

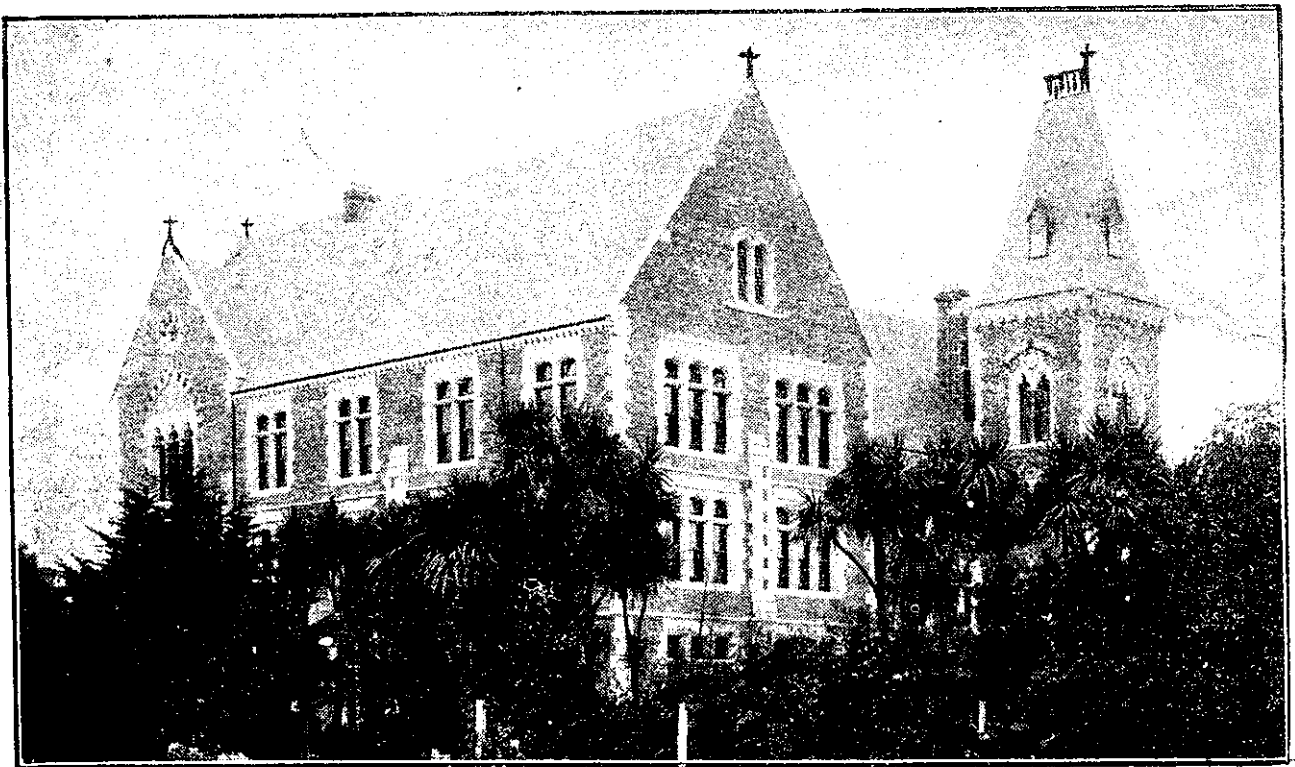
contributions) apologising for the non-attendance of many well-known people who were unable to be present that day. One of these letters, he said, was from Bishop Julius, several were from members of the Cabinet, and many from leading physicians and other professional and business men. In urging those present to contribute freely to the funds of the Home, he stated that since the Sisters came to Christchurch in 1905 forty men had passed through the temporary home in Ferry road, 49 women, and 120 children. The Sisters had prepared the passage from time to eternity of 11 men, 13 women, and 3 children. At the present moment 25 men, 24 old ladies, and 78 little children were being cared for. Although the work was begun by the Catholics, the home was quite undenominational, and people who applied for admission were not questioned as to their nationality or religion. People of all creeds were welcome, and could be visited by clergymen whom they desired to minister unto them. They could also be visited by their friends.

The Mayor (Mr. C. Allison) briefly spoke of the enthusiasm of the Catholic Church, which he thought should be an example to other denominations. It was such institutions as Nazareth House that would enable the Catholic Church to advance and prove itself worthy of the reputation it had attained in the community.

His Grace Archbishop Redwood thanked the inmates of the home who had presented him with such a 'very beautiful address,' and, continuing, said that the vast crowd

Style and Dimensions.

The building consist of three floors, and when completed will be divided into departments, each of which will be conducted entirely, independently of the others, although all will be under one supervision. The tower in the centre of the front elevation rises above the main entrance, which opens into a spacious hall, at the back of which is situated the central staircase, and alongside this there is provision for a lift large enough to carry a stretcher and attendants. There will be a staircase to each department, making five altogether. The ground floor is divided into sitting rooms, class room, refectories, etc., and a centre wing of one storey comprising kitchen block and offices. The first floor consists of dormitories, etc., for boys, women, and Sisters, contained in separate wings; rooms are also provided on this flat for visitors, and dormitory, sitting room, and refectory for old ladies. On the second floor will be accommodated girls and infants and infirm girls, the two last-named departments having refectories on this floor. All departments have infirmaries, sitting rooms, and lavatories in connection with them. The largest dormitories are 61ft by 36ft, while on the ground floor the class rooms are divided by accordion doors, which enable them to be thrown into one large room. All floors of corridors, passages, and lavatories are tiled, or laid in arkilite, and throughout the whole building a dado of oiled jarrah is fixed. The height of the main building to ridge is 72ft, and the height of the tower



Dutch, Photo.

NAZARETH HOUSE, CHRISTCHURCH.
(Completed Portion.)

present was eloquent testimony to the appreciation of the work that was being done. He congratulated his Lordship Bishop Grimes, to whose energy and ideas they owed that splendid building. The people of Christchurch of all denominations were also to be congratulated, for the institution was for all denominations alike. The work of the Sisters was one of the greatest examples of true Christian charity. There was a vast difference between philanthropy and Christianity. Philanthropy meant the love of men for men's sake, but Christianity meant the love of men for Christ's sake. Under Christianity they viewed the distressed person, the unhappy and poor one, as the representative of the God Incarnate, who condescended to be the representative of the poor and distressed. He had said, 'Whatever ye do for the least of men for My sake ye do for Me.' In declaring the institution open, his Grace made an earnest appeal to those present to contribute to the funds, for by doing this, he said, they would be contributing to an institution which represented one of the noblest forms of Christianity. As the population increased so would the building increase, and not only would it be a pride to Christchurch, but to the whole of the Dominion.

At the conclusion of the speeches about thirty of the little orphans sang choruses, and Mrs. Arthur Mead sang Gounod's 'Ave Maria,' with violin obligato by Herr Zimmerman, in a highly artistic manner. At the conclusion of the ceremony as many as could do so partook of refreshments, and for some time the building was thronged in every direction by interested sightseers. The offerings amounted to the handsome sum of £337 12s 4d.

102ft. A most complete system of heating the entire building is installed by Messrs. Taylor and Oakley, whilst the lighting, ventilation, and sanitary arrangements are everything to be desired or that science and experience could suggest. The design in brick and stone is carried out in domestic Gothic, with touches of Venetian Gothic. The cost of the portion now completed and in occupation is about £22,600. When completed the building will occupy a square 250ft by 240ft. The number now in occupation of the present portion is 25 men, 24 women, between 70 and 80 children, and 11 Sisters. The architects for the building are the Christchurch firm of Messrs. Collins and Harman, and the result of their efforts—guided in many essential details by the Rev. Mother Superior, who has had considerable experience in the home country, and notably in the erection of Nazareth House in Glasgow—is an imposing edifice, admirably adapted for its purpose—one that takes a foremost rank among the institutions of the Dominion, and one of the most striking architectural examples in the city. The contractor is Mr. J. Smith, who has carried out his work well within the period of his contract. The plastering was by Messrs. George and Forward, and the plumbing by Messrs. O'Connell Bros. Mr. Thomas O'Connell was clerk of works—an exacting position of trust, and one requiring a vast amount of expert knowledge, tact, and constant attention to detail.

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