

Bishopscourt has been sold and the Bishop is now living in Chaucer road, Napier.

The Rev. J. Shardlow (Vicar elect of Wairoa) is expected to arrive in Auckland on November 10th.

The Rev. G. B. Malcolm has resigned the cure of Porangahau and has accepted appointment as Vicar of Paramatta in the Wellington Diocese.

The Rev. R. F. Geddes, of Clive, has been appointed Vicar of Puke-tapu.

**Excuses for Humbugs.**

An American gentleman, who has been much touched by the difficulty experienced by nominal Church people in finding an excuse for neglecting the worship of God, has kindly supplied a list out of which those who feel disinclined for Church-going may be able to find one or more to suit their case. He does not pretend that any one of them will really satisfy the conscience, or be accepted by the Great Judge but they may perhaps serve to put off any enquiring parson who is too polite to remark upon their thinness. We give them for what they are worth:—

- Don't seem to get around on time.
- The hours of church services are inconvenient for us.
- Have callers on Sunday evenings.
- Have to work hard all through the week and want to rest on Sunday.
- The church is too small.
- I don't go to church because I can't get my husband (or wife) to go with me.
- I'm just as good as those who go every Sunday.

The church was closed one time when there was no rector.

I'm afraid the church might be closed.

I've had my feelings hurt too many times.

I did not like one of the former rectors.

I don't like the music (or the candles, curtains, pictures or any other old thing).

I have gotten out of the habit of going to church.

I board with a Baptist family and go to church with them because I enjoy myself in any Protestant church. (Note the emphasis).

I have a small baby.

My health is poor.

The seats are uncomfortable.

I don't like some of the members.

I went one Sunday and there were not very many there.

I had too much religion at school (or, when I was a boy).

**The Christian Healing Mission.**

Definite information has been received from Mr James Moore Hickson with regard to his proposed visit to hold missions of healing in Australia. Mr Hickson, who is at present engaged in a series of similar missions in the Province of South Africa, will spend six months in Australia, beginning from Tasmania in March, 1923, and undertake missions in not more than eighteen centres. The committee appointed by General Synod for the purpose of making preparations for this visit has already drawn up a draft plan of missions in

the different provinces and dioceses, and communicated with the Bishops with a view to making its final selection of diocesan centres. Mr Hickson's original proposal was to visit only chief cities, but in response to urgent requests from the Bishop of Willochra and the Bishop of Goulburn he has extended the range of his mission. In the light of Mr Hickson's suggestions the committee has decided to confine his mission to one centre in each diocese visited. As soon as the answers of the Bishops permit, the draft plan of the series of missions will be revised and published. The Bishop of each diocese to be visited is being asked to form a diocesan committee, which shall make all local arrangements and preparations. For this purpose the committee will receive copies of memoranda sent by Mr Hickson or prepared by the General Synod Committee.

The religious Press and also the secular Press will receive in due course such notices of the mission as will help to create the right kind of expectation. At this stage it may suffice to lay stress upon these facts: (1) It is a mission not merely of spiritual healing, but of Christian healing. (2) The deepest and greatest results attended those missions where the way had been prepared by prayer. (3) The mission depends upon spiritual conditions, and those conditions are an awakening of the corporate faith of the Church in the healing power of our Lord, and a deepening of the faith and penitence of all who are looking for benefit from the mission. These are the things for which to pray from now onwards.—("Church Standard").

**For Missions. (At Evensong Prayer).**

Let us pray for the extension of Christ's Kingdom throughout the world.

- V. How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace;
- R. And bring glad tidings of good things.

O God our heavenly Father who did'st manifest Thy love by sending Thine only begotten Son into the world that all might live through Him: Pour Thy Spirit upon Thy Church that it may fulfil His command to preach the Gospel to every creature; send forth, we beseech Thee, labourers into Thy harvest; defend them in all dangers and temptations; and hasten the time when the fulness of the Gentiles shall be gathered in, and all Israel shall be saved; through the same Thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

**For Candidates for Confirmation.**

Let us pray for those who are being prepared for Confirmation.

- V. Our Father which is in heaven;
- R. Shall give His Holy Spirit to them that ask Him.

O God, Who through the teaching of Thy Son Jesus Christ did'st prepare the disciples for the coming of the Comforter: Make ready, we seech Thee, the hearts and minds of Thy servants who at this time are seeking the gift of the Holy Ghost through the laying on of hands, that drawing near with penitent and faithful hearts, they may be filled with the power of His divine blessing; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

**At the Time of An Election.**

Let us pray for God's guidance in this present election.

- V. In all thy ways acknowledge Him;
- R. And He shall direct thy paths.

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, guide and direct we humbly beseech Thee, the minds of all those who are called at this time to elect fit persons to serve in the Parliament of this nation. Grant that in the exercise of their choice they may promote Thy glory and the welfare of this people. And to those who shall be elected give, we pray Thee, the spirit of wisdom and true godliness. All this we beg for the sake of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

The prayers of Church people are desired on behalf of a Mission to be conducted among the Maoris at Whakarewarewa from October 20th to November 12th (inclusive) by the Rev. Canon A. F. Williams and the Rev. Karira Karaka of Waikato.