

The diocesan treasurer of the Catholic Federation (Mr. F. G. J. Temm) has forwarded this week to the Dominion treasurer another handsome donation of £300 19s to the Catholic Field Service Fund from the Auckland diocese.

In a letter received this week from Mr. Pat. Sheehan, the well-known and popular Marist Brothers' footballer, who is at present in Hornchurch Camp, England, he refers to how the New Zealand boys spent Anzac Day in London this year, and *inter alia* to the Field Service Fund he says: "We colonials spent Anzac Day here in great style. The camp was closed for the day, and all the Catholics had a great day out. We journeyed to London and heard Mass at Westminster Cathedral, had a dinner at the Catholic Club, attended a matinee in the afternoon, had tea, and in the evening attended a concert—and all this for nothing. Our friends of other denominations had to pay for their meals in London, and were dismissed before dinner, while the Catholic boys were royally entertained by our people. There was some biting afterwards, I can tell you. Our enjoyment was provided from the Field Service Fund, moneys sent over by the Catholic Federation in N.Z. If you have any spare coppers give them to the Federation for the soldiers. The ceremony at Westminster will live for ever in my memory. The church was crowded with Australian and New Zealand soldiers, and it is a massive place, holding some thousands. When they sang the very building seemed to shake. It was great singing the old hymns we learned at home so far away. Father Richards from N.Z., attended by an Australian and one of our boys in uniform as altar boys, celebrated Mass, and an Australian chaplain preached. Some hundreds of girls from the various societies assisted in the singing, but we didn't really require their assistance. It was very touching at the close. Four Australian trumpeters blew the "Last Post," and as the strains of the mighty organ were dying away many a boy from our party felt a lump in his throat before they had finished. It was very sad, and I only wish, as the preacher said, that when next Anzac Day comes round we will all be in our beautiful homes in the far off southern seas."

The Marist Brothers' Old Boys' senior football team had to abandon their match against Ponsonby last Saturday owing to the heavy rain rendering Eden Park ground unfit for play. The second team met and defeated University, after a close and interesting game, by 6 points to 3. Johnston scored for Marists, and Campbell kicked a goal. Marists' thirds had a hard and fast game against Grammar School Old Boys. The first half ended with no score, and with about five minutes to go the Marist team crossed the line. A try by Roads won the match by 3 points to nil. The Marist team played with 12 men only, and it was a big handicap. Watson (five-eight), Clark (half), and Tubberty (three-quarter) played well for the backs, while Greig, Roads, and Cliff were the pick of the forwards. The fourth grade team met Ponsonby, and were beaten after a fast and interesting game by 11 points to nil.

ST. BENEDICT'S CONVENT: NEW WING CEREMONY.

The laying of the foundation stone of a wing to St. Benedict's Convent by the Right Rev. Dr. Cleary, in memory of the late Sister Raymond, who opened the convent some 20 years ago, took place on Sunday afternoon last. The grounds of the convent were occupied by an enthusiastic throng. Monsignor Gillan, of St. Benedict's, traced the development of the institution—the increase in scholars from 220 at the outset to 420 to-day, and the extra accommodation which had been provided at intervals since the opening.

Very Rev. Chancellor Holbrook paid a tribute to the great work that was being done by the nuns, and said that Catholics owed them a great deal for their sacrifice.

After referring to the expenditure of money, organisation, and self-sacrifice in connection with the Catholic school system, Bishop Cleary said: "We are

doing a great national work. Our schools are not, strictly speaking, private schools, inasmuch as they are doing State work—following the State programme of secular instruction under State inspection, with teachers holding State certificates, or State University degrees. We are annually saving the State great sums of money, compared with which the small railway concessions granted to some of our parents (as to those of other denominations similarly circumstanced) are simply negligible. Our schools were long a part of the State-aided system. We did not go out of it. We were driven out of it—not on any educational ground, but practically on what amounted to a religious test. We were driven out of it because we believe in the inseparable union of religion with education, because we cannot in conscience believe in the new sectarian dogmas that underlie the purely secular system. One of these dogmas is that religion has no necessary or rightful or useful place in education. Another dogma is that a political majority has the moral right to banish religion from the place which it has occupied from immemorial ages in the schools." The speaker also described the Catholic school system as one of the most impressive facts in the religious history of our time, and as a monumental assertion of the everlasting principles of true child training.

Dr. Maskell and Mr. E. Casey also spoke, the latter returning thanks to all concerned on behalf of the Sisters.

A collection taken up during an interval realised £252, which, together with promises of further sums, makes an amount of £300.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

July 8.

The quarterly general Communion of the members of St. Matthew's and St. Patrick's branches of the Hibernian Society took place on Sunday morning at the 7 o'clock Mass. Both branches, in regalia, were well represented.

The parishioners of the Cathedral will learn with deep regret that Father Long has been rather seriously indisposed. His medical adviser has ordered complete rest for the next three weeks.

Father Kelly, Gisborne, who is the guest of his Lordship the Bishop, has been most generous in assisting at the Cathedral. Such service is doubly welcome at present owing to the shortage of priests.

The social held in the Art Gallery by St. Mary's Committee in aid of the Papanui church funds was, notwithstanding the very adverse climatic conditions, well attended, and the promoters have every reason to be pleased with the result of their efforts. The evening was most enjoyable, and the event was capably managed. Dean Regnault, S.M., and Fathers Seymour, S.M., Roche, S.M., and Carroll were present. During the evening Father Seymour presented the prizes to the euchre winners, and thanked, on behalf of his committee, all who had assisted to make the gathering the success it was.

On Saturday afternoon, June 15, the past pupils of the Sacred Heart Girls' College, Lower High Street, played a return match of basket ball against the Normal School past pupils on the Normal grounds. The game was keenly contested, and showed very good play on both sides. The match resulted in a win for the College Past Pupils, the score being 6 points to 3. Miss Williams was referee.

We are making habits, good habits, bad habits, all our lives. In our childhood we are taught habits, and as we grow older we make them for ourselves. If our parents have been wise and taught us habits of tidiness, control of temper, and how to be kindly and considerate to others, while we were still children, we shall find ourselves launched out in life with a good capital.

A. W. THOMSON

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