

Another of Thorndon's oldest parishioners, in the person of Mrs D. J. Plunkett, passed away at her residence 64 Hill street on last Wednesday after a short illness. The deceased, who was twice married, leaves a husband, two sons and three daughters to mourn their loss.—R.I.P.

Last Sunday at St. Anne's, Wellington South, the Men's Confraternity of the Sacred Heart and the St. Anne's Cadets approached the Holy Table in large numbers. After the 10.30 o'clock Mass there was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, and a procession in the evening after devotions.

With a view of pushing on the many works which are required in the large parish of Te Aro, Very Rev. Father O'Shea is enlisting the services of a committee to assist him. His appeal has met with a hearty response, resulting in the formation of an influential and enthusiastic committee.

Very Rev. Father O'Shea, V.G., addressed the Men's Confraternity of the Sacred Heart last Sunday evening on Catholic literature, and exhorted his hearers to be particular as to the class of literature they introduced into their homes. He made a strong plea on behalf of the *Tablet*, a copy of which he would like to see in every Catholic home.

The eighth annual social of St. Patrick's College Old Boys' Association was held in the Sydney Street Schoolroom last Tuesday evening, and was as usual a very enjoyable affair. The committee was composed of Messrs. W. E. Butler, M. J. Crombie, N. J. Crombie, B. J. Devine, C. Gamble, P. Ryan, W. Ryan, S. J. Moran, T. Boyce, and B. Malone. Messrs. B. J. Devine and W. E. Butler were the joint secretaries.

On Friday evening the Men's Confraternity of the Sacred Heart met at St. Anne's, Wellington South, in large numbers. The Rev. Father Hurley, S.M., of St. Joseph's, gave a very instructive address on 'The Church in Portugal.' He quoted non-Catholic writers to show that the primary cause of the trouble was the absence of religion from the school curriculum, which was entirely under State control, priests being forbidden to enter the schools, and also want of organisation. In conclusion, he exhorted the men to be true to the schools, as by the schools we must rise or fall.

There are now no less than nineteen Catholic educational institutions in greater Wellington, all of which are conducted by members of religious Orders. St. Patrick's College is conducted by the Marist Fathers, and the Marist Brothers have charge of the boys' schools in Tasman street and Goring street, whilst the Sisters of Mercy conduct St. Mary's Convent (Hill street), the High Schools (Sussex square and Green street), Seatoun College, and the parish schools (Guildford terrace, Boulcott street, Dock street, Green street, and Tasman street). The Nuns of the Sacred Heart conduct the Island Bay parish school as well as the well-known Convent Boarding School in that district, and the Sisters of the Mission have charge of the parish schools at the Hutt and Petone.

The half-yearly meeting of St. Mary's branch of the H.A.C.B. Society was held on Wednesday evening in St. Patrick's Hall. There was a very large attendance of members, over which Sister K. Robinson, B.P., presided. The following officers were elected for the ensuing half-year:—President, Sister F. O'Flaherty; vice-president, Sister D. McGrath; treasurer, Sister L. McMahon; secretary, Sister G. O'Flaherty (re-elected); warden, Sister M. Griffen; guardian, Sister E. Malone; sick visitors, Sisters Craig, Griffen, U. Simon; auditors, Sister D. McGrath and Bro. P. D. Hoskins (re-elected); trustees, Bros. Carrigan, Bohan, and Grant. Four new members were initiated and six proposed. The balance-sheets disclosed a very satisfactory position, both in regard to finance and membership. The newly-elected officers were duly installed by Bro. J. W. Callaghan, P.B.P. (District Deputy) who congratulated the society on its great progress during the past twelve months.

Pending the purchase of a suitable property on which to build the new school for girls in Te Aro, the Goring Street Hall, Thorndon, has been leased until the end of the present year. This hall will be utilised

on and after Monday, July 17, for the Thorndon boys, who have until now been taught at the old Marist Brothers' School, Boulcott street, and the Te Aro girls now being taught at the Dixon Street School, which was recently sold to Messrs. Sharland and Co., the wholesale druggists, will move into the old Marist Brothers' School until such time as their new school is built. It is the intention to push on the building of a new school for boys at Thorndon, so as to have it completed in time for the boys on returning after the next Christmas vacation, and as soon as possible the building of the Te Aro School for girls will be proceeded with. The completion of these new school buildings will satisfy the requirements of the Empire City for many years to come.

The half-yearly meeting of St. Aloysius' branch of the H.A.C.B. Society was held last Monday evening, Bro. C. J. McErlean presiding over a large attendance. Visitors present were Ven. Archdeacon Devoy (chaplain), Rev. Father Mahony, Bro. Callaghan (District Deputy), Bro. O'Shaughnessey (Christchurch branch), and officers and members from the city, Thorndon, and ladies branches. Three new members were initiated and three proposed. Officers were elected for the ensuing term as follow:—President, Bro. C. J. McErlean; vice-president, Bro. J. J. McMahon; secretary, Bro. W. H. Giles; treasurer, Bro. James Stratford; warden, Bro. P. McCardny; guardian, Bro. V. Henry; sick visitors, Bros. Pender and McErlean; delegate to F.S. Dispensary, Bro. W. H. Giles; auditors, Bros. Pender and J. L. Murphy; trustees, Bros. Whitford and J. Fagan. Bro. T. Pender, P.P., installed the various officers, assisted by D.D. Bro. Callaghan. The secretary read the half-yearly report, which showed the branch to be in a satisfactory position. The sick pay amounted to £57 15s 10d, the highest in the history of the branch, and the membership had increased by twenty. At the conclusion of business a social evening was spent by members and lady friends. The following contributed musical items:—Sisters Griffen, Mera, Simon, and Garth, and Bros. McErlean, Sullivan, P. McCardny, and Sloane.

DIocese OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

July 17.

The Rev. Father Fanning, M.S.H., returned to Darfield last week from a holiday visit to Australia.

Mr. E. O'Connor, local secretary of the Irish envoys' mission, has received £5 15s from Mr. Edward Fouhy of the Hornby district for the Home Rule fund.

Mr. W. A. Redmond, M.P., was a guest, for several days last week, prior to his departure to the North Island, of the Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., at the episcopal residence.

There was a large gathering on last Thursday in the Oddfellows' Hall, St. Asaph street, at an enjoyable and successful social arranged by members of the Hibernian Society in aid of the funds of the Confraternity of Ladies of Charity of the Cathedral parish.

In the junior flag Rugby Union football contest on last Saturday week the game between Marist Brothers' team and Richmond, played on the former's ground, was won by Marist Brothers by 6 points to nil. Mills and Woodham scored tries. On last Saturday the match between Canterbury College and Marist Brothers, played on the former's ground, resulted in a draw, neither side scoring. In the President's Cup match the Marist Brothers' team won from Canterbury College by default. In the primary schools' Rugby football contests the Marist Brothers' school team last week played the Elmwood school team, in the second round, and defeated them by 19 points to 3.

The half-yearly meeting of St. Patrick's branch of the H.A.C.B. Society was held on last Monday evening, July 12, in the Hibernian Hall, Bro. G. Getson, B.P., presiding over a large attendance. Sick pay to the amount of £8 1s 8d was passed for payment. The balance sheet for the quarter ending June 26 was adopted. The secretary was instructed to forward a

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