

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT.

To all Christian people it must have been heartening to learn that Mr Roosevelt, as President-elect, chose to spend almost the final hour of his time as a private citizen in a church at prayer, and also to read his sermon-like inaugural address. To us, as Churchmen, it is indeed of marked interest to realise that this new Executive, to whom all the world to-day is looking, is a brother Anglican. At his own request, he, his family and members designate of his Cabinet, spent an hour in old St. John's Church, opposite the White House, where the rector, together with the priest who officiated at the Roosevelt wedding twenty-eight years ago, conducted a prayer service in behalf of the man about to assume such extraordinary responsibilities.

On the day following, the first Sunday in Lent, the President and his family attended St. Thomas's Church, and received Holy Communion. A service in observance of the inauguration was held that afternoon at Washington Cathedral. Certainly not within our memories has a presidential inauguration been marked with so distinct a spiritual tone, nor has there been one in which the influence of the Church has been so evident. President Roosevelt's inaugural address, an heroic, spiritual message, has served to unite the nation behind him in this eventful week in a way little short of the miraculous.

—"Church Times."

180 NEGROES CONFIRMED

Many of our readers in the West Indies will be interested to read of one of the largest Confirmation classes ever presented in this diocese of New York. On Sunday, February 26, Bishop Manning confirmed 180 at St. Martin's Church. This is one of the largest coloured parishes in America, and it is also one of the newest. A splendid church edifice which had been gutted by fire was turned over to this congregation. It has been re-built, and they now have a splendid plant, with the adjoining parishhouse and rectory. At the service mentioned, 450 members of the last four classes marched in the procession. In five years, the Rev. John

H. Johnson, the vicar, has inaugurated and established what is one of the greatest parochial works in this diocese. With more negroes in New York City alone than in any State of the Union, our Church here has a vast opportunity before it.

—"Church Times."

PARISH NOTES.

WAIPIRO BAY PAROCHIAL DISTRICT.

(Rev. J. J. Anderson, L.Th., Vicar.)

At the annual meeting of the Mothers' Union, the following officers were elected:—Presiding member, Mrs. J. J. Anderson; vice-president, Mrs. King; hon. secretary, Mrs. Holah; telephone secretary, Mrs. Hankey.

The report of last year's work was of a satisfactory nature, and a keen interest in proposals for the current year, was exhibited.

The Missionary Association at its annual meeting appointed Mrs. H. Johnson president, and Miss Goddard secretary. The study book on Persia being completed it was decided to take "The Moslem World in Revolution" as the basis of a study of this problem in the mission field to-day.

We were glad to welcome the Rev. N. F. Benham, and hope his visit will result in a quickening of interest in the General Diocesan Fund. From present indications the quota will not be fulfilled, but in these days of falling incomes it is a little difficult to fix the amount with accuracy.

We would remind parishioners the financial year is drawing to a close, and all available support will be much appreciated. The district is being worked by one priest as an economy measure, and the curtailment of services is only what is absolutely necessary.

At Ruatoria, a sale which resulted in an amount of £62, was quite inspiring. It was quickly organised, there was a splendid team spirit in existence, and the whole atmosphere created provided one of the few arguments against duplex finance.

The Easter Services were well attended, the Communicants of Toko-

maru Bay being greater than for many years. Except when weather prevailed the parish has been visited to its extreme northern boundary. The whole coast area has problems peculiar to itself, but it has much for which to be thankful. The spirit of fellowship and optimism have ever been two prominent characteristics of the residents. They are of the greatest value in the effort of building up the Kingdom of God.

WAIPIRO BAY PAROCHIAL DISTRICT.

(Canon E. D. Rice, Vicar.)

The Holy Week Services were well attended. The Rev. N. Benham helped, and gave a lantern lecture on the work of the Church in the Diocese, on the Tuesday to a good attendance; he repeated it to a crowded school-room at Flemington on the Friday. Mr Benham also took the Three Hours service on Good Friday, for which we are grateful.

The Easter Day services were splendid, and there was a record number of communicants.

The assistant curate, the Rev. W. A. Bool left the parish after two farewell parties in Easter week for Hawera, where he has joined the staff of the parish; he was here for fourteen months, and good wishes follow him in his new work.

One of our best church families left us about the same time: Mr and Mrs Leigh and family have been most faithful for sixteen years in the parish as members of the Vestry, choir, Mothers' Union, Sanctuary Guild, Women's Guild, etc.; they have been most regular attenders at church, and we are missing them tremendously. They have gone to Whangarei. A most enjoyable and well-attended farewell evening was tendered to them. They were presented with a silver teapot and hot water jug by the parishioners, and Douglas was given a fountain pen by the choir.

Another faithful family we are sorry to lose is the Kershaws, who have gone to Hastings.

The Bishop is paying his annual visit to the parish on June 11th, and will hold a confirmation.

The Rev. Canon Mortimer Jones is to speak to the Mothers' Union, on May 25th, on "Religion in the Home."