

The building of the new Church is going along well; the roof is now on and the Norman tower complete. Many favourable comments are being made at the general appearance of the building.

The Senior and Junior Guilds are busy working in preparation for the sale in aid of the furnishing fund. Both guilds held very successful socials last month in aid of their working funds.

The amount of about £600 is still required to pay for the new Church, which is costing about £4,000.

TE PUKE.

The annual meeting of parishioners was held in the Parish Hall on May 6th, with a good attendance representing all parts of the parish. After the Vicar's report Mr F. Bostock read the balance sheet which showed a credit balance of over £100. This was greatly due to the canvas made some time before, by the Vicar and Mr Bostock, of all parts of the district and the getting in of many subscriptions which had been allowed to lapse for want of attention. It is a great relief to all to have finances in a satisfactory state before the new Vicar starts his work, and now that organisation exists we trust that it will not be found difficult to meet all financial obligations.

The Vicar appointed Mr F. Bostock Vicar's Warden, and Mr John Persey was elected People's Warden. Vestrymen were elected—Messrs T. Palmer, C. J. Humphreys, W. R. Young, G. T. Simpson, J. L. Easther, G. Sweetman, H. Davies and S. Cannell. While Mr Cashmore was re-elected auditor.

Votes of thanks to the various helpers were given and the business part of the evening ended, to be followed by a farewell social to the departing Vicar and his wife. Good wishes were expressed for their happiness and welfare in their new sphere of work at Ormondville, and a very kind and affectionate spirit pervaded the gathering. Mr T. Palmer on behalf of the parishioners, presented Mr and Mrs Klingender with a travelling rug, and the Vicar responded and thanked all for their good wishes and assistance.

We are thankful that the incoming Vicar will find so many sympathetic helpers, and the parish in a satisfactory position.

PUKETAPU.

Vicar: The Rev. R. F. Geddes, M.A.
Annual Meeting of Parishioners.—The annual meeting of the parishioners was held at the vicarage on May 19. The gathering, though smaller than had been usual of late years, was very representative, parishioners being pres-

ent from practically all the centres of the scattered district, even the most outlying.

The Vicar opened his remarks with beautiful reference to those who, during the past year, had been called to their rest. He then briefly reviewed the work of the parish during the financial year just ended. As far as limited human vision could see, the parish was in a better position at the present time than it had ever been. The number of communicants for the past year had been a record, and the attendance at the ordinary weekly services had improved considerably. In this respect, the Vicar made special reference to the services in the Coleman Memorial Chapel at Crownthorpe.

The financial position of the parish was one that reflected great credit on the parishioners as a whole. After all the ordinary parochial expenses had been met, the painting of the church and vicarage had been paid for, out of a special reserve fund created at the adoption in the parish of the duplex system of finance. Various small improvements had been carried out in the church and vicarage, and after these had been paid for the balance sheet showed a credit of £1 1s 5d in the general fund, while the reserve funds, budgeted for at the beginning of the year, were subscribed in their entirety, and deposited in a fixed account with the Diocese of Waiapu. In addition to this, the sum of £27 outstanding from last year's account for the electrifying of the vicarage had been paid off by the generosity of two parishioners.

At the conclusion of the Vicar's remarks, the balance sheet was discussed and adopted.

The meeting then proceeded to the election of the following officers for the current year:—Vicar's warden, Mr J. H. Absalom; people's warden, Mr J. N. Lowry; Vestry, Mrs Kinross White, Mrs W. Turner, Messrs W. Turner, G. R. Beamish, F. Hutchinson, H. F. Beamish, J. Hildreth, E. Orr, G. Sanderson, R. Ensor; auditor, Mr A. G. Pallot; treasurer, Mr W. G. Moore.

The following votes of sympathy were then passed:—To Mr W. G. Moore in his illness, and to the relatives of the late Francis Hutchinson in their bereavement.

Votes of Thanks.—To Mr A. G. Pallot for his generous services in the auditing and reviewing of the parish accounts. The secretary pointed out that Mr Pallot had spent long hours in setting out the accounts in a strictly correct and businesslike way, quite impossible to an inexperienced layman.

To two anonymous donors who had paid off the balance owing on the electrifying of the vicarage. To the treasurer and secretary for their work during the past year.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Mr Jim Lowry, in a few graceful words, conveyed to the vicar the appreciation of the parishioners for his able and sympathetic work during the years he had spent amongst them. They hoped that he would remain with them for many years to come. The meeting with acclamation expressed its appreciation of these words, after which Mrs Geddes entertained the parishioners at afternoon tea.

Mrs Kinross White gave a delightful party at Omarunui to the children of the St. Michael's Sunday School. Unfortunately the dulness of the morning developed into an afternoon of misty rain, and the charm of the garden had soon to be abandoned. However, the large verandah provided an excellent playground, and the children passed a delightful afternoon with plenty of room under cover for the most hilarious games. Tea was a feast of good things dear to the heart of childhood, and the final joy of the party was a treasure hunt which resulted in every child going home with a gift. As the children assembled to say good-bye to their hostess one of the small guests proposed three cheers for Mrs White. These were heartily given, followed by a delightful singing of "She's A Jolly Good Fellow" in the shrill trebles of childhood.

TE KARAKA.

Vicar: The Rev. A. R. H. Morris, M.A.
 Marriages: April 23rd, Albert Selwyu Henry and Vera Mabel Atlanta Murray; April 30th, Ernest Williams Hastings Ingram and Ruby Ivis Reed.

The month of April was notable for two very impressive acts of witness namely the Celebration of Easter Day and the Commemoration of Anzac Day. It was fitting that these days should fall so close together for they have much in common. They both speak to us of the hope of immortality and they both direct our thoughts to higher and nobler ways of life whether individual or national.

On Easter Day the services at St. John's and Whatatutu were very well attended and were in every sense an inspiration. The Church looked at its best decorated with a profusion of flowers and we would like to take this opportunity of thanking those who so willingly gave of their time to decorate the Church and those who sent flowers.

On Anzac Day a largely attended service was held at the War Memorial.