

next. The organising work, consisting of the decoration of the room, arranging of the programme, and providing of refreshments, is being done by the Misses M. Mara and Rissell.

Hokitika

(From our own correspondent.)

The Rev. Father Clancy, who is to assist Rev. Father Ainsworth in St. Mary's parish, arrived in Hokitika on Friday.

Rev. Father Ainsworth leaves to-day for Wellington. He will be absent for a few weeks. It is to be hoped that the Rev. Father, who has not been well of late, will return to Hokitika fully restored to good health.

The usual fortnightly euchre tournament, held in St. Mary's Club rooms, took place on Wednesday last, and passed off very successfully. Sixty-eight players took part. The prize-winners were Miss N. Ryan and Mr. John Lock.

St. Mary's Hockey Club junior team journeyed to Greymouth on July 24 to meet the Trinity team, and the game resulted in a draw, each side securing 2 goals. J. Downey (captain) and A. O'Donnell scored for St. Mary's. The team have only been defeated once so far, and at present have a good chance of winning the championship.

The billiard tournament held in the club rooms, which has lasted now for some weeks, was concluded on Thursday evening, when Messrs. Malavey and Dee met in the final, the former proving victorious. There was a large attendance of members to witness the game, which was very interesting. Mr. J. McSherry was successful in securing the president's prize for making the biggest break (34) in the tournament.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(By Telegraph from our own correspondent.)

August 8.

A meeting will be held at the Cathedral on Wednesday next to make arrangements for the reception of the Right Rev. Dr. Cleary.

At the Cathedral on Sunday there was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament during the day, and the usual procession in the evening after Vespers.

The devotion of the Forty Hours' Adoration will commence at St. Benedict's on Sunday week, the date of the consecration of the Right Rev. Dr. Cleary.

Very Rev. Father O'Sullivan, S.M.A., delivered the last of the series of interesting lectures in the Choral Hall to-night, the subject being Palestine and the Nile Valley.

The Sacred Heart Convent, Remuera, reopened after the winter vacation last week. The number of pupils is greatly on the increase. The work connected with the new building is going rapidly ahead.

At St. Benedict's, on the Feast of the Assumption, 200 children will make their First Communion at the 8 o'clock Mass. Great preparations are in progress, and the event will be worthy of the great festival.

At a meeting of the bazaar committee yesterday afternoon in St. Mary's Convent it was decided to postpone it until next year in order to obtain the use of the new Town Hall, which is expected to be ready by that time.

Claramen resident in Auckland, at a meeting, decided to forward an address to Mr. William Redmond, M.P. for East Clare, thanking him for his persistent and consistent action in bringing about the alteration of the obnoxious oath, and extending to him their hearty appreciation and congratulations.

Though it was found unnecessary to proceed with his motion in the House of Representatives concerning the Accession Oath, the thanks of Catholics are due to Mr. Arthur Myers, member for Auckland East, for his initiative in the matter in the Dominion Parliament. Locally he has been warmly thanked by the clergy and people for his action.

His Grace Archbishop Redwood addressed the Confraternity of the Holy Family at the Cathedral on last Tuesday evening, and described the proceedings about to take place at the Eucharistic Congress at Montreal. His Grace celebrated Mass at the Home of the Little Sisters of the Poor, and afterwards visited all the religious institutions in and around the city. He left on Wednesday night by the Moura, to catch the Vancouver steamer. His Grace was seen off by several of the local clergy.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY, DUNEDIN

LADIES' CONFERENCE

The annual meeting of the ladies' conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Dunedin, was held in St. Joseph's Hall on Friday afternoon. His Lordship the Bishop presided, and there was a fair attendance of members.

The annual report, which was read by Mrs. Hussey (secretary), was as follows:—In presenting the twenty-

fifth annual report and balance sheet, your committee are pleased to claim that the work of the women's conference of St. Vincent de Paul Society is being steadily carried on, and that the operations generally are successful. The demand for clothing grows every year, and we think the time is ripe for the establishment of sewing guilds in town and suburbs, so that they can meet in convenient centres at private houses and provide clothes in abundance for the needy. Already several members have notified their willingness to have these meetings conducted at their houses, and we trust that this step will be the means of attracting a large number of helpers. The question of forming a separate women's conference for South Dunedin is worthy of consideration. Now that the men's conferences are in active work, greater efficiency may be expected by the co-operation of the several conferences. The question of the division of the annual general collections will also be a matter for consideration. We tender our sincere thanks to his Lordship the Bishop, the clergy, and to all those who have helped in any way the work of the society.

General Summary.—Thirty-eight meetings were held; 2 women were sent to Mount Magdala, 3 girls to the St. Vincent de Paul Orphanage, South Dunedin, 7 children to the orphanage at Nelson, 1 girl to her home in Wellington, 1 girl to Greymouth, and 11 children were baptised. The society distributed a number of new boots, blankets, and clothing of all kinds. At present we have 10 active members.

Balance Sheet.

Receipts.		Expenses.	
To Balance, July, 1909	£57 14 5	By Groceries	£20 18 5
Subscriptions	39 11 7	Coal	14 9 9
Donations	19 19 0	Boots	8 8 6
Church collection	73 12 4	Drapery	32 14 2
		Telephone	5 0 0
		Urgent board	12 16 6
		Nourishment, meat, etc.	2 18 4
		Tram fares	1 17 6
		U.S.S. Company	10 12 6
		Donations Mt. Magdala	5 0 6
		Furniture	3 0 0
		Sundries—school books, marriage licence, wedding ring, cab hire, &c.	6 14 7
		Balance	66 6 7
	£190 17 4		£190 17 4

His Lordship said he had very great pleasure in presiding at the meeting of the society. The report of the work during the year was very satisfactory indeed. It showed how zealously they had worked, and also the charity of the people who had contributed over £73 at the church collections. It would please him very much to see the society extend its work to other places, as was suggested in the report, and this matter was worthy of their best attention and most serious consideration. The suggestion with regard to having sewing meetings at the private residences of members was also one which was worthy of consideration, as such meetings would prove very useful in bringing people together and might be turned to good account in various ways. Every pastor was very desirous of having his people united in doing good work, and the proposal would be a means of bringing the Catholic people together, and thus getting them to know one another. This was a matter which the members should keep in mind. They should remember that the ladies' society was established by St. Vincent de Paul himself. One day a lady informed St. Vincent that a certain family stood badly in need of assistance, and when he went to visit the family with the object of relieving their wants he found that many others were bent on the same errand of mercy, so that this family had a superabundance of the necessaries of life. It then occurred to him that it would be well to arrange the giving of charity on a systematic basis, so that there should be no waste, and with this object in view he established a society of ladies to look after the wants of the poor, and he urged his missionaries to push on the work of establishing such societies wherever they went. In conclusion his Lordship said the members were doing excellent work, for which God would reward them, and he desired to congratulate them on the success of their efforts during the past year.

The report and balance sheet were then adopted.

Mr. Cumming, of the Patients and Prisoners' Aid Society, congratulated the society on the excellent work it was doing, offered his best wishes for its welfare, and paid a warm tribute to the zeal and devotedness of Mrs. Jackson. He would be prepared at all times to give the St. Vincent de Paul Society all the assistance in his power, and he felt that if the public were only better acquainted with its work it would receive still more liberal support than at present.

The election of officers resulted as follows:—President, Mrs. Jackson (re-elected); vice-president, Mr. Mowat (re-elected); treasurer, Mrs. Cantwell (re-elected); wardrobe-keeper, Mrs. Swanson (re-elected); secretary, Mrs. T. J. Hussey (re-elected).

A vote of thanks to his Lordship the Bishop for presiding brought the proceedings to a close.