

Lord Bledisloe On Maoriland.—“The great family of the Empire contains no nation more loyal to the Crown or more deeply attached to the Motherland than New Zealand. This applies to Europeans and natives alike. Indeed, throughout the whole British Empire no more lovable and no more loyal coloured people are to be found than the Maori race. To what, it may be asked, is this two-fold attachment due? The answer surely is that Great Britain, under a succession of Christian monarchs, has brought to New Zealand, as well as to the other Dominions, peace and ordered progress based from the outset emphatically and indisputably upon the fact that they have been Christians in deed as well as in name, and that they have ruled over a Motherland whose greatness has been built up upon the sure foundations of our Christian faith.

In New Zealand recently, there occurred three events which did far more to strengthen a loyal devotion to King and Empire than the whole of my efforts as His Majesty's representative for the last five years. One of them was the sound of the King's own voice, transmitted in person by radio, his beautiful Christmas message of peace and goodwill to what he called so happily and familiarly his Empire family thirteen thousand miles away.

Another was a similar experience, when several hundred thousand New Zealanders heard by wireless telegraphy Their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of Kent, pledge their troth each to each other in Westminster Abbey, in the simple dignity of our Anglican marriage service, as clearly and distinctly as any of the great congregation which, on that occasion, filled England's most historic fame.

The third was the fact that prior to one of the merriest Christmases that His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester ever spent, he knelt with us at the altar in the Cathedral at Auckland as a participant in our Christmas Communion.

We Britons are tremendously reluctant to wear our religion on our sleeves, but is there not a danger lest in our outward concealment of it, in our daily lives and avocations, we gradually divest ourselves al-

together of the garment of righteousness, or at least of the power at any time of need to throw it over those who are shivering in the chilly environment of godlessness, apathy or ignorance of the true faith?”

Miss Florence Smith's Great Work In South Africa.—“During a five-years' drought, from 1917 to 1922, the destitution in the Deccan was so appalling that Miss Florence Smith felt impelled to inaugurate some kind of industry, by means of which she could bring relief to the many starving Christian women of her mission station. Lace-making was chosen, and after infinite pains, saleable lace was produced. Miss Smith set before her workers the ideal of making a piece of lace good enough to be sent to H.M. Queen Mary, and this was accomplished in 1924. A gracious letter in acknowledgement of this gift was received by Miss Smith.

Some of the best pieces of lace have been sent from time to time, as samples, to Her Majesty Queen Mary, and also to some of their Majesties' representatives out here in India. These pieces of lace have been very graciously accepted, and we have received sympathetic letters in return, which we greatly appreciate, and which have thrilled our women. It seems very wonderful to think that Her Majesty Queen Mary should be interested in the work of her humble subjects here in India.

The lace workers of Khammameet recently sent greetings and salaams to Their Majesties on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee.”

Miss Florence Smith is now living in a well-earned retirement in Nelson.

China—Under General Chiang Kai Shek.—Mr. Carter, the secretary of the Institute of Pacific Relations, in his recent tour of New Zealand, referred to the remarkable progress of China under the Generalissimo, Chiang Kai Shek. He stated that until three years ago, “hard-bitten business men in Shanghai,” who knew the Chinese well—while recognising their power and charm as individuals, were yet convinced that they were incapable of building up a stable Government; but that now, in amazement, they see that very thing “is somehow being done.” Why “somehow”? The Generalissimo and his wife make no

secret of the fact that the new power has come since, through the Oxford Group, they were led to complete surrender to Christ: and this fact has been proclaimed through our missionaries from China for some time.

Finance.—The Board has received £14,493 7s. as its “Budget” amount for the year. We “thank God and take courage.” Last year the amount was £14,424, so there is an increase of £69, which is a very pleasing feature. The full Budget was £16,500, and we have failed to reach it by just over £2000. It may be hoped that the amounts the Board is able to give its co-ordinated Missions will be sufficient to enable them to avoid further reductions—for they are reduced now to the lowest ebb in the way of staffs and equipment—and to carry on with their present workers in the hope of some encouragement, possibly some increase, in the coming year.

This last month was a busy one in the board's office. At the end of May only £7834 had been received. During June £6659 came to hand. It was a wonderful recovery, and the board is grateful to all who worked by prayers and offerings to bring it about.

Diocesan contributions are as under, last year's being given in parenthesis. Quotas are also given.

	1934-35.	1933-34.	Quota.
Auckland ..	2845	(2617)	2970
Christchurch	3539	(3714)	3630
Dunedin ..	1340	(1315)	1569
Nelson ..	1328	(1307)	1320
Waipapu ..	1959	(2033)	2556
Waikato ..	387	(471)	990
Wellington ..	3065	(2907)	3465
Extra			

Diocesan .. 27 — — —
It will be seen that Nelson Diocese was the only one to reach its full quota. All honour to Nelson. Auckland and Christchurch came very close to theirs.

F. C. LONG,
General Secretary.

SUCCESSFUL YEAR.

GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY ST. MATTHEW'S BRANCH.

At the annual meeting of the St. Matthew's Branch (Hastings) of the Girls' Friendly Society the following report for 1934 was read:—

We opened our session on April 4