

Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, was given to the inmates of the Costley Home on Thursday, September 1. Misses Draffin, Johnston, De Silva, Smith, and McKean, Master Draffin, and Messrs. McGreal, Dixon, McKean, Smith, Withy, and pupils were the contributing artists. Especially enjoyed by the old folks' were the Irish dances by Mr. Witty and his pupils, who gave such a splendid exhibition that "more and more" were insisted upon. Mr. Burton, one of the inmates, in a very happy speech, thanked the promoters on behalf of the others in the Home. At the close of the entertainment the Matron entertained the party to supper and expressed the hearty appreciation of the Society's effort, and hoped that at no distant date a return evening would be given. Thus ended a thoroughly enjoyable function.

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Taumarunui

(From our own correspondent.)

September 15.

Sergeant W. Miller and family left Taumarunui last week on transfer to Devonport, Auckland. Prior to their departure the family were entertained at a farewell evening, organised by the members of the Altar society. The function took place at the Central Hotel. Mrs. Sheffield kindly giving the use of the sitting-room for the occasion. During the evening, Rev. Father Duffy expressed his sincere regret at the departure of the Miller family, which (he said), was a great loss to the parish. He eulogised the good work done by Mrs. Miller, who was always a prominent worker in church activities. On behalf of the Altar society he asked her acceptance of a silver entree dish, as a mark of the members' appreciation, and on their, as well as on behalf of all the parishioners wished her and her family every happiness in their new home. Sergeant Miller, in replying for Mrs. Miller, thanked the donors very sincerely for their gift and for their kindness in coming together to wish his family farewell. Miss Miller and Mr. J. Miller were members of the choir, from which they will be very much missed. Sergeant Miller and family were also farewelled by the townspeople at a function held in Prinn's tea rooms. The Mayor, who presided, referred to the sterling qualities of Sergeant Miller, and also expressed his appreciation of the manner in which the other members of the family had assisted in every good cause in Taumarunui. On behalf of the people of Taumarunui, he asked the Sergeant to accept a silver cake basket and casserole dish as a token of the esteem in which he was held. Sergeant Miller suitably responded, expressing his regret at leaving Taumarunui, where he had made many friends.

A very successful Catholic social was held last evening in the Theatre Royal, the proceeds being in aid of the church funds which should be considerably augmented as a result. The music was supplied by the Lyric orchestra, and the supper arrangements were very successfully carried out by Mrs. S. Forbes.

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DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

September 19.

The Cathedral Schools' Committee tendered a complimentary social to the stall-holders and their assistants in connection with the recent sale of work in aid of the Schools' funds, in the Hibernian Hall, on Wednesday evening last. Amongst those present were his Lordship the Bishop, Rev. Father Hanrahan, Adm., and Rev. Father Cooney (Lyttleton). Father Hanrahan, presided. Geoghegan's orchestra rendered selections, Misses J. Rings and Olga Wacked contributed songs, and Mr. Allan Young recitations. Mr. Norman Tait (a visitor) in musical monologue and juggling feats proved very interesting and received hearty applause. Mr. J. S. Tulloch, secretary, read the balance sheet, which showed a nett return of £1255. The various stalls, in order of merit, showed the following figures:—Hibernian stall (in charge of Miss E. Brophy), £337 18s 11d; Confraternity stall (Mesdames Dobbs and Brittenden), £310 0s 4d; Tennis Club (Miss Murray), £264 5s 9d; Children of Mary (Miss McAlloon), £143 18s. An anonymous donation of £300 and another for £1, made the total returns £1405 14s 3d. The expenses were £150 approximately. Rev. Father Hanrahan expressed his great pleasure at the result, a result, he said,

that would tide over difficulties in school current expenses for some time to come. In undertaking the sale of work he had set out on an expedition to raise something in the neighbourhood of £300; a realisation of four times that amount was beyond his most sanguine expectations. Father Hanrahan, in thanking all who worked for the cause, said he felt impelled to refer to the special services rendered by the secretary (Mr. Tulloch) and the treasurer (Mr. P. O'Connell). He wished also to thank Mr. Atwill for his assistance in conducting the programmes of entertainment, and the members of the orchestra for their constancy and efficiency. His Lordship Dr. Brodie, said he was delighted to find Father Hanrahan's initial effort to further the interests of the schools so brilliant a success, and had great pleasure in endorsing Father Hanrahan's words of gratitude to all concerned. Speaking of the evening's entertainment the Bishop said he thoroughly enjoyed it and thanked the performers for their efforts. He expressed the hope that the time was not far distant when Father Hanrahan and the people of the Cathedral parish would see their schools entirely free from debt.

In connection with the recent theory examination of the Associated Board of the Royal Academy and the Royal College of Music, London, the following number of pupils of the Sacred Heart Girl's College, Christchurch, were successful:—Qualifying examination for I.A.B., one; rudiments of music, six.

There was a good attendance of members at the recent fortnightly meeting of the St. Matthew's branch of the H.A.C.B. Society, at which Sister G. Baker, B.P., presided. Sick allowance (£3) was passed for payment. Two new members were initiated and one nomination was received. A handsome gold Celtic cross, presented to the branch by Bro. M. Piggott for the member nominating the greatest number of new members during the year was awarded to Sister M. Nolan. The branch recorded its appreciation of the donor's practical interest. The president, referring to the success of the Hibernian stall at the recent sale of work, thanked all who had helped them to gain the first position, Mesdames Blackaby, J. Scaulon, and J. Smyth, and Miss E. Brophy, especially. After the meeting a social marking the anniversary of the St. Patrick's and St. Matthew's branches was held. Bro. H. H. Upjohn presented the euvre prizes to Mrs. J. Smyth and Miss Scaulon, Messrs. H. Nevin and H. Slean. The music was supplied by Mrs. Baxter.

A meeting of St. Patrick's Sports' Association was held in the Hibernian Hall, on Tuesday last, Mr. B. J. McKenna presiding over a good attendance. Pending information from authorities in Wellington, re the possibility of affiliation, the secretary (Mr. J. M. Coffey) moved that this subject be dealt with at the annual meeting of the Association to be held on October 25. It was decided to donate a trophy to the Canterbury Amateur Athletic Club for competition at its meeting on October 29. The Lancaster Park Board of Control notified the secretary that the ground was at the disposal of the Association for St. Patrick's Day Sports Meeting on March 17 and 18.

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Timaru

(From our own correspondent.)

September 19.

A successful concert was given at St. Andrews on last Thursday evening by a musical party from Timaru, the proceeds being intended to help in the providing of a new altar for the church there.

The many friends of Mr. M. F. Dennehy will regret to learn that he passed away this morning after a brief illness.—R.I.P.

An enjoyable social—the last for this season—in aid of the Catholic school funds, was held in the Sacred Heart Hall, Craigie Avenue, on the 14th inst., when there was a good attendance. These socials have proved very popular. Great credit is due to the ladies' committee and their many friends who so generously contributed refreshments. The sum of £60 was netted from three socials. The following comprised the parish committee: Chairman, Rev. Father Hurley, S.M.; Mesdames Stickings, Sullivan, Venning, Stapleton, Leigh, Kelly, Quinn, Reilly, Kane, and Leeming, Messrs. Stapleton, Sullivan, Mahoney, Marlow, Crowley, Geaney, and Venning.

— Jack Metcalfe

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