

CATHOLIC FEDERATION

WELLINGTON DIOCESAN COUNCIL.

(From our own correspondent.)

The meeting of the Wellington Diocesan Council of the Catholic Federation will take place at St. Patrick's Hall, Wellington, on Wednesday, January 7, commencing at 10 a.m.

Catholic Immigration Committee.

A meeting of the C.I.C. was held at the Federation Rooms on Friday, December 12, eleven members being present. In the unavoidable absence of the president and vice-president the chair was occupied by the secretary. The committee accorded a hearty welcome to Mrs. Swain (matron on the Rimutaka), who kindly offered to do her utmost to further the work of the C.I.C. on her return to London. She congratulated the members on their work, and showed from her personal experience on various boats the great necessity of such work. She requested that she be given a letter of introduction to the secretary of the Westminster branch of the London Catholic Federation, and intimated that she would call on the Rev. Father Sydney Smith, S.J., London, who is very much interested in emigration matters. A suggestion was made that the C.I.C. be composed of active and honorary members, the latter to assist in the care of immigrants after their arrival. The suggestion was carried unanimously, and the following ladies were elected as honorary members:—Mrs. Martin Kennedy, Misses Kennedy (2), Mrs. Girling-Butcher, and Miss Vera Heavey. Ladies willing to become active or honorary members are kindly requested to communicate with the secretaries. With regard to the secret collection at each meeting, which has hitherto been utilised for providing for the cleaning of the Federation rooms, the Executive of the Federation, while thanking the C.I.C. for their generosity, think that this work should be carried out by the Federation. It was decided, therefore, that the secret collection should be used to assist in the entertainment of single women at their monthly gathering, the next of which, it is hoped, will be held about the middle of January. Mrs. B. Ellis was appointed treasurer.

CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own correspondent.)

A branch of the Catholic Federation, with a membership of about 250 for a beginning, is to be established by the Very Rev. Dean Hyland at Rangiora on Sunday, December 21.

OHINEMURI.

(From our own correspondent.)

A special meeting of the Catholic Federation was held in St. Joseph's Schoolroom, Paeroa, last Sunday, the chair being occupied by Mr. J. Black. The members of the committee present were Messrs. J. Crosby (secretary), J. Roache, F. Tierney, J. Gordon, and J. Goonan. The following delegates from Karangahake and Waikino attended:—Messrs. Snelgar, McGuire, Ryan, and Fallon. It was proposed and agreed to that Mr. George Snelgar represent Karangahake and Waikino, and Mr. J. Black represent Paeroa at the next Diocesan Council meeting in Auckland.

PALMERSTON NORTH.

(From our own correspondent.)

December 14.

At the usual meeting of the Catholic Federation on Monday night, the present committee and officers came in for considerable criticism for their laxity in attending the meetings. Mr. Joseph Hodgins was appointed hon. treasurer pro tem. It was decided to call

a general meeting of the Federation for next Monday, and to have an election for officers and new committee for the coming year. Much interest was evinced in the proceedings, and it was decided to start early in the new year by dividing up the town for the purpose of enrolling all the parishioners, taking a census of all Catholics in the district, and seeing that the names of all entitled to vote were placed on the roll.

Riverton

(From our own correspondent.)

December 13.

At the Trinity College musical examinations held on December 4 at Invercargill, two candidates from the Convent of Mercy, Riverton, were present. Miriam Woolf, in the intermediate division, gained 91 marks (honors), while Sadie McKay, in the junior division, gained 63. At the musical examinations under the Associated Board Verna Stevens (Convent of Mercy, Riverton), in the highest division, passed with 105 marks.

Although the Convent School, conducted by the Sisters of Mercy, has only been established a short time, still it has made wonderful progress. At present there are 83 pupils on the roll, drawn from all parts of the district. Some of the children come many miles by train, and others live in dairying districts, where very often they have to milk cows morning and evening; but owing to the great influence the good Sisters exert over the children they attend very regularly.

The pupils of the St. Columba's Convent School gave their first annual entertainment in More's Hall, Riverton, on Wednesday, December 3, when there was present one of the largest audiences seen in that hall. The night was beautifully fine, and many came from long distances to attend. The pupils (says the local *Star*) made a most favourable impression, the various items being received with applause. The programme gave evidence of the careful training the children had undergone at the hands of the talented Sisters of Mercy. The conduct of the entertainment was handed over to a committee, with Miss M. Woolf as accompanist and directress, and she carried out her duties most efficiently. The whole varied programme of seventeen items (including a comedietta), which commenced at 8 p.m. sharp, was brought to a successful termination at 9.50. It is hardly necessary to go into a detailed description of the items, as one and all acquitted themselves with credit; and the audience was not slow to show its appreciation of the pupils' efforts. At the interval the Rev. Father Murphy took the opportunity to thank the audience for their presence, and paid a compliment to the Sisters for the manner in which they, in so short a time, had worked such a change in the children as seen by the entertainment that evening. He was gratified to think that their efforts were appreciated by the townspeople, who had come in such numbers to the hall that evening. The following is the programme submitted:—Chorus, 'Welcome to-night,' by pupils; pianoforte trio, Misses M. Woolf, S. McKay and V. Stevens; vocal duet, Miss Dolores Molloy and Master Ted Beadle; song (in character), boys; pianoforte duet, Misses C. Ward and D. Molloy; recitation, Master Bob Cole; action song, pupils; song (in character), Masters T. Sheedy and A. Farrelly; skipping-rope dance, Misses M. Leary and R. Mooney; dialogue, Misses C. Ward, K. Forde, G. McKenzie, Masters J. Ward and B. Cole; action song, boys; piano duet, Misses N. Finnegan and J. Molloy; vocal duet (in character), Masters J. Houlihan and P. McCarthy; court dance, Misses K. White, L. Fahey, N. Whelan, E. Bone, S. Mooney, R. Molloy, T. O'Donnell, M. Molloy, G. McIvor, M. Connell, J. Molloy, D. Sheridan, M. Haunau, J. McKay, N. Finnegan and A. McKenzie; comedietta in one act, 'At cross purposes,' characters taken by Misses N. Finnegan, L. Fahey, G. McIvor, D. Sheridan, M. Molloy, E. Bone, and N. Whelan; pianoforte trio, Misses K. Forde, I. McKay and G. McIvor; final chorus, pupils. The accompaniments were nicely played by Miss M. Woolf.

Robert Pollok

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