

in the army which follows the Word of God as He goes forth conquering and to conquer; its witness will be powerful, its achievements will be glorious, and it will have upon it the manifest marks of the blessing of God, as in the past so even more abundantly in the days to which in our self-dedication here we look forward."

During the service very beautiful music was played by Mr R. Warwick.

A social gathering was later held in the hall, when the visitors from Napier were entertained. Before departing, Miss White, the diocesan secretary, returned thanks to the Hastings members.

REPORT OF CHOIR FESTIVAL.

The first choir festival held under the auspices of the "School of English Church Music" was held in the Church of St. Matthew, Hastings, on Labour Day.

About 130 choir members took part in the festival, the following choirs being represented:—St. John's Cathedral, Napier; St. Matthew's, Hastings; Holy Trinity, Wairoa; St. James', Otane; St. Luke's, Havelock North; and Woodford House.

Members assembled in the hall at 2.30 where a cup of tea awaited them. At 2.45 the real business began when the choirs assembled in church for practice. An atmosphere of devotion was very soon felt, also a feeling that everybody was trying their very best to make the festival an occasion to be remembered. At 3.45 the practice finished and members were at liberty to renew old friendships or make new ones. At 4 p.m. a procession was formed outside the hall and proceeded to the choir stalls where evensong was sung, Mr Tombs playing the organ and Mr Spinney conducting. The music taken from Choir-Book No. 3 beginning with Hymn No. 3, "Forth in Thy Name O Lord, I go," Psalm 84, Phillip's Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, The Anthem, "How Beauteous are Their Feet," by Stanford, Hymns No. 4, "We Love the Place O God" to Stanford's tune Airedale, No. 6, "The Church Triumphant in Thy Love," and the Vesper, "Savour Again to Thy Dear Name"—sung to Pax Dei.

The singing was very beautiful and well balanced, the light and shade and

general interpretation reflecting great credit on the members and their respective choirmasters.

The Psalm was pointed according to the "Parish Psalter," and the fact that so many choirs were able to sing so perfectly together with only one run through was a great argument in favour of the adoption of this Psalter.

The Anthem was sung by the two affiliated choirs present, St. John's and St. Matthew's.

The whole service was most devotional and proved an inspiration long to be remembered by all taking part.

The clergy were well represented, Dean Brocklehurst taking the service, the Ven. Archdeacons Butterfield and McLean reading the lessons and Canon Mortimer-Jones preached the sermon. The Rev. R. T. Hall and A. M. Niblock were also present.

After evensong came tea and then the records and conference.

Mrs Spinney, the S.E.C.M. Waiapu representative, opened her speech by announcing that the Bishop of Waiapu had sent a message saying how very sorry he was at not being with us today but at the last moment circumstances prevented his attendance. She was very pleased to welcome Mrs and Miss Williams and everybody was delighted they were able to spend the evening with them.

Mrs Spinney then welcomed the visitors and said how pleased she was that the festival had been made possible, especially as a similar event was taking place at Te Aroha in the Wai-kato on the same day.

This year all the Waiapu choirs were invited to the festival but of course next year only affiliated choirs would have the right to take part, therefore it is hoped that choirs not yet affiliated will do so before long to enable the festival movement to grow. In conclusion, Mrs Spinney thanked all those who gave so generously towards the tea, and everybody who helped to make the festival such a success.

During the conference it was decided that the next choir festival should be held at the same time in St. John's Cathedral, Napier, on Labour Day, 1936.

ROTORUA MISSION CENTENARY.

18th, 19th AND 20th OCTOBER, 1935

The celebrations commemorating the 100th anniversary of the arrival of Rev. T. Chapman, the first missionary to work among the Maoris in this district, were of a very impressive character. A very keen interest was maintained throughout the whole proceedings and a very fine atmosphere prevailed.

The preliminary arrangements and organisation were carried out by the Rev. R. Hodgson, who worked zealously and unsparingly in order to ensure that such an important occasion should be fittingly and worthily observed. He was assisted by a strong committee with a very capable secretary in Mr Tyler.

This committee drew up a tentative programme, and then conferred with a committee of Maoris who were closely associated with the celebrations. The finalised programme was then submitted to, and approved by, the Bishop of the Diocese.

The following is the programme:—

FRIDAY, Oct. 18th.

St. Luke's Day (Our Patronal Festival)

7 a.m.—Holy Communion.

10 a.m.—Holy Communion.

2.30 p.m.—Service for women.

7 p.m.—Evening Service.

Preacher, the Lord Bishop of Waiapu,

8 p.m.—Parish social.

SATURDAY, OCT. 19th.

Children Service at 11 a.m. and Picnic.

SUNDAY, OCT. 20th.

7 a.m.—Holy Communion.

8 a.m.—Holy Communion.

8.45 a.m.—Parish breakfast.

11 a.m.—Open-air service.

(Preacher, Bishop Bennett.)

2.30 p.m.—Service at Koutu on the site of first Mission Station.

Preacher, The Lord Bishop of Waiapu.

7 p.m.—Service in the Majestic Theatre.

Preacher, The Bishop of Aotearoa.

The Municipal Band, and Maori Choir assisting.

At the 7 a.m. service on Friday the Bishop of Waiapu was the celebrant, assisted by the vicar, the Rev. R. Hodgson and the Rev. E. A. McCutcheon.

At the 10 a.m. service the Rev. Hodgson was the celebrant, assisted by the Rev. G. F. Oulds, who journeyed from