

in church matters. We hope that the parishioners will give such support to the new venture that the Vestry will not have to incur any outlay. We are sure that the Parish Magazine, in its new form, has only to be known to be appreciated.

**New Church.**—A vigorous forward movement in this connection is about to be inaugurated, and we believe the year 1911 will see much accomplished towards the realisation of the hopes of our people to erect a building more worthy of God's glory, and more creditable to this prosperous district. Several handsome donations to the building fund have come to hand recently, and the debenture scheme has met with considerable response. A systematic canvass of the whole parish is being made by the vestry, and if a sufficient sum be secured either in the form of gifts or on loan by debenture, the building will be commenced this summer.

**Sunday Schools.**—The Sunday Schools have been closed during the past month for the usual summer vacation, but on the first Sunday in February we hope to resume with increased vigour after the break.

During February the annual picnic will be held.

The prize-giving, postponed from before Christmas, will also take place early this year. With these attractions in the near future, we hope the attendance will keep up during the hot summer months.

The Christmas Day Services were very well attended and much enthusiasm was shown by the parishioners. Four celebrations of the Holy Eucharist were held; that at 8 a.m. being choral. The number of communicants, and the sum total of the collections at the services (which were for the General Parochial Church Fund), constituted a record in the history of the parish.

The organ in the Parish Church was out of action for many weeks in consequence of renovation and additions being carried out by Messrs Norman and Beard. The work has now been completed and the improvement is marked. Nearly £200 was expended and the instrument underwent a much needed overhaul; the action throughout was renewed and valuable additions were made.

The organist and choir undertook to see the financial liability through, and are to be congratulated on the outcome of their efforts.

We are looking forward to an organ recital before long, so that the possibilities of the improved instrument may be heard to advantage.

### Opotiki.

Vicar: Rev. W. H. Bawden.

The following letter of farewell has been received from our recent missionary and the remembrance greatly appreciated by our people.

"My dear friends,—Before leaving the shores of New Zealand, I am writ-

ing these few lines to wish you good-bye. It was the greatest privilege and joy to me to be allowed to bring God's glorious message to you in this memorable Mission of Help to the church in New Zealand.

"I shall carry back to England the happiest memories of my visit to this beautiful country, and of all the generous hospitality and hearty friendship which has been so universally extended to us during our four months sojourn and work here; and I shall often remember you all in my prayers.

"May God keep you abiding in His love and fill you with all joy and peace in believing; may He give you power to overcome all evil, and courage to witness nobly for Him; and may He use you in the extension of His Kingdom both in your own parish and in the wide field of the world

This is my earnest desire.—Yours, most sincerely,

CECIL DE CARETRET.

### Te Karaka.

Priest in Charge: Rev. T. A. Meyer.

#### LIST OF SERVICES:—

*Te Karaka:* Every Sunday 7.30 p.m., 1st Sunday 11 a.m., Holy Communion, *Kaiteratiki:* 1st Sunday 3 p.m., *Whataatutu:* 3rd Sunday 11 a.m., Holy Communion and Baptisms, *Puha:* 3rd Sunday 3 p.m., Holy Communion and Baptisms, *Otoko:* 1st Sunday 7 p.m., 2nd Sunday 11 a.m., Holy Communion and Baptisms, 3rd Sunday 7 p.m., 4th Sunday 7 p.m., *Rakaurua:* 1st Sunday 11 a.m., 4th Sunday 3 p.m., Holy Communion and Baptisms, *Matawai:* 2nd Sunday 11 a.m., 4th Sunday 11 a.m., Holy Communion and Baptisms, *Motu:* 2nd Sunday 7.30 p.m., 4th Sunday 7.30 p.m.

Services on the 5th Sunday by notice.

Our Christmas services were bright and well attended. Two celebrations marked the day. A working party of young people spent much time and energy during the previous fortnight in preparing the church and grounds for the festival. On January 2nd a church picnic took place and a very enjoyable day was spent.

At the other end of the district the Railway Missioner, Mr J. W. Hicks conducted the services. He held the first service at Otoko at 11 a.m., and although a number of people leave the railway works at Christmas, the congregations were good. At Otoko the singing is always bright and hearty, assisted by a good little organ and violin. From there Mr Hicks rode on to Matawai through torrents of rain, a distance of about 14 miles for Sunday School and service. Then to Motu, another ride of 2½ hours through drenching rain and over muddy roads. Fortunately the weather cleared, and Mr Hicks was cheered by finding a good congregation to join in the Christmas evening service.

### BAPTISMS.

Eliza Jane Esther Taylor, Sophia Elizabeth Gifkins (adult), Constance Elizabeth Gifkins, Ernest William Frank Lowndes, Charles Percival Lowndes, Lynette Constance Snow, Iris Ernestine May Snow, Doris Stuart Loane Snow, Darcy Cecil Francis Snow, Alice May Ruth Simpson.

### Supply of Clergy.

The ordinations at St. Paul's Cathedral and elsewhere, on October 2nd, practically complete the list for the year, and enable us to make another annual survey. In the present ecclesiastical year the number of Deacons admitted in the dioceses of England and Wales has been 666, a welcome advance on the average of the preceding three years, which was 636. This statement will be received with thankfulness by a large number of Churchpeople, who, in recent years, have watched the Church's recruiting efforts with the keenest interest, and have, in some cases, helped by providing bursaries of £50 a year towards college expenses. It will be a cause of happiness to them to know that progress is being made.

Looking ahead, also, there is good ground for hope. In a speech at Ohsunt, at the end of July, the Bishop of London expressed his belief that things would still further improve. "A new enthusiasm for the Ministry," he said, "is awakening, and there are signs that young men are willing to enter the service." Many workers can echo the words of the Bishop as a result of experience in recruiting efforts. Not only are men in good numbers offering themselves, but in increasing proportion they come well prepared, both intellectually and spiritually. As a result of the recruiting effort at the A.C.S. Office (which is, of course, only one of the many efforts now being made) no fewer than 33 men, recruited during the past year, will go to College this month; twenty-eight of them will go to Oxford or Cambridge with Smalls or Little-go already passed, and fifteen of them will read for Honour Degrees. A total sum of over £5000 has been given or guaranteed to help them to meet their expenses. Five other men, equally well qualified, could be sent up next week if bursaries could be promptly provided for them. All this means progress, and many will feel the strong incentive to continued earnest prayer for God's guidance of a growing movement, and to every other kind of co-operation that may be possible.—*Church Times.*

"Incessant finding fault is only another way of showing that we are not as good as we ought to be ourselves."—Anon.