

Wellington, October 13, 1916.

P. D. Hoskins, Esq.,
Secretary Catholic Educational Board.

Dear Sir,—I have just received your letter. The pamphlet you refer to was printed last January, and we soon recognised our error, and in every place we ask for membership we have asked to send the profits to their own orphanage, or the Red Cross, or Tobacco Fund, and we have since then never asked for membership in the Catholic schools, and only in the higher we have requested them to take a few of our cards at cost price—1d each.

We are particularly anxious not to connect our league with any sect or party, and only speak by direct invitation to any religious body. In your higher schools I always ask that when your own orphanage fund comes round, for the very best to be done to help. Every orphanage will require help badly.

I might say we are just considering to allow any school child to be a member of our league, at the cost of our badge, 3d. Our work is entirely a work of impression. I tried at St. Patrick's College, to see what patriotic fund was the most popular, with your boys and girls, but it seems all are on a level. I do not lose sight of the fact that you have no State aid, and for that reason alone I have always made a practice of asking nothing to help our cause. At Masterton the other week I brought before a member of your Church the words in the pamphlet referred to, and said it was not fair to even leave them at your schools, and his reply was: 'You show Mr. Butcher, when in Wellington, and you will find that will make no difference at all to their circulation.' Our rules state that until the end of 1916 3d at least of our membership, when no allowance is made, is to be devoted to the funds for the homes you referred to, but for months past we have left it to the decision of any head master in the State schools. I will call in to-morrow (Saturday) morning, and think my explanation is clear.

Yours faithfully,

F. NOMBS,
Hon. Organiser

CHRISTCHURCH DIOCESAN COUNCIL.

(From our own correspondent.)

A special meeting of the Diocesan Executive was held in the Federation rooms, Wiltshire Buildings, on October 24, to consider farther arrangements in connection with the coming congress. His Lordship the Bishop presided and various reports were received and discussed. A position was allotted the 300 children taking part in the choral items, and it was decided to arrange for an orchestra. The secretary reported that circular letters and invitations had been sent to all the parish priests, the Hibernian branches and Federation branches throughout the diocese, and to all the city societies and clubs. The official invitation to Cabinet Ministers, M.P.'s, mayors, etc., would be sent out later. The chairman produced a copy of the programme, which was approved, and it was ordered to be printed and distributed throughout the diocese, and also published in the *Tablet*.

MONSIGNOR GILLAN ON TOUR.

Last Wednesday and Thursday evenings an official visit was paid by Monsignor Gillan to the branches of the Catholic Federation at Paeroa and Karangahake (says the *Ohinemuri Gazette* of October 27). The lecturer traced the history of the Federation from its formation in the cities, towns, and settlements, some three years ago, and referred to the splendid results achieved in matters social and educational. The Federation was now entering on a forward movement. Steps were being taken all over the Dominion to enrol every Catholic in the ranks of the Federation. He condemned in strongest terms the manner in which the Minister of Education (Hon. Mr. Hanan) treated the members of the New Zealand Catholic Federation Exe-

cutive, who recently approached him for the purpose of obtaining copies of the *School Journal* for Catholic schools, also medical examination of pupils attending all Catholic schools.

After the lecture the following resolution was proposed and unanimously carried at Paeroa meeting, and on the following evening at Karangahake, where an enthusiastic vote of thanks was accorded the lecturer—'That this meeting of the Catholics of Paeroa protest against the way the National Government is treating the Catholic schools, and its refusal through the Minister of Education (Hon. Mr. Hanan) of the concessions asked for by the representatives of the Catholic Federation in Wellington. They recognise that they are taxpayers of the country, and they resolve with their fellow-religionists in New Zealand to demand from their Parliamentary representatives consideration of their just claims and redress of their grievances.'

The lecturer then went over ground already covered by him in former addresses.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(From our own correspondent.)

Rev. Father Murphy is at present engaged in the inspection of the city and suburban Catholic schools. The inspection is apart altogether from the secular curriculum.

The first meeting of the women's confraternity of the Holy Family was held on Thursday evening at the Cathedral. Rev. Father Murphy addressed the members. It was announced that each evening a short discourse would be delivered on the life of each saint after whom the guilds are named.

The bazaar and sale of work in aid of St. Joseph's parish, Grey Lynn, was opened in St. Benedict's Hall on Thursday night, and continued on Friday and Saturday evenings. The attendances were well up to expectations. The entertainment provided by the pupils of St. Joseph's Convent School and the Marist Brothers' School, comprising songs, recitations, and dances, was highly appreciated. The whole setting of the stalls was much admired, and showed the most excellent taste and care. The side-shows were attractive and inviting. One item, which was the theme of wide admiration, was the beautiful handwork of the Sisters of St. Joseph, especially the needlework and painted articles.

The retreat for the women of St. Patrick's Cathedral parish was brought to a close last Sunday evening by Rev. Father McCarthy, S.M. In the morning at early Mass Father McCarthy was the celebrant, and, assisted by Rev. Father Brennan, gave Holy Communion to the large numbers who approached the Holy Table. The choir of the Children of Mary sang excellently, particularly their new hymns. At the 9 and 11 o'clock Masses Father McCarthy addressed the congregations, and in the evening the Cathedral was crowded. The women occupied the front seats, and were allotted for the first time their respective guilds. Father McCarthy blessed and inaugurated the confraternity, congratulated them upon their new organisation, and prayed that the grace of God would remain always with them. He then preached the concluding sermon of the retreat, on 'Perseverance,' without which we should assuredly be lost. At the conclusion of an eloquent sermon he thanked them for their devotion and constancy during the retreat, and asked their prayers for the success of the missions. He then imparted the Papal Benediction.

The Right Rev. Mgr. Mahoney, V.G., diocesan Administrator, addressed, on Tuesday evening, a large gathering of the men's confraternity of the Holy Family on 'The Church in Japan.' He began with the advent to the 'Land of the Rising Sun' of St. Francis in 1549, and dealt with the great success attained by this devoted missionary in spreading the faith, against the antagonism, which was fanned and kept alive by the Buddhist and Shinto priests, and which culminated in the massacre of the Catholics nearly 50