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The Open Door
The Missionary Organ
of the
Methodist Church
of N.Z.

DECEMBER, 1927.

THE PROW OF A WAR CANOE AT ROVIANA.

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Rev. V. Le C. BINET	Senga, Choiseul Bay, Choiseul, Solomon Islands
Rev. J. R. METCALFE	Bambatana, Choiseul, Solomon Islands
Rev. A. A. BENSLEY	...	...	...	Bilua, Vella Lavella, Solomon Islands, via Gizo
Rev. TOM DENT	...	...	...	Patutiva, Marovo, Solomon Islands
Rev. A. H. CROPP	...	...	...	Buka Passage, Bougainville, Solomon Islands
Rev. H. G. BROWN	Numa Numa, Bougainville, Solomon Islands
Rev. A. H. VOYCE	Siwai, Buka Passage, Bougainville, Solomon Islands

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Nurse LILLIAN BERRY	Roviana, Solomon Islands
Sister MAY BARNETT	Bilua, Vella Lavella, via Gizo, Solomon Islands
Sister ELIZABETH COMMON	...	...	...	Roviana, Solomon Islands
Sister LINA JONES	...	...	...	Roviana, Solomon Islands
Sister JEAN DALZIEL	Roviana, Solomon Islands
Nurse LILY WHITE	Senga, Choiseul Bay, Solomon Islands
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Mr. J. H. L. WATERHOUSE	Roviana, Solomon Islands
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THE OPEN DOOR.

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Editor: Rev. E. P. BLAMIRE

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DECEMBER 20, 1927.

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY.

From the Mission Office.

Return of the Deputation.

It is a matter for thankfulness and congratulation that the members of the special deputation appointed by the Conference to bear the greetings of the Home Church to the workers and members of the Mission Church in the Solomon Islands have returned safely in good health and spirits. The Rev. A. N. Scotter and Mr. J. W. Court, representing New Zealand, and Mr. and Mrs. N. J. Jenkin, representing Australia, have discharged their duties most efficiently. They are all deeply impressed with the remarkable results achieved in a quarter of a century, and can only describe the work as wonderful. It bears upon every part of it the imprint of a Divine hand. But they have returned impressed with a keen sense of what remains to be done; of the vast multitudes untouched by any Christian agency; of the doors which stand wide open inviting the entrance of the missionary, and of the serious shortage of native teachers. Bougainville, with its dense population, could be captured for Christ if sufficient workers could be placed in the field. The Rev. A. H. Cropp writes: "We are without a teacher on my station, as my Fijian teacher has gone on furlough to Fiji. We badly need a sister, but we need teachers more. The lack of teachers is pitiable. Fancy Mr. Brown and myself with but one teacher each! There are about 12,000 people on Buka, but we can hardly touch them." What can we do in the presence of such a need but make it a matter of earnest prayer? "When Jesus saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion on them because they fainted and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. Then saith He unto His disciples: The harvest truly is plenteous but the labourers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the Harvest that He will send forth labourers into His harvest."

Well Done, Solomons!

"£4,500. Affectionate greetings.—Goldie" was the cheering radio which came to hand a

few days ago from the Chairman of the District. The radio conveyed the pleasing news that the Mission District had contributed the splendid sum of £4,500 to assist in carrying on the missionary work in the Solomons. This is a record for the district, being £221 in advance of last year, and this in spite of the fact that the price of copra, on which the natives depend for their income, had dropped during the year. This means that they made up for the decreased price by increasing the quantity of copra which was sacredly set aside for the missionary offering. The Mission District was asked to raise £4,000, and it responded by going the second mile and raising £4,500. This is a remarkable record when it is remembered that twenty-five years ago the whole of the Western Solomons lay in dense heathen darkness. Surely the Home Church should delight in helping those who so cheerfully and self-sacrificingly help themselves.

Close of the Financial Year.

The financial year of the Missionary Society is fast hurrying to a close. December 31st is the date by which all money should be in the hands of the General Treasurer, but a fortnight's grace is allowed for late money. On January 14th the Treasurer will close his books, and all money received after that date will not appear in the returns for 1927. Year after year there are circuits so regardless of the claims of the Foreign Mission work of the Church that money is left lying for months in circuit accounts, and despite all appeals that it should be forwarded promptly, the year closes and all that appears to the credit of the circuit is the late money from the previous year or perhaps nothing at all. *These things ought not to be.* Circuit accounts ought not to benefit at the expense of the Missionary Society, which is paying a high rate of bank interest on overdraft. We make an earnest appeal to all responsible officials to see that all missionary money is promptly forwarded to the Treasurer.

With the Deputation in the Solomons.

By Rev. A. N. Scotter.

New Georgia.

The first part of the tour of our Mission District by the Deputation, was that around the island on which the head station stands. Our chief port of call was Patutiva, the model station, with its well-kept paths, its productive gardens, its roomy houses and its strict laws for the maintenance of health and good conduct. They have a stately church in which one notices the reading desk on the back of a beautifully carved petrel, while the new school building, opened by us, will greatly facilitate the work of education. They are an independent people, too, for even when they need a few nails for their buildings they insist on making payment. Rev. and Mrs. Tom Dent, with their liberal hospitality and their thoughtful provision of native fruits and vegetables, made the visit of

the travellers a great joy—despite the rain.

One of the first to greet us, was the old chief, Ngatu, who controlled the boys in the "Tomoko" with his conch shell. In old days, he was a fugitive from justice when murders had called out the Government forces. He fled over the hills and found protection with Mr. Goldie; he learned to appreciate the missionary's message and pleaded for a teacher. Now he is himself a local preacher and proud of that big canoe, the "Quarterly Meeting."

The native teacher, Jobi Varu, was another we were pleased to meet, for his work is splendidly and joyfully done. He found some reward in being allowed to join the crew of the *Tandanya* for the voyage round the islands.

These Patutiva people will continue to profit by teaching and preaching, and will supply many young men to train and travel for the work of evangelism.



Rev. A. N. SCOTTER, Rev. J. F. GOLDIE, Dr. SAYERS, Mr. J. W. COURT, Mr. and Mrs. JENKIN.

[Photo by Mr. J. W. Court.]

STORMY SEAS.

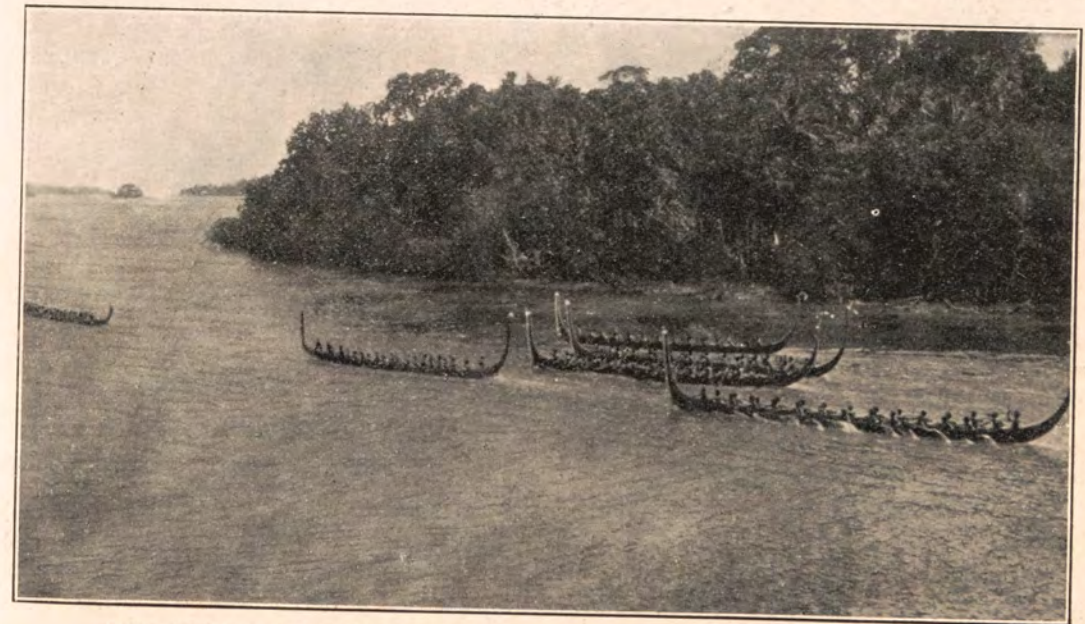
There is no more beautiful scenery in these islands than is found in the Marovo Lagoon. What a joy it was to move through the calm blue water amid the hundreds of palm-clad islets! We had left Patutiva on a Monday afternoon, after a memorable round of meetings and entertainment. But soon the calm beauty of the Lagoon had to be left for the open sea, and here we met a gale that tossed all enjoyment from us. Who was that silly man that wrote: "A Home on the rolling deep"? Mr. Goldie is the only one who sits down to dinner; for the rest of us a dry biscuit is sufficient. How attentive some of the "boys" are to Mrs. Jenkin in her distress and how glad we all are to find the captain bringing us into the shelter of a calm anchorage! Here is the village of Keru, with George Vundere in charge and we have a service with his people before we go to rest. The people are full of gratitude and here, as in all other places, Doctor Sayers has his time taken up in ministering to needy sufferers. If the other members of the Deputation are eloquent at preaching time, the natives recognise that the Doctor makes his speeches "with the knife!"

One other village we visited before leaving New Georgia, and that was one where splendid work is seen in the clearing of a large area for

a plantation, in the building of a new church, and in the establishment of the village in a healthy position. The people have had their stormy days with Land Court affairs, but have now settled down to a hopeful prosperity. The teacher, David, with his wife, Jessie, is proving his worth in this village of Menakasapa.

The Transformed Isle.

We all know Vella Lavella by the above title, and at Bilua, Rev. A. A. Bensley gave the Deputation a very hearty greeting. They had joined in the rejoicings at Roviana, but we were glad to see them in their own parish. It was a watery welcome we received, and the chances of landing seemed so remote that Mr. Court donned his bathing suit and, with his henchman, Alakera, had a tumultuous welcome in the water at the wharf. When the whole party reached the Mission House, we were most royally entertained, and, during the four days of our visit, everything was done to give us a good idea of the missionary's work and of missionary hospitality. Sister May Barnett is in charge of the Girls' Home, where some twenty girls are being so trained as to become a blessing in the village by reason of a fuller knowledge and a greater skill. It was a study in contrasts for us to see the widow of Daniel Bula, that charming Christian gentleman and



SOME OF THE TWELVE CANOES THAT ESCORTED THE DEPUTATION ON THE "MATARAM" INTO RENDOVA HARBOUR.

[Photo by Mr. J. W. Court.]

devoted teacher, and the widow of Sito, a murderer of the bad old days, for whose capture much havoc was made in the villages by Government police boys.

Because of the wet and stormy weather, we had to forego an itinerary of village visiting, but each day had its opportunities for a wider knowledge of the needs of the people. Saturday had its programme of sports, canoe racing, diving and dances, before the ovens were opened and meat and puddings distributed for the usual feasting. Mr. Goldie reported a notable feat by one of his crew. Two anchors had been put out during the gale; the movements of the tide had twisted them and made

ence gathered to hear words of helpfulness from Mr. Court and Mr. and Mrs. Jenkin. A noticeable feature of the audiences at Bilua and at Patutiva, was the large proportion of girls and women, all of whom joined heartily in the singing and were keen in their interest.

Mr. Bensley, with his 300 acres of plantation and his boys' school, beside the oversight of the many villages, has a big task. But he has a big heart and an abundant energy that sends him out into the bush to fell trees for fencing and building material. Mrs. Bensley and Sister May are doing splendid work, particularly amongst the women and girls.

The transforming of human lives is still going



KOKENGOLO SISTERS' PETS.

[Photo by Mr. J. W. Court.]

it impossible to release them with the windlass. Then, one of the boys, Moata Kapu, dived down and managed to untwist the anchors at the depth of sixteen fathoms.

Sunday was a great day, a day of rest and gladness. The new church was to be opened and the first act of worship was the Communion Service in the early morning, which was attended by all the Europeans. At mid-day there was a crowded attendance for the official opening, when the Rev. J. F. Goldie took charge, and the sermon was preached by Rev. A. N. Scotter, and interpreted by Rev. A. A. Bensley. In the afternoon another large audi-

on and we shall see many from Bilua prepared to go out and evangelise.

Choiseul in Transition.

BAMBATANA.

Our missionary work on Choiseul was commenced by Rev. S. R. Rooney in 1905, and has steadily progressed among a restless and warlike people. The island is not so fertile as the others we visited, and the regular Sydney steamer calls at only one port, Choiseul Bay, in the extreme north. We reached Rev. J. R. Metcalfe's station at Bambatana, on August

22, and on the next day had a joyous time amongst the people. Sister Ethel McMillan, with the recently-arrived Sister Grace McDonald, has a splendid work amongst the girls, who, to the number of about 20, live at the Sisters' Home, receive tuition in school and domestic work and also assist with the maternity cases. With such enthusiastic and capable leaders, these young women will become a blessing and an inspiration to the villages. Mr. and Mrs. Metcalfe are guiding and developing all the mission life in a splendid manner. The natives are devoted to them and new avenues of service are being continually sought out. Along the coast, each village is

But we had our most enjoyable time at Bambatana, when we had returned from Bougainville and called for Mrs. Jenkin, who had spent the three weeks at this station. Rev. and Mrs. Binet had come from the other side of the island to bid us farewell, and we commenced a full Sunday of meetings with a Communion Service at the Mission House. Besides the enthusiastic and crowded meetings at the station, we visited several villages on the coast in Mr. Binet's launch, *Te Karere*. The people appreciated the meetings held, and we were able to see how their condition was being improved and to recognise their live interest in the Lotu. Had there been time, we could have



MRS. JENKIN, MESDAMES BENSLEY AND DENT, NURSES AND SISTERS AT KOKENGOLO.

[Photo by Mr. J. W. Court.]

encouraged to give attention to road making, the result being seen in many miles of croton-fringed pathway.

The Deputation was officially welcomed at a crowded gathering in the church, when addresses of greeting were given by the teachers, Andrew and Stephen Gadipeta, as well as by Mr. Metcalfe. We were also entertained by armed warriors in a sham fight, and by "musicians" with pan pipes. The day ended with a "Happy Hour" at the Mission House, where several old men made presents of valuable curios, and where parcels from Wellington friends found excited and grateful recipients.

been guided by Mr. Metcalfe, up the hills to see the more primitive life of the villages, but we know that these are being more and more brought under the influences of Christianity by this energetic missionary.

WONDERFUL CHANGES AT SENGA.

When Rev. W. A. Sinclair and Mr. J. W. Court visited Senga seven years ago, the natives all carried arms and there was suspicion and jealousy in all the villages. To-day, the former combatants have united to build a splendid church, the large uprights at each end being erected by the former enemies, and the two

rival chiefs sitting side by side at the dedication service. Mr. Binet has reason to rejoice in the evidences of progress. We surprised our friends by arriving on the morning of August 25, when they were expecting us in the afternoon. We had had a splendid journey round the coast, threading the wonderful Taoro Pass between hills covered with glorious vegetation and enjoying the calm beauty of the sea. The night, however, was not so peaceful. We had anchored off a Seventh Day Adventist village at a time when a crowd of mosquitoes were evidently crossing from the mainland. Everybody on board had a lively time, for even the doctor was not left in peace.

The Senga friends, Mr. and Mrs. Binet, and Sister Lily White, gave us a splendid entertainment. After Lotu on the first evening, scenes and songs from the cantata "Queen Esther" were presented by a crowd of boys and girls dressed in character. It was a charming and unique entertainment; it would have done credit in its tableaux and in its music, to any church in New Zealand. Mr. Binet's musical talents are well employed, while in the medical work and village visiting he is loyally and enthusiastically helped by Sister Lily.

We were kept busy on the Friday from daylight until well into the night. The doctor

was employed with the "cases" that Sister Lily had got ready for him; the old "warriors" had to give us a realistic sham fight at the site of the fortified village of Jinjipili; the floor and roof of the new church were duly dedicated at an afternoon service and then, in the darkness, after Lotu, a long torch-light procession came up from the beach, along the winding path and past the Mission House where we watched and admired—a thrilling end to a joyful and useful day!

On Choiseul, there are some noteworthy children. One at Senga was brought before us by his mother and rejoiced in the name of "Cyril Burton." At Bambatana, we saw "Courtney," a seven-year-old, who did not relish the suggestion of coming to Auckland with his godfather. Another innocent child received the name of "Se-cotter!" Poor little "Sinclair" of seven years ago was not spared to add lustre to his name.

Our workers on this large island need our constant sympathy, support and prayers that the villages may all be reached and transformed by the evangel. We left these two stations conscious of devoted service and of worthy results achieved by the self-sacrifice of a succession of workers.



DANCING ROUND THE GIANT NUT PUDDINGS AT BILUA. [Photo by Mr. J. W. Court.]

The British Solomons—Seven Years After.

By Mr. J. W. Court.

With what ease and comfort one can travel in these modern times! Six quiet, restful days in the comparatively palatial steamer *Mataram* and one has arrived from Brisbane at a tiny Empire outpost, Tulagi, the capital of the British Solomons. There are a few more buildings—a few more graves—a golf course, and a very smart gaol. Tulagi is a typical home of British officialdom.

A fortnight visiting plantations on Malaita, Guadalcanar, Russell, Ysabel, Montgomery and other islands, unloading stores and filling up again with copra, filled us with pity for the tourist who believes he is "doing" the Land of the Head Hunters.

A few weeks later the deputation were pitying themselves, for owing to the brevity of the visit—and the very inclement weather—two villages only outside the head stations in the British Solomons were inspected by the full deputation. Despite the almost unceasing rain the visit to each of the head stations was full of interest and excitement.

Old-time war dances, realistic attacks by painted and be-decked warriors, brandishing with extreme fervour their old and trusty spears and axes, the re-enacting of the home-coming of a victorious head-hunting expedition—war canoes coming slowly to land crowded with the savages chanting their victory song and keeping time with their paddles, many standing with swaying bodies and poised weapons—these unforgettable scenes forcibly reminded us of the past and of the heroism and marvellous work of the pioneer missionaries.

What a welcome we got at Headquarters! We were met by a schooner, an auxiliary yacht, a launch, 12 war canoes, and the Brass Band playing *Rule Britannia* and *God Defend New Zealand*, an imposing guard of honour, the Chairman, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Dent, Mr. and Mrs. Bensley, and the five staid old maids who take their tonics so regularly at the Sisters' House.

What a happy time and congratulations, presentations, addresses, brief, bright and

brotherly! What feasting! One deputationist had the forelegs and a piece of cheek of a wonderfully succulent sucking pig!

Here are signs of activity and progress made since last visit. Starting from the wharf we find a large sawmill and boat sheds with an upper floor nearly ready for a printing press, a wireless house (sending and receiving), new boys' houses, an electric light station, a new and larger store, a splendid new school building, a very temporary hospital, a new Sisters' Home, and a new Headmaster's house. Surely a new mission house for the Chairman is not far away and an up-to-date hospital. I predict that in three years' time Kokegolo will be a very efficient and really up-to-date model mission headquarters.

How I missed Mrs. Goldie, Pika, and that tribe of youngsters who lived and played in that Mission House seven years ago.

The natives have an unrivalled talent for hiding their feelings, and I am not sure just how pleased they were to see me again, but it was a great delight and inspiration to see so many of my old friends. How I wish the Methodist people in New Zealand could meet and appreciate them all.

Greetings to you, Boaz Vao, and all your people!

Patutiva, elevated to the dignity of a European station, was a real delight. Living in a very beautiful semi-native house, with splendidly-kept lawns and gardens and archways, and with graceful palms not far away, one would not have been surprised to have seen our charming host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Dent, in semi-native attire. Here are an exceptionally fine native church and school and comfortable, well-built native homes, and a fine, loyal, generous people.

Patutiva has all the attributes of a tropical paradise. Here, as at every station, the deputation were overwhelmed with a hearty welcome, bounteous feasting, many parting gifts, and absolutely perfect hospitality. If the Editor so desires I would gladly take you further on our tour.

The Visit of the Deputation to Bougainville.

By Rev. A. H. Cropp.

We were eagerly awaiting the coming of the *Tandanya* with her load of visitors. The boys had seen the *Tandanya* before, and also her captain, Mr. Goldie. They had seen the Roviana boys and heard the wonderful band. But who were these New Zealand folk? What did they want to come up here for? They wanted to see the Buka and Bougainville boys, was the answer, and how they had accepted the lotu. And so the enthusiasm grew as the time drew near. It was suggested that the deputation open the new Petats church, and a rush was made to finish the church in time. Then, in the midst of a real downpour of rain a schooner appeared on the appointed date. What was it? Too big for the local schooners, and she was heading right for the station. Hurrah! It's the *Tandanya*, and in she comes between the reefs. We rush out in the little dingey—ah, that dingey! Some day I shall tell a story of a man who fell out of a dingey, this dingey, too—and Isa, pulling bow oar, snaps the oar in his enthusiasm. But the captain of the *Tandanya* ignores the embryo pilots and takes his ship safely to the anchorage. What a picture she makes! Easily the prettiest schooner of the Solomons, her graceful lines would beautify any harbour. And our evil mangrove-coated shore took on quite a picturesque appearance with the *Tandanya* and the *Saga* lying in the snug little anchorage of the station. So in the pouring rain we climbed aboard and the captain introduced the visitors—a white-haired gentleman who was called a "boy," a doctor who had something to do with a knife, another person who was a "scooter," and Mr. Togolo. What "Togolo" means, who knows? Perhaps a Roviana boy could tell one. Someone said it was to go "astern," but the person of that name never stopped, let alone went "astern." And so we spent two and a-half merry days with the deputation, which passed all too quickly. The new church was opened on the Saturday, and the Sunday's services were taken by the visitors. An afternoon service at Petats was taken by a *Tandanya* boy named Solomoni. The attention of his hearers was never lost, and the *Tandanya* boy accomplished more than he probably knew by his earnest and sincere service. Then on Mon-

day morning, Ichabod! the glory departed, the *Tandanya* casting off mooring lines, but leaving a star behind her in the person of Mr. Togolo, better known to his New Zealand friends as Mr. J. W. Court.

A few hours after the *Tandanya's* departure, the little *Saga* also heaved up her anchor and nosed out of the anchorage. Anticipating some difficulty in getting into Siwai, where Mr. and Mrs. Voyce are stationed, Mr. Court transferred to the *Saga* and left for Siwai, hoping that perchance the *Tandanya* folk would be able to meet us in Siwai. But this did not eventuate, and we were alone in our visit. Of Mr. Court's hilarious fortnight in Siwai his own pen had better tell. Suffice it to say he thinks the other members of the Deputation missed a good deal. Mr. Court accomplished a record in walking about 140 miles in Siwai, whilst Mrs. Voyce gave us a surprise by walking with the party the 28 miles down to Empress Augusta Bay where the *Saga* was anchored. Mr. Voyce is eminently suited for our Siwai district, and his accomplishments on the Siwai roads are not likely to be beaten by any fellow missionary. The work in Siwai is progressing admirably, Mr. Voyce's station being beautifully spick and span.

We said our "adieux" and departed for Buka. Mr. Court had seen a good deal of Siwai's 4,000 odd population, but there was no time to show him Buka's 12,000 folk. So a rush trip only was made to the north-west coast of Buka, where we counted 318 houses (approximately 1,270 people) along five miles of coast. On our return to Skotolan we learnt to our dismay that the steamer had gone by in the morning, so hastily packing up we posted down the coast after her. Mr. Court went aboard, and so the visit of the deputation ended.

The realisation of something we long hoped for brought with it a satisfaction which will not diminish for a considerable time. Our prayer is that we shall retain something of the spirit of the Deputation, and that they too may carry with them some recollection of those who labour in lands far away, but who are yet knit with the home folk in ties that bind the Christian's heart in love.

A Winter's Holiday in Fiji, Tonga and Samoa.

By Rev. W. Beckett.

It was my pleasure and privilege to spend nearly eight weeks in the Fiji Islands. Unique opportunities were given me to see at first-hand the work that is being done, owing to my personal friendship with missionaries and the presence of relatives who are doing their bit for Christ in these Mission lands.

Standing in the centre of Suva, the chief town in Fiji, is a stone on which is engraved the interesting fact that, in the year 1835, the first missionaries, William Cross and David Cargill, landed in Fiji, both Wesleyan missionaries from Tonga. So that it is less than 100 years since the first Gospel sermon was preached in these Islands, and that was not in Viti Levu, Big Fiji, but on the little island of Lakemba, away to the East. The Word of God soon spread to other islands and glorious Gospel triumphs were won wherever the preacher of the Gospel went.

One of the earliest islands to receive the message of salvation, was Kadavu. Here I spent ten happy, memorable days.

The annual meetings were being held, and, in company with the Chairman, Rev. R. S. Macdonald, I attended and visited many of the villages.

There was an evident sincerity in the religious life of these people. The leaders, native teachers, catechists and teachers, with their church officials, came together to discuss ways and means for the furtherance of the Gospel, and very seriously they gave themselves to the work. The public gatherings in the church and the mekes, or native dances, were conducted in the same earnest spirit.

These people take their religion seriously and when one remembers what it saved them from, he cannot but thank God.

The greeting we received on landing at Nakasaleka, Kadam, was hearty. Practically the whole population of the village was down on the beach to receive us. They extended the most generous hospitality all the time we were their guests, giving of their very best, and when we bade them farewell, they assembled again on the beach and sang their hymns as only Fijians can sing them. Their favourite parting hymn is: "To the work, to the work," which, I was told, meant: "Carry on, carry on. Continue, persevere in the good work,"—and so we left these interesting people, with their message ringing in our ears, to carry on in the good work.

Suva.

In Suva, we have a great church, "Jubilee," attended by some 600 to 700 Fijians every Sunday. The building is full both morning and evening, and is about to be enlarged, and one object of the Centenary Thanksgiving Fund now being raised, is to build a

large church, worthy of the work we are doing there. I was disappointed in that we, as a church, had made no provision to meet the needs of the ever-increasing white population, of which there are some 1,200 to 1,300 in Suva. Our early missionaries were not sufficiently worldly-wise, and so did not secure property, which others, who came later, have secured.

The headquarters of our Fijian work is at Davui Levu, some 12 miles from Suva. Here a great work is being done in the training of students and probationers for the Christian ministry, under the direction of the Rev. C. O. Lelean, a man greatly beloved, who has spent 25 years in Fiji.

Here also, is a fine industrial work. Some 260 young Fijians are being made into useful citizens well able to use their hands and their heads. Some of their work is equal to any the white man can show. In fact, all of it is highly creditable. Mr. Derrick, who is in charge of this technical work, is an enthusiastic lover of the Fijian, and has taken a leading part in shaping the policy of the Young Fijian Society, which now numbers over 1,400 members and is the great hope of Fiji.

Work among the Indians.

Our Indian work, whose chief centre adjoins Davui Levu, is known as Dilkusha. Here we have a band of very devoted workers, and through kindergarten, orphanages for girls and boys, schools for both sexes, dispensary and church, a brave effort is being put forth to give these dark-skinned people a knowledge of what Christianity means.

Around on the West Coast, two days' journey from Suva, at Ba and Lautoka, splendid work is being done. At Ba, we have a hospital in charge of a fully qualified medical practitioner, Dr. Doreen Hensley. She is a delightful little woman, with her whole soul in her work. She never spares herself in her efforts to relieve suffering, not only in the hospital, but over a wide district which she travels. Here also we have Indian schools, and at Lautoka, an orphanage, the Jasper Williams, where 30 little Indian children are housed in what was once a hotel, but now the home of bright happy children who are being trained for God and given a chance in life. I shall not soon forget how these children sang "One there is who loves me, and His name is Jesus. He loves me on Sunday and Monday and Tuesday and Wednesday and Thursday and Friday and Saturday. Glory to Jesus, it's all the week through."

One should not forget our Indian work at Toorak, Suva, in charge of Rev. G. H. Findlay, with Miss Griffin at the Girls' school, and Mr. Hakim Din at the Boys'.

Much might be written about the good women of Fiji. Some of them have spent 20 and 25 years in the

work and are exceedingly happy. Their chief regret is that they may soon have to leave the work they love so much.

In Miss Hammett, of Levuka, we have a lady who is the longest servant of our Mission in Fiji—over 26 years, and in some respects she looks the youngest. She is the picture of good health and happy spirits, and is doing a great work among the half-caste girls, and recently has started the only Girl Guide movement there is in Fiji.

One would like to name all the workers, for all are worthy.

In the Chairman, Rev. R. Macdonald, we have a strong man who is alive to the great possibilities of Fiji and will help to shape the policy of our church on noble lines.

Tonga.

Of Tonga and Samoa one could write much.

It was good to see the great success of Union between the Free and the Wesleyan Churches, although there are still 6,000 holding out and refusing to come in to the larger church.

A service in our church at Nukualofa is an inspiration. The one I attended lasted from 7 o'clock to 9.30, and then the people were loth to go. It was a kind of free and easy, under the direction of the native minister. Orators would rise up from different parts of the church and declare their souls, and then choruses would be sung by groups of singers. Their religion is a gladsome thing to them, there is no doubt about that.

The influence of Queen Salote is powerfully felt.

In our Tobou College, 60 fine native lads are in training. From this school we have already had helpers for our Solomon Islands work, and I was assured others are preparing to go forth.

Rev. H. Wood, M.A., B.D., as Principal, is the highest type of educational missionary, keenly intellectual and passionately earnest.

At Haapai and Vavau, where the "Tofua" calls, our church has a strong position and is doing great work for the young and old.

The Chairman of the Tongan District, Rev. Roger Page, is very grateful for the help given by New Zealand Methodism in Misses Blamires, Ferguson, and Harford, and Mrs Harris.

Samoa.

Under the Chairmanship of Rev. G. Shinkfield, B.A., our work is moving forward in Samoa. A beautiful Girls' College at Faleula, six miles from Apia, built

entirely by native labour, of massive concrete, with the latest improvements, and worth, probably £5,000, was opened last month, October.

At Piula, 18 miles from Apia, what is said to be the finest educational institution in any of the islands, was opened only last year. In Apia itself, valuable properties have been secured, whilst in the villages, our work prospers and the largely increased income this year, when there is so much unrest, speaks volumes for the devotion of our people and the earnestness of our Native ministry.

In all our South Sea Island work, we have a band of men and women whose hearts God has touched, and of which we may justly be proud.

The Chairman of each District would welcome more men and there is no reason why our young students and ministers should not offer and be proud to go to any of these islands. The Solomons cannot absorb all our talent. Why not, then, go to Fiji, Tonga or Samoa. They are lovely islands, free from blackwater and malaria. The conditions of life are, on the whole, very agreeable, and one with his heart in his work, can be very happy and very useful.

After all, Fiji is very near home, only 70 hours journey—less than 3 days from Auckland, a shorter time than it takes to go from the northernmost circuit in the North Island to the Bluff.

For a young man who wants to spend his life where it will tell powerfully for God, and where he can get a full share of enjoyment, I know no better places than Fiji, Tonga and Samoa.

"Oh, that I were just beginning my ministry."

New Zealand Workers in Papua

A serious omission occurred in a special article in the last number of "The Open Door" dealing with New Zealanders who have served the Mission in Papua, in that no mention was made of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Francis, of Christchurch. Mrs. Gilmour, of Papua, writes: "Mr. and Mrs. Francis were very capable and most enthusiastic workers and did splendid service at Dobu and Bwaidoga. It was with great regret they were forced to leave the field on account of the ill-health of Mrs. Francis." Since their return to New Zealand, Mr. and Mrs. Francis have been keen workers in the Missionary cause and in Church work generally. We much regret the omission of their names from the list of workers in Papua.

Men's Missionary Meetings.

A New Departure.

The women of the Church are well organised for Missionary work, but such is not the case with the men. Successful meetings of men were held this year in Christchurch, Dunedin and Invercargill, and it is proposed to do more on these lines next year.

CHRISTCHURCH.

Towards 6 p.m. on September 5th, little groups of ministers and laymen could be seen engaged in animated conversation, outside the Carlton Cafe, Cathedral Square. It was the night of our Christchurch Methodist Men's Missionary tea and rally. We were to have a conference with the General Secretary, Rev. W. A. Sinclair, and Mr. W. S. Mackay, of Auckland, and there was a feeling that we were in for a great time. About 80 ministers, office-bearers and Missionary enthusiasts made their way upstairs and sat down for tea. The Vice-President, Mr. J. A. Flesher, presided, with the Chairman of the District on his right. After the usual "feast of wisdom and flow of soul" that is usually characteristic of a Methodist tea table, we settled down to the real business of the evening. The conference was primarily for information and inspirational purposes, and as such, it hit the "white." After the Vice-President had introduced the speakers for the evening, Mr. Sinclair led off with a most interesting account of the developments of the work on the field, and of the present and future policy of the Foreign Mission Board. The address left nothing to be desired.

Mr. W. S. Mackay followed. How the Foreign Mission work of our Church has captured the heart and enthusiasm of this beloved brother! Cold indeed must have been the heart that did not glow while he detailed the methods by which keen men and keen circuits had raised beyond expectation the missionary income for their circuits. The matter was taken up in the spirit of a holy crusade to extend the triumphs of our great Redeemer's Kingdom. His appeal for a deeper interest in Missionary affairs, illustrated by his own sincere account of how he endeavours to fulfil his stewardship to his Lord in this direction, as in others, must have made most of us feel that we should make a new beginning, and make our first act, a reconsecration of ourselves and our

all to Him Who bought us with His own blood.

It would be impossible for such a conference not to bear fruit. —S.J.W.

DUNEDIN.

A representative gathering of officials from all the Dunedin city and suburban circuits was held in the Slade Hall, with a view to the increasing and deepening of interest in our Foreign Mission work.

The ex-Vice-President, Mr. D. C. Cameron, Jr., (who had done much to secure the large attendance), was in the chair. The meeting had been arranged to take advantage of the visit of the Rev. W. A. Sinclair and Mr. W. S. Mackay, of Auckland, both of whom were given a very cordial reception and a most attentive hearing. Mr. Sinclair dealt mainly with facts and figures concerning the work in the Solomons, supplying fresh and up-to-date information as to the progress being made and the development going on, making especial reference to the hospital and medical work just commenced by Dr. E. G. Sayers. Other promising aspects were also mentioned, and various features of the work explained in an illuminating fashion.

Mr. W. S. Mackay's address was an inspirational one, bearing chiefly upon the responsibilities of the Home Base, particularly in the matter of furnishing the necessary funds for maintaining and extending the efforts of the Mission staff. Mr. Mackay proved to be an enthusiastic advocate and his address was well suited to the occasion.

After these speeches, questions were invited and a most profitable discussion followed. It was felt on all sides that a most useful meeting had been held, the benefit of which would be reflected in a widely increased interest in and support of our work in the Solomons.

INVERCARGILL.

In the Invercargill Central Schoolroom, on 22nd September, a Laymen's Meeting was held. Forty-three sat down to tea, after which a meeting was held in the Social Hall. Mr. W. S. Mackay, of Auckland, spoke on behalf of Foreign Missions, and made an appeal to the laymen present to sion. At the close of the meeting it was suggested that three or four such Laymen's Meetings be held annually.

How the Native People Give.

We are in the midst of our annual effort here. Last Sunday week we held our annual services of thanksgiving and a sum approximating £90 was contributed in cash. The indications are that the total contributions in cash and in kind will surpass any previous year. The Chairman, though he has been absent so much from the Head Station lately, came over at our request, and conducted the morning service and spoke most encouragingly and helpfully to the packed church in the morning. The afternoon was given up to singing by the village choirs, much of which was excellent, some scarcely so. We continue to be amazed at the generous giving of these people. To-day the competition on the part of the white traders is very keen and good prices are paid to the native people for their produce, yet as the time of thanksgiving draws near, all the fruitage of their groves is sacredly reserved as a thank-offering to God. The gift of one village alone this year will amount to £100. To the unsympathetic and cynical white trader, this giving

The Solomon Islands Mission through Australian Eyes.

The following report has been supplied to *The Spectator* by Mr. and Mrs. N. J. Jenkin, of Melbourne, who were the official representatives of the Australasian Board of Missions at the Semi-Jubilee Celebrations in the Solomons:

One finds to-day in the Western Solomons a wonderfully live Christian Church of 5,000 baptised members and a following of at least 25,000 natives who have been brought under the direct influence of the Gospel.

The marked change in the condition and lives of these people amazes one as one remembers the dirty, degraded, blood-thirsty savages they were 25 years ago when Rev. J. F. Goldie and his band of workers landed on their shores.

It is easily understood this remarkable change has not come about in the twinkling of an eye. What strenuous labours and heart-breaking disappointments have been experienced to make possible this difference from the old war cry to the singing of the "Gloria," "The Hallelujah Chorus," "Worthy is the Lamb," etc.; between head-hunting expeditions and the management of wireless; electric lighting and power plant, saw mills, plantations, etc., their healthy, clean bodies, and delightful village life compared with former conditions.

This makes one long that all the islands of

causes great annoyance and excites some bitter criticism. One of this type of men has recently published a volume in which he relates his experiences of three or four years of life down here. He probably hoped to get rich in a year or two, and because such a thing is not done these days, he became bitterly caustic. The annual contribution made by our native Christians hurts him tremendously, but fortunately, he is not one of many but of few. He, and his type, simply do not understand that these people joyfully make this gift because of something that has touched their lives and utterly changed them and that they willingly go on increasing their contribution. Most of the traders are helpful and sympathetic, and some have freighted stuff for us without any charge. They (the people) have no other word for gift than the word for love, viz., roquano, (ronguano). Love, to them, is something tangible and I think they know something of John 3, 16: "God so loved that He gave." Their love is the type that *gives*.

the Pacific should soon receive like blessings. Since being transferred to the New Zealand Church, the number of white workers has been doubled, a medical unit, with a specially trained doctor and nursing staff established; in course of construction is an up-to-date hospital (the Helena Goldie Hospital), a fitting recognition of the valuable service so long and faithfully rendered by Mrs. Goldie. Her devoted life and gracious personality has left an indelible mark on the people, especially the women. As representing the Australian Church, our welcome was cordial in the extreme, and at all the large gatherings we were requested to convey to the home Church, or Mother Church, as they still call us, their sense of gratitude for what has been done for them in the gifts of missionaries, as they fully recognise it was Australia, with New Zealand, who first sent them the Gospel, and to assure us of their continued love and affection. This was expressed in deeds as well as words.

One cannot speak too highly of the service and devotion of Mr. Goldie and his noble band of workers, past and present. We thank God for these wonderful triumphs wrought in His Name, also that it was our privilege to be present at their semi-jubilee.

Missionary Table Talk.

The Rev. M. K. Gilmour has been presented by Mr. Ivor Newman, of Sydney, with a first-class microscope, valued at £63, for use in research work in the Mission Hospital at Salamo, Papua.

The Rev. R. C. Page, President of the Tonga Conference, writing of the New Zealand teachers, Misses Blamires, Harford and Ferguson, who are serving the Church in Tonga, says:—"They are rendering excellent service; not only are they industrious and capable, but the influence of their fine Christian characters is a most valuable asset to our work."

Through the generosity of Mr. F. H. Stewart, of Sydney, a Tongan choir will take part in the great Conference Missionary Meetings in Australia. It is hoped that it may be possible to arrange for the choir to return via Auckland, if suitable financial and other arrangements can be made.

The Revs. A. H. Cropp, A. A. Bensley and V. Le C. Binet are due for furlough next year. Mr. Cropp has been seven years on the Mission Field without furlough.

The Rev. H. G. Brown has completed two months of successful deputation work in the South Island. We congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Brown on the birth of a daughter.

A legacy of £250 in the estate of the late T. W. Jones, of Auckland, has been left to the Foreign Mission Fund. The legacy will not be available until the death of the widow.

News from the Front.

The Rev. Allan H. Cropp, writing from Buka Passage, Bougainville, says: "We badly need a sister, but we need teachers more. The lack of teachers is pitiable. Fancy Mr. Brown and myself with but one teacher each! There are about 12,000 on Buka, but we can hardly touch them. Mr. Court had a happy time and gave us a happier one. The boys enjoyed him immensely. If Dr. James is anything like Dr. Sayers you seem to be particularly fortunate in your choice of doctors."

The Rev. A. H. Voyce writes from Siwai, Bougainville:—"Mrs. Voyce and I want to thank the New Zealand folk for the gift of a gramophone and records and other things that came with the deputation.

"I would like to suggest that the usual run of toys sent out in Mission boxes are useless here, and their place could be more economically filled by calico or soap. Not only that, they are mostly broken and are listed as valued at eighteenpence or two shillings each, and thus duty has to be paid on things worthless.

Beads, knives, mouth organs, etc., are greatly acceptable."

Rev. A. A. Bensley writes:—"Sister May Barnett has a house very full of girls and babies, and our family has grown by one. I was up the coast visiting and a mother had just died leaving a two months' old child. The people had already started feeding the child on bananas, so I brought it home for Mrs. Bensley."

Can You Help?

The Rev. H. G. Brown, of Bougainville, will welcome gifts of lantern slides, a few second-hand cornets, and a second-hand typewriter. Unused articles of this description are probably lying about in many homes and offices, and those things would prove invaluable to the missionary on far off Bougainville in his pioneer work.

A fine lantern, the gift of Leet St. Church, Invercargill, will be used to show the lantern slides.

The Rev. F. T. Reed has donated some lantern slides, and one cornet has already been given.

All articles should be sent to the Mission Office, Probert Chambers, Queen St., Auckland.

Daffodils and Missions.

During the last three years the Rev. Wm. W. Avery, of Eltham, has sent us £100 which he has received as special donations for Foreign Missions, the donors receiving in return a collection of choice daffodil bulbs. Mr. Avery has again proved himself to be one of the leading amateur growers in New Zealand, winning, this year, no less than ten trophies, including the Taranaki Open Championship Cup against keen competition. Surplus bulbs are not for sale, but are given to help our Medical Work in the Solomons. Anyone who forwards a special donation for Medical Mission Work to Mr. Avery will receive from him a collection of choice daffodil bulbs, good value being assured. Donations for this purpose, from 10/- upwards, will be gladly received by Mr. Avery, and bulbs will be forwarded to donors in January. Donors of £1 and upwards will receive some of the best named show varieties. Donations should be forwarded to the Rev. Wm. W. Avery, Box 100, Eltham, and marked Special for Medical Missions. A collection of these bulbs would make an ideal Christmas or New Year present.

WOMEN'S PAGES

M.W.M.U.

Methodist Women's
Missionary Union of
New Zealand.

OUR PRESIDENT'S LETTER.

November 15th, 1927.

Dear Fellow-Workers,—

Carrying away with us the inspiration and refreshing of Conference days, we take up the work of another year. The achievements of the past year have been encouraging. The large number of enthusiastic delegates to Conference is evidence of deepened spiritual experience and growing interest in our work.

As a women's organisation, we have our contribution to make to our Church's Missionary enterprise; greater responsibilities are ours; urgent appeals for help are before us. Let us meet our new obligations in a spirit of courage and faith, for we have continual access to "His boundless stores of Grace."

Report.

You will learn from the Report that the Union is undertaking fresh responsibilities, and vigorous extension work is imperative. Every church must be interested; where it is not possible to form Auxiliaries we must co-operate with Ladies' Guilds and thus increase our membership and widen our influence.

Prayer Cycles.

Without faithful, consistent prayer, every effort will be ineffectual. The revised Prayer Cycles will be distributed shortly. Our workers on the Home and Foreign Fields need to be remembered daily at the Throne of Grace. Let us continually wait upon God, remembering that "prayer changes things."

Finance.

During the coming year, we expect to have ten Sisters working in the Solomon Islands and three among the Maoris—an increase of one in each Field. Our financial obligations will therefore be increased. The amount paid out in salaries last year was £1,397/18/4. With our new workers and due increases to stipends we shall need, this coming year, £1,682/18/4. I am emphasising to all Auxiliaries that our first obligation is to find the salaries for our Sisters. The next urgent claim is to increase the Executive Fund. With the growth of our work, more income is needed, and every Auxiliary must do a little more to meet these fresh demands.

Sisters' Reports.

The very encouraging reports received from our Sisters were much appreciated. Every Sister is giving fine service and God's kingdom is being extended by their labours.

We were glad to welcome home Sister Lina Jones. She has done a great work and is well deserving the rest and change that are now hers.

Mrs. Jenkin, a member of the Deputation taking part in the Semi-Jubilee celebrations in the Solomons, closes her letter as follows:—"I congratulate the New Zealand ladies on their splendid staff of Sisters. They are women whose hearts God has touched, and it was an unspeakable joy to meet them in their work, and to endeavour to encourage them in Christ."

In conclusion, the Union Executive joins me in wishing all Field Workers, Auxiliary members and officers, a happy Christmastide and a New Year of joyous service.

Yours sincerely,

MARGARET W. PACEY.

Thirteenth Annual Conference, Wellington, 1927.

The schoolroom at Taranaki Street presented an animated scene on the morning of Wednesday, October 26th, as one after another old friends were greeted with gladness and new ones presented.

Mrs. W. H. Duke, just returned from a visit to the Old Country, was the centre of the largest group, which was continually being increased. Mr. Sinclair, looking on, gave the ladies a few minutes grace before calling the meeting to order. He opened the Conference by giving out hymn 785, afterwards saying a few well-chosen words on "The harvest truly is plenteous and the labourers few. Pray ye therefore . . ." A few brief prayers following, all felt that God's Holy Spirit was indeed in the midst.

Our new President, Mrs. H. E. Pacey, welcomed the members of Conference and gave special greeting to those attending for the first time. Mrs. Metson was elected Minute Secretary, and, under the wise guidance of Mrs. T. R. Hodder, Executive Secretary, no time was lost in getting on with the business. All the

sessions were well attended and the business listened to with the keenest attention. The presence of Rev. W. A. Sinclair, Sisters Lina Jones, Eleanor Dobby, and Miss Adkin, our Trainee in Deaconess House, added much to the interest.

A fine address by Mrs. W. J. Williams, on the Deaconess House and its work of training our Missionary Sisters, was also an outstanding feature. The devotional half-hour every morning, set the tone for the day, and the Communion Service was a hallowed time.

The Methodist women of Wellington did all in their power to make the visitors comfortable. An enjoyable social evening brought all closer together; good music and elocution, the cup that cheers, and much lively conversation making up a cheerful programme.

A tea to the delegates, hosts and hostesses, Auxiliary members and others on Thursday, afforded another opportunity for friendly intercourse, and the Missionary Meeting in the church, which followed, was full of inspiration and education. Sister Eleanor, in her inimitable way, told of faithful, steadfast work being done among the Maoris. Sister Lina Jones gave us an insight into kindergarten methods among native children who had never in their lives been controlled, much less disciplined; and Rev. A. N. Scotter set us all on fire with missionary zeal as he told of what the Deputation to the Semi-Jubilee celebrations in the Solomons had heard and seen. Rev. C. Eaton, in the chair, said kindly words of welcome and encouragement to the members of the M.W.M.U. A very fine choir rendered suitable anthems in first-rate style, two gentlemen favoured us with a fine duet, and the hymns were delightfully sung. Saturday morning saw the business all put through and a short time was devoted to considering a forward step in the near future. Mrs. Pacey reminded us that, with additional Sisters both at home and abroad, our income imperatively needed a considerable increase, and delegates were urged to put the situation immediately before their Auxiliaries so that we may be in a position to meet our liabilities.

After cordial thanks to the entertaining Auxiliary and all who contributed towards making this Conference such a success, a closing hymn, prayer led by Miss Cunningham, and the benediction pronounced by the President, brought the thirteenth Annual Conference of the M.W.M.U. to a close.

Mrs. Goldie's Dream Coming True.

One of the greatest delights of the Conference just closed, was listening to a charming letter from Mrs. J. F. Goldie—we regret that lack of space makes it impossible to give it here in full. A few extracts must serve:

Mrs. Goldie says:—"As you sit in Conference I shall be very near to you, and shall pray that the deep consciousness of God's presence will be with you, guiding you in all your decisions. . . . This will be a sad Conference, for we shall all be thinking of Gladys Chivers, whose body lies in that quiet spot, under the cocoanut palms, away in the Solomons. . . . Our people are a faithful people, and we know that this dear girl will live on in their hearts for ever! For sending Dr. Sayers, we can never thank you enough. The fear that gripped me, as I watched Sister Bessie, our first nurse, as she passed through the crisis, in an attack of that terrible disease, blackwater fever, still comes back to me; and the pitiful little prayer that kept passing through my mind as I watched alone with her. Her life was one of the countless gifts we shall always be thankful for! Dr. Sayers will lift that terrific strain of responsibility from our shoulders, but we must not pray less than we have in the past, for the loving care which has followed us all through the years is as wonderful as any miracle recorded.

For the gift of the many devoted girls to carry on our work among the women and children, we are very grateful. . . . They are worthy of the very best you can give them of loving support. . . . Many years ago there were three things I dreamed of and wished for above all others: A model village at Roviana, a hospital with a doctor to care for the bodies of our people, especially the tiny children, and a very big house, with at least two hundred girls in it, being trained to be good wives for our splendid boys. I always pictured filling it myself with dear little girls gathered from all over the district. It seems as if most of my dreams are coming true!

When I met many of you in Auckland, I was greatly touched by a hymn which you sang: "Dear Lord and Father of mankind." They will be singing it now in the Solomons, to the same beautiful tune, which Mrs. Chivers taught them to other words. When I heard of her sacrifice, I sat down and translated the hymn in memory of her beautiful life. . . . Out of a full heart I thank you for all the love you have showered on the Solomons in the days that have

passed, and shall pray that you will all feel greatly blessed through each day of your Conference."

A Message from the President.

We were also favoured with a special message from Dr. Ranston, the President of the Methodist Church, who reminded us that a "Missionary Church is a live Church," and wished for us that our Conference might be "great in prayer, great in spirit and great in results" and that the members may have a "deep desire to live up to their great responsibility." We very much appreciate these words from our honoured President.

Home Notes: Auckland.

For nearly three years, the Auckland Auxiliary was particularly blessed in having, for its Secretary, Miss Emily Reid.

Being gifted with a singularly alert mind, she, many a time, gave a lead to discussion and

Our Medical Mission.

Dr. Sayers has received a great welcome from the people of the Solomons, and has everywhere created a most favourable impression. The following extract from a letter received by the General Secretary from the Rev. J. F. Goldie, will give some idea of the wonderful possibilities and the heavy responsibilities of medical mission work.

Dr. Sayers has made a splendid start, and the only danger is that he will work himself to death. When passing through Tulagi, the medical superintendent told him that he would never get the people to come to him—especially the midwifery cases—and that he would have to get a vessel and go after them. The absurdity of such a statement has been amply demonstrated, for much as we had to do in this way before, the doctor is simply rushed off his feet by patients flocking to him. The people everywhere appreciate this new evidence of New Zealand's love for them. "The medical part of the work seems to have taken the natives by storm. During the last quarter, we have had to turn many away because we had no room for them in the little hospital. We have a daily average of 30 in-patients, 40 out-patients and about 25 casuals. If we had more room we could fill as many more beds. I am putting up a temporary building to be used for hospital purposes until we get the main building up.

The cost of the medical work is going to be much greater than we anticipated, but we must not baulk at this, but go right on with the work. The doctor and I have had a casual inspection of sites, and there are a couple of very fine sites to choose from. I would like to go right

showed a clear way through difficulties, and it was felt that we had a leader as well as a faithful Secretary.

On Friday, September 23, God took her and we felt the awful blank of separation, but rejoiced that her brave spirit was freed for fuller service. We are the better for having known and worked with her, and will endeavour to show our appreciation of her gifts and lovable personality by putting our best into the work to which she gave so much during her last few years on earth.

Our loving sympathy goes to her sisters, who cared for her so tenderly.

Auckland members rejoice in the fact that Miss Rishworth is now convalescent, although unable yet to resume the work she loves. We hope she will soon be fully restored to health and strength. —A.S.

Enthusiastic Reception of Dr. Sayers.

on with the hospital buildings so that we may get the best out of this work. It is impossible for any doctor to do the best work under these conditions; although Dr. Sayers is doing wonders. I have again discussed the matter with the Commissioner, and find that all the Government requires of us in return for any subsidy, is what we are already anxious to do, viz., treat all natives and white people alike without any reference to their religion—or lack of it; also to send in a quarterly report to them. I have replied to the effect that, while we feel that the best work for these natives can only be done by the co-ordination of all other departments, with the spiritual, and in fact, that all other departments, whether educational, industrial, medical, must be subordinated to our spiritual work, yet we were willing to give medical help to people of every creed or of no creed at all." The Rev. A. A. Bensley writes: "We are all very favourably impressed with Dr. Sayers. He seems so thorough, and his diagnoses seem to be so in accord with common-sense and one instinctively says, 'Of course, it couldn't be anything else,' after he has explained a case. Moreover, he touches and treats the natives as though he loves them, and he does not merely regard them professionally."

The Methodist Missionary Society of New Zealand.

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27 Kenneth Avenue,

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"Where His Islands lift their fronded
palms in air."

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