

Girls' Friendly Society Reviews Past Year.

The annual festival of the Girls' Friendly Society was held in St. James' Hall, Hastings, on Saturday, All Saints' Day. The Rev. W. T. Drake gave the address, which was based on the day and on the society's motto, "Bear ye one another's burdens." He ended his address on the note of fellowship, love, and giving. Mrs Drake was at the organ. The service was followed by the annual meeting, over which Mr Drake presided.

The annual report revealed good progress during the year and the fact that the society had been in existence all over the world for 66 years was proof enough that it had justified its existence.

The following branches reported a successful year.—St. Augustine's, Napier; St. Matthew's, Hastings; St. James', Mahora, Hastings.

The G.F.S. Lodge reported that it had an average of 20 permanent boarders, with many visitors coming and going.

The election of officers resulted:—President, Mrs G. V. Gerard; vice-presidents, Mesdames J. B. Bröcklehurst, T. H. Lowry, W. T. Drake, M. E. Bedford, V. J. Langley, A. D. Waddell, E. Cornford, Misses Twigg and Pallot. Council, Mesdames Cameron, Swanseager, L. C. Rolls, Macfarlane, Johns, Mardon, Misses H. Pasley, Rainbow (life member), Mesdames Le Pine, Rawnsley, Miss Stubbs, Deaconess M. B. Holmes, Misses White, Mitchell, Hopcroft, King; literary associate, Miss Helen Pasley.

G.F.S. Lodge, house committee, Mesdames G. V. Gerard, A. D. Waddell, E. Cornford, M. E. Bedford, L. C. Rolls, Macfarlane, Rawnsley, Misses Twigg, Pallot, White; Diocesan secretary, Miss M. S. White; treasurers, Mesdames M. E. Bedford and A. D. Waddell; men's advisory committee, the Rev. S. R. Gardiner, Messrs W. P. Finch, J. P. Williamson, A. G. Pallot, A. E. Bedford; G.F.S. Lodge treasurer, Mr A. G. Pallot; auditor, Mr J. P. Williamson.

Mrs G. V. Gerard was asked to convey G.F.S. greetings to her husband, the Rt. Rev. G. V. Gerard, Bishop of Waiapu, who is with the forces overseas.

Mrs A. D. Waddell proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Drake for presiding.

A social hour was spent afterwards, during which afternoon tea was served and competitions and games entered into.

In reporting on the work of the Girls' Friendly Society during the past year, we are thankful for being able to carry on so well in these very upset times.

No Society justifies its existence without progress. Therefore we feel we can say it has progressed, since it is still in existence all over the world, after 66 years.

What is the Society? It is a Society to unite for the Glory of God in one fellowship the women and girls of the Empire, to uphold purity in thought, word, and deed.

It offers friendly comradeship to those in need of such help. It introduces, by its integral workings, women and girls from one country to another, or from one town to another, as the case may be. This is with its Lodges, one of the most useful pieces of work. No woman or girl should feel a stranger in a strange land, knowing she has been commended to a comfortable home in a Girls' Friendly Society Lodge, or to a branch of the Girls' Friendly Society, in the place to which she is travelling. Girls of any denomination may be Members.

The Girls' Friendly Society was founded in 1875, by Mrs Townsend, who devoted her life to the work, aided by her husband. Townsend House, headquarters of the Girls' Friendly Society in London, was built as a tribute to her memory.

The passing away of Miss Edith M. Langley, Central Secretary of the Girls' Friendly Society in London, in June, 1941, is a very sad loss to the Girls' Friendly Society. Miss Langley came to the Girls' Friendly Society's office in 1905, as assistant employment Secretary. When the War Emergency Fund was started in 1915, she acted as Secretary to that Committee. She became Extension Secretary. In May, 1936, she was appointed Central Secretary. It fell to Miss Langley's lot to represent the Society on many Councils and Committees. She was a woman of a remarkably clear brain. Anyone who has seen any of the big pageants that the Girls' Friendly Society has produced in the last decade, will appre-

ciate this point. Miss Langley was the daughter of an English clergyman; and was laid to rest in old Milverton churchyard, only a little distance away from her Father's grave.

ST. AUGUSTINE'S BRANCH OF THE GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY.

Associates and Members continue their loyal interest in the Melanesian Mission, also helping Church funds, and the Sick and Needy in St. Augustine's Parish. They keep the Girls' Society flag flying in Napier. During the Session few Meetings have been held, owing to the Black-out. A very successful Jumble Sale was held in September—Proceeds for Missions, Church, and Girls' Friendly Society Funds.

HASTINGS:

ST. MATTHEW'S BRANCH OF THE GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY.

Our sympathy goes out to St. Matthew's Branch of the Girls' Friendly Society, owing to St. Matthew's Hall being destroyed by fire on New Year's Day, their Girls' Friendly Society room, which adjoined, was out of commission for some time, being without gas or light. Nevertheless they have had a successful Session.

MAHORA:

ST. JAMES' BRANCH OF THE GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY.

It is gratifying to note the live state of affairs of this Branch, working for the Girls' Friendly Society and Patriotic purposes.

TARADALE:

CANDIDATES CLASS BRANCH OF THE GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY.

In abeyance.

PUKEHOU:

BRANCH OF THE GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY.

In abeyance.

NUHAKA:

NATIVE BRANCH OF THE GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY.

In abeyance.

GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY/ LODGE.

This is carrying on with an average of 20 Permanent Boarders per week, and many Transient Visitors coming and going.

The Lodge House Committee give their thanks to Miss Batchelor, Matron of the Lodge, for her very