

of babies attended for the past year is 313, and the number of visits paid 1822. It was also mentioned that grateful thanks are due to the Rev. Mother Mary Joseph Aubert, who has from time to time taken utterly destitute children to the Home of Compassion.

Mrs. Wilford (Mayoress) called attention to the want of proper provision for children who have to be medically treated at the Wellington Hospital, and suggested that a canvass be made to provide the necessary accommodation.

The Rev. Mother Mary Joseph Aubert said that at the Home of Compassion at Island Bay she had room for several more sick children. Absolutely no hindrance was placed in the way of any child whom the home could benefit. The only stipulation was that it must be needy.

Mr. Wilford referred to the offer of Mother Mary as a most generous one. At present the children who were sent to the hospital for treatment were placed in a building that was not fit for them.

Speaking to a subsequent motion, Mrs. A. R. Atkinson expressed the opinion that every member of the society would support Mrs. Wilford in her noble action. The building at the hospital used for the children was in a very bad state, and was woefully overcrowded. Some people said that it was reeking with disease, and they were probably correct. It was a very good thing for the city that there was accommodation at the Home of Compassion for needy sick children. Many times the speaker had asked Mother Mary to take in children in a very bad state, and the only quarrel she had with the Rev. Mother was that she got them well again too soon, and wanted to turn them out in the world again before a place had been found to put them. The poor little sick children in the home were very happy, and they received the most loving care and the best medical treatment.

Wanganui

(From our own correspondent.)

A local newspaper characterised the sacred concert held at St. Mary's Church on Sunday, July 31, as 'one of the most successful of its kind ever held in Wanganui.' It was certainly a musical treat. A programme was submitted which was both high class and pleasing, and the choir acquitted themselves in a manner that was highly creditable to their talented conductor, Miss Lillian White. The choir contributed five items, and it would be difficult to say which number was the most acceptable. The choir members are, however, to be especially congratulated on their very finished rendering of Gounod's 'Gloria' and Weber's 'Credo.' Nor was the choir less successful in the more simple 'Ave Maria' (Neukommens), which was sung with much expression and feeling. Miss L. White excelled herself in the solo of the 'Credo.' Her vocal abilities are so well known that it is almost superfluous to say that she did full justice to the number, and has never been heard to better advantage. Her second number, Liddel's 'Abide with me,' also gave real pleasure. Mr. Gordon Aitken's singing of Carey's 'Nearer my God to Thee' was very fine. Miss G. Hearn sang Gounod's 'There is a green hill' with much success. A quartet (Mrs. Labatt, Miss M. Brady, Messrs. Follitt and Lawless) gave a successful interpretation of Weber's 'Benedictus.' Mr. C. McCarthy was in good voice, and sang Weiss' tuneful 'O Salutaris.' Mr. A. Towsey, whose musical abilities are well known throughout the Dominion, gave some splendid selections on the organ in his usual masterly style. Miss K. Wood, who was the soprano soloist in Murphy's 'Tantum Ergo' and the 'Gloria,' sang very nicely and with true regard for the sacredness of the theme. Father Moloney gave a capital interpretation of Allitson's 'As the heart desireth,' and also played the organ accompaniments throughout the evening.

After the concert Father Moloney preached an eloquent sermon, and explained the Holy Father's desire in regard to church music, and intimated that the money from the collection at the concert would be used in carrying out the wishes of his Holiness. After 'Benediction' Mr. Towsey played an excellent march.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

August 8.

Owing to the indisposition of his Lordship the Bishop, who was suffering from the prevailing influenza epidemic, the Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., represented his Lordship at the public reception on Saturday last of his Excellency the Governor on the occasion of his first visit to Christchurch.

At the recent theory examinations in connection with the Associated Board of the Royal Academy of Music and Royal College of Music the following pupils of the Sisters of Mercy, St. Mary's Convent, Colombo street, passed:—Rudiments of music (maximum 99, pass 66)—Ina I. D. Pointon, 98; Jane W. Donnelly, 98; Gladys M. Simpson, 87; Beatrice Nicholson, 79; Flora McDonald, 77.

Addressing the congregation in the Cathedral at Mass on Sunday, the Rev. Dr. Kennedy urged upon his hearers

the necessity of a liberal patronage to the carnival to be inaugurated on the following day. It would be an easy and excellent means of very materially reducing the capital liability existing on the Cathedral, and would prove that the city was prepared to do its duty in a matter that had been so generously helped by other portions of the diocese.

On last Thursday morning, at the close of a three days' retreat, conducted by the Rev. Father Hills, S.M., a ceremony of profession and reception in the Order of Notre Dame des Missions was held in the chapel of the Sacred Heart Convent. Owing to the indisposition of his Lordship the Bishop, the Very Rev. Dean Ginaty, S.M., V.G., presided. Others of the clergy present were the Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., Rev. Fathers Hills, S.M., Daull, S.M.A., Hoare, S.M., and Dignan, S.M. The Rev. Father Hills preached the occasional sermon. Seven Sisters made their profession, and three were received.

There was quite a large audience in the Christchurch Catholic Club rooms on last Monday evening, when a successful entertainment was given in aid of the club's stall at the King's Carnival. His Lordship the Bishop was present, and also several of the clergy. Admission was by silver coin, and the result was satisfactory. Songs were contributed by Misses Brick and F. Gardiner and Messrs. T. O'Connell, S. Allwright, C. Fottrell, J. Foley, and A. Popplewell, and selections by an orchestra. The second part of the programme consisted of the comedietta 'My Turn Next,' those taking part being Misses R. and B. Fanning and K. Redmond, Messrs. H. Glubb, F. McDonald, and C. Young. Miss N. Dunn was accompanist.

Speaking of the St. Vincent de Paul Society on Sunday week, the Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., said:—'Certainly those for whom this society was first meant were the young men. He did not want to discredit the venerable members of the society, but he was sure they would be the first to recognise that the work could not go on without young men, who had more leisure in many cases than those who were old. These young men needed the guidance and direction of those who had grown old in the society, but those who had lived many years in it would in most cases have their family relations and their business relations taking up an immense deal of time, and preventing them giving that amount of personal service young men could give. Young men were generally made up of strangely contradictory aspirations. They lived to a large extent in a world of imagination. They could not help it, and, in fact, we all more or less did this, because we had many ideals we never realised, many things we looked forward to which never came to pass. It was a danger to young men to live in this world of imagination, and to go on living in it through many years, doing nothing when they might do a most excellent work, doing nothing because they were dreaming. They had an immense amount of generosity, they were able to make efforts when they saw the need, they were devoted to any object attracting their attention. Alongside with this they were exposed on account of their youth to many dangers, for which being made good and earnest members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul would be a most potent remedy. If a young man became an active member of this society he would see the realities of life, know what life meant, how without faith in a hereafter, without a constant knowledge that life was passing so rapidly, he could never understand life as it was. Personal knowledge of and personal contact with the poor showed life as it was, and offered young men something to do outside the imagination he had referred to. He hoped that within the next twelve months there would be a large accession of membership of young men willing to give their talents, energy, and time to the service of the sick and the poor.'

Timaru

(From our own correspondent.)

August 8.

A delightful 'afternoon' was recently given by the Sisters of the Sacred Heart to the members of St. Ann's Guild.

Owing to insufficiency of accommodation, it is found necessary to enlarge the girls' school. Plans are now being prepared, and a few months will see further additions to the handsome church property along Craigie Avenue.

The Rev. Father Fay is temporarily absent from Temuka on urgent private business. His place is supplied by the Rev. Father Bowden, who did a like service for Rev. Father Tubman, when he was absent in the Old Country a couple of years ago.

The new church is visibly growing week by week, and one can now get a good idea of what its fine proportions will be. The call on the treasurer's purse is now at its maximum, and the Rev. Father Tubman will be pleased to receive all contributions.

Mr. J. Murphy, an old Catholic school boy, and a son of Mr. John Murphy, of Kensington, has been appointed sexton to the Timaru Cemetery Board, in succession to Mr. Drake, who occupied the post almost from the opening of the cemetery to the time of his decease.

A social will be given in aid of the Catholic Athletic Association in the Assembly Rooms on Thursday evening

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