Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

August 23.

The Military Cross awarded to the late Lieut. W. P. Healy (son of Mr. W. F. Healy, of Brooklyn), an ex-pupil of the Marist Brothers, who was killed in action while serving as a member of the Australian Expeditionary Force, was handed to his father, as next-of-kin, by his Excellency the Governor-General at Government House on last Friday evening. Two sons of Mr. Healy were killed in action, and a third was wounded and lost one of his legs in consequence.

The Dominion Executive of the N.Z. Catholic Federation met on last Tuesday afternoon, Major Halpin presiding. Owing to the restriction on travelling, and the refusal of the general manager of the N.Z. Railways to issue permits to delegates, the annual meeting fixed for August 26 has been postponed, subject to the concurrence of the Diocesan Councils, who have been communicated with. It was decided that the executive should meet on the third Tuesday of each month in future. The report of the Educational Sub-committee was received and adopted and submitted to his Grace Archbishop Redwood for consideration.

At the last meeting of St. Patrick's branch of the Hibernian Society, the retiring president, Bro. James J. Troy, was presented by the president (Bro. J. P. McGowan), on behalf of the members, with a past-president's collar and framed certificate. In making the presentation, Bro. McGowan referred in glowing terms to Bro. Troy's good work. Bro. Troy, in returning thanks, said that he had the cause of the society at heart, and although he was going out of office, he would still devote all the energy of which he was capable to further the cause of Hibernianism.

A very successful afternoon was given by Mrs. Oscar Ellis at her residence, Tasman Street, on last Tuesday, in aid of the big bazaar which the combined parishes of Thorndon and St. Joseph's will hold in October next.

The new school in Buckle Street was opened on Monday last. The school, which was built to accommodate 300 pupils, commenced on Monday with an attendance of 270. The school is being conducted by the Sisters of Mercy, under the direction of the Rev. Mother Mary Anthony.

The children of the Catholic schools will visit H.M.S. New Zealand while she is at this port.

Archbishop O'Shea's fine discourse at the opening of the new school in Buckle Street has been the cause of several letters appearing in the local press. The first was from the P.P.A. champion, urging the taxation of our schools, etc., and another was from the secretary of the Teachers' Educational Institute, who has shown himself a bitter opponent of Catholic schools. The latter individual, referring to the building, admits that "it has set a standard of classroom architecture that for very shame's sake the State must equal in its own buildings."

The annual meeting of the Wellington Catholic Education Board was held on last Wednesday. Mr. J. J. L. Burke, vice-chairman, presided, in the absence of the chairman (his Grace Archbishop O'Shea). The members present were Father Hurley, S.M., Messrs. B. Doherty, T. O'Brien, T. J. Davis, J. D. McPhee, Jas. Stratford, Leo Blake, and P. D. Hoskins. The annual report and balance sheet, which disclosed a very successful year, the receipts exceeding the expenditure by nearly £1000, raising the capital fund now to £4000, were adopted. Votes of thanks were accorded to the committees and officers for the successful result of their efforts in augmenting a fund which will make the Catholic schools of this city independent.

The Thomas Moore Executive Committee met on last Friday, Mr. F. J. Oakes presiding, when a statement of accounts in connection with the last anniversary festival was presented. The financial result showed a profit of £33, which has been handed to the Catholic Education Board. The committee placed on record its deep sense of gratitude to the Rev. Brother Fidelis, who was the mainstay of the organisation, and whose transfer from Wellington means a serious loss to the committee. The secretary was instructed to convey by letter to Brother Fidelis the committee's appreciation of his services, and its extreme regret at his transference from this city.

The Feast of St. Alphonsus Ligouri, the founder of the Redemptorist Order, was celebrated with due solemnity at the Church of St. Gerard, Wellington. All the Masses were largely attended, and a great many approached the Holy Table. At 10 a.m. there was Solemn High Mass—celebrated by the Rector, Very Rev. P. Whelan, C.SS.R., with Father Mangan as deacon and Father Kilbride subdeacon. Father Kilbride preached. The choir of St. Gerard's, directed by Mr. Frank Oakes, with Mr. James Skedden at the organ, sang Gounod's St. Cecelia Mass, also (at the Offertory) Byrd's "Ave Verum" (unaccompanied), Tozer's setting for four voices of the Proper, and at the end of the Mass the brilliant setting of the "Te Deum" by Lambillotte. In the evening, after the Holy Rosary, the choir gave the "Magnificat" on the 7th tone by Lambillotte, and an eloquent sermon by Father Langley, C.SS.R., followed. The choir then sang Mendelssohn's "As Pants the Hart," and at Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament "O Salutaris" (Elgar), "Bone Pastor" (Tallis) unaccompanied, "Tantum Ergo" (Verdussen), "Divine Praises," "Adoremus" (Allegri), and concluded with the "Te Deum."

Wanganui

(From our own correspondent.)

August 20.

Rev. Brother Denis, Provincial of the Marist Brothers, has been paying his usual visit to our Brothers, and has gone on again.

Very Rev. Dean Holley, S.M. (Provincial), has gone up-river with Father Ginisty, and will spend a day or two at Jerusalem.

Sister M. Ignatius, who for some time has been in charge at the Otaki Convent, has been called back to Wanganui to take charge of our new town St. Mary's Convent.

The Parish Federation Committee held its monthly meeting during the week, and among other things, decided to try and revive the Catholic Social Study Club, which through no one's fault has gone defunct. At present the movement will be confined to the members of the Federation Committee, the idea being to get through the business of the meeting and then spend an hour or so in the study of some of the pertinent questions of the day. To start the ball rolling, Mr. T. Lloyd read an interesting pamphlet, or rather some articles from it, and the matter is to be allowed to soak in till next meeting, when it will be overhauled for debate. The scheme is only tentative, but likely enough will grow.

On Monday morning at St. Mary's Church, a little Maori wedding took place, the young couple being Paul Haami, of Ranana, a returned soldier, son of the late Haami of Ranana, and Kikîri Te Poro of Kaiwhaiki, foster daughter of Te Poro and Tangin Tapa. The ceremony was conducted by Father Ginisty, S.M., of Jerusalem. The bride looked very girlish in a simple frock of white satin, and with it she wore a small coronet of orange blossoms and a long white veil. She also carried exquisite flowers. The maid of honor was Mary Haami, sister of the bridegroom, and the best man Robert Tapa, foster brother of the bride. After Mass, the bridal party and many of the