

St. Mary's parish, £20 0s 11d; Boxing Day advance, £8 10s; Education Board expenses, 13s; credit balance, July 1913-14, £281 18s 9d;—total, £1106 0s 9d.

It was decided to recommend the new board that a vigorous system of canvassing be prosecuted during the next year, and the school committees be urged to keep their expenditure down to a minimum with the object of providing a larger surplus. The trustees were authorised to invest £150, the security under offer being considered satisfactory. In connection with the board's application to the trustees of the MacCarthy Estate a strong hope was expressed that something substantial would be obtained.

Votes of thanks were passed by acclamation to the retiring officers. It was decided to call the new board together during the first week in August, the various school committees holding their annual meetings meantime.

Wanganui

(From our own correspondent.)

July 13.

In the last Associated Board examinations, the Sisters of the Sacred Heart Convent presented 14 pupils. Fourteen passed, and two secured the maximum number of marks.

A most successful smoke concert was held by the H.A.C.B. Society on last Tuesday evening in Muller's Tea Rooms. Bro. D. Dwyer, the newly-elected president, was in the chair. Delegates from the U.A.O.D., Wanganui and Aramohe, I.O.O.G.T.M.U. and A.O.F. were present. The following toast list was gone through: 'The Pope and the King,' 'H.A.C.B. Society,' 'Newly-elected Officers,' 'Friendly Societies,' 'Council and Dispensary,' 'Kindred Societies,' 'Visiting Delegates,' and the 'Ladies.' Songs were contributed by Messrs. F. McLean, Thomson (2), Tait (3), and A. J. Fitzgerald, and recitations by Messrs. C. O'Leary and A. McWilliam. The newly-elected officers are: Past-president, Bro. A. J. Fitzgerald; president, Bro. C. M. Morgan; guardian, warden, Bro. S. McAfee; secretary, Bro. W. McGonigle. The further success of the society is assured by one glance at the new officers.

DIocese OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

July 20.

The congregation at the Church of Our Lady Star of the Sea were afforded an unexpected privilege on last Sunday at Mass celebrated by the Rev. Father Long, when the Rev. Father O'Sullivan, C.S.S.R., after reading the Epistle and Gospel of the day, gave a comparatively brief, but impressive discourse on 'the duty we owe to Almighty God.'

To help in acquiring the necessaries for furnishing her stall at the projected bazaar in aid of the Cathedral parochial schools fund, a successful social gathering promoted by Mrs. F. Green, was held on last Monday evening in the Oddfellows' Hall, St. Asaph street, which was crowded on the occasion. Progressive euchre formed the principal attraction, the first prize-winners being Miss Ryan and Mr. Duggan.

The following pupils of the Sisters of the Missions were successful in passing the rudiments of music examination: Kitty Murphy, Gertie Clarkson. By advice received from Home by the last mail, the following pupils of the Sacred Heart High School received certificates for shorthand from Isaac Pitman and Sons, Ltd.—B. Hannigan, R. Bradford, M. O'Donoghue, N. McGurk, N. Murphy, A. O'Donoghue.

Considerable activity is being displayed by the committee, and lady friends, in promoting the grand national fair, with the results of which it is hoped to place the parochial schools of the Cathedral on a sound financial basis. The fair is to open in the large parochial girls' school, Lower High street, on the evening

of Saturday, August 8, and will continue for a fortnight. Several features unique in connection with such events are to be introduced, and so far as attractions are concerned the nightly programme will leave little to be desired. Considerable time has elapsed since any general attempt was made to better the conditions of our schools, and it only remains for the energetic committee to be backed up by all those who have a right to help to ensure an outstanding success, and provide what is so sorely needed.

The week's retreat in the Cathedral to the two divisions of the Arch-confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament proved a splendid success, and assumed almost the proportions of a general mission. Very large congregations attended each morning's Masses, whilst at the evening devotions and retreat sermon the Cathedral was quite crowded. Towards the end of the week the Very Rev. Father Roche, C.S.S.R. (Superior), had to return to Wellington, and was replaced by the Rev. Father O'Sullivan, C.S.S.R., who concluded the retreat on Sunday evening. There was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from the eleven o'clock Mass. During the retreat appeals were made for all, without exception, qualified for membership of the arch-confraternity, to become associated therewith, the response being satisfactory. Ever increasing numbers approached the Holy Table each morning, and at a special Mass celebrated at 8 o'clock on Sunday morning the great numbers participating in the general Communion was a sight cheering to the devoted missionaries and most edifying to all.

Christchurch North

July 20.

On Sunday there was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from the last Mass till evening devotions, when the usual procession took place.

A much-needed improvement has been made in the sacristy at St. Mary's, which provides better accommodation for the altar boys. Attention has been given to all necessary requirements and will fill a long-felt want.

According to custom, the Children of Mary approached the Holy Table in a body at the 7 o'clock Mass yesterday. The members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society also received Holy Communion in a body, it being the feast of St. Vincent de Paul.

St. Mary's branch of the H.A.C.B. Society held their half-yearly meeting in Ozanam Lodge on Monday, July 13, Bro. J. H. Johnston (president) presiding. Among those present were the Rev. Father Hoare, S.M. (chaplain), and the District Deputy Bro. R. P. O'Shaughnessy. There was a good attendance of members. The usual business correspondence was dealt with. The election of officers for the ensuing term took place—the following were unanimously re-elected: President, Bro. J. H. Johnston; vice-president, Bro. T. Y. Wagstaff; secretary, Bro. J. Crosby; treasurer, Bro. P. Cosgrove; guardian, Bro. Leo Gray; warden, Bro. J. V. Kaveney; sick visitor, Bro. T. Gardner. The installation was performed by the district deputy. The various officers returned thanks. During the meeting five were nominated for membership. The Rev. Father Hoare, S.M., congratulated the branch on its steady progress, and remarked on the great pleasure it gave him to see the members faithful to the practice of receiving Holy Communion in a body every month. He exhorted them to lose no opportunity to secure new members, and said that anything to further the interests of the society would have his whole-hearted support. The district deputy also congratulated the members on their progress during their first half year, and saw no reason why their numbers should not be more than doubled at the end of the year. The next of the series of social evenings will be held in the Alexandra Hall on Monday evening, August 3.

St. Mary's Collegiate High School, conducted by the Sisters of Mercy, Colombo street, Christchurch, was examined on June 22 and 23 by Mr. Mayne, Govern-