

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(From our own correspondent.)

March 26.

The Auckland subscribers of the *Tablet* would wish that a St. Patrick's Day, or some such holy day, would occur in mid-week every week, to enable them to get the *Tablet* on the Friday of the week of publication, instead of, as not infrequently happens, the Monday or Tuesday of the following week. As it is, the paper arrives in Auckland on the Saturday morning. Any hitch in mail or train arrangements, or the arrival on that day of a 'Frisco or Vancouver mail, even of an hour's delay, deprives us of our paper until Monday, and sometimes Tuesday.

His Lordship the Bishop is now enjoying fairly good health, and is thus enabled to resume the onerous duties of visitation of the diocese. Last week we chronicled the visit to the East Coast and Bay of Plenty districts by seaplane. On Sunday last the Bishop held a visitation of St. Benedict's parish and administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to over a hundred children. During the week his Lordship paid a formal visit to St. Joseph's parish—Grey Lynn. He inspected each class in the school and addressed the children. He also expressed himself as well pleased with the progress being made in the re-erection of the church. Wellsford, Kawhia, and other out-districts will be visited by the Bishop very shortly.

The Pope's appeal "to save the children" of Central Europe, and directions on same subject from the Apostolic Delegate, are being issued by his Lordship the Bishop to every parish in the diocese, with the request that a special collection be made on the first Sunday of May, or the nearest Sunday—for the Pope's fund "for the alleviation of the extreme misery which the children of some regions of Central Europe are now suffering."

The arrangements for the carrying out of the solemn ceremonies of Holy Week at the Cathedral have been completed by the zealous administrator, Father Forde. The office of Tenebrae will be chanted on the Wednesday, Thursday, and Good Friday evenings at 7.30 o'clock. Solemn Pontifical Mass, consecration of the Holy Oils, and procession on Maundy Thursday at 7 a.m., Mass of the Pre-sanctified on Good Friday at 10 a.m., ceremonies on Holy Saturday at 7 a.m. Rev. Father Doyle (Remuera) will preach on Holy Thursday evening, his Lordship the Bishop will preach on the Passion on Good Friday night, and Right Rev. Mgr. Hackett, V.F., will preach on Easter Sunday night. There will be solemn Pontifical High Mass on Easter Sunday at 11 a.m.

The movement for a grand bazaar and carnival, to be organised by the combined parishes of the city (five in all) in aid of the funds of these parishes, is gaining in favor. Preliminary arrangements have been made, and immediately after Easter the meeting will be held. Meanwhile, the Cathedral fete has been postponed to November next, and will in all probability merge into the larger scheme.

Advice has been received by Mr. C. Hudson, the local representative of the Associated Board of the Royal Academy of Music and the Royal College of Music, London, that an exhibition scholarship has been awarded to Miss Thelma Gallagher, of Auckland, as the result of her examination last September by Mr. Howard Hadley, for licentiate solo performer (pianoforte). The scholarship is tenable at the Royal Academy of Music, London, for two years, with an extension to three years if the holder's progress is satisfactory. Such a distinction has never before been awarded to any student examined at the Associated Board's Auckland centre. Miss Gallagher is a pupil of Miss Cutts.

HIBERNIAN SOCIETY, CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

The fortnightly meeting of St. Patrick's branch of the Hibernian Society was held on Monday evening, March 22, in the Hibernian Hall. There was a large attendance of members, St. Matthew's (ladies') and St. Mary's branches being also represented, and a full roll of officers. Bro. T. P. O'Rourke, B.P., presided. The meeting was honored by the presence of the District President, Bro. T. Kelly, to whom Bro. O'Rourke extended a hearty welcome. In so doing he said that the privilege of greeting a district officer was so rare a luxury in these parts that few presidents of branches could lay claim to having been placed in the same pleasant position as he (the speaker) felt himself that night. Continuing, Bro.

O'Rourke wished the District President a pleasant sojourn in the south, and hoped that on his return to Auckland he would be able to convey happy impressions of his visit. Bro. Kelly replying, thanked the president and members for the hearty reception accorded him, and congratulated the branch on its membership, activity, and general attention to business. Bro. Johnston (St. Mary's) and Sister E. Brophy (St. Matthew's branch) also heartily welcomed the District President. Bro. R. P. O'Shaughnessy, formerly District Deputy, who is on a visit to Christchurch, was welcomed by the president, as was also Bro. J. Wally—this meeting being the first the latter was able to attend since meeting with a serious accident. Several matters of importance concerning the society were brought before the District President. Bro. Kelly noted a few items for reference to the District Executive. Seven nominations for membership were received, and sick allowances amounting to £9 10s were passed for payment. Of accounts amounting to £88 1s 3d passed for payment the principal items were M.A. fees £53 8s 9d, U.F.S. Dispensary dues £24 19s, hospital bed scheme £7 4s 6d. At the close of the meeting members turned their attention to matters sociable, and entertained Bro. Kelly at a smoke concert. This proved most enjoyable, and the District President was loud in his praises for the cordiality and brotherly spirit shown him as a district officer.

ST. MARY'S BRANCH.

At the last fortnightly meeting of St. Mary's branch of the H.A.C.B. Society, Bro. L. Dobbs, B.P., presided. All the office-bearers were present, and there was a good attendance of members. A member from Hokitika was admitted by clearance. Very Rev. Dean Regnault referred to the festival of the Apostle of Ireland, and wished the members a happy day in celebration thereof.

ST. MARY'S JUVENILE BRANCH.

Among the recent social activities of the members of St. Mary's juvenile branch of the Hibernian Society was a "hard up" social, which was productive of an enjoyable evening. The prize for the most original "get up" was awarded to Bro. Ornaudy. Supper was provided by the juvenile committee. A cricket match, seniors v. juniors, was played on St. Albans Park on Saturday, March 20, and resulted in a win for the seniors by 21 runs. It is hoped to arrange, at an early date, a football match between teams selected from each branch.

WEDDING BELLS

SMYTH—SHAW.

A pretty wedding was solemnised at St. Mary's Church, Manchester Street, Christchurch, on February 17 (writes our Christchurch correspondent), the contracting parties being Mr. Patrick John Smyth, eldest son of the late Bernard and Mrs. Smyth, and Winifred, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Shaw, of Woodville Street, St. Albans, Christchurch. Very Rev. Dean Regnault, S.M., officiated. The bride, who was given away by her father, was charmingly attired in a dress of white crepe de Chine and georgette, with pearl trimmings, and wore the customary veil and wreath. She carried a bouquet of white flowers. Misses Katie, Norah, and Doreen Shaw were bridesmaids, the former wearing a neat shell-pink crepe de Chine dress and black picture hat; and carried a pink floral bouquet; while the assistant maids wore white voile dresses and white hats, and carried pale pink bouquets. Mr. Frank Smyth, brother of the bridegroom, was best man. The "Wedding March" was played by Miss Ida Bradford, cousin of the bride. Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Smyth, who were both energetic workers in all Catholic movements in Christchurch, the former being a prominent member of the Hibernian Society and Christchurch Celtic Club, left at midday for the south, where the honeymoon was spent, the bride travelling in a saxe blue costume with fawn facings, and black hat. The newly-wedded couple have the best wishes for their future of a wide circle of friends in Christchurch, and also in Westland, where for many years Mr. Smyth was connected with the St. Columba Club, Hibernian Society, and St. Patrick's Day sports meetings. The wedding breakfast was held in the St. Albans Hall, where also about 120 guests were entertained in the evening.

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