

In many parishes the practice of confirming children at an early age from 10 to 14 years, is becoming more common. I believe there are more points in favour of this practice than against, and in my own experience I found it was very much worth while. In connection with this, however, I must add that the practice is for the young folk to attend their Eucharist, usually held about the hour of 9 a.m., Sunday morning. This service was becoming more and more popular.

C.E.H.

BOARD OF MISSIONS NOTES.

RETIREMENT OF THE BISHOP OF NELSON FROM THE EXECUTIVE.

At the Annual Meeting of the Board on August 23rd last Bishop Sadlier retired from the position of Chairman of the Executive, a post he had occupied from the inauguration of the Board. He retired under doctor's orders, as the extra diocesan work he is doing is now too great a strain on his health. Feeling reference to this was made at the meeting, when his resignation was accepted with very great regret. Several members spoke of the valuable services the Bishop had rendered, both to the Board and to the cause of Missions, since the inception of the Board, and a resolution was passed, putting on record the sincere appreciation of the Board.

THE NEW CHAIRMAN.

At the same meeting the Bishop of Waiapu, the Rt. Rev. H. W. Williams, was elected the new Chairman of the Executive. The fitness of this selection will be apparent to all; Bishop Williams has been connected with Missions, and a keen supporter of them, all his life.

THE NEW QUOTA

As announced in the August edition of the Reaper the Provincial Quota for the year was retained at £18,000, the same as for last year. The Board hoped that bed-rock had been reached in regard to the depression and that it would not be well to lower the standard at which the Church should aim, in regard to its overseas work. It was confident of the loyal support of all church people, even at the sacrifice which is necessarily involved.

THE BISHOP OF MELANESIA.

On September 11th, the Bishop of Melanesia arrived in Sydney from the New Hebrides, on his way back to the headquarters of his Diocese at Siota. The loss of the "Southern Cross," in November last, made necessary this roundabout way of visiting the southern part of the Diocese, but when the new ship arrives towards the end of the year the more remote centres will be more accessible. The Bishop is to sail from Brisbane on October 2nd, the period of three weeks between being used for a strenuous tour of deputation work in Victoria, South Australia and Queensland. The Bishop wrote, "Pack as much as you can into those three weeks." It was hoped that a visit as far afield as Perth and Bunbury could also have been arranged, but the most careful drawing up of a programme left insufficient room on this occasion. However, the Bishop is most anxious to meet friends of Melanesia in every part of the Commonwealth, and centres not visited will not be forgotten on a future occasion.

THE "TWO BROTHERS" LENT TO MELANESIA.

Moffat Ohigita and Albert Lobu, members of the Melanesian Brotherhood, arrived in Sydney from the Solomon Islands by the S.S. "Mataran" on August 19th, on their way to Fiji. They sailed by the S.S. "Karetu" on the 24th. Moffat, with Dudley Bale, another of the Melanesian Brothers, returned to the Solomons from Suva only a few months ago, but the Bishop in Polynesia found them such a valuable aid to his work among the Melanesians in his Diocese that he has arranged with the Bishop of Melanesia for two of the Brothers to give a further term of service. Dudley Bale is now preparing for ordination, so his place is being taken by Albert.

Two natives from the New Hebrides will be passing through Sydney in September, on their way to the Solomon Islands, as additional recruits to the Native Brotherhood. They were due in Sydney on September 11th, and will proceed to the Solomons with the Bishop on September 30th.

A GIFT OF £1000.

An anonymous donor in Victoria is giving £1000 to reduce the debt to

the Bishop of New Guinea, provided that ten other persons contributed £10 each.

THE MODERN CHINESE WOMAN

In the towns of inland China a passing motor will still fill the narrow street, yet in that street are shops that display all kinds of modern necessities that twenty years ago were unheard of. Bobbed hair, short skirts, and sometimes high-heeled patent-leather shoes are the general order. Young men and women are seen shopping together—the result of co-education. Girls are becoming leaders in all kinds of ways. They are prominent in political movements, organise meetings, and have even gone to prison as Communists and been beheaded. Christian girls too are taking their places as leaders. In the realm of education many are teachers and principals of schools.

In religious work there are many trained Bible-women—some are uneducated, and some have already had some education. Educated girls are desirous of becoming missionaries to their own people, and it is suggested that the title, "woman catechist" should be used for these educated women, the name "Bible woman" being kept for the less educated workers. In time it is possible that there will be ordained Chinese deaconesses.

DEATH OF MISS BROUGHTON

Rev. R. Godfrey writes:—

Miss Broughton had been in indifferent health for a long time through recurring light attacks of malaria, and she looked very thin and worn out. When Sister Cavers arrived here I took her over to Raga, not anticipating that she would be required to nurse Miss Broughton, but to relieve her of the medical side of the work, hoping that a little more rest would give Miss Broughton a chance to pick up in health, and if not it was my intention to consult with the Bishop, on his arrival, as to the advisability of Miss Broughton going out on furlough this summer.

On Monday, July 3rd, I sent Mr Cant in the launch to Raga with the mails and goods which arrived by the "Makambo." Miss Broughton was then just over a bout of fever, but was taking her share of the school work and gave no cause for anxiety. She