

very large. Eighty at the 7 a.m., 50 at 8 a.m., and 49 after the morning service. Roughly 180 in all. Considering that many are absent from the parish at this Festival it was gratifying to see so many present. The Carols after Evensong were a very pretty selection, mostly Jude's compositions, and the choir under Mr Harston at the organ did full justice to them. The solo "Nazareth" was also well rendered by Mr H. Martin. The music for the day was a credit to organist and choir, and much appreciated by the large congregations. At the celebrations the vicar was assisted by the Rev. W. T. Fraser, who kindly volunteered his helpful services.

We have already asked, and ask again for bass and soprano voices in the choir. We have some members who give most consistent support to our choir work by their reverend behaviour and regular attendance. They deserve to be well supported by their fellow members and by others of the congregation who have useful voices. We regret the loss of Mr Bishop's services, who is retiring from all choir work. He has been a generous supporter during his stay with us.

The Sunday School annual outing to Farndon Park will be held on Wednesday, the 1st February (not the 15th as announced by printer's error last issue). Our parishioners should support this field day for the children of the church who attend so well throughout the year. Parents have been requested by an invitation card to send their subscription by their children to the teacher of their class or direct to the vicar or to Mr J. Pallot, the secretary. We hope to have all the parents and friends who can come with us.

It is with much thankfulness that we are able to record that the Sunday School is again for the fourth year in succession at the head of the Diocesan Scripture examination. Jack Faulkner has the honor of being the first boy to gain this distinction in the senior grade, and Mollie Stuart that in the middle grade, while Nellie Goldsmith and Winnie Lanning also take a diocesan prize for obtaining over 60 per cent. of marks in each paper. Several others have got passes, and our hearty congratulations are given to all who have qualified in the subjects.

It is imperative that volunteers for our teaching staff should offer at once. The classes want subdividing, and before the holidays are over the vicar earnestly hopes to receive offers for this splendid field of work. Some could, some ought, some can, give up an hour each Sunday for the children's sake.

The vicar would feel it a kindness if any parishioner would tell him of any new parishioners and of any visitors to our church that he may call upon them.

We are thankful to say that Mrs Carrick and Mrs E. Thomas, who have been long sufferers, are decidedly better, but we have to chronicle the death of Mrs Peterson, who suffered

from heart trouble, and also that of William Charles Kaye, who at such an early age has been called away after intense suffering, leaving his widow with six very young children to provide for. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to both families.

The Bishop gave one of his earnest addresses at our Friday Mission Service last week, and will give another this week. This weekly service has been well attended ever since the Mission, and many who have not been coming will, we hope, do so, and come regularly.

The promoters of the Industrial Exhibition are working hard to make it a success. This is something all of us can help in, young and old, and the object of it, viz., to enlarge the school-room, is worthy of our hearty support. It is to be held on February 8th and 9th.

#### BAPTISMS.

*"Suffer little children to come unto Me."*  
Mabel Edna Mace, Charles William Richard Jake, Cecil George Marriott, Marie Monica Key, Mavis Edna Mary Rolls, Roy Albert Edgar Elmes, Inez May Harris, Walter George Stephens.

#### MARRIAGES.

*"Heirs together of the Grace of Life."*  
Arthur Andrews McDougall to Catherine Mary Sullivan, William Henry Russell to Isabella Marsden, Ernest Clive Holder to Clara Simmonds.

#### BURIALS.

*"Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord."*  
William Chissell, aged 80 years; Herbert Watts, 7 months; Johanna Peterson, 59 years; William Charles Kay, 33 years.

#### Taradale.

Vicar: Rev. A. P. Clarke.

Lay Reader: Mr. McCutcheon.

The Parish has lost the help which was so freely given by Mr D. Haultain, who for some time assisted in the services held in the different parts of the Parish. Mr Haultain also had a class for the Chinese in Taradale.

The Vicar will be assisted for the present by Mr McCutcheon, who has resigned his work as teacher in the school at Pukahu, with the view of taking Holy Orders. Mr McCutcheon's work, both in the school and in the services which he has taken, has been greatly appreciated. Graceful expression to this was given by the Rev. John Holmes, the chairman of the meeting held at Pukahu on December 20.

#### S. Matthew's, Hastings.

Vicar: Rev. J. B. Brocklehurst.

Curate: Rev. H. A. Favell.

News from this parish has been omitted for some little time, but now the vicar is settled, he hopes to arrange for news being printed each month.

We are hoping before long to get the Diocesan Gazette into each home. It has been found impossible to do this up to the present through lack of distributors. This we hope to overcome as soon as the vestry can settle upon certain lines of organisation.

The vicarage has undergone certain alterations and additions, and has been painted and papered. It now presents a much improved appearance, and has been made most comfortable. The vicar wishes to express his thanks to the parish for what their representatives have done.

Several of the O.E.M.S. men have been busy with fences, etc., and have greatly improved the grounds.

The Sunday School picnic was very well attended, though many children were away, and many parents absented themselves through a misunderstanding. Mr Pharazyn kindly lent a paddock, which everyone said was ideal for a picnic. Our best thanks are due to Mr Pharazyn for his kindness. The teachers certainly worked hard just before and at the time of the picnic to make everyone happy, and by the evening it was evident they had succeeded.

The Christmas services were exceedingly bright, for which we can never thank our choir too much. The communicants came out in great numbers, cheering very much the heart of the vicar. Both morning and evening congregations were large.

The parish has now procured the services of the Rev. H. A. Favell. In this we are most fortunate, for Mr Favell has had a wide and varied experience, both in England and the Dominion. The O.E.M.S. have reason to know his worth after the address he gave the other night at their monthly meeting. Mr Favell was, before his ordination the lay secretary of the O.E.M.S. in London, later, Home Missionary in Taranaki, vicar of Inglewood, and later of Stratford, and after the Bishop of Auckland's breakdown, he acted as private chaplain to the Bishop.

#### Waipawa.

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

Curate: Rev. H. Collier.

The Tamumu Sunday School Picnic was held at Mrs Kittow's in December. The day was showery, but the children had games in the wool shed. During the afternoon a presentation of silver candlesticks was made to Miss Evans in appreciation of her faithful work as teacher, and another presentation of a silver-mounted biscuit barrel was made to Mrs Wheeler in recognition of her care of the church for the last eleven years. The vicar addressed the children and parents, and the afternoon passed very pleasantly.

#### Waipukurau.

Vicar: Rev. F. W. Martin.

By the time these notes are in print the annual floral and garden fete will have taken place at the vicarage grounds. All that is necessary to make the fete a huge success is a fine day. The Ladies' Guild have been working very energetically for the last five months, and entries for the various competitions have been coming in freely. Among other attractions there will be the Menagerie Race and the ever popular Baby Show.

On Christmas Day special services were held in St. Mary's Church, which