

actions of the Federation, this advice may be given: Use every effort to have suitable men and women elected on your own parish committee, and the governing body of the Federation will take care of itself. But if those whose talents and whose leisure qualify them to take a prominent and useful part in Federation activities stand out and confine themselves to barren criticism, upon them will undoubtedly rest the responsibility of the ruin of a most promising enterprise. The Federation possesses, like a human personality, possibilities for harm in an equal ratio with its almost boundless capabilities for good. This infant born into the world not three years ago will become what the Catholics of New Zealand make it. Its destiny lies in their hands—a destiny fraught with immense power for good in the future of our country, but capable also of becoming a by-word and a reproach among outsiders, and a sad record of the ruin of high and noble designs through the apathy of those who might have brought them to fruition.

### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY, WANGANUI

The following is the report for the year ended December 31, 1915, of St. Mary's Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, Wanganui:—The work of the conference has been carried out satisfactorily, the attendance of members being good. Cases of relief show a slight increase. In one case of distress which we reported to the officials of a trade union (the person concerned being an ex-member), the union handed over to the society £5 to expend on the family as we thought fit. The conference sent one young woman to the Mount Magdala Home. Our four Sunday schools continue their good work. Ten children made their First Communion, and twelve were confirmed. Four of our members are on active service, one (Captain J. Cameron) being superintendent of the military barracks at Abbassia, Cairo. Six others are going into camp. Our spiritual director (Captain-Chaplain Father Moloney, S.M.) has been appointed to the hospital ship Marama. Financially our position is good, this being due principally to the large increase in donations through the poor boxes, collections, etc. The conference is indebted largely to the ladies' branch (St. Lawrence's) for valuable assistance in supplying persons with clothing, and visiting special cases. Statistics:—Active members, 30; hon. members, 7; families relieved, 28; persons relieved, 92; visits to the poor in their homes, 103; books distributed, 1000; visits paid to hospitals, 52.

The receipts, including a balance of £2 3s 10d brought forward, amounted to £96 14s 6d, the principal items being:—Donations, £25 8s 6d; poor boxes, £22 9s 8d; secret collections, £16 18s 9d; proceeds of entertainment, £14 13s; subscriptions, £7 11s. The expenditure amounted to £66 8s 4d, leaving a balance in hand of £30 6s 2d. The following were the principal items:—Relief in kind, £12 17s 7d; donations to particular council, etc., £8 12s; seamen's mission, etc., £8 3s; other charitable expenditure, £7 5s 5d; milk, £6 1s 8d; Catholic literature, £4 16s; wood and coal, £4 8s 6d.

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## OBITUARY

### MR. OWEN DENNEHY, LOWER HUTT.

The death of Mr. Owen Dennehy, seventh son of Mr. and Mrs. William Dennehy, occurred on Christmas Day, at his parents' residence, Railway avenue, Lower Hutt. The deceased, who had been ill for eighteen months, bore all his sufferings with great patience, and died fortified by all the rites of Holy Church. During his illness he was constantly attended by the Rev. Father Walsh. The funeral, which took place on Boxing Day, was largely attended. The Hibernians, of which body Mr. Dennehy and three of his sons are members, headed the cortege, and four brothers acted as pall-bearers. The deceased, who was just a little over nineteen years of age, was born at Pukerau, Southland, but the family have been living in the North Island for over fifteen years. He was an enthusiastic footballer and cricketer, and played in several school representative touring teams. After leaving school, he played for the Petone Football Club in all grades, including senior. During the time he played for Petone he scored the most points which have been scored in one season by any member of this redoubtable club. His record still stands. Four brothers of the deceased are members of the Expeditionary Forces. Bert and Edward left with the Fifth Reinforcements, and came through the heavy fighting in Gallipoli in August unscathed. Two other brothers, Daniel and William, are at present in camp, being members of the Tenth Reinforcements. Much sympathy has been extended to the family in their sad bereavement.—R.I.P.

### MR. JOHN O'DONNELL, OWHANGO.

The death occurred on December 13 of Mr. John O'Donnell, of Shamrock Farm, Owhango, who passed away in the Taumarunui Hospital after a severe illness. The burial took place at Owhango, the funeral being the largest ever seen in the district. The school children were lined up on the road as the cortege passed to pay their last tribute of respect to the deceased, who was always their friend. A Requiem Mass was celebrated in the local church by the Rev. Father Jansen, who also officiated at the graveside. The pall-bearers included two sons of deceased (Messrs. Lawrence and William O'Donnell). It was mostly through the efforts of the late Mr. O'Donnell that the church was built at Owhango, and in each town in which he had lived he was always noted for his generosity towards the Church, and for his courtesy and charity. He was born in Galway, and came to Dunedin about thirty years ago. Since then he had resided in Lawrence, Oamaru, Ashburton, and Waimate. Later on he went to the North Island, and lived in Dannevirke for some time, after which he settled in Owhango, where he was engaged in farming at the time of his death. During his residence in Owhango he had taken a keen interest in local affairs, being a member of the local school committee since the school was established, also one of the directors of the Kaitieke Dairy Factory, and an active member of the local Domain Board. The deceased, who was 59 years of age, leaves a widow and grown-up family of three daughters and four sons. The daughters are Mrs. J. E. Leydon, Owhango; Mrs. W. Rutter, Tasmania; and Sister M. Leo, of the Sisters of St. Joseph, Wanganui; and the sons are Mr. Lawrence O'Donnell, Taumarunui; Messrs. William and Patrick O'Donnell, Owhango; and Mr. John O'Donnell, Lawrence.—R.I.P.

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