

The boisterous weather last Saturday interfered with the work of clearing the gorse on the grounds attached to the Home of Compassion at Island Bay. For several Saturdays voluntary workers have been assisting the Sisters by grubbing the gorse, which is seriously encroaching on the grazing grounds of the Home's cow herd, from which is derived the principal means of sustenance for the large number of baby inmates of the Home. The grounds are very extensive and the scrub thick, so that there is ample scope for all volunteers to help, and the more that assist the sooner will the work be finished. The hope is expressed that a large number will respond and assist the institution, which is doing so much good in our midst.

The 'At Home' given by the Catholic Knitting Guild on Saturday proved a pleasant, homely affair. Despite the bad weather, there was a fair muster of brave knitters, and the Town Hall Concert Chamber was soon a hive of industry. Small tables, cosy chairs, and artistic decorations of sweet peas made the chamber a bower, while the stage was nicely arranged with flowers and bowls of arum lilies, and white and yellow broom. Those present were regaled with afternoon tea, while a musical programme was also presented, having been arranged by Miss Agnes Segrief. The Mayoress, Mrs. Luke, was present, and had charge of the raffles which were drawn. In announcing the winners, Mrs. Luke congratulated the guild on its work, and stressed the need for keeping up the supply of comforts for the men at the front. Mrs. Corrigan, Miss Kennedy, and others dispensed afternoon tea, while those who assisted musically were Misses N. Strickland, Eileen Clark, Messrs. Kevin Dillon, Gordon O'Meeghan, Master Ben O'Brien, and his juvenile orchestra. The drawing of the raffles excited much interest. The ladies responsible for the function are to be heartily congratulated. They were: Miss Kennedy (president), Mesdames Rylands, Corrigan, Mackin, J. E. Gamble, J. J. L. Burke, Misses O'Connor, Flannery, and Wheeler. The latter lady, who is secretary of the guild, deserves a special meed of praise.

## DIocese OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

October 30.

On Labor Day, at the Fire Brigades' demonstration at Sumner, St. Bede's College team won, from among 28 contestants, the run out and coupling competition for school boys, in quickest time, gold medals being the award.

St. Patrick's branch of the H.A.C.B. Society desire it to be known among brother Hibernians who may be visiting Christchurch during Carnival Week that it is intended to entertain them at a social re-union in the Hibernian Hall on the Wednesday evening of that holiday period.

The following are the results of the examinations in practical music, conducted by Mr. S. Myerscough, at St. Joseph's Convent of Mercy, Lyttelton, on October 21:—Intermediate—Annie Foley. Junior—Stanley Bamford, Evelyn McCormack, Ada Gardiner, Grace Robinson (violin), Alac Law (violin). Preparatory—Mona Small, Elma Hock, Lena Johnston, Una Sinclair (violin).

The local Marist Brothers received word during the week of the death of the Rev. Brother Matthew in Sydney. The deceased was one of the community here in the late Brother Joseph's time. He will be remembered also in Greymouth, Invercargill, Timaru, and Wanganui, in each of which places he labored for several years. He was 57 years of age, 28 of which he spent in religion.—R.I.P.

On last Saturday, at the Convent of the Sacred Heart, Lower High street, the silver jubilee of the religious profession of Rev. Mother Pacome, Mother-General of the Institute of Notre Dame des Missions, was celebrated. At 9 o'clock there was Pontifical High Mass in the convent chapel. His Lordship the Bishop

was celebrant, the Rev. Father O'Hare assistant priest, Rev. Father Long deacon, Rev. Father T. Hanrahan subdeacon, and Rev. Father Murphy, B.A., master of ceremonies. The music of the Mass was very effectively rendered by the choir of Sisters and pupils of the Sacred Heart Girls' College. The devoted jubilarian received numerous and sincere felicitations on the happy occasion.

The essay-writing competition for secondary and primary schools promoted by the Navy League and Victoria League in connection with Trafalgar Day was held this year as usual. Thirty-eight essays were sent in from eight secondary schools. In class A (boys or girls over 15), Miss Madge Allen, Sacred Heart Girls' College (Sisters of the Missions), secured honorable mention. In class B (open to boys and girls under 15), pupils of the Sisters of the Missions (Sacred Heart Girls' College), secured first and second prizes—Miss Rewa Murphy 1, Miss Mary Rundle 2 (in a tie with a Girls' High School pupil). In the primary schools' competition, 52 schools entered, among which were five Catholic schools. Certificates were awarded to the two first and second boys and girls of the two upper standards according to merit.

By the thoughtfulness and energy of the ladies constituting the Cathedral Altar Society a most enjoyable excursion and picnic was organised for the Cathedral sanctuary boys on Monday last (Labor Day). By the first express the large party (which increased to about seventy during the day) journeyed to Rakaia, where, in the local Domain, arrangements had been perfected by the Rev. Dr. Kennedy and some of the Catholic residents for the occasion. Included in the party were his Lordship the Bishop, Rev. Dr. Kennedy, Rev. Fathers Cooney, O'Hare, Long, Murphy, B.A., and Mageau, C.S.S.R. Methven and Rakaia children joined in. Sports events added to the attractions, and a pleasant day was spent in ideal weather and surroundings. The excursionists returned to the city by the second express.

The Choral Hall was well filled on last Wednesday evening on the occasion of an enjoyable entertainment promoted by the Christchurch Catholic Club to aid the funds of the Cathedral School Committee. His Lordship the Bishop and several of the clergy were present, and the audience manifested marked appreciation of the excellent programme presented. This was shown by the reception accorded each number and the acceptance accorded each of the performers, nearly all of whom were honored by a recall. Under the conductorship of Brother Fidelis, pupils of the Marist Brothers' School gave the choruses, 'The harp that once' and 'God defend New Zealand,' in good style. Songs were contributed by Mrs. F. O'Brien and Miss M. G. O'Connor, and Mr. A. McDonald and Mr. Gerald Griffin, the latter appearing by special permission of the Fuller Vaudeville Proprietary. Mr. Griffin gave quite a 'turn' of items (story and song). Pianoforte duets were contributed by Misses A. Lawlor and J. Mahon, and recitations by Misses A. Donnell and M. Higgins, and Mr. Frank McDonald and Miss A. Lawlor played a piano solo, and an instrumental quartet was finely rendered by the Misses Ward (violin and piano), Mr. W. T. Ward (violin), and Mr. L. Bonnington (cello). A comedy duet was sung by Miss Doris Hankinson and Mr. W. H. Jones, and the Christchurch Banjo Band, conducted by Mr. Louis Bloy, played attractive selections. The accompaniments were played by Miss K. O'Connor, Mrs. A. McDonald, and Mr. P. C. Augarde, and Mr. F. Rowe stage managed.

His Lordship the Bishop has issued the following circular letter having reference to the approaching Catholic congress:—

Catholic Cathedral, Christchurch.

Rev. and Dear Father.—I wish to commend to the notice and knowledge of the clergy and laity of the diocese the fact that the Catholic congress is to be held in Christchurch on Thursday, November 9. This congress is a meeting of Catholics for the purpose of taking some steps to remedy the many and grave in-