



The Waiapu Church Gazette.

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Diocese of Waiapu.

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All letters intended for the Bishop's Commissary in his official capacity should be addressed to The Bishop's Commissary, Diocesan Office, Box 227, Napier.

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Phones: Office, 877; House, 798.

Clerical Society.

The clergy of Northern Hawke's Bay assembled on All Saints' Day at Hastings for their monthly meeting, which will long be remembered on account of the beautiful Eucharist which preceded it in St. Matthew's Church, and the important subject chosen for discussion, the Lambeth letter on Reunion. At the request of the clergy the Rev. R. T. Hall, who celebrated, wore the full Eucharistic vestments. The Rev. O. Gibson assisted the celebrant. The Hastings choir, numbering about twenty, sang Merbecke's Music and the celebrant sang his part, including the Comfortable Words. The "Benedictus qui Venit" and the "Agnus" were used, and the Hymn for Unity was sung after the Consecration.

The service was most impressive and inspiring. The Hastings choir are to be congratulated, if we may use the word of such a solemn service of worship, on their excellent rendering

of the music, which was marked by reverence and a due appreciation of its solemnity and dignity. Mr Tombs, the organist and conductor, has evidently inspired the choir with some of his rare sense of the true spirit of worship. The service showed how wonderfully true devotion can be helped by the use of the Church's own music sympathetically rendered. A fairly large number of laymen and laywomen attended besides the clergy.

At the meeting held in the Vicarage immediately afterwards the Lambeth letter was discussed, a paper being read by Canon K. E. Maclean. At the request of the clergy Canon Maclean handed his paper to the local correspondent of the "Churchman" and it has been accepted for publication in the January number.

A Wayside Cross.

A beautiful Cross was unveiled at the corner of Palmerston road and Derby street (in the grounds of Holy Trinity Church), Gisborne, on Armistice Day. The Cross is of mediaeval architecture, 20 feet high and made of Sydney sandstone. In a niche on the Cross arm is a beautiful bronze figure of the Crucified Christ, with another bronze figure below it of a mother and her soldier boy. The figures are from the design of an eminent Royal Academician and worked by a famous Italian sculptor in London. We regret that space does not allow us to give a full description of the Cross, but we believe that photographs of it are obtainable. The Cross has been erected by the efforts of the Holy Trinity Girls' Club in memory of 500 soldiers from the Poverty Bay district and all others who made the supreme sacrifice in the Great War.

The church grounds were occupied by representatives of local bodies, Poverty Bay clergy, City Band, members of Holy Trinity Girls' Club (all dressed in white), and parents of deceased soldiers and others with floral tributes. The thoroughfares in the

vicinity of the church were well filled with people, while the children attending the main school were assembled in the school-yard opposite to witness the ceremony.

The Cross was unveiled by Miss Eileen Davies, president of the Girls' Club. A very large number of wreaths were laid at the foot, including several from local bodies, from the members of the club and from bereaved relatives. Prior to the ceremony Mr G. E. Darton, president of the local R.S.A., gave a fine address and after the unveiling the Rev. James Aitken, the Gisborne Presbyterian minister, gave a very impressive address on the Significance of the Cross, and the teaching of such a wayside Cross as the one then unveiled. We much regret that we cannot find space to publish the whole of his sermon. The Dedication service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. H. Paeko. Appropriate hymns were sung accompanied by the Gisborne Band. At the conclusion of the service the bugler sounded the "Last Post," the National Anthem was sung and the Vicar pronounced the Benediction.

Our Gisborne correspondent says the service was most beautiful and impressive and one which could never be forgotten. The members of the Girls' Club, fifty strong, dressed in white, marched to the Cross led by the two vice-presidents carrying an enormous Cross made of scarlet geraniums. People were weeping and the passers by all bared their heads. The figures are most beautifully done and the figure of the Christ especially. There is something very appealing and beautiful about it all.

G.E.M.S.

The third combined meeting of the Hastings, Havelock, and Napier branches was held at Hastings on October 27th. There was a good attendance in spite of many enforced absences. The meeting was in the hands of the Napier members and opened with a period of prayer, the leader being Bro. Rice.