

of the God-parents are not understood. A shorter, modernised service to be used during Evensong on special occasions, and a solemn form, longer if necessary, but modern in expression, to be used with appropriate hymns and ceremony as a separate service on such occasions as Easter, Whitsuntide and Christmas, would be far more satisfying than the present service which seems sometimes so far fetched and ambiguous in its language and which is not suitable for use during evensong, nor sufficiently ceremonious for a separate "Solemn" service. Those who use Hymns A. and M. are also at a disadvantage as regards suitable hymns. Nos. 325 and 326, which are good, are seldom used because of their unfamiliar tunes; 327 and 328 are addressed to the child and to the God-parents, and are not hymns to God at all and confuse the seal of the Cross with the washing of regeneration. However, we agree that baptism should be sometimes publicly administered in spite of the practical difficulties to which we cannot shut our eyes.

We commend unreservedly the rest of the booklets that we have seen. It is an excellent series.

## Parochial Notes.

### Taradale.

Vicar: Rev. A. P. Clarke.

We had a very welcome visit from the Rev. F. Long on Tuesday, May 7th, and much enjoyed his magic lantern lecture on his work in the mission field.

The Meanee Boy Scouts, under Mr. Boneshae, attended service at Meanee on Sunday, May 12th, and the Vicar is glad to know that they will do so at regular intervals.

There are still a few subscribers to the "Gazette" who have not yet paid for 1917-1918. Would they kindly communicate with the Vicar? The subscription is really due in advance on 1st July in each year.

A Sunday School was started in Riverbend road several Sundays ago. For some time past the need for a Sunday School there has been felt, the great difficulty being the lack of a room. This was overcome for a while through the kindness of Mr Sam Wood, of Napier, who allowed us the use of a small cottage. He has, however, most unfortunately for us, sold the place, together with other property of his, so that just at present we are without a room. There were twenty children's names on the roll, so that there is no doubt about the need of a school. Should these lines meet the eye of some kindly disposed person able to help in this good work,

we should be deeply grateful to receive financial aid which would enable us to buy a little place in which we could carry on this very necessary work.

### St. Andrew's, Port Ahuriri.

Vicar: Rev. F. B. Redgrave, M.A.

The day of continuous prayer in connection with the war, which was held on the Saturday after Ascension Day was well observed. The day began with a Celebration of Holy Communion at 7.30, and the whole morning there was someone in the church, whilst for most of the afternoon there were half-a-dozen persons praying.

On Ascension Day the Bishop kindly preached to a very good congregation on the "Joy of Ascension-tide."

The electric light has been installed in the church, it being a very great improvement on the gas, which was far from satisfactory. The cost has been borne by a very successful concert which was held in the Coronation Hall, at which several of the best-known Napier musicians helped us.

We now sing the Psalms at the evening service, which makes the service much brighter. We have no choir, but thanks to the assistance of Mr W. P. Finch, who is helping us after Evensong on Thursday evenings, the whole congregation is to be the choir.

### Waipiro.

Vicar: Rev. J. Pigott.

At the request of the Poverty Bay Clerical Association this district took the first half-day of the continuous Intercession between Ascension Day and Whit Sunday. We started with 13 communicants at a celebration of the Holy Communion at 7 o'clock in St. Mary's Church, Tokomaru Bay. The St. Andrew's congregation were responsible for an hour and a-half in their church, and the Waipiro Bay people for one hour in the Waipiro church.

An effort is to be made to have an evening service in the Te Araroa church once a month, followed by a celebration of the Holy Communion on the Monday morning at 7.30. The Te Araroa church people are attending to the lights, as unfortunately the electric power is no longer available.

Local church committees are being formed in various centres. The one at Waima has done very useful work for some years. Kahukara has now got one in working order and doing useful work. We trust Te Araroa and other centres will soon do the same.

### Waipawa.

Vicar: Rev. M. W. Butterfield, B.A., B.D.

The Day of Prayer (Tuesday, May 14th) was observed in the Waipawa district. At Waipawa services were held at various times, some of them largely attended. The intervals were devoted to continuous prayer in the churches and the day ended with a combined prayer meeting. At Onga Onga, Lunsdale and Tamumu churches private intercessions were offered during the day by local Church people.

A very successful gift afternoon was held on Wednesday, May 22nd. The Deaconess and Mrs Murdoch came from Napier. After intercession service at 2 p.m. the party adjourned to the Vicarage. In addition to groceries in great variety the sum of £6 4s in cash was received for the Home.

### Opotiki.

Vicar: Rev. T. Fisher.

We are at last finding the church as we like to see it, after the disturbing interference of the flood. Willing hands shared in the necessary drying and cleaning, finally Mr Vickers, attested by a kind visitor, spent an evening cleaning and polishing.

We have to add a cheque from Mr T. R. Bridge for £2 to the amount paid in last month to the Church Army Hut Fund. We wish we could do more.

We fell into line as well as we could in observing Anzac Day, with Holy Communion at 8 a.m., and a special service of commemoration at noon, which a good number attended.

And again during the time from Ascension Day to Whit Sunday, We believe many in Opotiki are adding their own earnest prayers.

There is a growing desire for a larger and more general congregation of the mothers and wives at the monthly Mothers' Union service, held at 3 p.m. on the first Friday of the month, so that the intercession, prayers, and thanksgivings may be shared by all; it is an opportunity not to be missed. In these days of incessant anxiety all are busy, but after our Lord's example, "Our Father's business" has a prior claim—believing in Him as we do, and in His gracious willingness to hear and answer prayer.

Is it not time we completed the furnishing of the altar by adding the two brass candlesticks? A gift of altar linen is also needed as at present we are using a borrowed set. Who will think of these things??

Can some friend offer a suitable horse for driving, at a reasonable figure, to enable the Vicar to get out beyond town when he can make time?

Messrs Mead and W. Reece spent a