

played some items very tastefully on the mandolin and ukelele.

A vestry meeting was held on Friday evening, 22nd, to consider the very serious state of parish finance. It was decided to write letters to parishioners asking their help towards wiping off the very heavy liabilities for arrears of stipend and unpaid accounts. One of the churchwardens suggested that the expense of the car in backblock visiting would be saved if the vicar would do it on a push bicycle!!

Confirmation classes are being held in Waipawa every Tuesday evening and a fair number of candidates have been enrolled. Several others are being prepared in the country districts. It is not yet too late for intending candidates to hand in their names.

The Girls' Club is working for a sale of work to be held at the end of July. Part of the proceeds are to be allotted towards the cost of apparatus for the Kindergarten and part for Missions.

The Vicar has so far provided the apparatus for the Kindergarten but is unable to do more. More Kindergarten chairs are urgently required, and contributions will most gladly be received. Each chair costs 6s 6d, or about 7s landed in Waipawa. Who will give a chair—or two chairs? The chairs are, of course, only one item in the furniture and apparatus needed.

We regret that Mrs Downer (senr.) is still very ill in hospital.

A parish tea meeting is being held on St. Peter's Day as a reunion of parishioners.

We are glad to welcome to the parish Dr. Anderson and family. Dr. Anderson was for some twenty years a medical missionary in Palestine. He takes over Dr. Maddison's practice on July 1st.

Waipukurau.

Ninety parishioners were present at the annual meeting on May 26th. Archdeacon Simkin very kindly came up and helped the meeting with his presence and advice. The balance-sheet showed a very satisfactory state of affairs. The old Diocesan loans of £180 had been paid off during the year, which ended with a small credit balance; £98 had been given to Missions and other outside objects. The Vicar's report showed that advance had been made in other ways. The previous year the number of Communion made was 1389; last year there were 2486, which is an average of 48 a week. The Sunday School, with 120 on the roll, had done a good year's work. It was decided to defer the decision of the site for the new Church.

The Vicar's stipend has been raised to £400 a year from April 1st.

The missionary quota for 15

months ended June 30th of £100 has been met, and exceeded by £10.

The offertory for Melanesia on Whitsunday amounted to £29, easily a record here.

The new Church Building Fund now reaches £1603.

Nurse Carter's and Mrs Murdoch's addresses to the Mothers' Union on the last two months were much appreciated.

Porangahau.

The dance at Herbertville was a great success. The Church funds benefit to the extent of £65. A donation of £5 was sent after the proceeds had been sent in, thus making the total £65. It was a magnificent effort on the part of the people of Herbertville and Wimbledon and we are extremely grateful to them, and to Mrs Herrick for organising it.

The Vicarage of Porangahau has been given a new lease of life in that it has received two coats of paint; it certainly needed it. May it be a long time ere it needs another, as the cost is great, at least £85. It is gratifying to know that the Vicarage itself, or rather the timber, is still in an excellent condition. It was built in 1893 on the site of a former vicarage, which was unfortunately burnt down.

The collection for the Melanesian Mission amounted to £12, and quite a number have offered to take a missionary box. We hope to raise our quota of £75 next year. Pray about it, and we shall do it.

Woodville.

Woodville's connection with the parochial district has now been severed—it has been a very happy time for the Vicar in what he has been able to do for Christ and His Church there—sad because he was able to do so very little. There is a fine band of workers there in Mr Bell and Mr Phillips, the churchwardens and very fine lay-readers, Mr Phillips doing also noble work at the Sunday School and as Church organist. At Kiritaki Mrs Fairbrother, ably assisted by Miss Charmly, has carried on the Sunday School work for some years with very little help from the Vicar. One cannot leave Miss Bell out—she is invaluable as assistant organist at Te Rehunga and always opened up and played the organ at any service held at Wairouhi, some miles from where she lives. This district of Te Rehunga, etc., is rich in helpers, including several not mentioned, with Mr Bibby as secretary-treasurer and Mrs Geisen organiser of the Ladies' Guild. They deserve the best of vicars and we trust the Bishop has found him in the person of the Rev. W. Lea, who is both young and full of zeal for the Master's work. May God grant His blessing. Woodville will now face its greater

financial responsibilities and the Vicar was glad to have the same wardens and vestrymen elected at the annual meeting. The debits of the parish are growing less, the Ladies' Guild being very valuable and generous. They have just shouldered a debt of £34 extra owing by the vestry to the new Vicarage Building Fund. It pleases the Vicar learn that over £40 had been given to Missions, although it is not near the quota asked. We may reach even that in a year or two.

Kumeroa is keen about building a church. A social committee has been formed at the Kumeroa centre and later on we hope the vestry will allow a building committee to handle the question and raise funds to add to what the social committee may make this winter.

The response to Confirmation appeals is small but there is promise of quite a large number both of adults and young people for next year.

After some months' services being held in the house of Mr J. Nelson, Papatawa, we now use the schoolhouse by kind permission of the School Committee. It promises to take quite a large congregation.

Our lay-readers, Mr Hustwick, are now at work when the Vicar has to be at Papatawa or Kumeroa for Holy Communion services. It is a great joy to have two such men to take up this work and not to call on Mr Hamilton who willingly came all the way from Pahiatua whenever asked and the morning congregations must have disappointed him very often. I hope the morning services, all of them, 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. every Sunday will be better attended.

The Sunday School is in good form. We want more teachers and are glad that Mr Vervel and Miss Neeley have come along. Two more would be splendid.

Waipiro Bay.

The annual meeting of parishioners was held in the Masonic Hall, Tokomaru Bay, about the middle of May, a fair muster of parishioners being present.

The Vicar, in his report, dealt with all the parish activities for the year, all of which he was pleased to say were in a fairly flourishing condition.

Mr Day, the hon. treasurer, read the balance-sheet, which showed a total income from all sources of £824 13s 1d and a total expenditure of £864 11s 9d, leaving a debit balance of £39 18s 8d. There was considerable interest shown in these figures as it was the first reckoning since the division of the district a year ago, when we lost about half of our regular contributors. One of the largest items of expense, now that we have a motor car, is the travelling ex-