

ton, and it is anticipated that most of the bodies concerned will be represented either personally or by proxy. The question of building a hall at Tauherenikau was considered, and it was decided to approach the hierarchy to ascertain whether assistance could be given this object by a Sunday collection in all parishes. A hall is absolutely necessary, but the Federation has no funds for this purpose. With regard to the remit of the Wellington Diocesan Council in connection with historical readers, most of which presented a distorted view of the Church, it was decided to approach the publishers of the book, known as the *Abbey Reader* (which has been approved by his Eminence Cardinal Gasquet), for specimen copies with the object of bringing it under the notice of the Government.

BRITISH TRANSPORT TORPEDOED

NEW ZEALAND NURSES MISSING.

Information which has reached the Government shows that the staff of the No. 1 New Zealand Stationary Hospital, under Surgeon-Colonel McGavin, was on board the British transport *Marquette*, which was torpedoed and sunk in the Aegean Sea on October 23.

As we go to press details are not to hand, but it is known that ten New Zealand nurses and a certain number of the male members of the hospital staff are among the missing.

The following is a list of nurses drowned or missing:—Drowned, Nurse M. Rodgers. Missing (believed to be drowned)—Nurses M. S. Brown, I. Clark, C. A. Fox, M. Gorman, M. M. Hildyard, H. K. Isbell, M. E. Jameson, M. H. Rae, L. A. Rattray.

Napier

(By telegraph, from our own correspondent.)

November 2.

The mission by the Marist Missioners, Rev. Fathers Herring and McCarthy, was continued last week. There were large congregations at all the Masses, and at the devotions every evening the seating accommodation was taxed to its utmost capacity. On Sunday, at the 7 o'clock Mass, there was a general Communion, when over 800 approached the Holy Table. After Mass there was a Communion breakfast for the men. It was arranged to be held in the Foresters' Hall, but the building was not large enough, and the Gaiety Skating Rink was engaged. Close on 300 sat down to breakfast, Rev. Father O'Sullivan presiding. The devotion of the Forty Hours' Adoration, which was commenced on Friday morning and continued without a break until Sunday morning, was brought to a close with Solemn High Mass on Sunday. Rev. C. Geaney was celebrant, Rev. Dr. Casey deacon, and Rev. Father O'Sullivan subdeacon. The choir, under the conductorship of Mr. F. O'Shannessy, rendered Wiegand's Mass with orchestral accompaniment. In the evening the church was crowded long before devotions commenced. Rev. Father Herring preached on 'Final perseverance,' and the mission, which was an unprecedented success, was brought to a close by the imparting of the Papal blessing, followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, and the renewal of Baptismal vows. During the devotions the Maori girls from the convent sang several hymns in the Maori language. During the course of the mission the Missioners spoke daily of the benefits of frequent Communion, with the result that hundreds received each morning. The various Catholic societies were highly commended, and the sodality of the Children of Mary was reorganised, and a boys' sodality was formed.

Interprovincial

The Legion of Honor has been conferred on Lieut. Lloyd Findlay, aged 20, a son of Sir John Findlay, for great gallantry at the battle of Hulluch on September 13. Another of Sir John's sons, Lieut. Wilfred Findlay, has been promoted to the rank of captain.

The Customs returns for the month of October show that the net Customs have been £24,380 6s 10d, primage duty (a new tax introduced in consequence of the war) £1038 14s 7d, and beer duty £1544 12s 11d. The gold exported was 15,804oz, valued at £64,733. For October, 1914, the net Customs were £27,214, and the beer duty £3387 7s 5d. No gold was exported during this month.

The monthly meeting of the Ashburton branch of the Farmers' Union was held on Saturday afternoon, Mr. J. R. Simpson presiding. On the motion of Mr. W. T. Lill, it was decided—That, in view of the approaching harvest, this meeting is strongly of opinion that the Government should at once remove the embargo on wheat exports, as it is now clear that there is a large supply of milling wheat in the Dominion, and should the surplus be carried over into the next year it will act as a great incubus on the marketing of the forthcoming crop.

The revenue of the Postal Department for the September quarter shows a net increase of £18,000. A Wellington Association telegram states that, although the new rates came into force only last week, the quarter's postage showed an increase of over £14,000, and telegrams of £3000. There was a decrease in the number of press telegrams, but an increase in revenue. There was a marked increase in money order commission and in the number of postal notes issued.

The shearing season, which has just commenced in Auckland province, has shown that the number of men called away to the war is causing a shortage of labor (says the *Herald*). There are not only insufficient shearers available to meet all demands, but sheep farmers are experiencing difficulty in obtaining men to do the less skilled work required in and about the shearing sheds. The manager of a large firm of stock and station agents stated that the new season's wool was already coming in, but that many farmers were complaining that they were being handicapped by their inability to obtain sufficient shearers and shed hands.

The report of the General Committee of the Dunedin City Council contains the following recommendation for the consideration of the council at the next meeting:—That, with respect to the letter from the New Zealand Catholic Federation regarding censorship of picture films, in view of the fact that so many of the patrons of picture entertainments are female and young children, steps be taken to advise the Government that the council is of opinion the Government should take action to ensure that the strictest possible censorship be exercised to prevent the screening of any pictures of an undesirable or immoral nature.

The farmers of the Ashburton district do not see eye to eye with Mr. Ashmead Bartlett in his view of the Gallipoli campaign. Indeed, they feel so strongly in the matter that they do not wish to hear Mr. Bartlett's lectures on the subject until after the war is over. At a meeting of the Ashburton branch of the Farmers' Union on Saturday last Mr. W. T. Lill mentioned the famous correspondent's recent criticisms of the Dardanelles operations, and said that they did not want anyone coming to New Zealand pouring cold water on what was being done. Eventually it was resolved unanimously that the branch inform the Prime Minister that it was of opinion that the farmers would not welcome Mr. Bartlett's proposed lecturing tour until after the war.

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