

M.B.O.B. ASSOCIATION, CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own correspondent.)

A complimentary social was tendered in the Art Gallery on the evening of Wednesday week to the Marist Brothers' Old Boys' senior football team, winners of the Canterbury Rugby Union Senior Championship and the D.C.L. Shield. The greater part of the evening was devoted to dancing and euchre, the music being provided by Miss McDonald's orchestra. During an interval occasion was taken to present the various trophies won, and medals to the members of the senior team. Sir George Clifford presided, and there were also present his Lordship Bishop Brodie, the Mayor (Dr. Thacker, M.P.), Very Rev. Dr. Kennedy, Adm., Very Rev. Dean Regnault, S.M., Very Rev. C. Graham, S.M., M.A. (St. Bede's College), the clergy of the Cathedral and St. Mary's parishes, the Marist Brothers, and several of the M.B.O.B.A. vice-presidents, members of the Canterbury Rugby Union, and representatives of other football clubs.

The chairman stated that while he felt greatly honored at being asked to preside, he thought a footballer with expert knowledge would have been more suitable. He knew very little of modern football, though he recognised it was one of our greatest sports. He congratulated not only the winning team, but the losing team, for the great fight they had put up in the final game of the competition.

His Lordship Bishop Brodie said the object of the gathering that night was to give them an opportunity of congratulating the members of the winning team. And they must not be selfish. Many of the members of the team had taken part in the greater game, and the winning team could congratulate itself that in its ranks there were 11 returned soldiers. Some people condemned the playing of these manly games, but he differed from them. He took the opportunity of thanking the members of the Canterbury Rugby Union for the compliment they had paid in attending the gathering. He was an enthusiastic Rugbyite; he liked all sports, but he preferred Rugby. He was delighted likewise to see the Referees' Association represented. Finally, he congratulated the winning team itself. In its early days the Marist Brothers' Old Boys' Club had encountered defeat after defeat, but victory had at length crowned their efforts. A nice compliment had been paid them by the attendance of members of the other competing teams that evening. Whilst they rejoiced in victory, he would not like to see the Marists' team win every year, because that would not be good for football. He wished every success to the grand old game of Rugby.

Mr. S. F. Wilson, on behalf of the Canterbury Rugby Union, said he wished to thank the Marists' Club for their kindness in inviting the visitors that night. The best friendships were made on the football field and cemented at social gatherings of that sort. He congratulated the club upon its great record this season of winning the first, fourth, fifth, and sixth grade competitions. It would be a record hard to beat. He thought beyond a shadow of doubt that the Marists' team were the best in the senior competition; they undoubtedly played the best football. On behalf of the Canterbury Rugby Union he presented the D.C.L. Shield to Mr. D. McCormick, captain of the senior team; the fourth grade banner to Mr. J. Ellis, the captain of the fourth grade team; and the fifth grade banner to Mr. L. Riordan, captain of the fifth grade team. Mr. Wilson said a shield was being prepared for presentation to the sixth grade team.

The Mayor added his congratulations to the club, which, he said, had been knocking at the door of the senior championship for some time. It was the good Brothers, who had taught them how to play fairly and cleanly, who deserved the credit of the team's success.

Mr. D. McCormick, on behalf of the senior team, suitably acknowledged the congratulations showered upon them. They had had a hard fight, and felt very proud upon having at last captured the shield.

Upon the call of the Mayor, the company cheered the team, followed with "For They are Jolly Good Fellows."

The chairman then presented a gold medal to each of the following members of the senior team:—D. McCormick, E. Fitzgerald, M. O'Malley, B. Frame, J. Ellis, B. Flood, P. J. Amodeo, B. Mahan, C. Meachem, J. McGuinness, E. Meachem, C. Taylor, P. O'Loughlin, J. McCormick, A. Bell, E. Brosnahan, H. Khouri, J. Smith, H. F. Mullins, L. Peterson, J. C. Mullins, F. Smythe, and E. B. McDonald.

Supper was served by the ladies, and the arrangements of the function, generally, reflected most creditably on the energetic secretary (Mr. A. F. Jarman) and his committee.

Remember that the time of labor and suffering is short, and that, on the contrary, the reward which awaits us is eternal.—St. Clare.

GORE CONVENT SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENT.

The concerts given by the pupils of the Gore Convent School (says the *Mataura Ensign*) have earned local fame, and the one given recently would enhance this reputation. The whole programme was carried through by the children, no adult appearing on the stage in any of the performances, and the result must be regarded as a distinct tribute to the thorough tuition and painstaking care of those responsible for training the youthful performers. That the public expected a treat was shown by the large audience, the Princess Theatre being packed, and that patrons were more than satisfied was demonstrated by the very hearty applause which greeted every item. The promoters of the entertainment had wisely determined that there would be no recalls, so some very insistent encores were disregarded.

During the interval Very Rev. P. O'Donnell (pastor of the district) thanked the audience for its attendance. The hearts of the Sisters of Mercy, he said, would be gladdened at such marked public appreciation of their efforts. He was sure most of the parents were agreeably surprised at the manner in which the children had acquitted themselves in their allotted tasks, but it was merely an evidence of the painstaking methods of the nuns, and a guarantee that the teaching of the children in the more important work of the school and of religion would be equally as efficient. The object of the concert was to raise funds to add another room to the school, as the 170 children going to it had overtaxed the existing accommodation. The Catholic people were called on to pay taxation for the public schools, and then had to put their hands in their pockets and pay for their own schools. If justice was justice, this matter should not be decided by a count of heads, but by a fair consideration of the rights of the minority. The majority had made the present law, and it might be legal, but it was not just. The Catholic people were bearing this injustice with fortitude, and making sacrifices to maintain their own schools. He hoped the proposed addition to the school would shortly be a reality; the attendance that evening was an indication that it would soon be possible to undertake the work.

A word of praise is due to all the youthful performers for the clearness of their enunciation, the words of all the songs and dialogues being distinctly heard. Miss T. Waring provided the accompaniments for the items rendered by the girls, and Master J. Burnby for those by the boys.

NEWMAN SOCIETY, AUCKLAND

PRESENTATION TO RETIRING PRESIDENT.

An interesting and bright little ceremony took place on the broad front verandah of the Sacred Heart College, Ponsonby, Auckland, on Sunday, September 28, when the members of the Newman Society, who had been present at the unveiling of the college roll of honor, invited their late president, Rev. Brother Fergus, to meet them in order to express to him their gratitude and appreciation of his most practical help and consistent interest in the welfare of their society during his term of four years as president.

Mr. P. J. Kalaugher and Mr. J. P. Wright each spoke in eulogistic terms, on behalf of the society, of all Brother Fergus had accomplished for it. Mr. J. P. Wright, for the members, then presented Brother Fergus with a neat case of razors and accessories, and after voicing the deep regret of the members that, owing to a new appointment in his college, Brother Fergus could no longer spare time to act as president, asked him to accept of their little gift as a souvenir of their many successful meetings under his guidance, and as a small testimony of their regard.

Rev Bro Fergus, in his characteristic bright style, suitably responded. He thanked the members, and expressed regret that he could no longer continue with the society, but he promised to still do what he could to further its interests, and allowed his name to be placed on the syllabus for a paper during the coming year. He then congratulated Miss Terry, M.Sc., on her election as vice-president of the society, and complimented the members on their appointment of a lady of her attainments and intellectual gifts.

It is a fatal error to mistake mere historical belief for saving faith. A man may firmly believe his religion historically, and yet have no part nor portion therein practically and savingly. He must not only believe his faith, he must believe in his faith.—Sir Thomas More.

The more intense the suffering is and the less it appears before men, the more it is to thy honor and glory.

J. LEWIS

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