

Special days are being taken by each Diocese for their intercession in October.

Monday, October 2nd, Auckland.

Tuesday, October 3rd, Christchurch and Wellington.

Wednesday, October 4th, Waiapu, Dunedin and Waikato.

The Dominion President also desires that every Diocese make a special effort to have a Thanksgiving Day on June 19th, 1934, in every Cathedral throughout New Zealand.

The election of officers was as follows:—

President, Mrs West-Watson, Christchurch; vice-president, Mrs Marriner, Christchurch. Mrs Averill resigned from the position of vice-president, and was made a life vice-president. Mrs Roberts was re-elected secretary.

At the conclusion of the business, the delegates left at 4.30 p.m. for Government House, where a very pleasant time was spent. Her Excellency Lady Bledisloe with her natural charm of manner, made us all feel at home and she spent a short time chatting with each delegate.

All too soon came the time for our departure but the memory of a most helpful and enjoyable experience will long remain.

M. E. NORMAN,
Diocesan Secretary,
Waiapu Mothers' Union.

MOTHERS' UNION QUIET DAY.

A quiet day will be held in St. John's Cathedral, on Wednesday, October 4th. Holy Communion will be celebrated at 10 a.m. and the services will be continued throughout the day, terminating with Evensong at 2.45 p.m.

Canon Neild will conduct all services.

SOME EXPERIENCES OF CHURCH LIFE IN ENGLAND.

"And did those feet in ancient times,
Walk upon England's mountains
green,

And was the Holy Lamb of God,
On England's pleasant pastures
seen."

These lines of Blake's are often used in England. To wander around

the Ruins of Glastonbury and hear the legends of early Christianity there, makes one wonder at times, if it were not really true. Whether this is so or not, at least to travel about England and see, in remotest villages, industrial towns and big cities, wherever you go, the spires and towers of "Old England's Glory," speak for themselves that England is indeed for Christ, even if He did not walk the "pastures green."

If we have not seen these glories, we have no conception of the influence the Church of England has upon the life of the nation, or the priceless treasures she possesses in them, dedicated to the glory of God.

But let us study an individual parish and gather some helpful suggestions. A parish with a population of some 15,000 people, the boundaries of which you could walk comfortably in half-an-hour, is a little more congested than any parish we have in New Zealand.

The population consisted of, from wealthy folk, who were fast removing to outer London, to very poor, and their response to the financial undertakings of the parish was very consistent, everyone did their share, and the regular giving of small sums on the part of the working people did a great deal to help. In the course of seven years this parish contributed over £1000 to the building and furnishing of a much needed Church in Queensland; but in no way did this undertaking hamper the finances of the parish. It was real giving with much sacrifice on the part of many. I remember one old lady of very poor circumstances giving the whole of her savings of a number of years, £5 towards this new Church oversea.

One of the special features during the Sunday nights in Lent, was a dialogue, between the vicar and one of his assistants. In the course of the vicar's sermon the assistant would interrupt him and ask for a proof of a certain statement to which the vicar replied by asking him to read certain passages of Scripture. By this means quite a lot of useful instruction was given to the congregation.

One has many opportunities at "Home" of hearing some of the foremost men of the Church to-day.

Canon Quick of St. Paul's, a comparatively young man, is no doubt one of the ablest men of the Church to-day, to hear him lecture was one of my privileges, but one needs to be very much alert in mind to follow his quick thoughts.

Kenneth Kirk is another, one of the outstanding leaders in that branch of study called: "Moral Theology." The Bishop of London, though ageing, is not in any way abating in his enthusiasm, and keeps abreast of the times. It is not an uncommon sight to see his car gliding through the streets of London en route to some important meeting, with the Bishop at the back reading one of the latest books, he uses every opportunity for reading in that very busy life of his.

To meet and hear these and other leading men in England is an inspiration and tremendous help, which we are not able to have, unfortunately, in New Zealand. It was my privilege on several occasions to be present at St. Paul's Cathedral, the Parish Church of the Empire. I remember, on one occasion being one of 900 clergy, all from the Dioceses of London, present at a great service for the Diocese. The Litany sung in procession was ended before the last part of the procession had left the crypt of the Cathedral.

Another great occasion was the re-opening of St. Paul's. Each Arch-deaconary had a day of the week to observe the occasion in the Cathedral. The procession headed by the Cross and in turn following the cornet players and trumpeters, the choir and clergy, proceeded from the west door to the Chancel, where a very beautiful service was conducted before a packed congregation.

Of recent years there has been a great revival in England, of the ancient custom, of holding religious plays in Church. Plays of the Nativity and passion of Our Lord have proved their worth, but it demands great care and preparation and as is done at Home, careful study of detail if the desired effect is to be produced. Not a few whom I have known have been led to a greater knowledge of their Saviour and a more earnest desire to follow Him, through the witnessing of such plays.