

Education Committee,
Parliament Buildings, Wellington.
Gen. Girling-Butcher, Esq.,
Organising Secretary N.Z. Catholic Federation,
Wellington.

Sir,—It is the intention of the above committee to continue the taking of evidence relative to the prayers of the petitions received herein, but will not do so without giving ample notice of the date of such hearing. Any further information required concerning procedure in regard to examination, cross-examination, etc., of witnesses will be given when the committee resumes taking evidence.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) J. A. HANAN,
Acting-Chairman.

AUCKLAND DIOCESAN COUNCIL.

The diocesan committee held its first meeting of the year, since the annual meeting, in the Federation office on Monday evening, August 10. The president (Mr. B. McLaughlin) presided. A large quantity of correspondence was placed before the meeting by the secretary.

Many applications have been received, since the last meeting, in connection with the Federation employment bureau, and it would seem that our country branches were now making much use of this assistance.

A letter was received from the Rev. Father Schoonhof, president of the Rotorua branch, reporting that he had established another branch in Mamaku.

The Dominion Executive wrote, with regard to action taken with a certain large firm in the Dominion, which was reported to be engaged in distributing objectionable and indecent literature.

A further communication was received from the executive requesting that electoral committees be set up in each electorate for the purpose of seeing that all our Catholic people are on the rolls.

It was decided that the secretary write all branches in regard to this matter.

The diocesan secretary reported having received particulars of a certain alleged objectionable publication in one of the city libraries. The committee decided to take the necessary action after the president had reported to the next meeting.

Federation matters in Auckland diocese are generally in a very satisfactory condition. At the last Dominion Council meeting it was found that Auckland is the second best diocese in the Dominion, being only as far as finance is concerned, two shillings below Wellington.

Some of our country clergy are frequently communicating with the committee, and are pushing ahead very vigorously with our organisation, seconding the desire and wish of our esteemed Bishop.

Invercargill

(From an occasional correspondent.)

On the 6th inst the primary school, conducted by the Dominican Nuns, was examined by the Southland Education Board's inspectors, Messrs. A. L. Wyllie, M.A., and A. Inglis, M.A., M.Sc. The following is their report:—Standards VI. and V.—Both classes made a highly satisfactory appearance under examination. The large majority of the pupils have made the subjects of instruction completely their own, and all dealt with them in a manner indicating the best kinds of teaching and moral stimulus. Oral answering was very good, and the written papers were set out in a neat and attractive form. Standards IV., III., and II.—English and arithmetic are handled with considerable success, while geography is satisfactorily taught. Physical instruction and singing are good, while the pupils have a useful knowledge of hygiene. Primer—The tone of the infant room is natural and free, the pupils being evidently quite at home in their surroundings. The results, generally speaking, are of a highly satisfactory quality.

Oamaru

(From our own correspondent.)

August 17.

To-day Oamaru sent its first quota of the Expeditionary Force, when about 100 men entrained for Dunedin, to join the mobilisation camp at Tahuna Park. The troops received an enthusiastic send-off from an immense assemblage of people, young and old, who cheered themselves hoarse as the train steamed out of the station. A good proportion of the contingent is made up of our Catholic young men, who carry with them the sincere good wishes and prayers of this parish for their safe return at the close of their mission.

A monster church parade was held yesterday morning, and at St. Patrick's Basilica, Rev. Father Farthing, who celebrated the 11 o'clock Mass, preached a short and instructive sermon to the members of the North Otago Company, who were present, in regard to the serious undertaking they were about to enter upon, and offered the Mass on their behalf for their protection in the dangers they would encounter on the forthcoming expedition.

WEDDING BELLS

MUIRHEAD—MONAGHAN.

A quiet but pretty wedding took place at St. Patrick's Basilica, South Dunedin, on August 3, when Mr. William Muirhead, of Ravensbourne, was united in the bonds of Matrimony to Catherine (Cissy), second eldest daughter of Mr. John Monaghan, of Melbourne street, South Dunedin. The Nuptial Mass was celebrated by the Rev. D. O'Neill. The bride was given away by her father, and looked charming in an Indian muslin, hand-worked dress. She wore the orthodox veil and wreath of orange blossom, and carried a shower bouquet. The bridesmaid was Miss Molly Monaghan, who wore a white voile dress with pale pink mob cap, and carried a pretty bouquet of white flowers. Miss Kitty McCrossin and Miss May Monaghan acted as flower girls. The duties of best man were carried out by Mr. John Muirhead. The bridegroom's present to the bride was a gold pendant and chain, to the bridesmaids gold bangles. After the ceremony the guests were entertained at the residence of the bride's parents, where the wedding breakfast was served. The Rev. Father O'Neill presided. The happy couple were the recipients of numerous presents. Later in the day they left by train for Christchurch *en route* for Palmerston North, where their future home will be.

OBITUARY

MRS. DONALD McLEAN, WAIPATIKI.

We regret to have to record the death of Mrs. Donald McLean, of Waipatiki, which occurred at her son's residence at Oterahanga, after a short illness, on August 8. The deceased, who belonged to a very respectable family, was a native of County Tipperary, and left home at the early age of 16 years, arriving in New Zealand by the ship Indian Empire. She was married at Timaru in 1880, and came to Hawke's Bay, where she resided until the time of her death. The deceased had endeared herself to a wide circle of friends by her many amiable qualities, and their sincere sympathy is extended to her husband and six sons who are left to mourn their loss. A most exemplary Catholic, she had the consolation of dying fortified by the rites of the Church.—R.I.P.

HELD OVER

Owing to extreme pressure on our space a quantity of late correspondence and other matter are unavoidably held over.