

DIOCESAN LADIES OF CHARITY

CATHEDRAL CONFRATERNITY,
CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own correspondent.)

The annual meeting of the Cathedral Confraternity of Diocesan Ladies of Charity was held on Tuesday evening, August 3. The Rev. Father Murphy, B.A. (spiritual director), was present, and certified to the correctness of the financial statement. The balance sheet and report for the year ended July 31 were read and adopted.

Summary of Report.

During the year, thirty-seven meetings were held, and the present active membership is twenty-three. The records show that during the year visits were made as follow:—To Addington Prison (women's), 49; Christchurch Public Hospital, 90; Consumptive Sanatorium and King George Memorial Hospital, 7; Jubilee Memorial Home, 18; Charitable Aid Board *re* poor people, 6; Police Court, 4; State Receiving Home, 4; Waltham Orphanage, 1; Female Refuge, 2; to poor people in their own homes, 20. Altogether 160 visits to sick people were made, 22 of these to the Lewisham Hospital. Admission to the Jubilee Memorial Home was secured for one person. Two visits were made to St. Helen's Maternity Hospital, and four to the Citizens' (Associated) Benevolent Society. Rent was paid for two aged women, and a subject for Mount Magdala was taken there at the expense of the confraternity. New garments to the number of 109 were made up, 106 yards of flannel and 105 yards of flannelette were purchased, 7 pairs of stockings were bought, and 69 new garments were made up and distributed, also 10 parcels of second-hand clothing, 22 bags of coal, 3 bags of wood, and 37 yards of new material were given out. Apart from the usual weekly collection, all members agreed to contribute one shilling per year towards the society's funds. Two Masses were arranged for and offered for the repose of the soul of the late Bishop, a Mass was offered for a member's father, and another for the repose of the soul of the late Corporal Clarkson, who was killed at the Dardanelles. Letters were received from Dr. Blackmore, superintendent of the consumptive institutions, granting permission for two members to visit the sanatorium and King George Memorial Hospital. Bells and medals were purchased for the inmates of the Addington Prison, also six small hymn books, and a large one with music for use of the organist there. Two children were brought for Baptism. Acknowledgment is made of the co-operation of the Cathedral conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and its grant of seven bags of coal. The president (Mrs. Green) attended nine meetings of the Mayoral Coal and Blanket Fund Committee, and was thus instrumental in having 8½ tons of coal, 9 pairs of blankets, and 4 rugs distributed among our deserving Catholic poor people. Mrs. Green also attended eleven meetings of the Hospital and Charitable Aid Board, the full number held since her election as a member. The Ladies of Charity desire to sincerely thank their spiritual director (Rev. Father Murphy), for the consistent and much appreciated interest taken in their meetings and work, together with his valued advice, and encouragement generally, and also the many friends and benefactors who have generously assisted the funds, either by direct donations or assistance in the various undertakings promoted for the same object.

Summary of Balance Sheet.

The receipts for the year ended July 31 totalled £41 19s 2½d, the principal items being—proceeds two jumble sales, £22 11s 2d; private donations, £9 12s; honorary members' subscriptions, £2 15s; collections at weekly meetings, £2 13s; trustees Hyman Marks' estate, £2 2s. The expenditure amounted to £28 12s 6d, leaving a credit balance of £13 6s 8½d. The principal items of expenditure were—Drapery, £13 0s 3d; groceries, £4 19 11d; boots, £3 15s 6d; coal, £2 6s 6d.

The officers elected for the current year are as follow:—President, Mrs. F. Green; vice-presidents, Mrs. J. O'Brien and Mrs. Neilson; secretary, Miss M. Hannan; treasurer, Miss Nelson; wardrobe-keeper, Mrs. W. Mahar; librarian, Miss Plank.

Napier

(From our own correspondent.)

August 9.

His Grace Archbishop Redwood spent a day in Napier last week, after introducing Rev. Father Travers to his new charge at Takapau.

The lecture on Proportional Representation in the Theatre Royal by Mr. O'Regan, of Wellington, was well attended by both Catholics and non-Catholics.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society are to be commended on their good work. As the result of another of their popular euchre parties the Wounded Soldiers' Fund has further benefited to the extent of £9, which has been handed to the treasurer of the fund.

Intercessory services were held yesterday in St. Patrick's Church, as ordered by his Grace the Archbishop. Rev. Father Dignan preached a most eloquent sermon at the half-past 9 Mass. At Benediction, Rev. Father O'Sullivan referred to the need of prayer for international peace and the success of the Allies.

Hastings

(From our own correspondent.)

August 9.

Last Sunday was Federation Sunday here, and the response made to the enrollers at both Masses was really splendid. The Catholics of this parish have shown that they are in earnest with regard to this movement, and if the effort is sustained this branch bids fair to be one of, if not the best in the archdiocese. Upwards of 500, nearly all adults, have already enrolled. The parish is to be divided into districts, and a house-to-house canvass will be made, when it is hoped that all our people will be banded together to protect our interests from encroachment from whatever source the attack comes. The thanks of the executive are due to the Children of Mary, who have taken a lively interest in the Federation, and have helped very materially in the enrolment.

The many friends of Mr. Patrick Gilhooly heard with regret of the death, after a brief illness, of his son, Patrick, on Thursday last, at the early age of seventeen years. He was a youth of great promise, and was a pupil of the local convent school. The funeral took place on Saturday last, and was very largely attended.—R.I.P.

During the week Mr. Ralph Halliburten, of Norsewood, and Miss Mary Rose McIvor, of Hastings, were married at the Church of the Sacred Heart. The wedding was a quiet one, only friends of the bride's parents, who are very old residents of Hastings, being present. The young people left by train, after the breakfast, and took with them the best wishes of the community.

August 8 was observed as Intercession Sunday, when both Masses were largely attended. It was extremely edifying to see the number of people who approached the Holy Table, as was remarked by the Rev. Father G. Mahoney, who preached at the second Mass on the attitude of our Holy Father the Pope regarding the war.

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