal for good conduct, presented by His Lordship the Bishop. E. Wills; gold medal for Christian doctrine, presented by Rev. Father Holbrook. B. Clinton; gold medal for regular attendance, presented by Mr. J. J. O'Brien. M. Hendron; gold medal for dux of school, presented by Mr. A. Kohn. John Foley; gold medal for singing, presented by Musical Branch M.B.O.B., J. Baskiville; gold medal for athletics, presented by Mr. E. Noonan. E. Early; gold medal for Irish essay, presented by Mr. M. J. Sheahan. F. Mangan.
- Standard VI.—Regular attendance, L. Hancock; general proficiency—A. Pyman 2, A. Beehan 3; English, F. Mangan; arithmetic, P. Mullins; athletics, F. Devaney 2.
- Standard V.—Good conduct, W. Fairweather; Christian doctrine, E. O'Dowd; regular attendance, H. Jew; general proficiency—C. Boyle 1, E. Moore 2, W. King 3; English, M. Sayegh; arithmetic, A. Lucas.
- Standard IV.—Good conduct, J. Molloy; Christian doctrine—E. Sharp 1, J. Molloy 2; regular attendance, J. O'Connor; proficiency—H. Sing 1, J. O'Connor 2, E. Vandye 3; arithmetic, P. Gallagher; English—B. Beehan 1.
- Standard III.—Good conduct, N. Dodds; Christian doctrine—E. Bergert 1; regular attendance, T. Anderson and J. Smyth (equal); general proficiency—J. Lynch 1, E. Murphy 2, W. Page and J. Robertson (equal) 3; English—E. Nixon; arithmetic, W. Clarke.
- Standard II.—Christian doctrine, E. Sayegh; good conduct, J. Molloy; proficiency—C. Murray 1, J. Molloy 2, Alan Wills 3; regular attendance, E. Bannister; English—W. Foley 1, V. Lonergan 2; arithmetic—M. Clinton 1, R. Stanley 2.
- Standard I.—Christian doctrine, A. Grant; good conduct, C. Browne; proficiency—A. Grant 1, C. Browne 2, P. Cowrick 3; regular attendance, J. Flynn; English, H. O'Brien.

Intercolonial

The citizens the other day (remarks the *Catholic Press*) returned to the Sydney City Council a record number of Catholics. Half the Council is now Catholic.

On Sunday, December 12, the parishioners of Essendon and surrounding districts gathered in force to witness the laying of the memorial stone of the completion of the church by His Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne. In addition to the sum of £1200 subscribed at the ceremony, a sum of £200 was donated by the Rector (Ray D. R. Nolan) for a stained glass window for the sanctuary. Promises amounting to £3700 were also received, so that considerably more than the cost of the building—about £4000—is assured.

The following cable message (says the *Catholic Press*) was received by His Eminence Cardinal Moran a few weeks ago from Father Gleason, the popular chief chaplain to the American Fleet:—Your Eminence's welcome to the American Fleet was recognised at a complimentary banquet to Dr. Duhan, Bishop of Rockhampton, given in New York, on the 9th of November. The Archbishop and clergy of New York, the judges, and Acting Mayor of the city desire to thank your Eminence on behalf of millions of the American people.

His Grace, Archbishop Kelly visited the Christian Brothers' College, Waverley, on Sunday, December 12, and performed the ceremony of unveiling a statue of the Blessed Virgin, erected by the past and present students as a testimony of their appreciation of the Rev. Brother P. A. Conlon, who was Superior of the college from 1903 to 1909. Brother Conlon (says the *Sydney Freeman's Journal*) was transferred to Melbourne in September last, where he assumed charge of the premier college of the Christian Brothers in Australia, at Victoria parade. There was a large gathering of the clergy and laity present at the function.

The blue ribbon at the Senior University Examinations (says the *Sydney Freeman's Journal*) was won by J. A. Fitzherbert of St. Ignatius' College, Riverview, who was awarded the John West medal and the Grahame prize medal for general proficiency, medals for Greek, algebra, plane trigonometry, physics, and prox. acc. in English, French, Latin, geometry, and mechanics. The number of candidates who presented themselves was 166, and the number who passed was 145. Young Fitzherbert is a native of Launceston, Tasmania, and is now seventeen years old. He received his primary education at the Presentation Convent, Launceston. Thence in 1905 he won the Divine Scholarship (£63 for four years) at St. Ignatius' College, Riverview, entering Riverview in July, 1905, aged thirteen years. In June, 1907, he sat for the Junior public examination, and secured the prize for general proficiency, as well as the medals for first place in Latin, Greek, Algebra, and arithmetic. For this Senior examination, therefore, he took the usual two and a half years' preparation. At Riverview he won the gold medal for class champion in 1906 and 1907, and the Kelly Memorial Prize for English in 1908.

The parents of children attending the Catholic schools of the archdiocese of Melbourne (says the *Advocate*) and the subscribers to the primary schools who have not children in attendance, will read with pleasure the annual report on the Catholic primary schools for the year ending September 30 last, made by the inspector, Mr. Nicholas J. Cooke. At the outset it must be carefully borne in mind by the casual reader that the figures supplied refer only to the archdiocese of Melbourne, and do not at all touch the dioceses of Saif-hurst, Ballarat, and Sale. When this is remembered, some notion may be formed of the great sum of money spent annually by the Catholics of Victoria on primary education. According to Mr. Cooke's report, there are now in the archdiocese of Melbourne 106 primary schools, with 22,283 pupils and 429 teachers, 266 of whom are members of religious Orders. The total outlay on those schools last year was £28,433. The inspector reports that the schools have attained 'a very high standard of efficiency' under a 'thoroughly qualified body of teachers.' The list of schools, with the results of the examinations, is interesting reading. St. Brigid's, North Fitzroy, heads the list with 99.75 per cent. of marks; St. Mary's, Lancefield, closes it with 80 per cent. But, besides the primary schools, the archdiocese of Melbourne has 80 colleges, or superior schools, for boys, with 1007 pupils, and 26 for girls, with 2436 pupils. At the end of September, 25,726 children were attending Catholic schools in the archdiocese of Melbourne. This is truly a magnificent result, and speaks loudly of the earnestness of the Catholic people in their conscientious desire to have their children given a combined religious and secular education. The payment of £28,433 as a fine for refusal to omit religion from the school curriculum for their children is an argument hard to answer.

'Catholic Marriages.' The book of the hour. Single copies, 1s posted; 12 copies and over 8s each, purchaser to pay carriage. Apply Manager, 'Tablet,' Dunedin.

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