

## Parochial News.

[N.B.—To ensure insertion in the next month's issue of the GAZETTE, matter must be received by "The Editor, WAIAPU CHURCH GAZETTE, Havelock North, Hawke's Bay," not later than the 15th of the month. Notes should be brief, and to the point, and legibly written on one side of the paper.]

### S. Augustine's, Napier.

Vicar: Rev. Canon Tuke.

We can only sound the note of thankfulness for the Mission which it has been our privilege and spiritual gain to have in our Parish. We have passed through an experience in our religious life that will never be effaced from our memory. It will live on in many a soul. The thoughts of it will bring joy and deep thankfulness and its faithful teaching and preaching of Jesus Christ as the Supreme Factor in life will often refresh the soul as it drinks from the Brook in the Way. From the very first—the solemn Reception Service on the 17th of last month—there was a wondrous response. As each day advanced the services were more largely attended until it taxed the Wardens, Vestrymen, and C.E.M.S. men, all of whom worked wholeheartedly, to find room for the people, most of whom it was noted were most constant in their attendance and who therefore reaped the benefit of that chain of connected discourses which those missed by running hither and thither with itching ears.

One of the most noteworthy features of the Mission here and elsewhere is that each Parish declared its own Missioner to be the best! Here we fall into line and, while we must all feel devoutly thankful for such a band of faithful and able men, we have no desire to have had any other Missioner sent to us than the man whom we thank God for sending. The name of "Prebendary Stuart" will never be forgotten here. His deeply spiritual character combining (as a fellow Missioner expressed it to the Vicar) the heart of a lion and the tenderness of a woman, appealed to us all while his eloquent but simple and direct teaching laid hold of our hearts. Whether it was in the Church, or at the Railway workshop, or in the street; whether it was to men, women, or children, they felt compelled to listen to the Message. Many availed themselves of personal interviews and came away strengthened and comforted by the Godly counsel received. Many prayers offered each night found an answer, but none received a greater answer than those offered up day by day and Sunday after Sunday for months previously for a blessing on the Mission.

"Known unto God" alone will be all the results, but we do indeed thank Him for much encouragement already received in our increased attendance at the celebrations of Holy Communion, and at all the services. Many are attending classes for the Confirmation in December and many have been strengthened and built up in the Faith, and are now forward to help the work of the Church.

The gain to the whole Church of New Zealand will be incalculable. May the Grace of Perseverance be abundantly poured upon us!

The Rev. W. Robinson, after two years of illness, preached an able and helpful sermon

on the Mission the Sunday following it. We all hope he is now on the road to a full recovery.

There are still some shilling music editions of the Mission hymn book for sale, and a few memorial cards left for those who wish to have one. Early application for these should be made to the Vicar.

The Choir assembled in the Vestry on Sunday evening, the 16th, to bid farewell to Mr. H. J. Hill, one of our valued members, who is leaving for a six months' visit to the Old Country, where his mother is still alive. The Vicar presented him with a new edition of hymns, A. and M., and with Mr. H. L. Harston tendered their own and the Choir's best wishes for a happy visit and a safe return. Mr. Hill hopes to be back by Easter next year.

We welcome Mrs. Macfarlane and Miss E. King, who have volunteered for Sunday School work, and regret the loss of a valued teacher in Miss Ivy Hudson, who has been transferred to Auckland in the service of the Government. Miss L. Howse too will shortly be leaving for Queensland, where she will live after her marriage. She has been for years as a pupil and a teacher at the School, where she is much respected, and where her place will be hard to fill. Both these teachers were presented with Bibles by the Vicar, who spoke of his own and their fellow teachers' regret at their early departure.

The Weekly Mission Service on Friday, at 7.30 p.m., is being very well attended. Last week the Bishop gave a most helpful address on "Blind Bartimeus," and admitted seven more men to the C.E.M.S.

The Confirmation Classes are in full swing for girls, married women and men, and lads. These, together with Scripture Classes for those entering for the Sunday School Diocesan examination, occupy a good deal of the Vicar's time and will do so up to Xmas.

The Need of an Assistant to the Vicar was plainly seen by our Missioner, who spoke of it. Our Bishop has long seen the necessity of the same and kindly talked the matter over with the Vestry. It is suggested to hold a large Parish social and discuss the matter there. If all will help an adequate stipend could be raised. The sooner the better for the Parish, which cannot be properly looked after by the Vicar alone.

The Girls' Club, under Miss E. Williamson, gave a capital display of clubs, dumbbells, running mazes, and wands, interspersed with songs, at the distribution of prizes to those who had won the various competitions which were kindly judged by Mr. Ringland.

Since our last issue the Parish has lost a most kind friend in the late Mrs. Henry Russell, who, ever since she was a Parishioner at Waipukurau, has loyally supported the Vicar's work and given to Diocesan funds. She was deeply interested in all Church work up to the last in her 91st year.

Mrs. Cross and her family have the sympathy of many friends in their loss of Mr. G. T. Cross, a very old and well-known resident of our town.

Mrs. Skipage, one of our earliest workers, passed to her rest at an advanced age last month.

## BAPTISMS.

"Suffer little children to come unto Me."

James Alfred Clark, Evelyn Annie Crabbe, Edna Lydia Cohen, Ernest Jacob Stuart Cox, Nancy Zealandia Walter, William Richard Walter, George Douglas McPhee, Ronald Charles Cole, John Stuart Muir, Samuel Laurence Gill, Truby George Vicent Fisher, Irene Miriam Barnes, Nora Tanner Limbrick, Ola Matilda Limbrick.

## MARRIAGES.

"Heirs together of the Grave of Life."

Henry Edward Cason Whiffin to Ellen Grace Lynam, Alfred Augustus Hunt to Alma Maud Downer.

## BURIALS.

"Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord."

Maria Skipage, 73 years; Susan Cobham Russell, 90 years; George Thomas Cross, 65 years; Margaret Hague, 66 years.

## Gisborne.

Vicar: Rev. I. Dawson Thomas.

THE MISSION.—Our Missioner has come, and gone. Our prayers have most surely been heard. God hath visited His people. It is difficult to write about this truly wonderful time, a great deal of that which happened cannot, indeed, be told in words. It is known only to God.

The points that seem to stand out prominently are these:—

It was a Mission of Instruction. Each evening, before the sermon, a simple address on some point of doctrine, or Church teaching was given. Conversion, auricular Confession, Absolution, the Sacraments, each in turn was faithfully and clearly dealt with.

It was also a Praying Mission. The whole effort was saturated with Prayer. Requests for Prayer poured in each day. At the early celebrations (the "Church's Daily Prayer Meeting," so called by the Missioner) the average attendance was over seventy. One day, during the Mission, was set apart as a day of continuous Intercession, and from daylight till long after dark the Church had people praying. The effect of this was most striking. People not belonging to the Church, and who had not attended the Mission, confessed to feeling a strange influence in the district.

There was real grief at the departure of Rev. T. Rees. We are, however, not quite without hope that we shall, some day, have him back in New Zealand.

CHURCH LITERATURE.—During the course of the Mission there were large sales of the cheap Church Manuals. The whole supply was practically sold out, and requests for more were incessant.

Our branch of the C.E.M.S. has arisen to the occasion, and is erecting a permanent book rack in Trinity Church. This will be kept stocked with the best of the cheap books. A large order is being sent out from England. We are laying in an extensive stock of the Mirfield "Manuals for the Million." We do not intend to mix the teaching given in these booklets.

CONFIRMATION.—Classes in preparation for the rite of Confirmation have begun. There are a good number of candidates and the work promises to be most interesting.