

CATHOLIC CLUBS

CHRISTCHURCH.

(From the club correspondent.)

June 14.

The weekly meeting of the Catholic Club was held in the club rooms on Tuesday evening, the president (Mr. J. R. Hayward) in the chair. There was a good attendance of members notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather. The item on the syllabus for the evening was 'Prepared speeches' for a prize donated by one of the members. There were seven entries, those taking part being Messrs. Hayward, Demehy, Sims, Crosbery, Laurenson, Lafferty, and Anderson. Mr. Hayward gave a splendid address on the Parnell commission, but did not compete for the prize. Some excellent speeches were made, notably those given by Messrs. Sims, Anderson, and Laurenson, and on a ballot being taken Mr. Sims was adjudged the winner. His speech dealt with the proposed reciprocity treaty between Canada and the United States of America. Mr. Sims' speech stamps him at once as a very fine speaker. The club is to be congratulated in securing his services for the forthcoming debate against the Lyttelton Debating Society, which takes place at Lyttelton on the 27th, the subject being 'Would a canal be beneficial to Canterbury?' The club takes the affirmative, Messrs. Hayward, Sims, and McKeon being its representatives.

Mr. George White, jeweller, has presented the club with a very handsome clock, which the members highly appreciate. On Wednesday, the 28th inst., the club are to entertain their lady friends at a social evening. An energetic committee has the arrangements well in hand.

OAMARU.

(From the club correspondent.)

June 16.

The members of St. Patrick's Club held a successful and enjoyable debate at the club rooms on Wednesday evening, on the evergreen subject of the taxation of bachelors. The club president (Mr. John Cagney) occupied the chair, and introduced the subject and the various speakers. For the affirmative able addresses were given by Messrs E. J. Barry (leader), J. Saunders, J. J. O'Connor, and M. J. Hannon, who detailed the miseries of bachelorhood and drew an irresistible picture of wedded bliss. The arguments of the opposition, however, were too powerful, the side being defended by Messrs. F. W. Ongley (leader), F. Cooney, W. Collins, J. Molloy, and T. Cooney. On a vote being taken, the negative were adjudged the victors by a narrow margin. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the chairman, thus concluding an instructive evening.

OBITUARY

MRS. BRIDGET KENNEDY, MORVEN.

(From our Christchurch correspondent.)

The remains of the late Mrs. Bridget Kennedy, mother of the Very Rev. Dr. Kennedy, S.M., Rector of St. Patrick's College, Wellington, who passed away at Morven, South Canterbury, on the previous Sunday night, were brought to Christchurch for interment on last Tuesday night. The coffin was met at the entrance to the Cathedral by the Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., and placed on a catafalque in front of the sanctuary. The fortnightly meeting of the women's section of the arch-confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament had just ended, and the 350 members present remained in prayer for the deceased for quite a considerable time. There was a Solemn Requiem Mass at 9 o'clock on Wednesday. Very Rev. Dean Regnault, S.M. (Provincial), was celebrant, Rev. Father Aubry, S.M. (Waimate), deacon, Rev. Father Hoare, S.M. (St. Mary's), subdeacon, and Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., master of ceremonies. Others of the clergy present were the Rev. Fathers Graham, S.M. (St. Bede's College), Dault, S.M.A. (Lyttelton), Dignan, S.M. (St. Mary's), McDonnell, and Hanrahan (Cathedral). Before giving the absolution at the coffin, the Rev. Father Aubry, S.M. (Waimate), spoke of the virtues of the deceased, her true Catholic piety, Christian charity, and conspicuous fidelity to the faith. The Very Rev. Dean Regnault officiated at the interment in the Linwood Cemetery, which was attended by all the clergy and many representative Catholic laymen.—R.I.P.

MR. JOHN MOISON, ASHBURTON.

(From our own correspondent.)

There passed away on Friday morning last, at his residence, Ashburton, one of the most widely-known and highly-respected members of the Catholic community, in the person of Mr. John Marie Moison. Up to three weeks ago Mr. Moison was in his usual health, when he was taken suddenly ill, since when he had been gradually sinking, and eventually passed peacefully away on Friday morning. For the past ten years Mr. Moison has been living in retirement, having carried on a bootmaking business in this town for

about twenty years. He was of a retiring disposition, taking no part in public affairs. His only interest seemed centred in the Church and the Catholic Young Men's Club. He has been a valued member of the Catholic Club since its inception, and his demise will prove a serious loss to it. He leaves a widow to mourn her loss.—R.I.P.

Timaru

(From our own correspondent.)

June 19.

Over one hundred children received their First Communion yesterday morning at a special Mass celebrated by the Rev. Father Murphy. The children had been under preparation for the great event for some time previously, and a three days' retreat was conducted by Rev. Father Murphy. After Mass breakfast, provided by the ladies of the parish, was laid in the girls' school. This was presided over by Mrs. Doyle and the Misses Knight, McGrath, and assistants.

On Sunday afternoon the convent grounds were the scene of a deeply impressive ceremony, the occasion being the annual procession of the Blessed Sacrament. The convent was tastefully decorated, and the line of march adorned with banners bearing appropriate emblems. At half-past two the procession, headed by the cross-bearer and acolytes, began to move from the rear court, and as it passed along the spacious walks onlookers saw following in succession the Marist Brothers' boys, the pupils of the girls' school, the convent pupils, band, and a line of nearly fifty little girls in white wearing wreaths and veils who had made their First Communion in the morning. A group of little convent pupils similarly attired strewed flowers along the route. Beneath a handsomely embroidered canopy in white and gold, walked Rev. Father Murphy, S.M., carrying the monstrance containing the Blessed Sacrament. The canopy was borne by four men of the parish—Dr. Loughnan, and Messrs. Mangoes, Moriarty, and Leigh, while at either side walked three torch-bearers. Immediately following were the Sisters of the Sacred Heart with lighted tapers, and the various societies—Children of Mary, Hibernians, and Sacred Heart—all in their respective regalia. A vast concourse of people, between fifteen and sixteen hundred, concluded the procession. As it wended its way through the grounds, English and Latin hymns were sung, the band accompanying. The first Benediction was given at an altar erected in the fine new hall of the girls' school, Father Murphy being assisted by the Rev. Father Tubman. The procession returned through the grounds, and a second Benediction was given at the convent porch, whence the Blessed Sacrament was conveyed to the chapel, and after a last Benediction placed in the tabernacle. The weather was perfect, and all who took part in the beautiful ceremony were deeply impressed.

Invercargill

(From our own correspondent.)

June 19.

On Sunday about twenty children from the convent made their First Communion. The Very Rev. Dean Burke appropriately addressed the children, and altogether the ceremony was a very pleasing and impressive one.

In connection with the Coronation celebrations and in compliance with the instructions contained in the circular letter addressed by the Bishops to the clergy throughout New Zealand, a Solemn High Mass will be celebrated on Thursday, the 22nd inst., at 10 a.m. The officiating priests will be the Very Rev. Dean Burke, V.F., Very Rev. Father O'Donnell (Gore), and Rev. Father Kavanagh.

There was a very large attendance of members at the opening of the Invercargill Catholic Club on Tuesday, the 13th inst. The Rev. Father Kavanagh (president) occupied the chair, and the subject for the evening was a lecture by the patron of the club, the Very Rev. Dean Burke, V.F., on 'Spain.' In a very interesting and instructive manner the Dean traced the history of Spain during the last century or two to the present time, pointing out clearly the causes that have resulted in the present unsatisfactory state of affairs in the country. The address was listened to attentively, and at the close a hearty vote of thanks was carried by acclamation.

THIS WEEK'S ISSUE.

'Lead Kindly Light.' Cardinal Newman's great hymn. Page 1142.

A Lesson in Manners. Page 1141.

The Coronation. Significant and impressive ceremonies. Page 1153.

Irish Envoys. Probable result of the tour. Page 1154.

Catholics and Medicine. Distinguished physicians and Scientists. Page 1137.

French School Neutrality. Crushing exposure by the Bishop of Bayonne. Page 1142.

The Catholic Church in Victoria. Page 1143.

Anti-Christian Persecution in Portugal. Page 1144.

Education in Belgium. A system productive of the best results. Page 1163.