

planation. Pain and Love are twin ingredients of life, and all sacrifice is compounded of both. We cannot have one without the other. It is not only of child-birth, but of many another human condition in which the doctor declares: "I can do little to relieve the patient, until she has suffered longer." Has the Divine Physician any other verdict as He stands by the soul-birth of each of us? "My children," says St. Paul, "of whom I am again in travail until Christ be formed in you."

Were Christ a thousand times in
Bethlehem born,
But not in thee,
Still wert thou all forlorn.

—"Church Standard."

Parochial Notes.

St. Augustine's, Napier. (Vicar: Canon E. D. Rice. Assistant: Rev. B. R. Brierley).

There were 100 parishioners at the annual meeting on May 2nd, and a spirit of enthusiasm for the church was evident. The churchwarden's and Vicar's reports showed that the past year had been a record one from many points of view, which seemed to point to a real spiritual growth. The general offertories averaged ten guineas a week. The amount sent to Missions and other outside objects was £242, while £222 had been spent on a new church porch, stone fence and repairs, leaving a credit balance of £14. Congregations had increased and the church was generally quite full on Sunday evenings. The number of communions made during the previous four years shows a gradual increase—2538, 3419, 4194, 4729; but the number last year (5795) is the biggest increase so far, averaging 111 a week. This must mean increased spiritual power in the parish.

There is £1100 in hand for the new pipe organ, which is to be erected next October.

The Sunday school had 400 on the roll with 25 teachers. The Young Men's and Young Women's Bible Class have large attendances, and are doing important work.

The Vicar nominated Mr J. O. Griffin as his warden, and Mr W. F. Lydford was re-elected people's warden. The following were elected vestrymen:—Messrs J. W. Field, R. Tuning, T. Rouse, T. Yanks, G. H. Cooke, T. Faulkner, S. Lydford, G. Des Forges, P. Macfarlane, and H. Newbegin.

It was decided to hold a sale of work in September to raise funds for further improvements to the church and vicarage. A large ladies' committee was set up to take the matter in hand.

The Vicar was sent away under doctor's orders last month. Archdeacon Simkin very kindly undertook at once to arrange for the services to be carried on in his absence, all that Mr Brierley could not do.

The Rev. B. R. Brierley is to be ordained to the priesthood at St. Augustine's Church on the morning of Sunday, June 24th. The preacher will be the Vicar of Hastings.

Rotorua. (Vicar: Ven. Archdeacon F. W. Chatterton, B.D. Assistant Curate: Rev. W. S. G. Cameron).

The annual meeting of parishioners was held in St. Luke's Parish Hall, Rotorua, on Monday, May 7th. The attendance was very good considering the highly unfavorable weather. The Vicar, the Ven. Archdeacon F. W. Chatterton, presided, and expressed gratification at the satisfactory position in several respects, but regret that a large proportion of churchpeople gave little heed to their spiritual responsibilities. It was hoped soon to build church halls at Whakarewarewa and Ngongotaha, thanks to the generosity of Mr W. T. Williams, of Hawke's Bay, who had given £200 towards each building.

The statement of accounts showed receipts for the year £875 17s 3d, including £25 17s 7d from the preceding year, and expenditure £856 10s 11d, leaving a credit balance of £19 6s 4d. Amongst the receipts was an item of £106 4s 10d, mostly paid over to Missions. The assets amounted to £234 6s 4d and the liabilities to £11 11s 5d, leaving a balance of assets of £222 14s 11d.

The accounts of the Women's Guild showed receipts £274 18s 6d, and expenses £201 0s 4d, including a grant of £100 to the general church funds, leaving a credit balance of £73 18s 2d. The statements of accounts were adopted, and a special vote of congratulation and thanks was passed to the Women's Guild.

The Vicar reappointed Mr J. Halkett as his churchwarden.

Mr J. Wrathall was re-elected as parishioners' churchwarden.

The following were elected vestrymen:—Messrs W. W. P. Hall, E. Young, G. French, O. W. Exall, C. A. Arthur, V. Brooks, F. H. Barnard, H. J. Roberts, W. Stonehouse, and Dr. W. S. Wallis.

Mr J. W. Webber was re-elected auditor.

Dr. Wallis paid a high tribute to the work of the Vicar, Archdeacon Chatterton, and the curate, the Rev. W. G. S. Cameron. He would not, he said, move a formal resolution, but would ask those present to express by acclamation their appreciation and gratitude.

The Right Rev. the Bishop of Waipapua arrived at Rotorua on a visitation on May 4th. His Lordship preached in St. Luke's Church on the

mornings of May 6th and 13th, and held a Confirmation service there on the evening of May 10th, when 50 candidates, a record number for the church, were confirmed. He also held confirmations and delivered addresses at several places in the outlying parts of the district.

(Notes unavoidably curtailed).

Opotiki. (Vicar: Rev. A. F. Hall, M.A.)

The bazaar on May 3rd (in spite of appalling weather and a much lamented bereavement in the parish) was a great success, the net profits being about £70. The parochial amusement society, a Pierrot troupe calling themselves the "Pom Poms," are giving a short entertainment on May 14th, followed by a dance. We hope for and expect a full house. Our grateful thanks are due to the secretary of the bazaar, Mrs Upton, for her unflagging energy in connection with the sale, and also to all the stall-holders and helpers. It was all most encouraging. The annual meeting was held on May 11th and the usual reports, etc., were read and adopted. The general offertories show an increase of £18, but beyond that the financial position is, to use a familiar expression, "not too good." However, as we said last month, there is an increase of 563 communions, and the Communicants' Guild and the Mothers' Union have each of them practically doubled their membership, so that spiritually there is a growth, even if financially there is a decrease. We suppose it is the backwash of the slump wave—which has just reached these parts. The vestry have undertaken all the finances of the Sunday school, which is a most important step.

The new church officials are:—Wardens, Mr G. A. Hathaway and Mr A. G. Davey; vestry, Messrs T. Brace, F. D. Bridges, C. Bowles, C. D. Cooke, J. A. Dalgetty, V. Holloway, E. L. Siddall, E. Parkinson, B. S. Vickers.

This means that we have some new and young blood on the staff, which we hope may enthuse us all to greater energy, zeal, and devotion during the coming year.

For information we would like to ask a question of other vicars. What proportion of your congregation and vestry are "twicers," i.e., how many attend two services on Sunday? We only wonder if Opotiki is unique in this respect. Our percentage is about three, speaking generously.

Te Karaka. (Vicar: Rev. H. Collier).

On the evening of March 16th the Girls' Club met to entertain Miss Olsen on the eve of her departure from the parish, the function being held at the Vicarage. Miss Irene Allen, Club secretary, on behalf of the members, presented Miss Olsen with a