

The accompanists were Misses Munro, N. Dunn, Vera Newman, and Mr. A. Weir. The Mayor and Mayoress of Sumner (Mr. and Mrs. G. W. C. Smithson) attended the entertainment, and his Worship subsequently sent a generous contribution to the fund. The Very Rev. Chancellor Price, Adm., sincerely thanked the performers, the audience, and all who had assisted to make the event an artistic and financial success. Henceforward the Catholics of Sumner are to have Mass celebrated each Sunday at 11 o'clock, instead of fortnightly.

### Christchurch North

December 8.

Yesterday being the last Sunday in the Jubilee period, very large numbers approached the Holy Table at the early Masses, particularly at the 7 o'clock Mass.

The Very Rev. Dean Hills, S.M., V.G., will visit Mt. Magdala this (Monday) morning, when two Sisters of the Good Shepherd will make their perpetual vows. In the afternoon the Dean will proceed to Lyttelton to officiate at the reception of two Sisters of Mercy.

At devotions on Sunday evening a procession of our Blessed Lady in connection with the Feast of the Immaculate Conception took place. The Children of Mary took part, a statue of our Lady being borne by four members of the sodality. Then followed Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, the Very Rev. Dean Hills, S.M., V.G., officiating, assisted by the Rev. Fathers Hoare and Dignan.

On Thursday, December 4, sixteen pupils of the Sisters of Mercy, Colombo street, were examined by Mr. Mayne, and all passed. The following are the results:—Proficiency—Nora Sunley, Marjorie Corrigan, Norrie Gray, Monica Inkson, Esther Moraghan, Iredale Turner, Myrtle Hawkins (Papanui), Leslie Queenan, Maurice Lawrence, Maurice Nolan, Charles H. Boswell, Molly Campbell, Lily McNaughton. Competency—Frances Gerity, Clare Dodson, Clifford Dobbs. Monica Courtenay (Papanui) was examined last March at the Normal School, and obtained proficiency.

### Ashburton

(From our own correspondent.)

At the examination of sixth standard pupils of the convent school by Mr. Brock, Chief Inspector of the North Canterbury Education Board, out of thirteen presented, nine secured proficiency and four obtained competency certificates.

Widespread regret was expressed in Ashburton when the sad news became known that Mrs. James Small, of this town, and widow of the late Mr. James Small, had died suddenly in Christchurch. The interment took place at Ashburton on Monday last, Rev. Father O'Donnell officiating at the graveside. A young family is left to mourn the loss of a kindly and much respected mother.—R.I.P.

On Thursday evening, December 4, the members of the local choir and their friends assembled in the boys' schoolroom for the purpose of making a presentation to the conductor, Mr. M. J. Burgess, in recognition of his valuable services to the choir. The first part of the evening's entertainment took the form of progressive euchre for prizes, which were won by Mr. R. McDonnell and Mrs. McSherry. Rev. Father O'Donnell, in presenting the guest of the evening with a gold watch, suitably inscribed, referred in eulogistic terms to Mr. Burgess' services to the choir, extending over a period of twenty years, and also to its efficiency under his leadership. Complimentary references to Mr. Burgess were also made by Messrs. T. M. Brophy, W. J. Cunningham, T. Purcell, F. J. Holley, and V. Madden. Mr. Burgess feelingly acknowledged the gift. A musical programme was then proceeded with, consisting of a quartet, 'Sweet and low,' by Messrs. M. J. Burgess, W. J. Cunningham, Miss A. McDonnell, and Miss Adelaide Bruce; a trio, 'A little farm well tilled,' by Messrs. M. J. Burgess, T. Purcell, and W. J. Cunningham; and songs by Mrs. Frank Hanrahan, Miss Adelaide Bruce, Messrs. D. McDonald, M. J. Burgess, and V. Madden. Supper, which was provided by the ladies, was then partaken of, and a very pleasing function was brought to a close by the singing of 'Auld lang syne.'

### New Plymouth

(From our own correspondent.)

December 5.

An 'at home' will be held by the St. Vincent de Paul Society in the Rolland Hall on Thursday, December 18, when there will be a Christmas tree with toys and gifts for the children, afternoon tea, social amusements, and music. A record attendance is expected.

On Thursday last several energetic and active young men of the congregation, acting on the suggestion of Mr. J. Bennett, devoted their leisure afternoon to clearing and beautifying the church grounds. Mr. Bennett took an active part in this work. He and his fellow-workers deserve the thanks of the congregation for their thoughtful action in this matter.

A very satisfactory report and balance sheet were presented by the Rolland Hall entertainment committee for the winter session of this year, showing a net profit of £50. This very gratifying result is chiefly due to the capable management of the following ladies and gentlemen:—Mrs. Tuohy and daughters, Misses M. and E. McManus, Shodrowski, Messrs. Dineen, Kelly, Green, and others, who spared no trouble to make these fortnightly reunions such a success.

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