

strangers, and at all times to remember that as Catholic girls it was their duty to set an example to others.

Misses Bridie O'Brien, and Bridget Maguire, vice-presidents, also spoke, welcoming his Grace, and expressing the gratitude of the girls for the practical interest of the C.I.C. in their welfare, and to those who had so generously contributed towards the furnishing of the clubroom.

A letter of congratulation from the Dominion Executive was read, wishing the club every success.

An enjoyable programme of instrumental and vocal items was given during the evening, followed by an excellent supper. The singing of 'Auld lang syne' terminated the proceedings, which were much enjoyed.

MATARAE CAMP.

(From an occasional correspondent.)

The meeting, held under the presidency of the Rev. Father Coffey, Catholic chaplain, at the Matarae Territorial camp on Sunday evening, April 26, was attended by a large number of the Territorial force encamped there. The Organising Secretary, Mr. Girling-Butcher, did not deliver an address on the usual lines of the lectures given to parish meetings, but gave a brief resume of the aims and objects of the Federation, and made a spirited address to the large number of young men present to act as missionaries, on their return to their homes in all parts of Otago and Southland, on behalf of the Federation. The lecturer urged them to prepare the way for him, and to use their utmost efforts to ensure large and representative gatherings in their various districts at the meetings which would be announced by the parish priests before his arrival. The spirit in which the speaker's remarks were received, and the hearty and enthusiastic welcome accorded to him by so large a gathering of our Catholic young men augur well for the success of the organiser's future meeting in the south. In introducing Mr. Girling-Butcher, Rev. Father Coffey spoke in eulogistic terms of the work already done, and of the great promise that lay before the operations of the Federation in the future.

NASEBY.

(From an occasional correspondent.)

The organising secretary of the N.Z. Catholic Federation was unfortunate enough to strike a very wet, cold, and dark night on the occasion of his address to the residents of Naseby on Monday, April 27. Nothing daunted, however, Mr. Girling-Butcher spoke to the somewhat limited audience for nearly two hours, and received a most attentive and enthusiastic hearing. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the lecturer, and those present readily promised to enlist the sympathies of those who were unable to be present, and to personally work hard to further the great objects the Federation has in view.

RANFURLY.

(From an occasional correspondent.)

On Tuesday, April 28, this district was visited by Mr. Girling-Butcher, organiser to the Catholic Federation, who delivered an able address in the church to a representative audience. The Rev. Father McMullan, in introducing the speaker, urged on the audience the claims of the Federation to their hearty support, and said that the organisation, so strongly recommended by the Hierarchy of the Dominion, could not fail to be of the greatest assistance to the Church and also to the clergy in their work. Mr. Girling-Butcher, who was evidently far from well, gave a stirring address on the objects and work of the Federation, and received a hearty vote of thanks at its conclusion. During the latter portion of his lecture Mr. Girling-Butcher had to sit down, and I learn with regret that his indisposition increased subsequently to so great an extent that he was compelled to telegraph postponing his engagements at Ophir and St. Bathans till a later date.

CROWMELL.

(From an occasional correspondent.)

The address announced to be given at Cromwell on May 1 by the organising secretary of the Catholic Federation unfortunately met with very bad weather, which militated against a large attendance. Very Rev. Father Hunt occupied the chair, and introduced Mr. Girling-Butcher. Father Hunt announced his sympathy and co-operation with the important work the Federation had entered into. He hoped and believed that each and every one of his parishioners would, if not already enrolled, become a member. The lecturer gave a plain and lucid explanation of the aims and objects of the Federation, and of the already existing operations. Those present seemed anxious to assist in the work, and I predict a large increase in the membership throughout this parish.

The temporary indisposition of the organising secretary has, we learn with pleasure, now completely passed away, and though it is to be regretted that as its consequence the meetings at Ophir and St. Bathans were necessarily postponed, the organiser hopes to be able to make arrangements to visit this district at the conclusion of his southern tour. Mr. Girling-Butcher rested for two days at Ranfurly as the guest of the Rev. Father McMullan.

THE HOLY FATHER'S BLESSING

His Holiness the Pope, through his Eminence Cardinal Merry del Val, sent a cable message, conveying his Apostolic Blessing, to Dr. and Mrs. Morkane, of Christchurch, on the occasion of their marriage, an account of which appeared in our last issue.

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