

Melanesian Finance

The English Committee that has given such splendid financial assistance to the Melanesian Mission has notified the New Zealand Church that it intends limiting its annual contribution to the General Fund of the Mission to £9000, as any surplus will be used for work in the Mandated Territory in which Bishop Wilton, the newly-consecrated Assistant Bishop, is now at work. As the Australian Board of Missions is also concentrating on the same area the Mission hopes to receive from the New Zealand Church a larger annual amount than the £8000 which is now promised.

Good News From China

A cable has been received from Dr. Gordon Thompson, the superintendent of the Hangchow Hospital, that the various buildings which some 18 months ago were seized by the Nationalist troops have now been handed back to the C.M.S. Two of the New Zealanders who were on the staff, Dr. Phyllis Haddow and Nurse Bargrove, are to return almost immediately, but, unfortunately, Nurse Brunt's health will not permit her to go back. Bishop Norris, who is in charge of the S.P.G. Diocese of North China, has sent a cable "All well," which evidently has reference to the seven New Zealanders who are working in the vicinity of Peking.

Polynesia

Mr. C. H. Sterling, of Stoke, near Nelson, has been accepted by the Bishop of Polynesia as the Technical instructor for the Indian Boys' School in Labasa, in Fiji, under the Rev. H. A. Favell.

Local Chinese Mission

This Mission, which has its headquarters in Wellington, has sustained a great loss in the death of the Rev. C. N. R. Mackenzie, its Superintendent. Mr. Mackenzie's health had been completely undermined by 26 years' strenuous work in Southern China with the result that he succumbed to a slight operation.

ORDINATION

An ordination service was held by the Bishop at St. Matthew's Church, Hastings, on July 8th, when Mr. H. Speight was admitted to the office of Deacon. The sermon was preached by Rev. Canon Maclean; the Rev. C. Mortimer-Jones read the Litany, and Archdeacon Brocklehurst presented the candidate for ordination.

On the day previous a quiet day for the ordinand and clergy who were able to attend was conducted at Havlock North by the Rev. Canon Maclean, who gave very helpful addresses. Mr. Speight, who served for over thirty years as a teacher under the H.B. Education Board, has taken up his work as assistant curate in Hastings.

Editorial Notices.

Please address all Editorial matter to The Editor, "Church Gazette," Puketapu.

Literary matter should reach the Editor on or before the 15th of the month. News Items, including Parish Notes, on or before the 18th of the month.

All Business Communications from parishes must be sent to the Diocesan Secretary.

All Communications from Vicars and "Gazette" Agents regarding subscriptions to the "Church Gazette," and all notices of alteration in number of copies required should be sent to the Diocesan Secretary, Box 227, Napier.

Individual subscribers should pay their subscriptions to the parish agent for the "Gazette," or to the Vicar of the Parish.

Waipapu Church Gazette

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1st., 1928.

S.O.S.

As a Visitor to the Abbotsford Children's Home, Waipawa, on July 19th, I asked how many blankets each child had on its bed. The Matron replied that they had two, and that they often complained of the cold: She had got and made some bed socks for the little ones.

Can we allow this? Think of these cold winter nights and those large carpetless dormitories. I am sending over a pair of single blankets at once. Who else will do so? But let it be at once.

The Matron has an old sewing machine that will not work: How can they get on without one? Cannot this need also be supplied at once?

E.D.R.

One feels that it should not be necessary to supplement an appeal of this kind with any further remarks from the Editorial Chair. We are constantly being told that people do not want to wade through long prosy articles, and in point of fact they will not do it. Let us be American and make the needs of the church known in short, pithy, eye-catching statements and let

it go at that. No one has time these days to read (always excepting the most modern novels of course, and such interesting and highly edifying weeklies as N.Z. "Truth").

Maybe! Much of what "They say" often contains a good deal of sound common sense. But one calls to mind a little incident in the life of a certain non-episcopalian church in Auckland, which emboldens one to enlarge a little on the S.O.S. of the visitor to the Abbotsford Home.

There was a mission being conducted in the Church in question, and the Missioner—a very practical man of God—discovered that a certain would-be penitent was unable to get to the mission services, because the way was long and uphill, the latest baby was heavy, and she had no pram. So the next night he made an appeal from the pulpit for a perambulator for their absent sister, sure that amid the homes of so large a gathering, there would be at least one perambulator, whose owner had no further use for it.

The next night the Missioner mounted the pulpit with frowning brow. There had been no response to his appeal, and, as is a way with successful missioners—and this was an eminent and much experienced man—he told them for 10 minutes, precisely what he thought of them and the religion that drew them to have their ears tickled, but couldn't inspire them to so simple a Christian act. The next night there were forty-seven perambulators left in the church porch. You smile and think the story a bit overdrawn. Well, maybe it is, but that is how it reached our ears.

Human nature being what it is, one is afraid to pre-visualise the result of the appeal for blankets for Abbotsford. In defiance of Our Lord's words, we are all so ashamed of our mites, that we often leave the undertaking of the Church's obligations, to the few rich people, who can give of their abundance, gifts which, in the eyes of the world, make a goodly showing. There is no doubt whatever, that the majority of people who are reached by an appeal in these pages, could not easily, or in many cases, possibly, give to Abbotsford a pair of blankets, or even a single blanket. And the danger is that this being so, they will pass the appeal by as something beyond their power to help. And so, to get back to our story—there will be no perambulator in the church porch. Only unfortunately, the Editor would have to wait for a long month, before he could take a leaf out of our Missioner friend's book, and tell his readers precisely what he thought of them: and not being an eminent person with a