

the period under review, and urges upon all the importance of taking advantage of every opportunity to advance the interests of the Federation. One or two earnest men or women on a parish committee can accomplish much; and the improved position of several of our branches is due almost entirely to the earnest work of an industrious and self-sacrificing secretary; and too much praise cannot be given to those who have not spared themselves for the interest we all have so much at heart.

The secretary desires to place on record his sincere appreciation of the many courtesies extended to him by the general secretary, Mr. Girling-Butcher, and his assistant, Miss Butcher.

The balance sheets shows that the total receipts for the half-year were, including a balance in hand of £62 0s 3d on January 1, £202 10s 11d, made up mainly of contributions by the parish committees. The principal of these were—St. Joseph's (Wellington), £21 4s 2d; St. Mary's (Wellington), £15 7s 6d; Blenheim, £14 9s 2d; Thorndon, £11 17s; Wanganui, £11 15s. The expenditure amounted to £119 3s, leaving a credit balance of £83 7s 11d. The principal items of expenditure were—Dominion treasurer, £51 3s 2d; Trentham building fund, £40.

CHRISTCHURCH DIOCESAN COUNCIL

(From our own correspondent.)

The second annual meeting of the Christchurch Diocesan Council of the New Zealand Catholic Federation was opened in the Catholic Clubrooms, Wiltshire Buildings, at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, July 7.

Mr. W. Hayward, jun. (president) presided. The clergy present, representing their various parishes, were: The Very Rev. Dean Hills, S.M. (St. Mary's, Christchurch North), Very Rev. Dean Hyland (Rangiora), Rev. Dr. Kennedy (Methven and Rakaia), Rev. Fathers O'Connor (Hawarden), Bonetto (Akaroa), Kerley, S.M. (Temuka), Graham, M.S.H. (Darfield), Bridgewood, M.S.H. (Lincoln), and Cronin (Ross). Delegates from branches present were: Messrs. J. Siegert (secretary) and M. Leonard (Waimate), J. P. Leigh (secretary) and J. D. Crowley (Timaru), R. T. Batchelor (St. Andrews), E. J. P. Wall (secretary) and A. J. Ormondy (St. Mary's, Christchurch North), S. Ryan (secretary) and J. Conlan (Rangiora), M. J. Liddy (secretary) and J. Staunton (Rakaia), M. Poff and D. McKendry (Methven), Mrs. J. Meade and Mr. W. E. Doolan (Lyttelton), Mrs. P. Burke (secretary) and Mr. J. O'Carroll (Hawarden), Miss M. C. Cassidy (Little River), Mr. J. Cunneen (secretary) and Mr. P. F. Ryan

(Lincoln), Mr. L. Courtney (secretary) and Mr. G. Getson (Addington), Mr. W. Hayward, jun., and Mr. J. R. Hayward (Cathedral), Mr. T. H. C. Williamson (proxy, Totara Flat).

Opening addresses were given by the Very Rev. Dean Hills, S.M., and the president, after which the reports of the executive committee, the Catholic Girls' Hostel and Club, and of branches were received.

Dean Hills, in his address, made reference to the lamented death of Bishop Grimes, to the serious illness of Dr. Cleary, Bishop of Auckland, and to the death announced that morning of the Most Rev. Dr. O'Reilly, Archbishop of Adelaide.

The president welcomed the delegates, especially the lady representatives of branches. He was (he said) pleased to see some who had attended all the Diocesan Council meetings, and he was also pleased to see new delegates to the present meeting. He hoped all would spend a pleasant and profitable time, and that, as the outcome of their united deliberations, much good would ensue with regard to the Catholic cause generally and of benefit to Catholic Federation.

Resolutions were passed as follows:—

That this Diocesan Council, assembled in general meeting, desires to express its sense of the great loss sustained by the diocese in the death of Bishop Grimes, and to place on record its deep appreciation of the magnificent work done by his Lordship during his lengthy episcopate.

That a letter be forwarded to his Lordship Bishop Cleary, deeply sympathising with him in his serious illness, and expressing the heartfelt wish of the Diocesan Council that he will be speedily restored to good health.

THE REPORT.

The half yearly report of the executive, presented to the meeting, was in part as follows:—During the past half-yearly period your executive have been called upon to transact a vast amount of routine and detail business, and we feel that a brief summary of the more important matters considered and dealt with will be of interest to the delegates now assembled. During the last half-year eight meetings of the executive have been held, with an average attendance of six members. Acting on the standing orders of the Dominion Executive, and the expressed wish of the delegates at the half-yearly meeting at Timaru, together with a request from one of the clergy in Westland, your executive did all that was possible in the interests of the Catholic chaplains and men in connection with the Territorial camps at Orari, Waimate, and Totara Flat (Westland). The experience thus gained, and the expenditure of so much energy resulting in so little real benefit convinced us that as these camps are so comparatively small, and so widely located, several being held at almost the same

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