

other things are being done to beautify the grounds, etc. As church funds are rather low, parishioners have been asked to make the last two Sundays of the year "Golden" Sundays, to enable accounts to be paid and the overdraft reduced.

The Kumeroa congregation is also waking up to the fact that their church and grounds need looking after, and a representative committee is determined to do things. A give and buy afternoon is being arranged and a social in the evening.

The annual ball was a real social success. Mr. R. R. Johnston being responsible, backed up by the ladies' guild and church vestry.

PORANGAHAU PARISH.

(Rev. W. S. G. Cameron, Vicar.)

At the annual general meeting of St. Michael's Ladies' Guild, Porangahau, the following were elected: President, Mrs. W. S. G. Cameron (re-elected); vice-Presidents, Mesdames Paul Hunter, E. J. White, G. M. Sargisson, T. Hobson, P. Canning (all re-elected); hon. secretary, Mrs. A. G. Lancaster (re-elected); hon. treasurer, Mrs. Peter Canning; committee, Mesdames Percy Hunter, A. Healey, B. Grosvenor; Misses C. Sargisson and P. White; hon. auditor, Mr. A. J. Douglas.

The secretary's comprehensive report showed that the Guild had had a very successful year and had materially assisted the work of the church at "Home" and "abroad." £65 had been raised for parish funds, and also much assistance given to missions. The annual sale of work and flower show had again been a great success from all angles, and realised over £73 nett. The vicar acknowledged in appreciative terms the great help that the Guild had been since its inception. The first Thursday of the month at the vicarage at 2.30 p.m. continues to be the day, place and time of meeting. The annual sale of work and flower show was provisionally fixed for November 2nd.

Appreciation and congratulations are extended to the Wainui Committee, with Mrs. F. Herrick as leader, for the highly successful annual church dance held at Herbertville recently. The decorations, much appreciated by the large number pre-

sent, were a splendid and novel feature of the evening, and the excellence of the supper was up to its usual standard. Church funds benefited by over £33. Opportunity was taken by the vicar, and by Mr. A. W. Longley, on behalf of the district, to say au revoir and to bid God-speed to Mr. and Mrs. Herrick and their daughter Una, who were about to leave on a visit to England.

A "shop" organised by Miss P. White, Missions Secretary, and sponsored by St. Michael's Ladies' Guild, held at Porangahau recently, helped our missionary quota by over £10.

Felicitations are tendered to Miss "Kit" Ormond, "Wallingford," on her marriage to Mr. H. J. D. Acland. Miss Ormond has, for some time, been in charge of the Sunday School held at the homestead, and also organist, and in such capacity, as in many other ways, inclusive of the social life and activities of the "Bay" generally, she will be missed greatly. To her new home in South Canterbury she will take our best wishes.

We have also to record, with regret, the departure of Mr. G. E. J. and Mrs. McKinley, who have left for the Auckland district. As schoolmaster at Wallingford, Mr. McKinley set a high standard, and as a worker for his church and district he was invaluable. Mrs. McKinley was likewise a willing helper, and we trust that she will benefit in health by the change. Our appreciation and best wishes accompanied them. The Porangahau Ladies' Guild will very much miss their efficient help at their main effort.

We welcome Mrs. Balfour and family, who have come to reside at Wilder Settlement from Takapau district.

Harvest thanksgiving was held at Porangahau, Weber and Wimbledon. The harvest offerings of the first two centres were given to the Diocesan Homes, and we thank Mr. Blair for their cartage to St. Mary's, Napier. The proceeds of the sale of Wimbledon's offering were given towards our missionary quota.

The Right Reverend the Bishop of the Diocese will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation in St. Michael's Church, Porangahau, on Sunday, August 4th, at 11 a.m. Prayer is asked for the confirmees.

A LETTER FROM CHINA.

The following letter was written by Miss H. May Smyth, who is well known as a Bible Class leader and a popular figure in Bible Class camps. Miss Smyth has gone on a visit to Chinese mission stations, and is a keen observer. We regret her letter has had to be cut down considerably.

Mo-kan-sam Mt.,

Chekiang Prov.

April 7th, 1935.

Dear Miss Wright,—

Mank thanks for your letter; it is nice at all times to be remembered, but doubly so out here. Though I still have to occasionally tell myself firmly that it is not all a dream, and sometimes a nightmare, but really China, and really ME!

Welcoming letters met me at Manilla from Vi Bargrove and Beryl Steven, each saying they would meet me at their respective places, and at Hong Kong the first thrills began. There were welcoming letters from Stella Purches and Miss Jennings; the latter saying she was sending one of the staff down to boat to show me round Hong Kong in morning and bring me back to the Mission Orphanage at Kowloon for tiffin (lunch) and to an entertainment by the girls in late afternoon as a farewell to her, going on furlough next day. Hong Kong itself is a lovely island, and we motored all round, up and down hills and valleys all morning; then crossed in ferry to Kowloon on mainland. After dinner that night we crossed to Hong Kong again, and went up the famous Peak by cable car, where literally fairy land burst upon us; twinkling lights, both high above and far, far below, just as far as the eye could see. I hope to stay in Hong Kong on my way back. V. Bargrove was waiting on the wharf at Shanghai, where we spent the night and came down to Hangchow Hospital next day, rather a wearisome and monotonous train journey through most intensive cultivation right up to edge of railway lines, and not an inch of food producing land is wasted in fences or roads, just narrow paths for "one-at-a-time" and irrigation canals mark boundaries. Houses all clustered together, saving space.

Hangchow is the great silk indus-