

we should not allow their work to be hampered by financial worries. They have sacrificed their lives. Is it too much for us to sacrifice a small sum each year to assist them? What is our small monetary sacrifice compared with theirs?

In conclusion, the Board relies on the continued support of Catholics to build up the Education Fund, in order to enable the Board to accumulate sufficient capital, the interest from which will provide free educa-

tion in Catholic Primary Schools for Catholic children for all time.

The Board also wishes to thank those ladies and gentlemen who have generously worked for and supported the various functions organised for the Fund.

* THOMAS O'SHEA, S.M.,
Coadjutor-Archbishop of Wellington,
Chairman.
J. J. L. BURKE, Vice-Chairman.
B. DOHERTY, Hon. Treasurer.
P. D. HOSKINS, Hon. Secretary.

Convent of the Sacred Heart, Island Bay, Wellington

(Contributed.)

The year 1925 has been a momentous and eventful one for all who are interested in or connected in any way with the religious houses of the Sacred Heart. The canonisation of St. Madeleine Sophie Barat has called forth many beautiful celebrations and festivities in the houses of the Sacred Heart; celebrations which were shared in with great joy by the clergy, old pupils, and many friends of the Order. On Thursday, November 19, Archbishop Redwood, Archbishop O'Shea, and twenty of the clergy honored the Convent of the Sacred Heart, Island Bay.

On Saturday, 21st ult., a happy reunion of old girls took place at the convent. Forty odd arrived for Solemn High Mass at 10 a.m., at which the Very Rev. Dean Regnault, S.M., officiated. After High Mass a very pleasant meeting took place between the old girls and Reverend Mother, the latter giving the ex-pupils news of Rome and the Holy Father, and of the ceremony of canonisation at which Reverend Mother was herself present. The annual cricket match between the old and present pupils began at a little after twelve. An interval for dinner came at one. The dinner was served in the school refectory which was delightfully decorated in lampshades in corresponding tones. There was great admiration for the decorations throughout the house. Some rooms were very effective in gold and white; the corridors, festooned in scarlet and white looked their best at night in the glow of electricity, and the reception room was a charming sight in pink, green and palest lemon with beautiful baskets of roses suspended at intervals round the room. Representatives of the Sisters of Mercy, Sisters of the Missions and Sisters of Compassion came in the afternoon to join the Sacred Heart Nuns in their celebrations, and seventy old girls were present. After the dinner cricket was continued, the school winning by 20 runs. Afternoon tea was greatly appreciated after their strenuous game. A beautiful entertainment followed. Tableaux of the life of St. Madeleine Sophie from her childhood in the vineyards of Toigny until her crowning among the angels of Heaven, were beautifully staged. Interludes of interest came between the tableaux. "The Making of a Saint" by Reverend Mother Stuart, and some beautiful verses by Father Watson, S.J., were well recited. The musical items were also received with enthusiasm. A charming finale to the entertainment consisted in the grouping of the senior school on the stage, all in white and carrying green

palms, the juniors stood below with red roses in their hands. They sang a stirring, martial hymn to St. Madeleine Sophie in her own native language—the French. We were almost sorry to leave the room after these beautiful scenes and sounds. Benediction was then given by the Rev. Father Ryan, S.M., and again the children sang with fervor and expression. Tea was served for all the guests. Many of the old girls had not met since their school days so that the opportunity of renewing old acquaintances and making new ones was greatly appreciated by all. There were over sixty at the tea, for many were not able to come before the afternoon. Perhaps the most fascinating event of the day was the lecture given by Father Ryan. The subject of his lecture was "The Growth of the Society of the Sacred Heart from the Birth of Saint Madeleine Sophie down to the present day." One hundred and thirty lantern slides of the different convents of the Sacred Heart throughout France, the Low Countries, the Central States, Southern Europe, America, Great Britain, Australasia, and Japan, gave a further interest to the evening's entertainment. We feel deeply indebted to Father Ryan, not only for the study and work that he has put into his delightful lecture but also for a deeper insight into the spirit and aim of the society.

On Sunday the parents and friends of the children and Nuns were invited to the convent. They greatly enjoyed the entertainment which was the same as that given on the previous day, and were privileged to attend Father Ryan's beautiful lecture in the evening.

The fact that a church, dedicated to Saint Madeleine Sophie, was opened by Archbishop Redwood at Parakino, for the Marist Mission (in charge of Fathers Venning and Riordan), on Sunday, seems to be the crowning event of these days' celebrations.

SANDRIDGE HOTEL COLOMBO ST., SYDENHAM, CHRISTCHURCH

I wish to announce that I have taken over the above hotel, and hope by keeping only the best brands to merit a continuance of old and to gain new friends.

A "Oad Mile Fault" awaits all West Coastern.

OSCAR EGDEN : : Proprietor
(Late Manager Greyouth Brewery
and Royal Hotel, Greyouth)
No. 2 and 2a tram pass the door.

CORRESPONDENCE

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

"A SHAMEFUL CONFESSION."

To the Editor.

Sir,—

Your paragraph headed "A Shameful Confession" in the current issue of the *Tablet* seems to assume that Arthur Ponsonby (not Sir Arthur) is admitting and condoning the crimes of a government of which he was a member.

This is entirely untrue. Ponsonby is a Pacifist and was Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs in the Labor Government of Ramsay Macdonald. He had nothing to do with the conduct of the war, which, I believe, he consistently opposed. You mistake his irony for cynicism and thereby do an injustice both to him as a sincere, if misguided, pacifist, and to the patriotic supporters of the war.

His letter is not a "confession" but a thrust at his political opponents who conducted the war. As well might one quote from an attack on the present New Zealand Government by Mr. Holland and call it a "Shameful Confession" by Mr. Coates.

I am, etc.,

VALENTINE SPALDING.

Christchurch, November 28.

[Few will deny the truth of the revelations, and there can hardly be any question as to their shamefulness.—Ed. *N.Z. Tablet*.]

"Our Lady of Victory Mission"

Let us have a little personal chat. I have been looking up those who have helped Our Mission since our first appeal in N.Z. in 1922, and do you know how many I have found who have not fallen to the Great Reaper, Forgetfulness? If all had persevered and given their mite, what a blessing they would have conferred on us and on themselves too. Owing to the fact that we have had to start a new Mission right from the ground up, "Our Lady of Victory" has been thrown into the huge debt of over £1,000. You will easily see that for a person staggering under this huge debt much mission work is not possible. Can you help us remove this night-mare from our pillow? Help us wipe out this debt. "The little rills make the mighty river." In return, you and yours, living and dead, will share in all the merit and prayers at the Mission. May God share down on you His richest blessings for the favors you have done, and are going to do for "Our Lady of Victory."

Henry I. Westropp.

Please send donations to—

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