

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

July 14.

It was with the greatest regret that the news of the death of the Very Rev. Dean Thomas McKenna was received in this city. During his sojourn here the late Dean endeared himself to all by his genial nature and genuine kindness. His old parishioners of St. Anne's, where he was stationed, were particularly sad when the information was given last Sunday, and many a silent prayer was offered up for the repose of his soul. The deceased priest interested himself in all Catholic affairs, whether in his own parish or the city in general. His interest and kindly encouragement in Catholic societies was keen, and the office-bearers and members deeply appreciated his kindness. He was held in the highest esteem not only by his fellow priests and the Catholic community but also by non-Catholics. The deepest sympathy is felt for his brother, the Right Rev. Mgr. McKenna, V.G., of Masterton, in the sad loss he has sustained. The Church in New Zealand, too, has lost the services of a good pioneer priest whose untimely death is no doubt due to the hardships he endured in building up the Church and ministering to his flock in a rough and scattered district. May his soul rest in peace.

CONVENT SCHOOL, PETONE.

The successful competitors for 1923 for the Essay Challenge Shield at the S. Taranaki Winter Show were the pupils of the Petone Convent School. This highly appreciated shield, which is always well contested, has now been won for three consecutive years by the Petone Convent pupils. They won by 57 points, and were also successful in winning the following prizes:—Std. 6 (boys), "The Daily Paper."—1st prize, Jack Larney; highly commended, Gordon Rounds. Std. 6 (girls), "The Charm of Fairy Tales."—3rd prize, Dorothy Whittaker; highly commended, Joyce Morrison. Std. 5 (boys), "The Adventures of a Diamond."—1st prize, Pat Ryan; 2nd prize, Keith Morrison; Std. 5 (girls), "Home."—1st prize, Leila Robinson, 2nd prize, Rita McGurk, 3rd prize, Rhea Evison, highly commended, Margaret Ryan; Std. 4, "Animals."—1st prize, Eileen Simpson, 3rd prize, Neil McGurk; Std. 3, "Bees."—1st prize, Joan Maunder, 2nd prize, Vera Purcell, 3rd prize, Alma Young, highly commended, Mary Borlase.

DIocese OF AUCKLAND

(From our own correspondent.)

July 13.

In the charming and extensive repertoire of Miss Amy Castles is "The Nightingale," in which she revels in the most exquisite trills. At one of her concerts here his Lordship Dr. Cleary was an interested and delighted listener. At the invitation of Dr. Cleary the Misses Amy and Eileen Castles visited his Lordship at the Bishop's House, Ponsonby, on the following afternoon, when, *inter alia*, the Bishop recorded some of his experiences in the trenches in the late war. One incident he told was that of a nightingale which every night perched on an adjacent tree and regaled the weary soldiers in the dump with most welcome and cheery music. With a smile the Bishop added, "We had to entertain us each night an Amy Castles," a compliment which the Diva keenly appreciated.

HIBERNIAN JUBILEE.

The Auckland branch (No. 81) of the Hibernian Society, will celebrate the golden jubilee of its foundation at the end of the month of July. The members of the society will attend a special Mass to be celebrated by his Lordship Bishop Liston in St. Patrick's Cathedral, on Sunday, July 22, at 8 a.m. On the Sunday evening, his Lordship Bishop Cleary has kindly consented to preside at Vespers and Benediction at the Cathedral and deliver a sermon appropriate to the occasion. On Monday evening, 23rd inst., members and friends will attend a dinner at the Tiffin Restaurant, Queen Street, in commemoration of the jubilee.

Gisborne

(From our own correspondent.)

July 13.

Rev. Father Kelly, of the Irish Mission to China, was in Gisborne recently, and made an appeal on behalf of the great work of the Missionaries to the Catholics of this parish. Rev. Father Lane gave every assistance in his power, and in response £77 10s was contributed.

Mr. Chas. Wood, who has been choirmaster of St. Mary's Church, Gisborne, for over two years, has accepted a similar position at the Cathedral in Auckland. Mr. Wood is a clever and talented musician, and like his father (Mr. Chas. Wood, sen.), who was choirmaster at the Timaru Catholic Church for several years, takes a keen interest in church music. His many friends in Gisborne and elsewhere will wish him every success in his new appointment.

DIocese OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

July 16.

Rev. Father T. McCarthy, Superior of the Marist Missioners, is at present conducting a Retreat for the Sisters of the Missions. Father McCarthy preached a fine discourse at the Cathedral on last Sunday evening.

In the interests of the sale of work in aid of the Cathedral schools, to be held in August, the members of the Sodality of Children of Mary gave a concert in the Hibernian Hall on Tuesday evening. It was well attended, and the excellent programme presented was much enjoyed. Those who contributed songs were: Misses M. G. O'Connor, Elsie Ives, Evelyn Carney, Mr. T. Delany, and the popular humorist, Mr. Phil Jones. In vocal selections Misses M. G. O'Connor, K. O'Connor, and Phil Jones were responsible for prettily harmonised items. Messrs. E. Casey and J. Darragh (elocutionists) and Misses Colleen Costelloe and Mavis O'Brien in a pianoforte selection, were warmly received, as was also Master Kevin McMenamin in his violin solo, "Il Trovatore." Rev. Father Loran expressed the appreciation of the promoters of the excellent attendance and support given.

Timaru

(From our own correspondent.)

July 16.

There was a good attendance at St. Patrick's Hall on the 9th inst., when members of the Literary Society were treated to a lecture by Rev. Father Hurley on the "Spanish Inquisition." At the conclusion of the lecture several questions were put and answered, after which a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the lecturer for the clear and able manner in which he dealt with the subject matter. The members are looking forward with great pleasure to more lectures from their patron who takes such a deep and practical interest in the general welfare of the society.

A mild form of influenza is very prevalent in South Canterbury at present, especially amongst the children, and hundreds are absent from the various schools.

It will be noticed from an advertisement in this issue of the *Tablet* that the Sacred Heart library committee has decided to enlarge its circulation by admitting a limited number of subscribers by post. This will enable Catholics in remote parts to secure the benefits of a good library at small cost. At present the shelves contain about 3000 volumes, and new books are being added each month. It is stated on good authority that Timaru possesses the best parish library in the Dominion.

Ashburton

(From our own correspondent.)

July 15.

The half-yearly meeting of St. Patrick's branch (No. 420) of the H.A.C.B. Society was held last Tuesday evening, Bro. E. J. Kelleher presiding over an excellent attendance of members. The sick-visitors presented their report, which was adopted. Considerable discussion took place re the investment of the branch funds, and the secretary was instructed to communicate with the district executive on the matter. Five new members were initiated by the president. The election of office-bearers for the ensuing half-year resulted as follows:—President, Bro. E. J. Kelleher;

Aif. DRISCOLL
DEPOT

Nice assortment of Birthday Gifts—Pipes,
Pouches, Cigar & Cigarette Holders & Cases.

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