

not only of Auckland diocese, but of the Church throughout the Dominion.

The Town Hall was packed for the annual concert of the Marist Brothers' School, Vermont street. The concert given was up to the usual high standard for which the school is well known. A choir of 100 boys, neatly attired in the school uniform, rendered several choruses in a very pleasing fashion. The singing was tuneful and correct, the parts blending pleasingly. They sang 'Massa's in the Cold, Cold Ground,' 'Just a Bunch of Irish Shamrocks,' 'Ireland, My Ireland,' 'The Boys Go Marching By,' 'The Dear Little Shamrock.' Master Stewart was encored for a solo, 'Mother Machree,' as was E. O'Donohue for 'Island of Dreams.' T. Ruston received an emphatic recall for a clever rendering of 'Jack and Jill,' and gave, in response, 'Keep'er Goin'.' A dialogue by the juniors, 'The Evil Adviser,' was very well done for such young lads, L. Walters, R. McKintosh, and R. Fullarton taking part. A farce, entitled 'The Doctor's Holiday,' caused much amusement, Masters Sayers, Prendergast, and Clarke playing the leading parts. Standard V. recited 'Furl that Banner,' and 'Unfurl Erin's Flag,' in a way that pleased the audience: their articulation, tone, and gestures being all that could be desired. A squad of juniors did their dumbbell drill like 'automata on a frame,' and the club drill was equally good. The exercises on the parallel bars were especially well done, some very difficult exercises being presented, besides two pretty tableaux. Miss Owens played two overtures with great taste, and also all the accompaniments.

At the Sacred Heart Presbytery on Christmas Day, after High Mass, a pleasant little ceremony was performed by the Rev. Father Carran on behalf of the choir. Miss Jones, who has filled the post of organist at the Sacred Heart Church for the past fifteen years, and is shortly to sever her connection with the choir owing to her approaching marriage with Mr. J. Ford, another member of the choir, was made the recipient of a handsome silver tea service. Father Carran referred to the faithful services rendered the choir by the retiring organist, and expressed the deep regret all felt in losing her services. On behalf of the choir and the parish generally he wished the young couple every happiness for the future, and trusted that God would shower upon them the choicest of blessings. Mr. Ford suitably replied.

One of the most revered of the men at Gallipoli was Chaplain-Captain Dore, who was the guest of sixty Anzac men at a pleasant reunion held at the Albert Hotel last Tuesday evening. Those present were mostly returned men of the Auckland Mounted Rifles, to which Chaplain-Captain Dore was attached as one of the chaplains of the New Zealand Mounted Brigade, Main Body. While on Gallipoli from May, 1915, to August, he showed keen devotion to duty, and was awarded the Military Cross for gallantry. He was wounded at Chunuk Bair while rescuing wounded soldiers. Major R. W. Wymau, D.S.O., who presided, in proposing the toast of the guest of the evening, referred to Captain Dore as 'one of the finest and whitest men who left New Zealand for the front. Besides being a priest and chaplain, 'Father Dore' was the friend, guide, and philosopher to the men of all denominations. The speaker, after referring to instances of their worthy chaplain's heroism, presented Chaplain-Captain Dore, on behalf of the Auckland Mounted Rifles, with a fine case of pipes in an inscribed silver box. Several other soldiers added their testimony, and Captain Dore received an ovation on rising to reply. He returned his sincere thanks for the gift, and said he was proud to wear the A.M.R. badge. He made, in conclusion, a touching reference to the fallen.

At the Mater Misericordiae Hospital yesterday afternoon a number of the city and suburban priests gathered to say au revoir to Father Dore, who left the following morning by the express train for Rotorua, where he will make a stay for the benefit of his health. Wherever Father Dore goes he makes hosts of friends, of whom quite a large number gathered at the station to see him off.

THE LATE BISHOP OF WILCANNIA

The death of the Bishop of Wilcannia (Right Rev. Dr. John Dunne) was not unexpected, as he had been in failing health since he was last seen in Adelaide less than a year ago, and it had been evident for some months past that the end was not far off (says the Adelaide *Southern Cross*). He passed away on the evening of Christmas Day at Broken Hill, while the Cathedral bell was tolling the Angelus, at the age of 70 years. Nearly 30 years of his life were spent as Bishop of the diocese of Wilcannia, of which he was the first episcopal ruler; and he had been associated with its chief city, Broken Hill, from its earliest stages. Prior to his selection as Bishop of the newly-formed diocese of Wilcannia in 1887, Dr. Dunne had performed notable work in the Goulburn diocese, where he has left enduring monuments behind him in Burrowa, Albury, and other districts of which he had charge. When the Wilcannia diocese was formed it was named after the river town, which was then the best-known place on the Darling River, along which the greater part of the diocese lies. Silverton had, however, already risen to fame, and Broken Hill was soon to eclipse it and reduce it to a mere suburban village, through the rich silver discoveries on the line of lode where the Proprietary Mine had been pegged out. Dr. Dunne, who had been organising from Bathurst, his vast diocese (which comprises nearly half the area of New South Wales, including the western portion of the Riverina and all the sparsely populated territory on the Upper Darling to the Queensland border), came to Broken Hill in 1888, and with wise foresight determined to make the rising Silver City his headquarters. Soon the railway connecting Broken Hill with Adelaide was opened, and Dr. Dunne became a frequent visitor to this State on his way, via Melbourne and Sydney, to various parts of his diocese. In one sense he may have been said to have been a Federal prelate, as his diocesan journeys frequently obliged him to travel through large parts of New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia. He was well-known and highly-esteemed in all three States. Few men have accomplished more strenuous and successful work than Dr. Dunne in his 30 years of episcopal rule. As the *Barrier Miner* truly says, he was 'the father of the diocese. He was its first Bishop, and its Catholic history is the history of his life for the past 30 years.' He traversed its vast extent almost yearly until a little over twelve months ago. After that, his last missionary journey, he was obliged to go into hospital at Lewisham (Sydney), and though he recovered temporarily, he had never been the same man since. In the early days his episcopal journeys were very strenuous, and had to be made mostly by means of buggy-and-pair in the backblocks where trains were not available, but of recent years the motor car afforded some relief. Nevertheless these yearly journeys must have become increasingly trying with advancing years; still the Bishop never omitted making them until his health prevented. In fact, the breakdown which preceded his last illness was largely due to the exhaustion consequent on an extended tour of the remote parts of his diocese. Dr. Dunne was undoubtedly a great pioneer prelate, and an indefatigable missionary Bishop. The immense work which he accomplished in the Wilcannia diocese in less than 30 years may, perhaps, be best gauged from the following figures:—In the year 1887, when Dr. Dunne was first appointed its Bishop, the Wilcannia diocese contained seven parishes or districts, with eight priests to look after the spiritual welfare of its 7000 Catholic people, and with 28 Sisters to teach and guide the 770 scholars attending its five Catholic schools. To-day, after a period of nearly 30 years, we find the diocese made up of 13 parishes and 29 churches, with 20 priests and 157 Sisters, to whom is entrusted the spiritual welfare of over 20,000 Catholic people. In addition, there are now 18 primary schools, 8 boarding schools, and 8 superior day schools, and an orphanage. The primary schools are attended by 2783 children, and the high schools by 304. As the *Barrier*