

by the C.I.C. to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mrs. B. Ellis. As many applications are received from non-Catholics for accommodation, the board decided that each application be referred to the executive for consideration and approval. A gift of books from Miss O'Neill for the hostel library was very gratefully acknowledged. The hostel authorities would be glad to receive further gifts of suitable books for the use of residents from generous well-wishers and friends.

A social was held in the Alexandra Hall on Thursday, May 4, under the auspices of the Catholic Women's Hostel Board. The committee consisted of Mesdames W. F. Johnson and Cornish, Misses McGillicuddy, Barry, Dobyn, Whelan, Hales, Rodgers, Girling-Butcher, Burke, and Wheeler (hon. secretary), Messrs. Duggan, Sievers, Cornish, W. F. Johnson, and Dolph. There was an attendance of nearly 200 people. The piano fund, for which this pleasant function was held, will be considerably increased, thanks to the many generous friends who were present. Mrs. Oscar Johnson provided an excellent supper, and the committee are grateful for her assistance, also for the generosity of Mrs. Gleeson and Mr. McDonald for their donations of cordials. Many of those present expressed their keen appreciation of the entertainment provided, and the hon. secretary received numerous requests that similar functions be arranged monthly during the coming winter. During the evening Rev. Fathers Barra and Venning paid a visit, and signified their pleasure and approval of the gathering.

Napier

(From our own correspondent.)

May 5.

Through the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Elwood, St. Patrick's Church is to have a very fine set of Stations of the Cross erected in memory of the late Miss Barbara Elwood. The set will cost about £100.

On Friday, May 12, the Very Rev. Dean Binsfield, S.M., will celebrate his 82nd birthday, and as almost 50 years of the Very Rev. Dean's priestly ministry have been spent in New Zealand a very wide circle of friends will be interested in the event. Dean Binsfield is now only a few years off the diamond jubilee of his ordination, and his many friends will sincerely wish him his present vigorous health to enjoy so unique an honor. Retirement from the active work of the ministry only came this year, and at St. Mary's Seminary, Greenmeadows, where 20 years ago he held the post of procurator, the Dean is enjoying his well-earned rest. It was in search of health that Father Binsfield left Home in the late 'sixties for New Zealand—a mission field which then presented anything but a favorable aspect. But the young missionary rejoiced to find so grand an opportunity for his zeal, and every day seemed to put the threatened breakdown further away. Taranaki was the scene of his first mission, and in 1870 he occupied the post of military chaplain at New Plymouth. But it was as pastor of the West Coast gold diggings that Father Binsfield became best known—a work most congenial to him, and a duty into which he therefore threw himself whole-heartedly. No visitor was more welcome at the camps of those old West Coast days, for Father Binsfield's place was always where the consolations of religion were most needed. After a very laborious life-work, the Dean has spent the last few years assisting at Napier, Reefton, and Wangamui. In spite of his age, his greatest joy yet remains to him in the daily celebration of Holy Mass. He is the longest ordained priest in the New Zealand mission, and at the same time the longest professed member of the Society of Mary, which, as a secular priest, he entered in 1861.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

May 8.

His Lordship the Bishop celebrated Mass at Sumner and Woolston on Sunday last.

Mr. Paul Dufault, the eminent vocalist, was a guest of his Lordship the Bishop at the episcopal residence on Sunday.

There was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from the 11 o'clock Mass in the Cathedral on Sunday last. After Vespers there was the usual procession of the Blessed Sacrament followed by Solemn Benediction, given by his Lordship the Bishop.

The season for Rugby football was opened on Saturday last. Playing on Lancaster Park the Marist Brothers' senior team made an auspicious beginning by defeating Albion by 19 points (two goals from tries, and three tries) to nil.

His Lordship the Bishop opened the May devotions in honor of our Blessed Lady at the Convent Schools, Lower High street, and at the Marist Brothers' School.

Greymouth

(By telegraph, from our own correspondent.)

May 8.

His Lordship Bishop Brodie will make his first visit to the West Coast next week, being due to arrive at Greymouth on Thursday, May 18. The parishioners of Greymouth are making elaborate arrangements to suitably welcome his Lordship on his first visit, and at a meeting last week, they decided to tender him a civic welcome at the Town Hall on Friday night. A welcome from the Hibernian Society and other local parish societies will be held in St. Columbia Hall on Monday. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be administered on Sunday, after which his Lordship will pay brief visits to other parishes on the Coast.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(By telegraph, from our own correspondent.)

May 8.

His Grace Archbishop O'Shea arrived from Wellington at the end of last week. While here he stays at the Bishop's House. His Grace was present in the sanctuary at the Cathedral at Solemn High Mass on Sunday. Rev. Father Taylor was celebrant, Very Rev. Chancellor Holbrook deacon, Rev. Father Murphy, Adm., subdeacon. In the afternoon at 3 o'clock his Grace administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to 150 candidates. Next Sunday he will administer Confirmation at Onehunga and Ponsonby, at St. Benedict's and Devonport on Sunday, May 21, and on Thursday, May 11, at St. Mary's Orphanage, Hillsboro. His Grace will address the Holy Family Confraternity on Tuesday evening, May 9, and while here will visit all the local religious institutions. His Grace will stay in Auckland for about six weeks, and goes hence to Wellington via Gisborne.

Rev. Father Furlong assisted at the Cathedral on Sunday, and in the evening gave Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Owing to Confirmation being administered in the Cathedral in the afternoon, the usual monthly Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament was postponed.

The priests who were lately transferred took up their duties yesterday in their respective parishes.

Our Mayor (Mr. J. H. Gunson) leaves to-morrow for Sydney to enjoy a well-earned respite from his trying duties since taking office.

The members of the Children of Mary and Guard of Honor confraternities received Holy Communion in large numbers at the early Mass at the Cathedral on Sunday.

(From our own correspondent.)

May 4.

The last meeting of the Holy Family Confraternity was attended by close on 140 members. The confraternity is growing in numbers, and at the last meeting the new prefects and sub-prefects were installed in office for the ensuing year by the Rev. Father Taylor (spiritual director), assisted by Rev. Fathers Murphy, Adm., and Dunphy. Subsequently thirty members were enrolled by Rev. Father Taylor, each receiving the medal and ribbon of the confraternity. Both ceremonies took place in the sanctuary, and was of a very impressive character. Rev. Father Dunphy preached a very fine discourse, taking for his text, 'Thy kingdom come.' Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament followed. The 'O Salutaris,' 'Tantum Ergo,' 'Adoremus,' and 'Gloria' were sung by the members under the baton of Mr. P. F. Hiscocks, while Mr. Harry Hiscocks presided at the organ. The whole ceremony was most devotional. The great potentialities of the Holy Family Confraternity are manifested at the weekly gatherings. It is accomplishing fine work, and has come to stay.

The following pupils of the Sisters of Mercy, Auckland, were successful at the theoretical examination in connection with Trinity College, held in December last:—Art of teaching—Cecilia Carrington, 92 (Convent of Mercy, Te Aroha); Teresa M. Ludgate, 66 (St. Mary's Convent, Ponsonby); Frances Wallace, 60 (rudiments 64). Certificated pianist—Alma McGruer (rudiments 63). Intermediate Grade II.—Eileen O'Brien, 80 (honors). Intermediate Grade I.—Lily White, 85 (honors); Kathleen Hazard, 83 (honors); Sheila Kelly, 75; Beatrice Graham, 70. Junior Grade I.—Marie Mackay, 97 (honors); Annie Boenicke, 82 (honors).

ST. BENEDICT'S CLUB.

A valedictory social was tendered the Rev. Father Kelly by St. Benedict's Catholic Club last Wednesday evening on the occasion of the popular priest's departure

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