

## Parochial Notes.

### St. Matthew's, Hastings.

Vicar: Rev. R. T. Hall.

Assistant Curate: Rev. O. Gibson.

The Rev. W. J. Durrad, of the Board of Missions, preached on July 18th, and on the following Wednesday gave a very interesting lantern lecture on work in Melanesia. Mr Durrad was also present at the meeting of the Gleaners' Union on July 29th, and in answer to questions gave more details of his recent work.

The Sunday school teachers had a most enjoyable social evening in July, some of the Mahora teachers also being present.

In July the G.F.S. was addressed by the Rev. E. D. Rice. Mr Rice emphasised the fact that in the life of any society and in the life of the individual member there should be the ideal of giving not getting, giving both towards God and towards one's neighbor.

The Mothers' Union met as usual on August 3rd, when the Vicar gave an address.

On August 11th the C.E.M.S. had their monthly meeting. It was an "open question" night, and the two questions discussed were, "How far can a Christian be successful in business under modern conditions?" and "Can the class-distinction in the Church be got rid of, and how?" The September meeting will be devoted to discussions on other questions raised by members.

### Tolaga Bay.

Vicar: Rev. E. A. McCutcheon.

It is very helpful to all concerned when there are signs of progress and growth. It is gratifying to know that our Missionary Guild is undertaking a Sale of Work to be held early next year. Circulars outlining the objects and requirements have been sent out, and the Guild is confident that the whole parish will enter into the spirit of their endeavor to do something bigger in the cause of Missions. Will all begin now to work for the sale, and also remember to pray often for foreign missions?

The children's organisation, "The Heralds of the King," is likewise preparing for its own Sale of Work. The children meet at the Vicarage one Saturday afternoon a month—boys and girls—and it is a joy to observe their interest and keenness. Since that church fails that is not actively engaged in missionary work, what better policy than that of gaining the sympathy and activity of the young folk? May God bless their efforts!

An impressive service was held at St. Andrew's on the 1st of July, when

thirteen children were given to God in Holy Baptism. After the service the parents, god-parents, and children were entertained at the Vicarage. It was a happy gathering. The time was spent in pleasant intercourse and afternoon tea was dispensed. We shall long remember the day.

The Vicar is pleased to report a ready response to an appeal to communicants for funds to provide a travelling communion set. At the time of writing only a few have not sent in donations.

As the Vicar's stipend has been increased the warden solicited subscriptions from non-subscribers. Several have responded to an appeal by circular, and some, subscribing already, have increased their subscriptions. The desire is to raise the whole stipend by direct giving. This would ease the burden of the warden, who should have the whole-hearted support of parishioners generally.

As Confirmation classes begin in October the Vicar desires to have as soon as possible the names of intending candidates.

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

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

Good progress is now being made with the Vicarage, which should be finished in about two months. Owing to the ever-increasing cost of material it will cost considerably more than what we at first estimated, but the parish is determined to open it entirely free of debt, and at present there is every prospect of being able to do this.

It was hoped that the memorial window which the parishioners are erecting in St. Andrew's Church might have come to hand before Synod, but the latest advice is that we will have to wait a few weeks longer for it.

Sir Ralph Williams, K.C.M.G., who during the course of an extremely interesting career has been Governor in three different parts of the Empire, besides being British Resident at Pretoria during Paul Kruger's Presidency, gave us one evening recently a talk on some incidents of his life. It was of absorbing interest and was very greatly appreciated by the parishioners. Sir Ralph, who is a very keen Churchman, strongly urged his hearers to contribute to the Vicar's Sick and Needy Fund, and this they did.

### St. Mark's, Clive.

Priest in Charge: Rev. R. F. Geddes, M.A.

Mr and Mrs Geddes arrived on August 5th. With a priest resident in the district Clive should have opportunities for development which have been impossible before.

On Wednesday, the 11th, Mrs Rud-dock and the Rev. Canon Lush came out from Havelock for the monthly meeting of the Mothers' Union and Girls' Friendly Society. Although the night was dark there was a large attendance.

Mr Geddes expects shortly to get out into the surrounding districts and hopes to arrange for regular services at Clive Grange, Whakatu and Mangateretere.

We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to Mr and Mrs T. Cushing in the recent loss of their infant son.

### Opotiki.

Vicar: Rev. T. Fisher.

This time I will lay aside the impersonal, and write as Vicar.

Great consideration has been shown us, both by the Bishop and by his commissary, in arranging for us to go to Napier, and take up needed work there, and I have accepted the call.

Our 5½ years in Opotiki have much endeared you all to us, and it is a great trial to have to say good-bye, but years take their toll as they pass, such strenuous and anxious years, especially as these have been.

The hallowed Church of St. Stephen the Martyr has gathered us together on very many solemn occasions, and there are few in Opotiki who have not met me there, and joined in acts of worship of one kind or another. I would desire that all such should remember me by these acts, as linking us to the One Eternal Creator and preserver of our bodies, and our spirits.

Since the last annual report the vestry has received from the Diocesan Trust Board the further help of another loan of £100, which releases us from obligation to the Bank of New Zealand, leaving there only a balance on the building account of less than £70, a manageable amount, which we may reasonably hope to clear off among ourselves fairly soon.

I am quite confident that in other hands than mine the parish will make good advance in a spiritual sense, now that the overwhelming burden of debt is removed, and the strain of war is over.

It had been our hope to have seen the memorial Lych gate and fence erected and dedicated, but I am not without hope that soon this will be done. May I be able to attend at its dedication!

You have a little group of devoted and loyal Sunday school teachers, one of whom is also ably acting as organist at Sunday services, though finding it too much strain. I hope a member of the congregation will soon offer to help her. I hope, too, that the next Sunday school teachers'