

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

May 25.

Rev. Father Kincaid, of Feilding, has been appointed to Marton, his place at Feilding being taken temporarily by the Rev. Father Dolphin, from the United States, who is sojourning in New Zealand for health reasons.

At St. Mary of the Angels' Church on Sunday the Rev. Father Dolphin, of the United States, preached a very instructive sermon on the Catholic Church in America, in which he traced the phenomenal progress it has made and is continuing to make in that country.

Last Sunday at St. Joseph's Church, Buckle street, twelve young ladies were received into the Sodality of the Children of Mary, there being a very large congregation present to witness this very impressive ceremony. The Very Rev. Dean O'Shea, S.M., V.G., officiated, and the Rev. Father Barra preached. After the sermon there was a procession and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Mr. and Mrs. T. P. Redmond, well known parishioners of Thorndon, celebrated their golden wedding on Sunday last, at their residence in Sydney street. They were married in their native city, Waterford, in Ireland, on May 19, 1862. There were present three sons—John, Henry, and M. Redmond—and two daughters—Mrs. Rodgers and Miss Redmond. Some old friends also were present. Mr. and Mrs. Redmond have lived in Sydney street thirty-eight years.

St. Mary's Hibernian Literary and Debating Society held their usual fortnightly meeting on Monday. Miss E. M. Carmody (president) was in the chair, and there was a large attendance of members. The debate for the evening was 'That Compulsory Military Training is in the best interests of the Dominion.' This was supported by Misses G. O'Flaherty and A. Sullivan, and opposed by Misses K. Robinson and N. Boyce. After a very interesting debate, a vote was taken and resulted in a win for the affirmative side. Mr. G. Dee congratulated the members on the debate, and gave them some very good advice. The meeting concluded with a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Dee.

Mr. Peter McArdle, who had been a resident of Wellington for many years, died suddenly at Picton on Tuesday night. The deceased was 57 years of age, was born near Belfast, and came out to New Zealand when he was about nineteen years of age. He was on the West Coast in the early days, and then went to Dunedin, where he managed Mr. Martin Kennedy's coal business for some time. About twenty years ago he took up his residence in Wellington and carried on a large carrying business here until two or three years ago. He had been in bad health for a considerable time before his death. Mr. McArdle was twice married. His second wife predeceased him by several years. He has left a son (Mr. J. McArdle) and two daughters (Mrs. W. Scott, of Wellington, and Mrs. J. Campbell, of Picton). The deceased was a Justice of the Peace, and at one time belonged to the Thorndon Bowling Club. The body was brought to Wellington, where the interment took place on Friday, May 24, prior to which a Requiem Mass was celebrated at St. Mary of the Angels', Boulcott street.—R.I.P.

An interesting letter has been forwarded by Mr. L. T. Reichel, formerly Chief Government Electrician in the Dominion, and a prominent member of the St. Vincent de Paul and H.A.C.B. Societies, Wellington, who is at present in New York, describing the scenes in New York on the reception of the news of the wreck of the Titanic. Business (Mr. Reichel says) was practically at a standstill. The newspaper offices were taxed to their utmost in order to turn out papers sufficient to meet the demand. For nearly a week nothing but the cry of 'Extra' was heard in the streets, and the grim humor of the whole thing was the absence of news. Every wireless message was stretched and expanded, and commented upon until it filled a page. There were some wonderful examples of journalistic imagination. One paper printed the whole story of the disaster, including the sinking and rescue, purported to have been received by wireless, when, as a matter of fact, not a single word had been received. 'The air during those sad days,' concludes Mr. Reichel, 'was metaphorically and actually full of electricity. It is said that there are in the United States some 20,000 private wireless stations. In this city there are over 100 amateurs, in addition to the numerous commercial stations. All of these, as well as the stations along the coast and on dozens of vessels, were, so to speak, trying to speak at once, the result being chaos. If this awful disaster has proved one thing clearly, it is that wireless stations and operators must be under control of some authority. The English and New Zealand laws, prohibiting amateurs from chipping in on what may be life and death messages, are wise. No doubt the United States Government will speedily follow suit.'

Westport

(From our own correspondent.)

May 17.

The mission conducted by the Rev. Fathers Creagh and McDermott, C.S.S.R., was brought to a close on Sunday last. During the three weeks of the mission large numbers attended at the early Masses and evening devotions, and the number who received Holy Communion easily surpassed the record of any previous mission. On the second Sunday of the mission the general Communion of the members of the Hibernian Society, Catholic Club, and St. Vincent de Paul Society took place at the 8 o'clock Mass, when 250 men approached the Holy Table in a body. After Mass the members adjourned to the club rooms, where a large number sat down to breakfast. The beautifully decorated tables and the excellence of the arrangements told of the untiring efforts of lady friends. Mr. P. Niven, president of the Hibernian Society, who presided over the gathering, congratulated the members on the splendid public manifestation of Catholic faith shown that morning. After breakfast several toasts were honored, the speakers being the chairman, Ven. Archpriest Walshe, Rev. Father Creagh, Messrs. D. Dennehy, F. O'Gorman, A. M. Kirley, T. Q. O'Brien. During the course of his remarks the Rev. Father Creagh paid a warm tribute to the work of the Ven. Archpriest Walshe and the early pioneers of the West Coast.

The social recently held at Millerton for the purpose of raising funds for the enlargement of the Granity Catholic Church, resulted in a profit of £24. The secretarial duties were carried out by the Misses O'Rourke.

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