

ITEMS OF SPORT

CRICKET.

There was beautiful weather for the conclusion of the fifth round of the grade matches on Saturday in Christchurch, when the wickets were in good order. St. Albans, playing against East Christchurch, scored 90 in the first innings and 270 for eight wickets in the second. East, who made 167 in the first innings, could only get together 64 in the second. Sydenham, playing against Linwood, declared their first innings closed with 328 runs for seven wickets. Linwood's first innings realised 144, and the second 149 for nine wickets. Sydenham won on the first innings. Riccarton, playing against West Christchurch, had the big total of 418 to face, and they failed to pass that total, scoring 171 in the first innings and 131 in the second.

In the first grade cricket matches in Dunedin on Saturday, Carisbrook A played Grange. The former got first strike, and scored a total of 161 in the first innings. Grange did not do well, and the whole side was out after an hour and three-quarters' batting for 95 runs. In the match Albion v. Dunedin the latter put up a score of 97 in the first innings, and the former 107. In the second innings Dunedin had 28 to its credit, for no wickets. Opoho, in its match against Carisbrook B, ran up a score of 207 in the first innings. When the stumps were drawn Carisbrook had made 48 runs for the loss of one wicket. In the second grade Dunedin C and Christian Brothers began a match on the Caledonian Ground. The latter, batting first, compiled 120, Clark (32), Spiers (28), O'Connor (25, not out) all batting well. At the call of time Dunedin had lost eight wickets for 105. Flanagan (four wickets) and Fogarty (three wickets) bowled best.

Another round of the senior cricket competition was commenced on Saturday in fine but dull weather in Wellington. Central made 242 against East A, Beechey making 68 and Hickson 55. Hickey took five wickets for 69 runs. East A had 51 on for the loss of three wickets when stumps were drawn. South batted a man short against North, and made 174 (Burton 55), and at the call of time North had lost five wickets for 138 (Crombie 46 not out). For South, Southall took five wickets for 63. College put on only 63 against East B, Hales getting six wickets for 36. East B did not do much better, compiling only 67. MacIntosh took five wickets for 36, and Saunders three for 21. In their second strike College lost one wicket for 26 runs. Petone made 211 against Hutt (Finlayson 66, and Cate 50). Isherwood took three wickets for 44, and Back three for 14. Hutt had 79 on for six wickets at the call of time.

The match between the New South Wales teachers and an Auckland eleven was continued on Saturday, when both teams completed an innings, the teachers scoring 208 and Auckland 159. The teachers put up a great performance in the second innings, scoring 427 for the loss of three wickets, and then declaring the innings closed. McMullen and Rose opened the innings, but the partnership was not of long duration, Hay bowling the latter when the score was 21. O'Neill then joined McMullen, and a great partnership ensued, the score being taken to 291 before a separation was effected. Both men scored centuries in splendid style, and at no stage looked like getting out. When McMullen departed Barnes went in, and rattled up 62 in about 30 minutes. Auckland required 476 runs to win. Grenier and Caradus made a good start, putting on 61 runs, and subsequently Hemus and Grenier put on 99 for the second wicket. At the call of time Auckland had four wickets down for 223, and the match was drawn.

Timaru

(From our own correspondent.)

January 13.

The local clergy left yesterday for the annual retreat in Christchurch.

The Rev. Father Kimbell conducted a retreat for ladies at the Sacred Heart Convent last week, when

over 100 took part in the exercises. This week the Rev. Father Hayes, S.J., is conducting a retreat for the nuns at the convent.

The half-yearly meeting of the Timaru branch of the Hibernian Society was held on Monday evening last. The president (Bro. T. Niall) presided over a large attendance. The sick visitors reported that there were three brothers on the fund. An application from Dr. Usher to be placed on the medical list was granted. A clearance was granted to a brother in Gisborne. The quarterly balance sheet, which was read, showed that the funds were still increasing satisfactorily, and were well invested, and that the membership was also increasing. The election of officers resulted as follows:— President, Bro. T. Niall; vice-president, Bro. V. Goulding; secretary, Bro. P. Mahoney; treasurer, Bro. J. Sullivan; warden, Bro. W. Fitzgerald; guardian, Bro. J. A. Sullivan; sick visitors, Bro. S. Venning and M. Hyland; assistant secretary, Bro. M. J. Schaab; auditors, Bros. J. G. Venning and N. D. Mangos; dispensary and delegates, Bros. T. Niall and T. Knight; delegates to Triennial Meeting at Napier, Bros. J. Sullivan and P. Mahoney. The newly elected officers were installed by Bro. M. Sullivan. Accounts amounting to £78 were passed for payment. At the conclusion of the meeting Bro. M. Sullivan, P.P., presented the president (Bro. T. Niall), who was recently married, with a silver tea service from the members. Several of the members spoke of the good qualities of the brother, and wished Mrs. Niall and himself long life and happiness.

WEDDING BELLS

NIALL—O'LEARY.

(From our Timaru correspondent.)

A quiet but pretty wedding was celebrated in the Church of the Sacred Heart, when Miss Mary (Mollie) O'Leary was married to Mr. Thomas Niall. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Father Murphy. The bride wore a beautiful allover lace gown and the usual wreath and veil, and carried a beautiful shower bouquet of white Christmas lilies and maiden-hair fern. Miss Nellie O'Leary (sister) was bridesmaid, and Mr. M. Cambridge was best man. A large number of guests sat down to the wedding breakfast, when the usual toasts were honored. The bride's travelling dress was a grey tailor-made coat and skirt, and large black hat. Mr. and Mrs. Niall left by the first express for the south on their honeymoon.

BERTI—CLERKIN.

At the Sacred Heart Church, Reefton, on December 26, a very pretty wedding was solemnised, the contracting parties being Mr. John Baptiste Berti, eldest son of the late Joseph Berti, Bendigo, Victoria, and Miss Mary Anne Clerkin, only daughter of the late Francis Clerkin, of Reefton. The bride, who was given away by her brother, Mr. Francis Clerkin, wore a very smart pastel blue costume, with hat to match, and carried a beautiful prayer book, the gift of the Sisters of Mercy. She was attended by her cousin, Miss Helena Clerkin, of Hokitika. The bridegroom was attended by Mr. Walter Wilby as best man. Rev. Father Galerne performed the ceremony. The newly-married couple left the church to the strains of Mendelssohn's 'Wedding march.' Miss Malloy presided at the organ. The bridegroom's present to the bride was a handsome set of furs, and to the bridesmaid an olivine bangle. The bride presented the bridegroom with a gold sovereign case. After the ceremony, the happy couple drove to the residence of the bride's brother, where a reception was held, and the usual toasts were duly honored. Mr. and Mrs. Berti were the recipients of many valuable and costly presents, including one from the members of the Sacred Heart Choir, of which both were valued members. Later in the day the newly-married couple left for Christchurch and Wellington on their honeymoon.