

several prayer and hymn books for the use of the congregation.

We regret to have to record the death of two well-known Parishioners. Mrs. Hill, relict of the late Captain Hill, passed peacefully away after a short illness at her son's residence, Fernhill. At Puketapu, Mrs. Smale died suddenly on Saturday, 10th August. She had lived at Puketapu for many years.

S. Luke's, Havelock North.

Vicar: Rev. J. A. Lush, B.A.

The annual Parish meeting was held on Tuesday, July 30, in the schoolroom, and was well attended. Reports were read from different branches of Church work, as well as from the Vicar. In presenting the balance-sheet for 1911-12 the People's Warden pointed out that £127 2/9 was spent in extraordinary expenditure, and would not recur for some years. The receipts from all sources for the whole Parish amounted to £759, and disbursements to £724, leaving a credit balance of £35 at the Bank.

The Vicar appointed Mr. R. Gardner to be his Warden, and the following were elected for other offices:—People's Warden, Mr. S. R. Quartley; Vestrymen, Messrs Couper, Fitzroy, Roberts, Rush, Smart, Tanner, Weaver; and from Clive, Messrs Campbell and Cushing.

A scheme for a Parish magazine, including a gazette, a periodical, and a printed cover, was put before the meeting, and unanimously agreed to.

Pew rents were discussed, and after a very useful discussion a large majority expressed themselves in favour of free seats.

The scheme for Church enlargement in wood was put before the meeting. After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that a Building Committee be appointed, consisting of representatives of the Vestry and Messrs B. Chambers and C. Ellison. The meeting closed with the Grace.

Since the general meeting the Building Committee has met, has approved a plan for enlargement in permanent material, and submitted it to the Vestry, which has unanimously agreed to it. Circulars have been sent out, and it is hoped that with the help of a meeting of the congregation on August 26, there will be an excellent response. Considerably over £1500 must be raised.

Mothers' Union.—On Thursday Mrs. Lewis, of Hastings, read a very interesting and debatable paper on "The Relation of Women's Work to Home Life." Meetings for September on the 5th in Church, and on the 19th in the schoolroom.

Missionary Working Party.—Next meeting will be on Wednesday, September 4th, instead of Tuesday, at Mrs. Fitzroy's house. There is room and scope for more members. Missionary intercession, Sunday, September 22.

C.E.M.S.—Next meeting, Tuesday, September 3, at the Vicarage. Mem-

bers are reminded that the Rev. Watts-Ditchfield will be the preacher at S. Matthew's, Hastings, on September 21st, at 11.

We give our very best wishes to the Councillors of Havelock who have lately been elected, and trust they will have a period of real useful service.

We are all glad to hear that both Mrs. Reed and Mrs. Harry Ridgway, who have been laid up for a considerable time, are much better.

S. MARK'S, CLIVE.

On August 7th an At Home was held in the Village Hall in the afternoon. A few voices were unheeded. The Vicar very briefly explained the Constitution of the Church in New Zealand, and the importance of the annual meeting. We are very much indebted for the help received from Napier, either from the Rev. Canon Tuke and Rev. C. L. Wilson, or from the ven. Archdeacon Ruddock.

The thoughts of Clive people are often with Mr. and Mrs. Bateman. Mr. Bateman is indeed a veteran sufferer, and we should like him to know that his patience has been a lesson to many of us.

The Vicar would like to meet those who are thinking about Confirmation.

Waipukurau.

Vicar: Rev. F. W. Martin.

Curate: Rev. H. Collier.

The annual meeting of Parishioners was held in the schoolroom on July 31st, the Vicar presiding. The Wardens, in submitting their report, drew attention to the fact that the Diocesan authorities contemplated a rearrangement of boundaries, necessitated by the formation of new parochial districts, and one of the changes affecting this Parish in the near future would be the cutting off of Onga Onga district, which it is proposed to add to Waipawa. The report also dealt with the position in regard to the glebe land within the Waipukurau Town Board area, which has recently been surveyed and divided into quarter-acre allotments. The Vestry had every intention of placing these properties on the market immediately, but owing to the fact (which has just been brought to the knowledge of the Vestry) that part of the property was under the Land Transfer Act and part under the Deeds Registration Act, the matter is held up for the time being to allow for the whole piece to be brought under the Land Transfer Act. The balance-sheet showed that the income for the year just met the expenditure (£99 17/9) brought forward from the previous year, the balance at the end of the year being £100 3/8.

The Vicar appointed Mr. C. Saunders as his Warden, Mr. G. A. Ellison being re-elected People's Warden. The Vestry elected were Messrs Scruby, Dacres, Broadley, Bryce, Hewitt, Merton, Hobson, Bean, Curd, and Wilkins. Auditor, Mr. E.

Gilbertson. Votes of thanks were passed to the Ladies' Guild, Sunday-school teachers, District Collectors, retiring vestry, and the Press.

Ormondville.

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

The yearly meeting of Parishioners was held on the 31st July. The night being wet and cold, the attendance was only moderate. The accounts for the year ended 30th June were passed. They showed a deficit of £7. The following officers were appointed for the ensuing year:—People's Warden, Mr. Thomas Fothergill; Minister's Warden, Mr. Samuel Dockary; additional members of the Vestry, Messrs Bagley, Benson, Williams, Saunders, Thomas Smith, Robert Groom, Ernest Smith.

The Vicar read an exhaustive report on the year's work. Below are a few extracts:—The past 12 months have been marked especially by two features. First, the loss to the Church, especially in Ormondville, of several of its most active members. (Here followed a list of 35 to 40 names of adult members of the church.) Their places have either not been filled at all by new arrivals, or else the newcomers have, as a rule, been members of other Churches. Such losses cannot, of course, but profoundly affect the life and well-being, spiritual and temporal, of the Church. The second general fact that has been so prominent during the last 12 months has been the topsy-turvy character of that fickle element, the weather. The spring was marked by 10 weeks of almost continuous gales of wind, the summer and autumn had a minimum of sunshine, and the winter months so far have been the most severe for many years. Where so many in every place, it is to be feared, make pleasant weather an indispensable adjunct to Church attendance, the above conditions cannot fail to have a prejudicial effect upon the spiritual tone and level of congregations. But I fear my tone seems, like the weather, damping and despondent. It is not intended that it should be. There are elements of encouragement, too. The truth appears to be that the Parish is passing just now through a phase of depression. In a year or two, when probably several blocks of land will be cut up in the Parish for closer settlement, we may again hope for our losses to be made up, and other active helpers and interested helpers; and interested members of the Church to take the places of those who have gone. Meanwhile the drawbacks that beset us by reason of the diminished numbers of our most interested Church members should stir up all who remain to fill up what is lacking in life and zeal for the welfare of the Parish. To speak in commercial language, there should be no sleeping partners in the firm of the Consolidated Church Trust of unlimited liability.

Losses by Death.—Foremost among our losses has been that of the late