

city, and the reception took place in the great Cologne Cathedral in the presence of representatives of every nationality. The greatest and most beautiful spectacle of the Congress took place on the day of the procession of the Blessed Sacrament, in which upwards of 50,000 people took part. The route was through the principal streets of the city. The procession commenced at 3.30 p.m., and terminated at 7 p.m., at which hour Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was given in the open air. It was something never to be forgotten to hear those half million people lifting up their voices in praise in that great national hymn, 'Great God, we praise Thee,' which was borne on the ear of the listeners like a mighty storm. Such a spectacle made one feel proud of his faith, and would be a source of great consolation to him during his labors among the Maoris. In addition to inspiring great and holy love for the Sacrament of Altar, the beauty and solemnity of the Congress were enhanced by environment. The city of Cologne itself was admirably adapted for such ceremonies: in fact, there was not another city in any other part of the world more adapted for such gatherings, and then again it possessed the most beautiful Cathedral in the world. The preacher concluded by stating that the impression received would be indelibly impressed on his mind during his life.

DIocese OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

May 9.

The newly-formed dramatic branch of the Hibernian Society is actively rehearsing the three-act military comedy, 'My Soldier Boy,' which it intends staging in the Choral Hall on Monday and Tuesday evenings, May 23 and 24. For the production of this bright and interesting play the best local talent has been secured by the society, and the various parts have been carefully allotted. The stage effects and details of the performance have been studied to advantage, all of which augurs well for a successful performance.

In the primary schools football competition on last Saturday the Marist Brothers' team defeated Elmwood by sixteen points to nil. For the winners E. Meachen, S. Elliott, and B. Khouri scored tries. B. Khouri converted two tries and kicked a goal from a mark. In the fourth grade contest the Marist Brothers' boys defeated Linwood at Linwood Park by five points to three. McGreal scored and converted a try for Marist Brothers. For the junior flag Albion and Marist Brothers' Old Boys played a draw. Woodham kicked a penalty goal for Marist Brothers, and Cook scored similarly for Albion. In the senior grade Christchurch (8) defeated the Marist Brothers' Old Boys (3).

In the annual report of the District Nurses, given at the meeting last week, Nurse Wall (who ably filled the position of head nurse during the absence of Nurse Maude in England) and her assistants were very warmly commended for the capable manner in which they had carried out the work among the sick poor of Christchurch. In connection with her duties Nurse Wall generously placed her services at the disposal of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, so that the Catholic sick poor, whose cases might not otherwise come under the notice of the district nurses, should have the advantages of careful nursing and medical treatment. To Nurse Wall and her kind-hearted co-workers we are indebted for services thus rendered, and sincerely trust their care of, and interest in, the poorest portion of the community will long continue.

A social gathering, consisting of a progressive euchre tournament and musical entertainment, under the auspices of the Christchurch Catholic Club, was held in the rooms on last Tuesday evening, at which there was a large attendance. The prizes were won by Misses Mannion and Canavan, and Messrs. J. Hamilton and F. O'Connell. The musical portion of the programme was contributed to by the following:—Piano duet, Misses O'Connor; vocal duet, Messrs. R. Beveridge and C. Fottrell; dialogue, Mr. F. Rowe; recitation, Mr. A. Harbison; songs, Misses Brick and M. O'Connor, Messrs. F. G. Healy, Bullock, and R. Beveridge. Miss O'Connor was accompanist. At the conclusion the president (Mr. J. R. Hayward) thanked those who had participated in the programme, and all who had aided in the success of the evening's entertainment.

The ordinary meeting of St. Patrick's branch of the H.A.C.B. Society was held in the Hibernian Hall on last Monday evening. Bro. M. Grimes, B.P., presided, and there was a good attendance. Four members were reported on the sick fund, and one declared off. Sick pay amounting to £4 11s 8d was passed for payment. Ten new members were admitted by initiation, and three candidates were nominated for membership. A clearance was granted to one member. Reports from the ball and social committees and United Friendly Societies' Benevolent Association were adopted. The balance sheet and auditor's report were read and adopted, showing the funds of the branch to be in excellent condition. Accounts to the amount of £39 18s 4d were passed for payment. Receipts for the meeting amounted to £14 11s 1d.

A special message to the *Press*, under date May 4, gives the following interesting account of his Lordship Bishop Grimes's episcopal tour in the far south-western portion

of the diocese:—His Lordship Bishop Grimes returned to Ross yesterday from his South Westland pastoral visitation. His trip on the whole was most enjoyable, and despite the arduous nature of the journey, which included a long horse-back ride, Bishop Grimes has returned well and hearty, and full of pleasurable recollections of a very interesting trip. His stay at Okura was most enjoyable. Large congregations attended the services. The usual building for worship being too small, the large hall had to be used. A landing was safely effected by a small boat on the open beach at Bruce Bay, and a couple of days were spent in that locality. The next move was to Wehaka, near the Fox Glacier, where the settlers again assembled in force to meet and honor the visitors. Three days were spent in the district, and then a move was made for Totara, near the Franz Josef Glacier. Two days later Wataroa was reached, the settlers again turning out in force for devotional services. On Sunday his Lordship dedicated the new church for the district. An address of welcome was presented by the settlers to Bishop Grimes, expressing the people's great pleasure at being once more able to welcome the Bishop to the district, and hoped that at an early date his cathedral would be free of debt and ready for consecration. Monday and Tuesday were occupied in reaching Ross. The weather was beautifully fine as far as Wehaka. Rain was met with approaching Totara, where vehicles awaited the travellers. Some difficulty was experienced in crossing some of the streams, for the rain still continued, but good horses and Father O'Connor's careful handling brought the party safely through, and though somewhat wearied by the long journey, his Lordship was well and happy, and has no regrets about having taken the trip.

Bishop Grimes speaks enthusiastically about the progress made since his last visit. Since then the telephone has gone south, and it is a great boon to the settlers, who are all sturdy and hard-working, and deserving of every encouragement from the Government. Settlement has steadily advanced, and many comfortable houses in the far south were seen. The settlers were all most hospitable. Bishop Grimes thought the scenery of South Westland incomparable. The Fox Glacier enticed the visitors off the beaten path, and they spent a glorious afternoon. His Lordship was particularly pleased to find members of his flock so well and happy. A large number of candidates were presented for Confirmation, great interest being shown in all the services. The people were very devotional, and the work of preparation reflected all credit on the teachers and the priest in charge, who controls the most extensive district of the diocese. The Bishop expressed his great thanks for hospitality extended him by all classes of the community, his reception everywhere having been most cordial. He spoke highly of Father Hyland's assistance throughout the trip. The Bishop remains in Ross till Sunday, when he comes to Hokitika, remaining in this district for a week. On May 16 he proceeds to the Grey district, visiting also Dunellic, Brunner, and Ahaura, and afterwards returns to Kumara. He hopes to return to Christchurch in time to be present at the opening of the Nazareth House by his Grace Archbishop Redwood.

Temuka

(From our own correspondent.)

May 9.

On Sunday last between 60 and 70 members of the Temuka Catholic Club and Athletic Football Club approached the Holy Table in a body at the 8 o'clock Mass.

The first general monthly meeting of the Catholic Club was held in the club rooms on Tuesday evening last. There were about 50 members present, and Mr. Gillespie presided. Seven new members were elected. Five nominations were received for two vacancies on the executive, and on a ballot being held Messrs. J. Farrell and J. Fitzgerald were elected. The same number of nominations were received for two vacancies on the selection committee of the football branch, and Messrs. J. Spillane and R. Gillespie were elected. The programme for the month was then announced. This includes a euchre tournament with the young ladies, lecture by Rev. Father Fay, rifle match for trophy presented by the president, and a billiard tournament. At the conclusion of the business the members of the football branch decided to hold a social at an early date, and the following were appointed to carry out the necessary arrangements:—Messrs. J. Breen, F. O'Connell, S. Coughlan, J. Beri, M. Fitzgerald, J. Mulvaney, and the secretary (Mr. J. Tangney).

It is proposed to establish five wireless telegraph stations in New Zealand. Two of them—one at Doubtless Bay and the other near Bluff—will operate for 1250 nautical miles. Three coastal stations will be established, with a radius of 500 miles—one at Gisborne, one at Cape Farewell, and one at Sumner.

Mr. F. Wauchop, dancing instructor, who made a great success of the spectacular display in connection with the Timaru carnival, just concluded, is now open for engagement....

WANTED KNOWN—That Bill-heads, Circulars, Cards, Programmes, and General Printing of every description are executed at the *Tablet* Office. Moderate rates.