

choir gave a very good rendering of the Cantata "From Olivet to Calvary." The attendances at the services on Easter Day were not quite up to those of last year, but there was a spiritual atmosphere about these services, particularly the 8 a.m. celebration, which was most real. The sense of the presence of the Risen Christ seemed to pervade everything. One felt that here was all the answer needed to Rationalist denials of the reality of Christ's Resurrection.

The Annual Meeting of parishioners was held on May 7th. We had a very good attendance and there was a most healthy tone to the meeting. Last year's vestry was returned en masse, except that Messrs Berry and Laing were elected to fill the vacancies caused through Messrs des Forges and Saunders having left the parish. The Vicar also re-appointed Mr Griffen as his warden, and Mr Ruston was re-elected people's warden. The Vicar read a most encouraging report, but there is still room for improvement, and the coming year is likely to call for faithful and strenuous effort.

As for the past, the finance statements were very encouraging. The income from all sources had been £1400 8s 6d, which is a record, and the expenditure £21 less than that, but there was still an overdraft of £198 9s 11d. During the year a brave renovation scheme had been initiated, with the result that the Church and vicarage had been thoroughly repaired and painted at a cost of £145 2s 7d, which had been raised by the Ladies' Guild, including a cheque for £25 from Mrs Lowry. Many thanks were due to a sub-committee of Messrs Cooke, Rood and Lydford for their labour in preparing specifications and carrying out the work. There is much to do still with the schoolroom and all its surroundings.

The report also showed that the work of the many and various organisations was progressive, such as the G.P.S., all the Bible Classes, Scouts and Cubs, Guides and Brownies, Choir, Mothers' Union and the prayer circles and Sanctuary Guild. The Mothers' Union still held chief place in the diocese. During the year there had been 60 baptisms, 26 burials, 24 marriages, 57 had been confirmed (males 20, females 37), which seems to be a record number. The number of Communicants had been 3988. The largest number in any one month had been 757 and the smallest 214; Christmas 352, Easter 401, a record. There were at present three Sunday schools in the parish, as it had been

found necessary to open a morning school at St. Augustine's, which meant a new staff of teachers, but they were coming forward, especially the men.

The members of the Sanctuary Guild were thanked for their loving work during all the year, and the Ladies' Guild for their successful activities in connection with the "Renovation Scheme." The vicar also spoke in grateful terms for the devotion to duty of the Wardens and Vestry. Services had been conducted at the goal on Sunday mornings at 9.45 and at St. Mary's Chapel weekly. There were two lay readers, Messrs Savory and Hallett, who had done constant work, especially at St. Luke's and the goal. One very helpful lay reader, Mr A. Worley, had removed to Christchurch, and was much missed both for the services and Bible classes. The new curate, Rev. J. Zimmerman, was winning his way. During the year a beautiful lectern, costing £50, had been presented to the Church as a memorial to the late Mrs Ada Constance Dixon, by the friends of Mrs Dixon in New Zealand and by members of the congregation. The usual grants had been made to St. Mary's, St. Hilda's and Abbotsford Homes, London Waifs and Strays, Foreign Missions, Maori Mission, Jerusalem and the East Mission.

The teachers of all the Sunday Schools met together at the Vicarage on May the 6th, and considered the re-arrangement of the teaching staff, on account of the rapid growth of the morning school. Other business was satisfactorily dealt with, and it was decided to hold these meetings quarterly. Once again we have to record the death of a faithful Church member. Mrs Nairn has passed away, after a long and painful illness. We extend our sympathy to the bereaved relatives.

With the return of the winter evenings, the social life of the parish is in full swing, and several most enjoyable evenings have been spent both at St. Augustine's and at St. Luke's. These social functions are much more than a mere evening's enjoyment, they do help to bring together and to bind together the different people of the parish.

#### PATUTAHU.

Vicar: The Rev. O. G. G. Salt.

We have not had any notes in the Gazette for a very long time, but we have not been idle. Our Annual Meeting was held on April 30th and the Vicar was able to read a very encouraging report. The number of communions made during the year had increased over 300, the total receipts for

the year had increased over £117, and the amount of money sent out of the parish for missions and social work had jumped from £24 to £70. The Nelson system of Bible in schools had been introduced at the Patutahi school, and there is every prospect of us starting at the Ngatapa school this coming term. We have indeed much to thank God for.

It has also been definitely decided to part with "Lizzie". No more shall she grace the Cathedral square at Synod time; and no more shall her cheery rattle shatter the peaceful calm of the countryside. We have heard her R.I.P. so many times, perhaps there is no need to say it for her.

A small but very excellent concert was held this month, the proceeds of which went to help a deserving case, and £1 was placed in the Savings Bank to be a nest egg for a future Benevolent Fund. It is hoped that by means of this Fund we shall be able to show our people more and more that the Church exists in their midst as a really living corporate body that cares for their bodies as well as their souls, and is a true Mother to all.

The Vestry has also decided to set up an Inspection Committee of two each quarterly meeting. The committee's duty will be to inspect all Church property and report to the next Vestry meeting.

The Maori Mission House at Mauutuke is taking advantage of the school holidays just now, and Miss Price is away for a very much needed change. But our notes would hardly be complete without some mention of the Mission workers. Much of what is done here is due to their cheery and energetic help. Theirs' is truly a home from home for many Maori—and Pakeha—children, and the joyful hymns of these youngsters coming from the Mission House every morning before school, must be a wonderful witness to all who pass by. We will conclude these notes by saying once more, we have indeed much to thank God for.

#### WAIPIKURAU.

Vicar: The Rev. Canon Rice, M.A.

The Rev. F. L. Frost, of Taradale, took the Children's Good Friday service, and it was most inspiring; the Lenten self-denial offerings amounted to £6. Mr. Frost also took the Three Hours service, when the Church was full towards the end; many have expressed their gratitude for help received at that service.

The Easter services were splendid, with full churches and 203 communicants, which is a record.