

On the Sunday during the time the Territorials were in camp at Kowai, Mass was celebrated for the Catholic troops by the Rev. Father Fanning, M.S.H., of Darfield, in the marquee of the Y.M.C.A. kindly lent for the occasion.

After Mass at the Sacred Heart Church, Addington, on last Sunday the congregation gathered in the schoolroom to make a presentation and wish a safe and pleasant journey to Mr. and Mrs. D. Campbell, two of the oldest parishioners, who are about to enjoy their first visit to Ireland since landing in the Dominion many years ago. During their long residence at Addington, Mr. and Mrs. Campbell have been most helpful in all good works connected with the Church and school, and have set a worthy example of faith and generosity.

A special summoned meeting of St. Patrick's branch of the H.A.C.B. Society was held on last Monday evening in the Hibernian Hall. The president (Bro. H. A. Sloan) presided, and, although the weather conditions were unfavorable, the attendance was good. The business before the meeting was consideration of the hospital scheme, promoted by the U.F.S. Dispensary Board, entitling members, their wives, and families to hospital treatment on payment of 2s annually per member. After a lengthy discussion it was unanimously decided to participate in the scheme.

At the Catholic Clubrooms on last Saturday evening the members of the Cathedral Tennis Club entertained Miss N. Corliss, one of their most popular and energetic associates, on the eve of her approaching marriage. There was a very large attendance of members and friends. An enjoyable programme of musical and elocutionary numbers was rendered, the following contributing:—Piano duet, Misses E. Tracy and N. Donnell; songs, Misses F. Gardiner, E. Moloney, and Foley, Messrs. J. R. Hayward, Gregan, and Foley; recitations, Miss A. Donnell, and Mr. P. McNamara. After light refreshments were partaken of, Mr. J. R. Hayward (president) eulogised the sterling qualities of Miss Corliss, and assured her of their sincere esteem and best wishes for her future prosperity and happiness. On behalf of the club the Rev. Father Murphy, B.A., asked her to accept, as a memento of their regard and cordial good wishes, a handsome easy chair and cushions to match. Mr. Gregan, on behalf of Miss Corliss, thanked the members for their beautiful gift, and for the kind manner in which it had been presented. The remainder of a very pleasant evening was spent by the gathering in games, etc. The musical accompaniments were provided by Mrs. Hayward, Misses O'Connor, and Priest. Miss Corliss was also the recipient of a presentation from the Cathedral confraternity of Ladies of Charity, of which she was an active member.

A general meeting of the conferences of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in the circumscription of the Particular Council of Christchurch was held on last Monday evening in Ozanam Lodge, Manchester street. The Very Rev. Dean Hills, S.M., V.G., presided, and the attendance was large, although the weather was very inclement. Comprehensive and satisfactory reports were given by the president of St. Mary's Conference, and on behalf of the Cathedral and St. Ann's (Woolston) Conferences, also on the work of the Diocesan Ladies of Charity (the Cathedral and St. Mary's Confraternities). A considerable amount of business was dealt with. Mrs. F. Green (the Cathedral) and Miss Johnston (St. Mary's) were deputed to attend the meeting of the committee of the Mayoral Coal and Blanket Fund. The Very Rev. Dean Hills, in the course of a practical address, expressed his pleasure at the evident vitality of the society, as evidenced that evening, in the large attendance, many coming from a considerable distance despite the unfavorable weather. We were now, he continued, entering upon a busy time, having in view the relief of the poor and suffering, rendered necessary by the winter season. He felt assured that those duties would be cheerfully entered upon, and carried out wherever

the deserving poor and distressed were discovered. He desired also to express his appreciation of the Brothers of the society in his parish, who, with the help of others, kept watch throughout the night of Holy Thursday at the Altar of Repose in St. Mary's Church.

There was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Cathedral on Sunday last from the 11 o'clock Mass. In the evening in place of the usual Vespers the Holy Rosary was recited, followed by the ceremonial unveiling and installation of the pieta, sermon by his Lordship the Bishop on the Seven Dolors of the Blessed Virgin, and procession and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

The pieta, a magnificent group of statuary recently erected in a niche formed from the recess under the stairway of the south tower of the Cathedral, was unveiled by his Lordship the Bishop on Sunday evening. The figures in the group are life-size, and represent the dead body of our Divine Saviour, after being taken down from the Cross, laid in the arms of His sorrowful Mother. Though slightly different in construction from Michael Angelo's celebrated pieta in St. Peter's in Rome, this work of art by a renowned Roman artist is undoubtedly the most beautiful in the Dominion. By a coincidence, his Lordship the Bishop, to whom the group was presented when he was last in Europe, heard of the death of the donor just as the statuary arrived in Christchurch. The pieta is placed upon a raised granite platform, faced with a neat iron railing in keeping with the design in other portions of the Cathedral. Speaking at Mass at Summer on Sunday, the Rev. Father Cronin gave some most interesting details of the pieta and its religious significance. Whilst in Rome, he said, he had an opportunity to compare Michael Angelo's famous sculpture in St. Peter's and the work of the present century artist, and was of opinion that the group now installed in our Cathedral was in several important respects the more beautiful, being on the whole more expressive and pathetic, whilst the delineation of our Lady's face appeared infinitely more sad and sorrowful. He exhorted all who possibly could to view and venerate the pieta, which would religiously appeal to them, and prove to their spiritual advantage.

Christchurch North

May 4.

The Rev. Father McDonnell, S.M., of Greenmeadows, was the guest of the Very Rev. Dean Hills, S.M., V.G., during the past week.

According to custom, the members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society approached the Holy Table in a body on Sunday at the 7 o'clock Mass.

His Grace Archbishop Redwood and his Lordship Bishop Grimes paid a visit to the Vicar-General on Wednesday, and afterwards to the Convent of the Sisters of Mercy, Colombo street.

During the month of May devotions in honor of our Lady will be held every evening. On Sunday evening after the sermon, which was preached by the Rev. Father Dignan, S.M., a procession in honor of our Lady took place. The Children of Mary, wearing their mantles and veils, took part.

The first of a series of euchre parties was held in the Art Gallery on Wednesday evening, April 29. A large gathering assembled, and all thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The lady's prize was won by Mrs. Peter Walsh, and the gentleman's by Mr. Frank Rogel. A special word of praise is due to Miss L. Johnson and her willing assistants for the excellent supper provided. The secretarial duties were in the capable hands of Mr. A. P. De la Cour.

Answering a question at Thames with reference to proportional representation in House of Representative elections, the Prime Minister said that if the Upper House was to be retained as an advisory chamber the two houses could not be elected by means of the same system.