

make life miserable even for their own children. The absence of religion, and appreciation of lofty ideals, the utter lack of discipline in ninety per cent of such homes is notorious. Is this the sort of training to which unfortunate orphans are to be condemned? Contrast this with the advantages of such a happy family life, refined, gentle, peaceful as we see in such a home, for example, as St. Hilda's! There are no happier children, no more affectionate children, loving, loveable, and loved in New Zealand than those who, if we may say it, have the good fortune to be members of such a family under a matron, who loves them all individually without favouritism, and exacts perfect discipline not by compulsion but by love.

The Church will fight to the death for her undoubted right to care for Christ's (not the State's) children and bring them up as honest, moral, respectable and worthy citizens of both the earthly State and the Heavenly Kingdom.

Mr Beck and Mr Parr will find themselves up against a solid phalanx of opposition from all who know the excellent work the orphanages are doing, and from those who have poured out their hearts and love to these poor children. Every Christian orphanage is a power for good in its neighborhood; an incentive to Christian charity and that mercy which is twice blessed—a blessing to both the givers and the receivers.

We flatly contradict most of Mr Beck's statements.

1. We admit that Russia, "a most enlightened country," has nationalised the children, not only orphans but others in order to train them all as Bolshevists and keep them away from religious influences—but our knowledge of most enlightened countries is limited. Britain, with its numerous orphanages, is apparently not one of them.

2. "Private enterprise under the guise of benevolence"! What do our readers think of this as a description of our Home at Otane? The children do not belong to the infidel State that panders to immorality and excludes God from its schools; they belong to Christ and we, the Christian brothers and sisters, of the parents they have lost, justly claim to bring them up as Christ's children.

3. "Co-ordination of methods" is unnecessary—there are as many good methods as there are good people. We do not want orphanages to be run as factories in which standard machinery turns out standard screws to a

standard gauge. Orphanages must be run on human lines, individuality must be encouraged, not crushed. We do not object to adequate supervision as to hygiene, etc., but we know what the State means by "co-ordination." You can't run an orphanage as you run a machine gun corps. As for after supervision, the tie that binds the ex-orphan to the matron who mothered him, and her to him, is infinitely stronger than the fatherly supervision of the State policeman; the refining influence of a happy orphanage under a refined matron who does her work for the love of Christ and his little ones is infinitely better than the selfish interest or "enterprise under the guise of benevolence" of foster parents who want to make as much as they can out of their human farms.

### St. Hilda's Home.

The matron of St. Hilda's Children's Home, Otane, acknowledges with thanks the following gifts:—Jam, Mrs Henry Tiffin, Mrs McLean, Messrs Tickner, Wood, Dryden; books and toys, Mrs Henry Tiffin; meat, Mr George Williams, Otane Harvest Thanksgiving, Mrs Gilmour, Mr Whibley; eggs and butter, Mr George Williams; fruit, Mr Edward Bibby, Harvest Thanksgiving offerings, St. James (Otane), St. John's (Dannevirke), Waipukurau (per Rev. Stace), Woodville; milk, Mr Cowley; vegetables and potatoes, Mr Phillips (Dannevirke); onions, Mrs Watts, Mr George Williams; cakes, Mrs J. Todd, Mr F. Tickner, Mr Whibley, Mr F. D. Waller, Otane Horticultural Show; vegetables, Rata-mau (per Rev. Stephenson), Mr H. J. Pratley; potatoes, Mr Herbert Gilbertson, Mrs Williams (Clare-inch); sauces and jelly, Messrs Tickner, Wood, Dryden; clothing, Mrs C. Williams, Miss Sallie Williams, Mrs T. Hogg, Mrs Frank Nelson; apples, Mr W. Williams; strainers and post, Mr G. C. Williams; bulbs, Rev. G. Davidson.

### News and Notes.

There is a wonderful educating influence in the daily assemblage of the family for prayer. There is an elevation of tone that would not otherwise come into the household. It impresses the children; it gives a practical and personal tone to piety.—G. B. Hallock.

At the Y.M.C.A. Convention held in Calcutta last November the word "Protestant" was eliminated from the Constitution, and active membership was thrown open to Roman Catholics.

We have received from the Ven. Archdeacon Chatterton a copy of an excellent leaflet published by him, being outlines of addresses for Confirmation classes. The "Outlines" are specially suitable for distribution to candidates in backblock places who are unable to attend classes. Copies may be obtained from Archdeacon Chatterton at threepence each.

Mrs W. D. Pattison, of Waipawa, a Roman Catholic, who died recently, bequeathed the sum of £100 to St. Hilda's Home, Otane, and the sum of £1000 to be devoted to charities in the Waipawa district, whether religious, educational, or other charities. The good work of St. Hilda's is winning much sympathy from friends outside as well as within the Anglican Church. All who come in contact with the Home and its results feel bound to help it.

We respectfully request contributors to the "Waipapu Church Gazette" not to send to us articles or news items which they are also sending to the "N.Z. Churchman." We have, by courtesy of the Editor of the "Churchman" just received the proofs of the June "Churchman" in which an article and a news item appear that are already in course of being printed in our own "Gazette." Such "double-banking" is a waste of space and time.

There is no more momentous social, religious, or political problem facing the people of America than that of Marriage and Divorce. History tells us in unmistakable language that when the family is destroyed the destruction of the nation follows inevitably. In the year 1916 there were no less than 112,036 divorces in the United States, and the increase every five years is over 30 per cent. . . . There is an urgent need that Christians of every name should make an organised attempt to stem the fearful torrent. America, among all the Christian nations of the world, stands lowest as regards her treatment of marriage, and among non-Christian nations is only exceeded in her degradation of this most sacred relation by Japan.—Dr. Gwynne.

St. Philip's Church, Buckingham Palace Road, London, has been assigned for the use of Russian exiles of the Orthodox Church of Russia.