

In my letter of January 18, I inadvertently stated that Mr. D. Sullivan, sergeant at Mt. Eden Gaol, Auckland, had been promoted chief warden of the Wellington Gaol. The promotion in question was won by Mr. Henry Foreman, an officer with a good and honorable record of over 29 years' service in the Prisons Department.

A meeting, presided over by Mr. D. Flynn, was held in St. Mary's Convent, Ponsonby, on Wednesday evening in connection with the forthcoming bazaar in aid of St. Mary's Convent. Many ladies attended, and much interest was shown. It is proposed to open the bazaar on March 7, and to continue it to the 14th. It will be held in the Concert Chamber of the Town Hall.

The altar boys connected with the Cathedral had a most enjoyable water picnic on Anniversary Day, January 29. They left the city in a motor launch, accompanied by Rev. Father Taylor (spiritual director of the sodality), for Islington Bay, Mototapu Island. Rev. Father O'Brien, of Devonport, was also one of the party, which comprised 27 boys. There were swimming contests, foot races, jumping competitions, into all of which the boys entered with the greatest enthusiasm. Every one of the party voted it the most pleasant day spent for a long time. They arrived back in Auckland at 7.30 p.m.

The Epsom District has amalgamated with Auckland City, not before an infinite amount of red tape had been spun out by the Minister of Internal Affairs. Even though a majority of the Epsom ratepayers at a poll voted for amalgamation, the Minister set up a commission of enquiry, and after tortuous proceedings he graciously acceded to the wishes of the majority, not, however, before delaying unnecessarily the Epsom representatives from taking their seats at the Auckland City Council Board. This is the second glaring instance in recent times, where our central government has unwarrantably interfered with our local government bodies. The position is intolerable and should be abandoned.

St. Patrick's Day Celebration Committee met last Sunday afternoon in the Hibernian Hall. Mr. P. J. Nerheny in the chair. There were also present Rev. Father Murphy, Adm., Very Rev. Chancellor Holbrook, D.S., and Rev. Fathers Brennan, Dunphy, and Taylor. The balance sheet of last year was read and adopted, and it was shown that there now stood to the credit of the account from several celebrations the fine sum of £1557 odd, all of which is out on mortgage at 5 per cent. This fund is ultimately to be used to free the schools of the city. Preparations were made for this year's celebration, and it was decided to hold the next meeting on Sunday next, when the new officers for the year will be elected.

The half-yearly meeting of the Auckland Diocesan Council of the New Zealand Catholic Federation was held in St. Benedict's Clubrooms on Friday evening last. Mr. A. Rose (president) occupied the chair, and there was a large attendance of priests and delegates from all parts of the diocese. The half-yearly report disclosed that vast strides in Federation activities had taken place during that period, the membership showing a considerable increase. This was due to the large number of branches established, there being now no less than 44 in the diocese. The financial position showed receipts to date considerably exceeded the whole of last year. The work of the diocesan executive covered the publication of a monthly bulletin, special campaign for members, inauguration and establishment of a Catholic girls' hostel in Auckland City, the promotion of social study, the devising of a scheme to assist the Catholic Field Service Fund for the benefit of Catholic soldiers with the Expeditionary Force, the holding of quarterly conferences, and the promotion of a Catholic convention to be held in Auckland this month. A number of important remits were adopted for the consideration of the Dominion Council, which meets in Auckland on February 21.

'DOMINICAN WEEK' AT WASHINGTON

THE ORDER IN THE UNITED STATES.

The week has been 'Dominican Week' at the Nation's capital—the central celebration of the 700th anniversary of the approval of the Order of Friars Preachers by Honorius III., in 1216. The ceremonies of the celebration (says the Washington correspondent of the Boston *Pilot*, under date November 16), began on Tuesday, and will continue until Sunday, culminating in a Solemn Pontifical Mass at 9 o'clock and a monster civic celebration in the afternoon.

Seven hundred as an abstract number applied to years means little to us Americans. We think so consistently in terms of days and dollars that a period of time as long as seven centuries may convey no concrete idea. The year 1216 saw the approval of the Order of Friars Preachers. That was 276 years before the discovery of America; it was 300 years before the so-called Reformation; it was 414 years before Plymouth Rock became a historical byword; it was 560 years before the Declaration of Independence.

The Dominican Order has seen the rise and fall of States, the passing of a long line of Pontiffs, the upgrowth of a large number of new Orders and Congregations in the Church, and to-day, despite the ravages of time and custom, of hardship and persecution, of historical misrepresentation and political intrigue, it stands forth before the world as virile and enterprising, as scholarly and saintly, as unassuming and loyal as in the days of its inception.

Dominicans Among Saints.

The Dominican Order has given to the Church fourteen canonised saints, one of whom, St. Rose of Lima, was the first canonised saint in the new world. In the order of their deaths (or as the Church so aptly puts it in the order of their birth into eternal glory) they are: St. Dominic, St. Peter Martyr, St. Hyacinth, St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Vincent Ferrer, St. Antoninus of Florence, Pope St. Pius V., St. John of Gorcom, and St. Louis Bertrand. The women saints beside St. Rose of Lima are: St. Catherine of Siena, St. Catherine of Ricci, and St. Agnes of Montepulciano.

The Blessed of the Order number many hundred. Among these the most celebrated is Blessed Albert the Great, whose erudition was so great that it embraced practically all the then known sciences. Among other blessed are the prince of mystic theologians, Blessed Henry Suso, the Venerable Bartholomew las Casas, the Apostle of the Indians. Two Dominican Popes, Benedict XI. and Innocent X., also are Blessed of the Order, while the Patroness of First Communicants is the Dominican Child Saint, Blessed Imelda.

In the first three centuries of the Order's existence it gave 30,000 martyrs to the Church. To-day these noble traditions are being exemplified by the following missionaries in the fields afar: Right Rev. Isidore Clementi and Right Rev. Francis Aguirre, in China; Right Rev. Bishops Arellano Mungorro and Valasco, in Tonkin, and Right Rev. Gregory Vuylstecke, Vicar Apostolic of the Dutch West Indies.

Theologians in the Order.

In the field of theology the Dominican Order has held first place since the time of the Angelic Doctor, whose masterpiece is still the model of all theological works. Since the days of the Order, the Pope's theologian, or as he is called, the master of the Sacred Palace, has always been a Dominican.

Among a host of brilliant thomistic scholars and authors, the Dominican Order is proud of Father Albert Lepidi, S.T.M., master of the Sacred Palace. Father Edward Hugon, who by reason of his many contributions to the theological, philosophical, and scientific world is justly ranked among the foremost scholars; Father Albert Weiss, Pere Mandonett, Father Schapcote, Father McNabb, Father Jarrett, Pere Lagrange, Consultor of the Biblical Commission, Pere Jansen,