

and those who were engaged with him had found everything pleasant. Mr. Geo. Hayward supported the secretary's remarks with reference to the late Mr. Rodgers—a man who had been ever ready to further the interests of the Sisters of Nazareth. Mr. Cahill had proved himself a capable leader, and with him everyone had worked amicably. He complimented the stallholders and committee on the excellent result of their labors. Mr. Cahill in returning thanks for the kind remarks regarding his work, expressed his willingness to do all in his power to aid so noble a cause as that identified with the Sisters of Nazareth. Hearty cheers were given the visitors by the boys of the home at the conclusion of the proceedings.

The presentation of the balance sheet in connection with the St. Patrick's national concert in aid of Nazareth House, was made the occasion of a pleasant function at that institution on Sunday afternoon. There were present his Lordship Dr. Brodie, Very Rev. Dean Bowers, Rev. Fathers T. Hanrahan, Adm., Seymour, S.M., and Skinner, and a large gathering of other friends. A programme of enjoyable items was given by the children. An address of welcome was very nicely spoken by one of a group of little girls. Floral action songs, recitations, step dances, and drill were much appreciated. The concluding number was the singing of "A Nation Once Again," the children being formed to represent an Irish harp. The secretary (Mr. P. O'Connell) announced the willingness of several of the artists who performed at the national concert to sing for the inmates, and items were artistically given by Miss Ward, Miss Olga Wacked, and Messrs. R. Moloney, J. McGrath, and F. McDonald. Miss Wacked's singing of "God Save Ireland" was most enthusiastically received. The receipts from the concert amounted to £242 5s, and the expenses were £68 3s 9d, leaving a credit balance of £174 1s 3d. Mr. O'Connell pointed out the difficulties that had to be overcome this year in connection with the concert, and referred to the fact that the Sisters of Nazareth effected ticket sales to the amount of £106 2s, an achievement which the committee highly appreciated. Rev. Father Seymour, S.M. (chairman of the concert committee), said that it was a most pleasing duty for him to ask the Rev. Mother to accept the result of his committee's work. A great deal of the success attending its efforts was due to the joint secretaries—Messrs. P. O'Connell and J. McNamara—and although his Lordship the Bishop had publicly thanked the performers he (the speaker) felt impelled to again tender thanks. His Lordship the Bishop, on behalf of the Sisters, conveyed their gratitude to all who had aided to bring about so fine a result. St. Patrick's Day concert (he said) singularly appealed to us on account of our love for Ireland, and he was pleased to see that love diverted to such a good use as the aiding of the poor and the orphan through Nazareth House.

A specially summoned meeting of St. Patrick's branch of the H.A.C.B. Society was held in the Hibernian Hall on Monday evening, May 16. B.P. Bro. L. J. Courtney presided over a very large attendance of members. Rev. Father T. Hanrahan (chaplain) was present. Since the last meeting one of the founders of the branch (Bro. James Hogan) had passed away, and after appreciative reference to his long and valued service had been made by the president a motion of condolence was adopted in the customary manner. Bro. H. McSwigan (sick visitor) reported the various cases of sickness amongst members, and sick pay amounting to £8 5s 10d was passed for payment. Mrs. P. Grealay forwarded a donation with a request that Masses be offered for deceased members. Letters expressive of deep regret at the deaths of Bros. W. Rodgers and Jas. McCormick were received from various branches throughout the Dominion. The Wanganui branch wrote thanking Bro. R. O'Brien for having represented it at the district meeting. P.P. Bro. M. J. O'Connor reported on the meeting of U.F.S. Benevolent Association, which placed on record its appreciation of the services rendered it by the late Bro. James McCormick. P.P. Bro. J. M. Coffey was appointed a trustee. Nine new members were admitted, seven being initiated and two coming in by clearances. Bro. G. Getson, P.P., who had returned from a four-months' visit to Australia, was cordially welcomed. Accounts for £86 1s 10d were passed for payment as follows:—District Funeral Fund, £22 17s

3d; District Management Fund, £9 9s 4d; Supplementary Sick Fund, £16 3s 9d; Officers' Salaries, £16 5s; Funeral Allowances, £20; and sundry accounts, £1 6s 6d. Bro. C. Lafferty was appointed to act as delegate to U.F.S. Benevolent Association. The secretary (Bro. M. Grimes) presented the balance sheet for the previous quarter. The Sick and Funeral Fund showed an increase of £66 16s 2d, the Management Fund of £11 12s 3d, and the Benevolent Fund of £4 13s 5d. P.P. Bro. T. P. O'Rourke was elected a member of the hall committee.

Timaru

(From our own correspondent.)

May 23.

During the stay of H.M.S. Chatham last week, the Catholic officers and men were entertained at a smoke concert and social, as the guests of the Celtic Club. The visitors were also received by the Rev. Father Hurley and shown over the church, and parochial buildings; and all the men expressed their gratitude for the kindness extended to them. Amongst the Catholic officers is Lieut.-Commander A. W. S. Agar, V.C., D.S.O. The Rev. Father Hurley received a very nice letter from Captain Alan G. Hotham, C.M.G., R.N., conveying his hearty thanks to the clergy and parishioners for the royal manner in which they treated the seamen.

A branch of the Self-Determination for Ireland League was recently formed here, and a convention of all the branches in South Canterbury are to meet in Timaru this week.

The Very Rev. Dr. Kennedy, S.M., lately conducted a retreat for the Sisters of the Sacred Heart Convent.

The Rev. Father Kane, S.M., of St. Patrick's College, Wellington, is on a visit to Timaru (his native town) and his many friends are pleased to see him looking so well. On Sunday night Father Kane preached a fine discourse on the Blessed Eucharist.

At a meeting of the Children of Mary held on Sunday the 15th inst., the annual election of officers took place, when the following were elected:—President, Miss C. J. Collins; vice-president, Miss E. McAteer; secretary, Miss B. Cosgrove; treasurer, Miss Knight; counsellors, Misses Venning, L. Knight, and M. O'Sullivan; sacristans, Misses A. Cronin and N. Murphy. The sodality has a large membership, and is in a flourishing condition.

Nelson

(From our own correspondent.)

The missions conducted by Father McCarthy at Wakefield and Takaka, and by Father Eccleton at Waimea West, Motueka, and Tarakohe, have just concluded. The Catholic people of Nelson's country districts responded splendidly to the call of the two Marist missionaries. They showed a complete understanding of their Faith and pride and enthusiasm in its practice. The weather throughout the mission was gloriously fine and warm.

The Tarakohe Cement Works have been closed down. A great number of Catholic families dependent on the works are facing the future with no little anxiety. The position—whatever be its mysterious cause—is a serious one, bringing ruin and desolation into very many homes.

We have lately lost by death Mr. Albert (Bert) Fowler and Mrs. Charles Frazer (R.I.P.)

CELTIC FOOTBALL CLUB, ASHBURTON

The newly-formed Celtic football club commenced its playing on Thursday, May 19, when the members met the Old Boys' Club in a benefit match for the Aitken fund. The match aroused the greatest interest and resulted in the biggest "gate" ever recorded in Ashburton. "Celtics" opponents took the field with an undefeated record for the past two seasons, and having ensured the presence of their "star" players, were absolutely confident of success. In a very strenuous, exciting game, the "Greens" succeeded in winning by 3 points to nil.