

me of that fact. I believe everything the Church teaches, and I want to become a Catholic, and to bring all my family into the true fold." I spoke, a fortnight ago, from 3 to 4.30 p.m., and, in the absence of another appointed lecturer, who was unable to come, went on again from 7 to 7.40, and was not subjected to even one interjection, and no questions were asked (an exceptional case, of course). How keen the people are for knowledge! Speaking in the open-air to a large crowd is a heavy task; every Sunday, all through the winter (except one of unceasing rain), we have spoken for seven and a-half to eight hours in snow, frost, wind, and showery weather—a tough job. Now we are recognised as a fixture in Hyde Park and elsewhere. The clergy are taking more and more interest in our doings, and, since I commenced to write this letter, we have had a Franciscan priest on our platform on Tower Hill. He was just splendid, and at question time answered in such a lucid, convincing manner, that the people cheered him. Besides the locality of our meetings already indicated, we hold others, in different streets, with success. In other words, we are steadily spreading, and many more men and women may, please God, help in the great work.

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

June 28.

Steps have been taken by the Hibernian Society to form an Irish War Pipe Band, and arrangements have been made to commence practising at an early date.

Mr. A. J. Fogarty, who for the past two years has been a prominent member of St. Anne's Choir, Wellington South, also filling the office of secretary, has tendered his resignation owing to his removal from the parish.

The quarterly meeting of St. Patrick's branch of the Hibernian Society was held at the Federation Rooms, on last Monday, Bro. J. J. Troy, presiding. Nominations for officers for the ensuing half-year were received, and delegates were appointed to the St. Patrick's Day, Boxing Day, Education, and Catholic Federation Committees. It was decided to hold a social evening on Monday, July 14, when the installation of officers will take place.

I regret to record the death of Mr. G. J. Sellars, a prominent member of the Hibernian Society, and one of its pioneers, which took place at his residence last Saturday evening. The deceased was for many years secretary of the Christchurch branch, and represented that branch at many of the district meetings. A motion of condolence with his family was passed by St. Patrick's branch at its last meeting.—R.I.P.

A meeting of ladies interested in the work of the Catholic Girls' Hostel, was held at the Catholic Federation Rooms on last Monday, when arrangements were made to promote several functions with the object of augmenting the fund to enable the management to acquire, and extend the building at present in use as a hostel.

St. Joseph's parish committee of the Catholic Federation has decided to found two scholarships tenable at St. Patrick's College, and open to boys attending the schools of St. Joseph's parish. This is a very praiseworthy move on the part of St. Joseph's committee, and well worthy of emulation by other parishes, as it enables our boys to complete their education in a Catholic college, and further assists the children of parents who cannot afford to give them a secondary education to occupy a place in the community which their intelligence and natural ability entitles them to. Such actions as these will tend to raise up a type of Catholic layman who will be ready to place the talents, with which he is endowed, at the service of his church in furthering the faith to which he owes so much.

The members of St. Anne's Choir, Wellington South, assembled at St. Anne's Hall after the 10.30 a.m. Mass on Sunday morning, June 22, to make a presentation to Miss K. Henderson, who, on account of health reasons, has relinquished her position as organist to the choir. Miss Henderson has proved herself an organist of very high efficiency, and her loss to St. Anne's Choir will be very sorely felt. The president of the choir (Ven. Archdeacon Devoy, S.M.) in presenting Miss Henderson with a handsome pair of binoculars, said that it gave him very much pleasure to be present at the gathering. He complimented Miss Henderson on the faithful manner in which

she had carried out her duties as organist for a period of 15 years, practically from the inception of the choir. He regretted her resignation, and asked her to accept on behalf of the choir and himself every good wish for a full measure of health, happiness, and prosperity. The conductor (Mr. E. B. L. Reade), and secretary (Mr. A. J. Fogarty), also spoke in complimentary terms of Miss Henderson's good work. Miss Henderson, in reply, thanked the Archdeacon and members of the choir for the very handsome token of appreciation of her services, and said it would often remind her of very many pleasant associations with St. Anne's Choir.

Wanganui

(From our own correspondent.)

June 25.

Our well-known townsman, Mr. W. McTubbs, is away in the South Island just now on a business trip.

Father Maillard, Otaki, was in Wanganui for a few days, and also took a run up to Jerusalem. The home journey was effected in the Joan of Arc, an up-to-date and altogether smart little motor canoe, of which the up-river Fathers are justly proud.

A great number of priests passed through here on their way to and from Hawera, for the Requiem and burial of Mrs. O'Shea. Very Rev. Dean Holley, S.M. (Provincial), spent a short time in Wanganui on the return journey to Wellington, also Father Hurley, S.M.

Father Bowden is home again from hospital, but of course not able to be about yet. As it is quite out of the question that we all call in person, and as it is just possible that he may read this, we would like him to know that we are really delighted that he has got on so well.

The ladies of Castlecliff district have decided upon a series of "evenings" to be held during the next few months, and, since my last, the first of these has taken place, the Castlecliff Hall being quite festive for the occasion. The early part of the evening was spent in progressive euchre, the prizes going to Mrs. Jarrett and Mr. Jarrett, jun. (firsts), and Mrs. Tonbridge and Mr. Scott (consolation). The ladies' committee arranged for the supper, prominent among the workers being Mesdames Dempsey, D. Anthony, Connor, Marden, and Mills. The party was well attended, most enjoyable, and the funds are for the school.

The Children of Mary, too, have had an evening, their first for a very long time, and out of the many causes needing assistance, they chose the Castlecliff school, for anything over and above. There was a record attendance, even for the euchre, and quite a number for the subsequent social. A simple but dainty supper was served in the supper room, and everything went off very happily. There are so many good workers among the girls that to mention them all an alphabetical list would be necessary, but in passing, I must say that a whole alphabet to herself would not be too much for our busy president, Miss Kennedy, than whom there is none better. Mrs. Delaney and Mrs. Keerey, like the good souls they are, helped with the coffee-making and unromantic washing-up, which, by the way, is always recognised to be the privilege of the older girls who have had their day, but is withal quite a jolly affair.

On Sunday, June 15, the Feast of the Holy Trinity, his Grace Archbishop O'Shea administered confirmation at St. Mary's Church. The occasion having been looked forward to for a very long time, on account of unavoidable postponements, was marked by the large number of candidates, a total of 315 being confirmed. The number was made up of children from the convent and Brothers' schools, inclusive of a quota from Aramoho, Fordell, Mosstown, and Castlecliff, and there were a large number of adults. The ceremony took place in the afternoon, the church being packed to the doors. His Grace addressed the candidates and the congregation generally, dwelling at length on the effects of the sacrament and their relation to the much needed world-wide peace. Confirmation was followed by Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, after which the congregation was dismissed for the night, later devotions being cancelled for once.

St. Laurence's (ladies') branch of the St. Vincent de Paul Society had its annual meeting on Thursday afternoon, a lot of good business being got through. Mrs. Meehan, who has been president of the society since its establishment some five or six years ago, is now unable to continue in office, and her resignation was accepted with regret, reference being made to the good work done by Mrs. Meehan during her long period of office. Miss McTubbs, another energetic worker, was elected president. Miss K. Cullinane was re-elected secretary and treasurer, she having already done this work for so long and done it so well. The election of vice-presidents was held over for a future meeting. Meantime the members of the society, who have great hopes of increasing their numbers, are getting to work at once at the replenishment of the clothing cupboard, for the cold snap which has set in has