

News from other Dioceses.

WELLINGTON.

Resignation of the Bishop of Wellington.

The resignation of the Right Rev. Frederic Wallis, D.D., has not come altogether as a surprise, but is none the less a serious blow to the Church of New Zealand. Dr. Wallis was consecrated Bishop of Wellington in 1895, after a useful and distinguished career at Cambridge, and has helped the church in Wellington and New Zealand generally by his scholarly attainments and faithful service. It is only necessary to point to the present Diocese of Wellington and say "Circumspice," to convince anyone of the monument which Bishop Wallis is leaving behind him in New Zealand.

The resignation of the Bishop of Auckland possibly delayed the resignation of the Bishop of Wellington, but at last it has come, and the Bishops of the Province having given their consent to the resignation as required by the Canons, the Diocese of Wellington will soon be bereft of its spiritual head and Father in God. It is quite evident that the Bishop has for some time been carrying out his manifold duties at considerable inconvenience, and possibly risk to himself, and for his sake, we can only believe that he has been rightly guided to surrender the oversight of a Diocese which requires endless work and little rest. It is sad to lose the services of so able and so spiritually-minded a Bishop as Bishop Wallis, but it would have been infinitely more sad if he had continued to struggle on until he became permanently incapacitated. We can only wish him many happy years of service in the work of God's Church in England, and pray that he may be strengthened to endure the wrench of parting from a Diocese which he loves, and have a safe journey home, and renew his strength in the quieter sphere of an English Archdeaconry. Bishop Wallis is not likely to be forgotten by the present generation of New Zealand churchmen.

AUCKLAND.

Just as we were going to press we read the telegram from Auckland announcing that the Synod has elected the Venerable O. T. L. Crossley, Archdeacon of Geelong, in the Diocese of Melbourne, to be Bishop of Auckland, and that the Archdeacon has accepted.

We feel sure that all loyal churchmen in this Diocese will pray for the Bishop elect, that he may be given "humility, courage, and grace," for the responsible and difficult position he has been called to, and that the churchmen of his Diocese may rally round him loyally and sympathetically.

MELANESIAN MISSION.

A strong desire having been expressed by some of the Mission staff now working at Norfolk Island, that the discussion of the question of the removal of S. Barnabas' to the Islands be postponed, the Bishop has decided to leave the whole question to be settled by his successor, and has sent in his resignation to the Primate of New Zealand, to take effect from July 31st next.

Reinforcements.

The New Year opens with a bright prospect in additions to the staff. On January 13th the Rev. G. F. Bury, late Curate of Christ Church, Reading (the second Curate of that parish who has become a Melanesian Missionary, the first having been the Rev. C. W. Browning), the Rev. R. J. A. Simmons (ordained deacon by the Bishop of S. Albans), and Dr. Marshall, to take charge of the new Solomon Island Hospital, will (D.V.) leave England by the P. and O. steamer India, in company with the Rev. J. M. Steward, who is returning to his work in Guadalcanar and Florida.

CHRISTCHURCH.

C.E.M.S.—A deputation from the Diocesan Council, consisting of one clergyman and two laymen, viz., the Diocesan secretary, and Messrs Carter, Bear, and Claude Ferrier, waited lately upon the directors of the Christchurch Cycling and Motor Club, for the purpose of asking them to abandon their Good Friday sports in future years. The matter was fully gone into, and as a result a resolution was passed, that although the sports would have to be held this year by reason of all arrangements having been made in July last, in future years they would not hold Good Friday sports. Needless to say C.E.M.S. is delighted with this result.

We are all looking forward to the New Zealand Conference, which is to be held here on the Wednesday and Thursday, after Easter.

The Diocesan Council is to die on March 31st. From that date we shall have several Federation Councils and a Diocesan Union, the Councils being composed of representatives of the branches, and the Union of representatives of the Councils.

MISSION EXTENSION.—The Bishop has appointed a committee to arrange for the holding of missions in all parishes, that had not the privilege of a mission last year. The committee is arranging a general exchange of preachers for week-day services in Lent.

BIBLE IN SCHOOLS.—Some of us have great hope that something may at last be done in this vital matter. The Bishop has appointed a committee, and soon there is to be a Conference of all Ministers of religion in Christchurch. The New South Wales system is to be discussed.

CANADA.

THE CALL OF THE WEST.—On Sunday, September 25th, in the remote town of Prince Albert, among the lumber camps of Saskatchewan in the heart of the Canadian prairie, a body of men, twenty-seven in all, were admitted to Holy Orders by the Bishop of Saskatchewan for special ministry among British settlers. In numbers and qualification it is claimed that they would do credit to any English diocese. Every candidate had previously undergone a course of training, embracing both the pastoral and the intellectual spheres in its character, of from three to four years in extent. The pastoral experience comprised annual periods of six months' mission work in allocated districts on the prairie among the settlers; the intellectual equipment was acquired in annual course of six months' study in the Divinity College of the diocese. Eighteen of the twenty-seven were men sent out by the Colonial and Continental Church Society in connection with the scheme of Principal Lloyd, who as Archdeacon made his first tour in England in 1906-7, appealing for men and for the money to support them.

"Repeat nothing till you know it's true; and not always then."
—Anon.