

Mrs. Doar, who assisted, not only in teaching them but also in bringing them together. After service Mrs. Hardy entertained the Bishop and party to lunch.

The thanks of the Parish are due to Mr. C. Lewis for undertaking to convey the Bishop over rough and muddy roads, over river bed and hills, and accomplishing the task without a hitch.

Mr. W. M. Beckett met the Bishop at Ashcott with his conveyance and Takapanu was reached in good time for evening service, which was very largely attended.

Waipawa.

Vicar: Rev. H. P. Cowx, M.A.

Curate: Rev. H. Collier.

The annual meeting fell on a wet, dark night and the attendance was rather small. The financial report showed an increase of £17 in offertories and £20 in subscriptions. The Vicar's address was of a hopeful character.

A service in connection with the Church of England Men's Society was held on Thursday, August 11th, when eight men were publicly admitted into membership with the Society. Several others have expressed a desire to join.

The Vicar has lately, by request, preached special sermons on "Christianity and Science," "The Bible and the Higher Critics," and "Socialism."

Gisborne.

Vicar: Rev. L. Dawson Thomas.

ANNUAL MEETING.—Our annual meeting of Parishioners has come and gone. We had a very good attendance of registered members and also of ladies. The meeting again elected a strong Vestry. The only criticism we feel inclined to make is that the meeting was much *too quiet!* We do not for one moment believe it denotes stagnation in parochial life, rather we feel it to be the peace which tells of satisfaction.

CHURCH EXTENSION.—The chief topic discussed at the meeting was the proposed new central Parish Church and Church extension in the suburbs. A bold scheme for raising the necessary money was brought down by Mr. C. A. de Lantour. The meeting hailed it with delight and unanimously passed the proposal. We feel now that in the very near future Gisborne will have a Church worthy of the place.

RECOGNITION OF FAITHFUL SERVICE.—The Parishioners' Warden (Colonel Winter) has completed his tenth year of office. Opportunity was taken at the annual meeting to present him with a handsome gold watch in appreciation of his generous services.

SYNODSMEN.—This Parish having grown so remarkably during the past few years, we are now privileged to send three lay representatives to the Diocesan Synod. Messrs. G. J. Winter, C. A. de Lantour, and A. H. Wallis have been elected.

A SIGN OF PROGRESS.—Whilst we are of the opinion that a growth in finance may not necessarily mean a growth in Church life, it is pleasing to notice that there has been a very considerable increase in the offertories during last year. A statement of receipts through the offertories and pew rents during the past eight years which was prepared for insertion in our annual report

is interesting reading. From it, it is seen that in 1903 the general offertories totalled £269 and the pew rents £196. For last year the figures read: General offertories, £542; pew rents, £301.

MOTHERS' UNION.—During the month we had the first meeting of our Mothers' Union, formed during the recent visit of the Bishop. A splendid number attended the service in Trinity Church; the Vicar said the special Litany and gave a short address on "Woman's Influence." After service the members repaired to the Parish Hall to hear a very wise and helpful address from Mrs. Herbert Williams. The Committee provided afternoon tea. We have very glowing visions of the good the Mothers' Union may do here.

Te Karaka.

Vicar: Rev. W. H. Roberts.

Our annual meeting was held on July 16th. The Vicar presented an encouraging report of the work during the year. The following officials were elected:—Churchwardens, Messrs. E. W. Bousefield and W. Powell; Vestrymen, Messrs. J. Pigott, C. Armstrong, J. Poynter, James Price, G. Bell, W. J. Hicks, and Dr. Wi Repa; the last-named was also elected as Parochial representative to the Synod. The financial statement was satisfactory, showing a balance in hand of £14 18s. after paying the Vicar's stipend of £180. It is hoped that next year the funds at the disposal of the Vestry will enable them to raise the stipend to £200. There being no Vicarage it is essential that this should be the minimum. If every Parishioner would contribute a little the thing could be done quite easily.

The Bishop has written to the Vicar that he may vacate the Parish at the end of October, in order to take up work as Assistant Priest of Holy Trinity, Gisborne. So far, no appointment of a successor has been made.

Motu was plunged into grief by the death, on July 10th, of Mr. Christian Hansen, after a brief illness and serious operation. One of the oldest settlers, Mr. Hansen was regarded as the "Father of Motu" and was identified with every movement for the advancement of the district. He was laid to rest on the 12th, in the log-strewn cemetery of the settlement he loved so well, the Vicar conducting the service. Over one hundred settlers attended to pay their last tribute of respect and esteem. The deceased was a constant attendant at the services of the Church. A Memorial Service on a subsequent Sunday was crowded.

The Railway Mission, under Mr. W. J. Hicks, is doing useful work. The population is in scattered camps extending over ten miles, with centres at Otoko and Rakauora. Much wet weather has made the roads almost impassable; mud is everywhere; and services are seriously handicapped. Visiting, however, is being constantly carried on and will, we hope, result in the establishment of friendly feeling and spiritual influence. A portable organ has been bought by subscription and should prove a valuable adjunct in making the services attractive.

A new and handsome Public Hall at Matawai has been built by the energy and

enterprise of the settlers in the district. This should prove of great value from a religious standpoint, no suitable place for services having been hitherto available. At the request of the Committee, the Vicar performed the opening ceremony at a concert and social held on Friday, July 22nd, when, in spite of bad weather, there was a goodly gathering. On the following Sunday afternoon a service was held and the attendance was most gratifying. The men rose to the occasion splendidly, and for once were in the majority. Miss Neverman presided at the piano kindly lent by Mrs. Neal, and the singing was very hearty. Mr. J. Pigott, our indefatigable Lay Reader, assisted at the service, and the Vicar preached on "Christian Edification." We hope this may be the forerunner of many hearty services in Matawai and that the men will continue to hold their own in the matter of attendance.

Taradale.

Vicar: Rev. A. P. Clarke.

Miss Macgregor, of Ramabai's Mission, visited us on Thursday, 21st July, and although very wet weather was responsible for a particularly small attendance, a most interesting and helpful account of the Mission was given.

Parishioners are reminded of the Missionary Sale to be held in All Saints' School-room at 2 p.m. on the 28th September. Gifts will be gladly received at the Vicarage.

A large number of the congregation remain behind after evening service to practise the Mission hymns. The Mission Litany is used at our Thursday evening meetings, when the hymns are also practised. Parishioners are urgently asked to make a special effort to attend, more especially for the purpose of joining in united prayer for the success of the Mission.

Ormondville.

Vicar: Rev. M. Cockerill, B.A.

The annual meeting of Parishioners was held on the 27th July. A credit balance appeared on the books and the meeting generously voted a bonus of £25 to the stipend, which in this Parish stands at the minimum amount permitted by Synod. The Vicar is thankful to the Parishioners for their kindness, especially in view of the extra expense he has been put to during the past year in the matter of providing horse, vehicle, &c. But there are too many pressing claims at present upon the funds of the Parish and he has felt himself unable, at least at present, to accept more than £15 of the sum voted.

Waerenga-a-hika.

Vicar: Rev. E. Ward.

SERVICES.

Waerenga-a-hika—First and third Sunday, 11 a.m.; second Sunday, 7 p.m.; fourth Sunday, 3 p.m. First Sunday, Children's Service, at 2 p.m.

Makaraka—Every Sunday, at 7 p.m.

Ormond—First Sunday, at 7 p.m.; third Sunday, at 3 p.m.

Makauri—Second Sunday, at 7 p.m.

Waimata—Second and fourth Sunday, at 11 a.m. (weather and roads permitting).