

the "Mater" had gained a wonderful reputation throughout the Dominion. They were all proud of this house of mercy, and the work done which was of the highest efficiency. There were at present 80 beds in the Hospital, and the Sisters were hoping to increase the number to 100. He tendered the thanks of the Sisters for the assistance they had been given and for the large attendance.

Mr. Wallace stated that it was a pleasant duty to assist in the silver jubilee of an institution that was so well-known throughout the Dominion. The work of the Hospital had only been limited by the lack of space, and since its inception in 1900 it had been faithfully carried on, and the public of Auckland had every right to be proud of it. No creed was recognised, and if that was ever exemplified it was during the terrible epidemic of 1918 when invaluable assistance was rendered by these angels of mercy at the Vermont Street temporary hospital. Their work there was sufficient to endear them to all. This was the first opportunity of publicly thanking them for the work they had done, and it was a debt of gratitude the Board owed to Bishop Cleary and his staff. He congratulated the Mother Superior upon attaining to the silver jubilee. The Hospital was in need of 100 beds, and in his opinion it was up to the people of Auckland to see that they were provided. It was proposed to erect a new five storey structure costing £40,000, which would accommodate 70 more patients, and provide another operating theatre. He hoped that the result of the garden fete would set the Sisters on the way to acquire the money needed. In conclusion, Mr. Wallace mentioned that the "Mater" was one of the few institutions that had been recognised as up to the standard of the American College of Surgeons.

Mr. J. A. Lee, M.P., for Auckland East, was an interested spectator during the afternoon.

Diocese of Christchurch
(From our own Correspondent.)

December 19.

The second offertory collection for the schools of the Cathedral parish is being well maintained, the amount now in hand being in the vicinity of £1300. The Brothers' new school is rapidly nearing its completion and will be an imposing structure. Mr. P. O'Connell (secretary) and church committee express their appreciation of the generous response attending their work, and the parishioners are realising the ease with which "big appeal methods" may be beneficially dispensed with.

In connection with the annual sports meeting conducted for the boys of St. Joseph's Home, Middleton, preliminary arrangements are now afoot. A committee consisting of Messrs. T. E. Bronahan, P. Ryan, F. Smyth, J. Power, T. Fitzgerald, T. P. Fogarty, and C. Baker met at the grounds on Sunday last and decided on Saturday, January 23, as being a suitable date.

The Beckenham portion of the Cathedral parish is fortunate in its altar society—a real live organisation that has accomplished great things for the Church in the matter

of altar linens, vestments, and furnishings for the sanctuary. Mrs. McAlion is an energetic secretary. At a meeting held on Sunday last Rev. Father Lordan expressed his appreciation of the society's efforts. During the summer months the Sunday Mass will be at 8 o'clock.

CHILDREN OF MARY
CATHEDRAL BRANCH,
CHRISTCHURCH.

On Sunday, December 6, a most successful Retreat, conducted by Rev. Father Glover, of the Redemptorist Order, for the Children of Mary of the Cathedral parish, was brought to a close in the chapel of the Sisters of Notre Dame des Missions. Throughout the Retreat beautiful singing was rendered by the convent boarders' choir.

The annual re-union of the members of the Sodality was held at the convent on Sunday, December 6, when a dainty tea was prepared by the Sisters. The chaplain (Rev. Father Lordan) presided, visiting clergy being Rev. Fathers Glover and Timoney. Occasion was taken by the president (Miss Kathleen Kiely) to thank the chaplain, the directress and her assistant for the interest they had taken in the sodality during the year, and to present them with small tokens of appreciation from the sodalists. Musical items rendered by various members of the sodality were greatly enjoyed by all.

Addington

(From our own correspondent.)

December 19.

The many friends of Mr. E. O'Sullivan, jun., who is at present an inmate of Lewisham Hospital, will be pleased to learn he is now on the road to recovery after his very serious illness.

The Children of Mary are holding their annual picnic at Diamond Harbor on Boxing Day. This opportunity affords a splendid day's outing, and a cordial invitation is extended to all parishioners to come along and help to make the picnic a success. The picnic train leaves Christchurch railway station at 9.30 a.m. and other trains at frequent intervals.

Timaru

(From our own Correspondent.)

December 16.

The annual school picnic was held at Victoria Park, Temuka, on the 12th inst., when about 350 children and 100 adults travelled by a special train. The cost of fares, meals, and prizes for the school children were defrayed by collections from the parishioners. A splendid programme of events was carried through, and as the day was fine the outing was greatly enjoyed. The energetic committee, with Mr. J. T. Brady as chairman and Mr. D. Cosgrove, secretary, carried out their duties in a very satisfactory manner.

The school girls' annual concert was, as usual, an excellent entertainment, and the Hall was crowded by an appreciative audience. The choruses and part songs were given with good expression and tone, and a most pleasing feature in the singing, as well as in the dramatic items, was the splendid elocution. The greatest credit is due to the teachers and scholars for the finished and pleasing performance.

To meet the demands of the growing congregation of the Church of the Sacred Heart in Timaru, the authorities of the church have recently purchased a block of land in the north end of the borough, at the junction of White and Selwyn Streets, on which they intend next year to build a church and school-room.

The passes in the written examination in rudiments of music, conducted in November by the Associated Board of the Royal Academy of Music and the Royal College of Music, are as follows:—Miss M. Baikie, Miss M. E. Evans, and Miss M. Oed (teacher, Miss G. Spring).

A beautiful window depicting the coronation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, has been placed above Our Lady's altar in the Church of the Sacred Heart, in memory of the late Very Reverend Dean Tubman, S.M. Another artistic window, showing the Crucifixion of Our Divine Lord, is to be placed above St. Joseph's altar, in memory of the late Michael O'Meehan.

Invercargill Debating Society

MR. J. P. WARD FAREWELLED.

(From our own correspondent.)

The members of the Marist Old Boys' Debating Society met at the residence of the president (Mr. Davis) on Monday last, to say farewell to one of their most prominent and popular members—Mr. J. P. Ward, of the local Justice department—who has left Invercargill to take up a position in Dunedin.

Rev. Fathers Martin and Marlow were amongst those present and both spoke very highly of the guest of the evening whom, they said, represented all that was good in Catholic manhood. Other speakers were Rev. Brother Virgilius, Messrs. A. Davis, M. Miller, M. O'Neill, and Mr. Ward's successor, Mr. Pollock, of Dunedin.

Mr. Ward replied in a very eloquent speech, and exhorted the members to continue the good work of the Debating Society. He expressed the great pleasure it had given him to be connected with the society, which had been instrumental in giving him many valuable friends in Invercargill.

The function was a most enjoyable one and concluded with a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Davis for their hospitality.

HIBERNIAN SOCIETY

ST. MARY'S BRANCH, PORT CHALMERS

The quarterly meeting of St. Mary's branch (No. 536) of the H.A.C.B. Society, Port Chalmers, was held on Tuesday, the 15th inst., in the Convent School; Bro. F. Duncan presiding over a fair attendance of members. The usual routine business was transacted, accounts passed for payment, contributions received, and the report of the half-yearly District meeting presented. Nominations were taken for office-bearers for the ensuing term.

The members of the branch, accompanied by the members of St. Joseph's (ladies) branch (No. 7) made their quarterly Communion on Sunday, the 20th inst., at the nine o'clock Mass in St. Mary's Church, when a large number of members of both branches approached the Holy Table.