

The silver jubilee of the ordination to the priesthood of Rev. Father Holierhock fell on December 17, but, owing to his absence, the event was not celebrated until January 14, when the following priests were present:—Very Rev. Dean Lighthouse, Rev. Fathers Kreymborg, Westeinde, Langerwerf, and Vandyk. Three sets of vestments were amongst the gifts presented to Father Holierhock. A number of cablegrams and telegrams were received congratulating Father Holierhock, one of the most valued being from the Superior-General of the Mill Hill Fathers, London. In connection with his silver jubilee Father Holierhock celebrated Mass in the convent chapel, Matata, and was assisted by Very Rev. Dean Lighthouse and the Rev. Father Kreymborg.

Invercargill

(From our own correspondent.)

At the final gathering in connection with the visit of the North Island M's.P. to Southland, Mr. T. D. A. Moffett, the president of the Invercargill Chamber of Commerce, in returning thanks for the compliment bestowed on the province, said, *en passant*, that a previous speaker had given the Scotchmen all the credit of making Southland, but he reckoned that the Irishmen had quite as much to do with its progress, and had emerged from the drains and swamps with a legacy of rheumatism, but their descendants were to be found amongst the best settlers in the district.

It is quite a long time since any extraordinary effort has been made here to raise funds to complete the inside decorations of our noble church. Familiarity with the rugged 'finish' of the interior causes one to forget almost that it is not completed, and when the question of holding a carnival to raise funds was mentioned, it was enthusiastically taken up by one and all; and the carnival is now nearly an accomplished fact. For some time past stall-holders and committee have been working with a will, and the fruit of their labor is to be seen in the comprehensive assortment of valuable articles which have been donated from far and near. A gentleman, whose past success has made his name a household word, has been training the children and young people for some time past, and the numerous marches, spectacular displays, and continental dances, which are being rehearsed, promise to make that portion of the fair very attractive, and it is expected will prove an irresistible draw. One of the features of the fair will be the tug-of-war, for which £40 is offered in prizes, and as already quite a number of teams have signified their intention of competing, it is expected that there will be a highly interesting exhibition before the winners are declared. The King's Hall is undoubtedly the best in the Dominion for spectacular demonstrations, and all will be able to see the whole of the performances. The stalls are to represent different Continental nations, and will be found to be very attractive when the goods are displayed. Even at this early stage it is not out of place to mention the work that has been accomplished already by the energetic secretaries—Messrs. John McNamara and Harry Searle—and it is to be hoped that their final efforts will be rewarded by the most successful carnival ever held in Invercargill.

A New Religious Community for Christchurch

(From our Christchurch correspondent.)

The outcome of a visit, just made to Christchurch by the Rev. Mother M. Xavier (Superior) and two Nursing Sisters of the Little Company of Mary, of Lewisham, Sydney, is to be the foundation within a few months of a community in Christchurch. This news we feel sure, will give great pleasure to the Catholics of the whole Dominion, indicating as it does an important diocesan development.

The central house of the Nursing Sisters of the Little Company of Mary, organised about forty years ago, is in Rome, and already they control seventeen hospitals in various parts of the world. In 1885, a foundation was made in the archdiocese of Sydney, at

Lewisham, where they now possess the finest equipped hospital in all Australasia, with a nursing staff of eighty. The Convent of the Maternal Heart of Mary at Lewisham is the novitiate house, and they have institutions also at Ryde and Petersham, suburbs of Sydney.

It is the intention of the Nursing Sisters of the Little Company of Mary to open a thoroughly up-to-date hospital in every detail in Christchurch, with seven Sisters for a beginning, the staff being drawn from Lewisham. The whole of these are certificated nurses, four of whom will conduct the hospital, and three devote their time to nursing patients in their own homes.

Diocese of Perth

It was announced some time ago (says the *H.A. Record* of January 18) that his Lordship Bishop Clune would pay his *ad limina* visit to Rome this year to render an account of his stewardship of the diocese of Perth to our Holy Father Pope Pius X., and give a detailed report of the spiritual and temporal state of the diocese over which he has ruled for the past two years.

Only this week his Lordship has been able to complete his arrangements, and he has decided to leave by the *Maloja* on February 3. By the same boat Father K. O'Neill, of Cottlesloe, and Father J. Kiely, of Boulder, who have labored in West Australia for over twelve years, will leave for a well-deserved holiday.

Our readers will remember that in 1911, the Bishop made an arrangement with the Union Bank whereby the general manager agreed to forego all interest up to May next, provided a reduction of the central debt to the extent of £40,000 prior to May 1, 1912, and a further reduction of £20,000, were effected before the 1st of May next. The first report of the assets and liabilities of the Perth diocese, published by his Lordship last May, disclosed the fact that the big central debt had been reduced in twelve months by the very substantial sum of £52,180 19s 2d.

We are pleased to inform our readers that complete arrangements have been made for the payment of the required balance before next May, and that the Bishop will be able to render a very satisfactory account of the temporal as well as the spiritual interests of his extensive jurisdiction. The obligation of going to Rome is incumbent on every Catholic Bishop. In the ordinary course of events Bishop Clune should have gone last year, but pressure of urgent business was accepted as a justifying cause for deferring his *ad limina* visit to this year.

Some time ago his Lordship was approached by representatives of the clergy and laity, who were anxious to mark their appreciation of his excellent administrative work in the diocese, by a public testimonial. But his Lordship has definitely refused to accept any testimony whatsoever.

OBITUARY

MR. DENIS McCORMACK, GREYMOUTH.

(From an occasional correspondent.)

It is my sad duty to record the death of another worthy pioneer in the person of Mr. Denis McCormack, who passed away at his residence, Thread Needle, Greymouth, at the age of 72 years. The late Mr. McCormack was a native of Tipperary, and came to the colonies fifty years ago. He followed the occupation of a miner in many parts of the colonies with varying success, eventually settling down in Greymouth nineteen years ago. Deceased was of a sterling and upright character, and was ever ready to give assistance to any deserving cause. He leaves a wife, four sons and two daughters to mourn the loss of a devoted husband and father. The late Mr. McCormack died fortified by the rites of the Church. The funeral was very largely attended. Although the weather was very inclement, friends came from near and far to pay a tribute of respect to one who was esteemed by all who knew him. The services at the church and graveside were conducted by Very Rev. Dean Carew.

—R.I.P.

George Barrell

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