

DIocese OF WAIAPU

All Parochial or business communications should be sent to the Diocesan Secretary, P.O. Box 227, Napier. Cheques should be crossed, marked "Not Negotiable," and made payable to the order of "The Diocese of Waiapu," and not to anyone by name.

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All correspondence and literary matter is to be sent to The Editor, Waiapu Church Gazette, Mr. A. L. Waterhouse, Gloucester Street, Taradale and should reach him no later than the 16th of the month.

"AN ESCAPISM?"

We read recently a statement by a psychologist to the effect that people follow the Christian religion in an attempt to escape life's stern demands. If anyone imagines that the Christian religion is an "escapism" he should read the story of the Crucifixion and also our Lord's words: "Whoso doth not take up His cross and come after me cannot be my disciple." Jesus Christ does not offer us escape from life, but fullness of life. He offers us strength to face life's stern demands. He does not offer us safety first, nor reward for services rendered. He offers us the means of fulfilling the purpose of life. Jesus Christ offers us divine power to resist temptation, to overcome evil and to do what is God's will, so that we may become true sons of God. The New Testament makes it clear that a Christian is one who belongs to Jesus Christ—one who has given the central loyalty of his heart to Christ and has by baptism been joined to Christ and incorporated into the Body of Christ, the Church, through which Christ is carrying on all that He "began to do

and teach." We repeat, no one can possibly imagine that the Christian religion is a way of escape if he reads the New Testament and takes account of Christ's words: "Whoso doth not take up his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple."—"Ballarat Chronicle."

"Suffer Little Children"

I take the following from the advertisement columns of a contemporary: "Three furnished rooms to be let in safe area. Christian home. No children." There may be some good reason for imposing such an embargo, but, on the face of it, "Christian home. No children" sounds a contradiction in terms. I wonder how those in that Christian home interpret the well-known lines:

I wish that His hands had been placed
on my head,
That His arms had been thrown
around me,
And that I might have seen His kind look
when He said:
"Let the little ones come unto Me."
—Watchman in the Church of England
Newspaper.

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