

erius. The incidental music was devotionally sung by the Sisters' choir.

Rev. Father W. Buckley, S.M., of St. Patrick's College, Wellington, was a visitor to Dunedin last week. He preached at St. Joseph's Cathedral on Sunday evening at Vespers.

Rev. John Hyland, of Rockdale, archdiocese of Sydney, after a holiday visit to the Homeland, was a passenger to New Zealand by the Ionic, via the Panama Canal. He spent last week in Dunedin as a guest of the Right Rev. Dr. Whyte.

The members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society are holding a euchre party and social on next Wednesday evening, at St. Patrick's Schoolroom, South Dunedin, as a commencement of their activities in the interests of St. Vincent's Orphanage extension building fund. In addition to the ordinary euchre prizes, a special prize is being offered in the winning of which every patron will have a free chance. It is proposed to continue these social gatherings for some time, and very generous patronage is hoped for.

The annual concert in connection with the Christian Brothers' School will be given this (Thursday) evening at His Majesty's Theatre. A particularly fine programme will be presented. The excellence of the entertainments provided by the pupils of the Christian Brothers has so impressed patrons in the past that a full house is always the reward of their painstaking efforts. It is ardently hoped this year's concert will be similarly favored.

The garden fete held in the grounds of Holy Cross College, Mosgiel, on Saturday last, in aid of the Taieri parish funds, was most successful, the expectations of the promoters being more than realised. A number of stalls were well laden with articles both useful and ornamental, and these were disposed of readily to the numerous patrons of the fete. A diversity of side-shows provided much amusement, and the proceeds from these helped materially to swell the takings. Rev. Father Collins and his band of willing workers are to be congratulated on the success of the function.

Departure of Father Silk

FAREWELLED AT VARIOUS FUNCTIONS.

Rev. Father D. V. Silk, who is returning to the diocese of Auckland after spending several years on professorial duties at Holy Cross College, Mosgiel, received last week well-deserved recognition, while present at various gatherings. At an entertainment given on Wednesday by the students of Holy Cross College, Mosgiel, prior to their dispersal for the Christmas vacation, his Lordship Bishop Whyte, who, together with Very Rev. Father Coffey and other of the clergy and the college professors, was present, eulogised the excellent services rendered by Father Silk to the college. His Lordship also referred in laudatory terms to the masterly manner in which Father Silk had handled the Irish question in the columns of the Dunedin daily newspaper press. This self-imposed task had proved a strenuous one, but the results had certainly been an education to the general readers, and many erroneous views hitherto held regarding Irish affairs had, as an outcome of Father Silk's letters, been definitely swept away.

Rev. Father Morkane spoke gratefully of the fine work Father Silk had accomplished at the college, and expressed pleasure at the high esteem in which he is held by professors and students alike. The departing priest was then made the recipient of a handsome travelling rug, accompanied by the expression of sincere good wishes for his future. Father Silk very feelingly acknowledged the kind sentiments expressed towards him and for the gift, which he would highly value.

At St. Mary's Schoolroom in the evening Father Silk was the guest of the parishioners of Mosgiel, who assembled in large numbers to wish farewell to him. Rev. Father Collins (pastor of the parish), who presided, expressed the congregation's gratitude to Father Silk for his ministrations in their behalf while at Mosgiel. Messrs. A. F. Queleh and J. P. Walls testified in appropriate terms to the esteem in which the guest of the evening is held, the former handing Father Silk a gift as a token of the regard held towards him by the residents of the town. The recipient returned thanks for the gift and kindly references to himself.

At the conclusion of the general business at the meeting of the Otago District Council of the Self-Determination for Ireland League on last Friday night, eulogistic reference to the magnificent work accomplished by Father Silk in the interests of Ireland's freedom, and to the greatly-valued assistance he had been in the activities of the League throughout the districts of Otago and Southland were made by Messrs. C. A. Shiel and R. McStay (vice-presidents) and Mr. J. Robinson. (The president was

unavoidably absent.) Father Silk in acknowledging the sentiments expressed by the various speakers, said he was proud of the part he had been able to take in the work of the League for Ireland. Their loved country was now coming into her rights, a consummation of their hopes and aspirations of which he never doubted. Knowing Eamon de Valera personally, his (the speaker's) opinion was that the Irish leader would never deviate from the policy he first promulgated.

Oamaru

(From our own correspondent.)

December 11.

Quite a number of Oamaruvians journeyed out to Teschemakers on Saturday last to take part in the garden fete at St. Patrick's, in aid of the Convent building fund. The day was a glorious one and the grounds looked particularly inviting with their gaily decorated stalls. After an attractive programme by the convent pupils, his Lordship the Bishop declared the fete open, and the stallholders and their assistants had a busy time disposing of the various goods. During the afternoon the senior girls gave excellent exhibitions of club swinging and skipping steps to the music of the Oamaru Citizens' Band, which also enlivened the proceedings with selections.

Everybody is busy putting on the final touches for the bijou bazaar, which is to open on Thursday, the 15th inst., in St. Joseph's School. Although the time of preparation has been short, the stallholders have worked hard, and, with the usual generosity of our friends, success is assured.

School "break-ups" are at present the order of the day, and St. Thomas's and St. Joseph's both closed on the 12th inst., for the usual Christmas vacation.

Rev. Father Martin, who was recently ordained in Dunedin, is at present home on holidays.

During the month Mass will be celebrated at the following country stations:—On the 18th at Kurow, Duntroon, and Richmonds; on the 25th at Teschemakers (8.30 a.m.), Windsor Park (9. a.m.), and Ngapara (11 a.m.).

The Late Hon. P. J. Nerheny, Auckland

The funeral of the late Hon. P. J. Nerheny, M.L.C., took place on Sunday afternoon, the 4th inst. The cortege was a long one, those present including the Mayor, Mr. J. H. Gunson, members of the City Council, and representatives of various public bodies. Six office-bearers of the Hibernian Society acted as pall-bearers. On arrival at St. Patrick's Cathedral the coffin was received by Right Rev. Dr. Liston, Coadjutor-Bishop of Auckland, Mgr. Ormond, Very Rev. Father Brennan, Adm., Very Rev. Chancellor Holbrook, and Very Rev. Fathers Forde and McEvoy. Members of the Auckland and St. Benedict's branches of the Hibernian Society, attending in regalia, led the funeral procession from the residence to the Cathedral. As the coffin was borne inside, the "Dead March" was played on the Cathedral organ by Miss Nellie Ormond.

Bishop Liston, who conducted the service, spoke in eulogistic terms of the late Mr. Nerheny's character and work among Church and civic institutions. He had been a loyal man—loyal to his God, to his religion, and to the land of his adoption. His charity was unbounded, and the poor and those in need would sorely miss him.

The interment took place at the Waikaraka Cemetery, Onehunga, where the procession was met by the Onehunga Hibernians. Very Rev. Chancellor Holbrook officiated at the interment.

A TRIBUTE FROM THE HOUSE.

A motion expressing regret at the death of the late Hon. P. J. Nerheny, M.L.C., and conveying the sympathy of members to the widow and family of the deceased, was moved in the House of Representatives by the Prime Minister. Mr. Massey said that the late Mr. Nerheny had always been a hard worker in the interests of his city (Auckland). He was a native of Ireland. The speaker knew him for one who was a loyal subject of the King. In Parliament he had gained the respect of all who knew him. The Leader of the Opposition (Mr. T. M. Wilford) said that the deceased was a man with a big heart, generous to a fault, and never deaf to those who asked his assistance. "I believe the Auckland City Council never had a more conscientious member than the late Mr. Nerheny," said the Minister of Education (Hon. C. J. Parr). Mr. Nerheny had a genuine sympathy with the working people, and many stories were told of his quiet, unostentatious benevolence. He was an eminently practical man, and his opinions were respected even by those who were opposed to them, for they always had the merit of sound common sense. The motion was carried after several other members had spoken to it. The House then adjourned till the evening, in token of respect to the late councillor.

Catholic Schools' Vacation Reports and Prize-giving

Owing to the limited space at our disposal we are only able to give brief reports in current issues of the *Tablet* of "break-up" functions as they come to hand. Prize lists and lengthy reports will be held over and inserted in one issue during the month of January.

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