

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

September 18.

The Hibernian Pipe Band is making rapid progress. The members are fast becoming proficient players, and are looking forward to their first public appearance next month.

Mr. A. Curry, one of the pioneer members of the Hibernian Society in Wellington and Blenheim, was on a business visit to this city during the week, and found time to confer with the local chairman of the finance committee of that body.

Mr. S. J. Ryan, a prominent member of the Catholic Federation, representing Christchurch on the Dominion Council, was in town during the week, after recuperating his health in Rotorua and other northern towns. He has been much improved in health, and found time to confer with the executive officers.

At a meeting of St. Joseph's Parish Committee of the Catholic Federation it was unanimously resolved—"That we wish to place on record our high appreciation of the firm stand taken by his Grace Archbishop O'Shea towards the proposed amendment to the Marriage Act, and we beg to assure his Grace of our absolute loyalty to him in whatever action he considers necessary in this matter."

An enjoyable social was held a few evenings ago by the members of St. Joseph's branch of the Sacred Heart Society, who, after devotions, assembled in their numbers at St. Joseph's Hall, Buckle Street. Among those present were Rev. Fathers Bowe and Doherty. A very pleasing programme was contributed to by Messrs. J. Jansen, Gamble, T. Higgins, C. Cracker, Kelly, P. Jefson, and R. S. Dwyer (secretary). Father Doherty expressed appreciation on behalf of all present of the efforts of those responsible for the entertainment.

I regret to record the death of Mrs. F. W. Whitaker, of Avon Street, Island Bay, after a brief illness. The deceased lady was a staunch Catholic and a most respected member of the Island Bay congregation. She leaves a husband and three young children to mourn the loss of a devoted wife and loving mother. She died fortified by all the rites of Holy Church. The interment took place on Friday, Requiem Mass being offered by the Rev. Father Mark Dvoy, S.M. The children of the Island Bay Convent School were in attendance, and sang during the Mass. The sincerest sympathy of a large circle of friends is extended to the bereaved ones.—R.I.P.

The executive of the N.Z. Catholic Federation passed the following motion at a special meeting last week:—"The Dominion Executive of the New Zealand Catholic Federation hereby records its emphatic protest against the clause inserted in the Marriage Bill by the Legislative Council, seeing that according to the best legal authority this amendment would penalise the Church for teaching her doctrine on the Sacrament of Matrimony. It offers its loyal support to the Archbishops and Bishops of New Zealand in the stand they are taking to resist what would be an unwarranted and tyrannical interference with religious liberty on the part of the State. It calls upon all Catholics throughout the Dominion to voice their protest against such an outrage."

At a meeting of St. Patrick's branch, No. 95, of the H.A.C.B. Society, held last week, a motion was carried unanimously to the effect that the members of the branch wished to place on record their appreciation of the firm and unequivocal stand taken by Archbishop O'Shea in the matter of the action of the Attorney-General in scuttling through the Legislative Council a proposed Amendment to the Marriage Bill, which, if brought into force, would be one of the worst penal laws placed on the Statute-books of any part of the British Empire since the days of Catholic Emancipation; and assured his Grace that collectively and individually he had their whole-hearted support in any course he might deem necessary to adopt to defeat this attempt at religious persecution."

The acceptable monthly concert was given on Wednesday night, September 15, to the inmates of St. Joseph's Home for Incurables, Buckle Street, under the auspices of the St. Joseph's branch of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Miss Hanlon opened the concert with a piano solo and a song, while Mr. Hanlon amused the inmates with some comical monologues. Master Winstone Macarthy sang "Roaming in the Gloaming," and was encored. Mr. Norman Aitken, with "When are You Going Away?" "Coming Home," and several other recitations, was much appreciated. Mr. Touhy sang a song and told a few comical incidents that happened in the recent war, and last, but not least, was Mr. Lawlor with his dancing Scotchman and whistle. Supper was handed round, and concluded a very enjoyable evening. Mr. Kevin Dillon and party will be the entertainers on the next occasion.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(From our own correspondent.)

September 17.

Mr. Beard, *Tablet* representative, is in Auckland, and is staying at the Thistle Hotel.

Rev. Father A. Moynihan, C.M., of Ashfield, Sydney, and the Redemptorist Fathers, will conduct the various Retreats for the clergy and religious of the diocese in December and January.

The children's fete and Christmas tree, organised by the Sisters and children of St. Patrick's Convent School, is being held to-day (Friday, September 17) and to-morrow. It is to support St. Patrick's queen candidate, Miss Erina O'Connor.

Mr. John Quinn, one of the old identities in the Cathedral parish, died at his residence, Nelson Street, on September 16, aged 80 years. There will be a Requiem Mass at 9 a.m. to-morrow. From the Cathedral the funeral will proceed to the Symonds Street Cemetery. Rev. Father Forde, Adm. St. Patrick's Cathedral, will officiate at the interment.—R.I.P.

The local celebrations in honor of the Beatification of Blessed Oliver Plunket, the martyred Archbishop of Armagh, took place in the Cathedral on Sunday, September 12. Solemn High Mass was celebrated at 11 a.m., Father Bradley being celebrant, and Fathers Forde and J. Murphy deacon and subdeacon respectively. In the evening his Lordship the Bishop presided at Pontifical Vespers, and the occasional discourse was delivered by Very Rev. Chancellor Holbrook. The singing of the "Te Deum" and Pontifical Benediction brought the ceremonies to a close. The choir, under the able conductorship of Mr. Leo Whitaker, A.T.C.L., rendered a special programme of devotional music.

The first barracks to be held at the Sacred Heart College will conclude to-day, after five days of operation, during which the college was controlled by the military authorities, and a syllabus conducted as in a regular barracks. The barracks has been under the command of Captain W. Atwell, with Lieutenant A. W. Groville as Adjutant, and Lieutenant O. P. Coleman as Company Commander. The officers and non-commissioned officers slept under canvas, the main body of the boys being housed in the college building. The physical side was the main feature of the training, excellent results being obtained by a system of "tabloid" athletics, a method of dividing the boys into grades, by which the weakest and less efficient receive the most attention. Interest in the games is sustained by competitions between the teams, designed to encourage co-operation among the players, as against a self-interested individualism. The barracks were inspected yesterday by Colonel R. H. Potter, Officer Commanding the District, and the boys were given a lecture in the evening by Lieut. G. Avey, M.C. On the previous evening a lecture was delivered by Lieut. R. S. Judson, V.C. The success of the barracks was in no small measure due to the assistance of the director of the college (Rev. Brother Benignus) and his staff.

Temuka

(From our own correspondent.)

September 20.

The fortnightly meeting of the local branch of the H.A.C.B. Society was held last week. Bro. Sheahan, vice-president, presided. Seven new members were nominated, and a large amount of general business was discussed.

Rev. Father Kimbell, S.M., accompanied by one or two other clergy, paid a visit to the Convent School during the week and explained the objects of the Catholic Federation to the children, and, as a result, the whole school is "federated."

During the past two or three years the members of the local Catholic Federation committee have been more or less against taking the annual enrolment of members on the first Sunday in July, being then mid-winter. This year they decided to postpone it until the third Sunday in September, and with very gratifying results. Yesterday was therefore "Federation Sunday," and the members of the committee were at work before and after both Masses. Rev. Father Kimbell, S.M., had spoken on the necessity of everyone joining, and no doubt his "stirring up" was mainly responsible for the great success that was achieved.

Sergeant and Mrs. Fitzgerald left Temuka recently for Auckland. The former was in charge of the local police station for about seven years, but owing to indifferent health had to apply for a transfer to a warmer climate. Mrs. Fitzgerald had interested herself greatly in

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