

Town and Country News

Waikato Notes

(From our own correspondent.)

Hamilton, November 12.

A fortnight's mission is at present being conducted in the Frankton Junction parish by Rev. Father McCarthy, Marist Missioner.

A sale of work and garden fete held last Saturday in aid of the Hamilton Convent funds yielded the very satisfactory sum of £170. The Hamilton City Band and the Catholic Men's Club orchestra, which were in attendance added considerably to the success of the effort.

A children's fancy dress ball held recently in aid of the Hamilton parish funds resulted in a profit of about £25.

Prior to his departure for the South this week on a recuperating trip, Rev. Brother Calixtus, director of the Marist Brothers' School, Hamilton, who has been in ill-health for some considerable time, was presented by Mr. M. Randrup, on behalf of a number of friends and admirers with a well filled wallet as a mark of their esteem. In making the presentation Mr. Randrup referred in glowing terms to the good qualities of Brother Calixtus and to the great work he had done for the school and for the town generally. All would join in wishing him an enjoyable holiday and a complete restoration to health as the result.

The pupils of the Marist Brothers' School also showed in a tangible form their appreciation of Brother Calixtus' work.

The Girls' Club and the Men's Club have joined hands in the acquisition of a suitable piece of land adjoining the Hamilton church property which they intend using as tennis courts. The grounds are practically in readiness and by the time this appears in print play on them should be possible.

Invercargill Notes

(From our own Correspondent.)

November 14.

Thursday last, despite inclement weather, a splendid musical entertainment was given by local artists in the Municipal Theatre, in aid of the Marist Brothers' School funds. The Marist boys rendered several songs pleasingly, notably "Evening Bells" and "Love at Home." Misses May Thorn, May Shirly, and I. Ward gave individual exhibitions of modern classic dances. Misses K. Woods, N. Hardy, and G. Casey contributed choice songs, the rendition of which was excellent testimony to the careful tuition in singing given at St. Catherine's Convent. The songs given by Messrs. W. M. Wills, J. Houden, and F. Lister were well received, as also were several duets by Masters Shuley and Murfitt. The instrumental phases of the programme were very entertaining indeed. The string quartette under the leadership of Miss Holtz was excellent, and Mr. Le Petit (flautist) was as popular as ever in his rendering of Irish airs. Master R. Wills was heard to effect on the cornet in two pleasing numbers. A pianoforte duet by Misses Harrington and Mitchell showed they had mastered the art of playing in no

small degree. Mr. J. P. Ward by his recitation of "My Old Pal" and "Not Understood" gave evidence that he specialises in elocution with a great deal of success. Encores were profuse, and Miss M. Nisbet made an excellent accompanist throughout the evening, whilst an efficient orchestra under the direction of Mr. J. Rigby livened things up immensely at times. The gratuitous favors of the artists in song and instrumental music was much appreciated indeed. Mr. M. Murfitt, as secretary, deserves every praise for his arduous efforts in arranging all the details, and, as per usual, a gallant band of ladies could be seen displaying refreshments for the benefit of artists and the ever accommodating boy where it is a case of storing sweets.

Marist old boys are fielding three cricket teams this year and are doing well. Congratulations to Messrs. Keast, O'Driscoll, Brown, and Duthie, who are nominated for representative honors. The Marist school-boys have won three of their matches to date, and have a few good lads whom we hope to see properly fathered by the Old Boys' Club.

The ever energetic Children of Mary continue to show great devotion in the tasteful manner they decorate the sanctuary, and their efforts for the honor and glory of God are well emulated by the little altar boys who minister in the sanctuary with great zeal and dignity. Both societies are evidently in tune with him who sang "I love the beauty of His house and the place where His glory dwelleth."

Catholic Women's Association, Christchurch ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

On Sunday, November 8, the Catholic Women's Association held their annual conference at the Sacred Heart Convent, Ferry Road, Christchurch. As on former occasions there was a large attendance of Catholic ladies of the city as well as of ex-pupils of the Convent School. His Lordship the Bishop opened the conference by expressing his pleasure at the large attendance and by stressing the importance of such reunions and the great benefits to be derived therefrom, and concluded his remarks by wishing the conference every success.

The three papers which had been written for the conference were then read and discussed by the ladies present. In connection with the paper on nursing it was proposed that a course of lectures on home nursing be given for Catholic ladies who would wish to attend. In response to the appeal for help for the Foreign Missions a large number of ladies signified their willingness to make garments to send to the mission fields.

Very Rev. Father Cooney also spoke expressing his appreciation of the papers read, and added a few words in regard to the Propagation of the Faith.

Afternoon tea was served on the lawn, and the function terminated with Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament in the convent chapel.

A "MOTHERS' PARTY"

(Contributed.)

On Thursday Nov. 12.25 under S. Vincent de Paul. S. Joseph's Hall was the scene of a "Mother's Party."

At 2.30 pm. 32. Mothers arrived with 130. much washed, clean shirted, party frilled children to spend the afternoon (think of the washing and dressing at home!) —

After the stiffness had worn off, engendered by new frocks, shyness, and watching each other, the children were handed over to some young ladies of S. V. de Paul Junior Branch at S. Dominic's, who led them so splendidly in various games that there was no doubt of their tongues having returned like Bo Peep's sheep. By this time his Lordship the Bishop always most kind and encouraging to "the Mothers" arrived. After a little conversation with visitors, tea, a very generous one was acceptable to great and small: several ladies of charity assisting to see that all were attended to. The great event came at last. The stage of the big Hall wore a festive air: on one side a small simple Altar before the Mother's much prized Statue of Our Lady and Child, decorated with flowers and 7 lighted candles; on the other a loaded gift Tree: dressed by the S. Dominic girls, its fruit donated by kind friends.

Father Xmas busy just now sent Miss Christmas his little girl, to take his place, looking very sweet in red and snow flakes.

The helpers set to work to satisfy the demands of the big small crowd. When all had returned several times, there were still requests for something for a brother or sister in hospital. As for the babies "Sarah Mary," Mary Ann, Francis Vincent, and all the rest of them, they had their share. Nor were the Mothers themselves forgotten, a small parcel of "usefuls" was ready for each of them. A hum of satisfaction settled down over the Hall when his Lordship came to the stage. After a few kindly words he presented, from the Mothers, a most useful searchlight torch to Nurse Boys, who has tried to Mother Mothers' every Thursday afternoon for some months and she replied expressing her thanks. A second presentation followed to Miss O'Rorke, and Mrs. Higgins. These ladies have most faithfully taken up the tea arrangements as their work, enabling Nurse to attend to individual wants of women with small homes, many mouths to feed and clothe, husbands out of work, sick children, etc.

Will Catholic Mothers in better circumstances remember things they think past using can make many a poorer home tidy and easier for some one else. And the Mothers patch, mend, and make for themselves and each other, old clothes are unpicked and remade. Nothing is wasted. The Ladies' Guilds also give assistance as required.

If common sense governs your habits of life, you will live well, eat well, sleep well, work well, and gain happiness according to your deserts. Little ills must go. It is from the little ills that big ones grow. The commonsense thing to do is to remove the cause.

H. Graham

MAKER OF SMART SUITS

MAIN
STREET

Gore