

other. What we have to show them is that the game of life has something finer and better than amassing wealth, that success in life is seen in character and not possessions. We must point out that this spells war, and that on the lonely battlefield of the human heart, all the forces of evil have to be crushed.

We are being told to-day that the stricken lands of Belgium are the result of the evil of militarism, and against that evil the forces of the Empire are arrayed to stamp it out. But let us remember that German militarism is only one of the many forms of evil, so that it is the evil behind it that needs crushing. The world knows it, for the eyes of the world are opened to what greed and insane ambition lead to. Whilst men's hearts are aflame with indignation against this evil, they have risen in their might, to overthrow part of this kingdom of evil, and, to my mind, whilst their hearts are aflame with indignation, the hour has much for the Christian Church, to ring anew with the call to stand by God. If we can count in millions the slain and wounded, all the result of one form of evil, who will count the numbers slain by the world, the flesh and the devil. Whilst the whole civilised world is crying out against the ruthless destruction of Louvain, let us not forget that in the sight of God one perishing soul is worth more than Louvain. Let men see, then, a motive for giving, let them feel the thrill of God calling them, to rise up in their might and stamp out all that destroys the bodies and souls of men. I believe they will respond.

I would ask, then, all who are gathered for this Synod, to remember that "God is our hope," for in these words is a ringing conviction that when humanity fails, when the policies of statesmen break, when the destinies of nations are being reformed, we are lost, hopelessly lost, if we forget God. One of our chaplains at the front has told us, that "the men there are making a great discovery, they are discovering God." What is wanted, then, for the new world which is coming is new men. Our work is to prepare men for this—can we do it? Yes, a thousand times, yes, if we cling on to this—"God is our hope."

A Solemn Intercession.

In accordance with ancient custom in time of war and trouble, a Solemn Service of Intercession was held on Wednesday evening during Synod. For the first time in Napier the Litany was sung in solemn procession—this was the purpose for which it was originally composed—and after hearing and seeing and above all taking part in this wonderful service we shall not be satisfied until we get the Litany restored to its original use. The procession formed up at the Vestry and approached the Chancel. The Bishop and Cathedral dignitaries then advanced to the Sanctuary, and the procession was started and bidden to "go forth in the name of the Lord." First came the Cross bearer (Mr H. A. King) carrying a large and beautiful Cross, presented by the C.E.M.S. Following him were members of the C.E.M.S. in their ordinary dress, then the Verger and the male members of the Choir. Then followed six cantors and the rest of the Diocesan clergy, then the Cathedral dignitaries, the Bishop's chaplain, carrying Episcopal Staff, and finally the Bishop. The cantors chanted the Litany and the responses were given by the rest of the worshippers. As the procession marched through the streets it was received with marked reverence by crowds of people on both sides. The procession reached the band rotunda on the Marine Parade just at the right moment and the prayers which conclude the Litany were said there. Then followed a hymn (395) after which the Intercessions for those at the war and those who have died on active service were read by Canon Mayne.

The Bishop preached an able sermon in which he expressed the loyalty of the Church to the Empire fighting in a holy cause. He spoke of the resolutions carried in Synod in the interests of temperance and condemned the proposed relaxation in the Gaming and Lotteries' Act. He appealed for nobility and generosity in giving towards the patriotic funds, deprecating methods of raising money of a doubtful character, and begged that when our boys come

back they may not be dragged down by temptations provided by those who stayed behind.

After the singing of the National Anthem, the procession reformed and marched back to the Cathedral singing hymn 165. The procession was dismissed in the usual way.

The service was deeply impressive and many of the clergy and laity have asked to have a proper processional Litany at every Synod time and on other suitable occasions.

Girls' Friendly Society.

A meeting of the Council was held at the G.F.S. Lodge on September 4th, and among other correspondence a letter was read from the General Secretary at London stating that Miss Shirley and Miss Sheridan, who had been commended from this Diocese, had both been properly cared for.

The report of the Building Committee was received announcing the completion of the construction and furnishing of the Lodge. The accounts showed that donations with interest amounted to £2387 17s 7d, and the expenditure to £2411 15s 11d, leaving a deficiency of £223 18s 4d.

An offer was made to the Council of the cottages adjoining the G.F.S. Lodge for the price of £500 apiece, and the matter was left to the Executive Committee to decide in conference with the Trustees.

The annual meeting was fixed for November 4th, at 3.30 p.m., and it was decided to hold a United Festival Service with the members of the Mothers' Union on November 10th, at 2.30 p.m., with tea afterwards in S. John's Schoolroom.

The Secretary informed the Council that Taradale had been linked with Newick, a Branch in Sussex, England.

C. M. H. STOPFORD,
Diocesan Secretary.

The half-yearly meeting of the Central Committee of the Social Work Fund will be held at S. Mary's Home, Napier, on Wednesday, October 27th, at 2.30 p.m. The Bishop will preside.