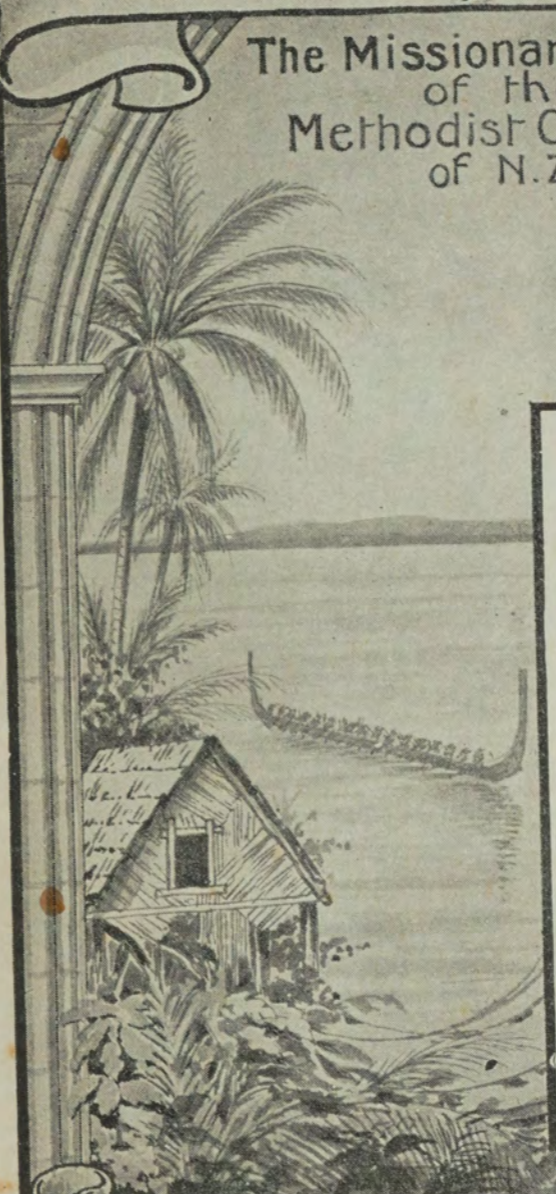


The Open Door

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

MARCH, 1936.



The DREADED ANOPHELES MOSQUITO.

Help to send the Doctor back to combat
this and other tropical scourges.

"A Great Door & Effectual is opened unto us"
ST. PAUL.

Price: ONE SHILLING Per Annum.
Posted, One Shilling and Sixpence.



LITTLE 22 PER CENT. CALLS TO 78 PER CENT. FOR HELP.

By careful analysis of returns it is calculated that less than 25 out of every 100 Methodists carry the Foreign Mission burden.

Legacies.

From time to time friends of Missions have included in their wills Bequests to the Methodist Foreign Missionary Society's Funds. The following form for such a testamentary gift should be brought under the notice of the Solicitor drawing the will or codicil:—

FORM OF BEQUEST.

TO THE METHODIST FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND. I GIVE UNTO THE TREASURER OR TREASURERS FOR THE TIME BEING OF THE METHODIST FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND THE SUM OF _____ POUNDS STERLING, TO BE PAID OUT OF MY PERSONAL ESTATE, IN AID OF THE SAID SOCIETY, AND FOR WHICH THE RECEIPT OF SUCH TREASURER OR TREASURERS SHALL BE SUFFICIENT DISCHARGE.

THE OPEN DOOR

Price - One Shilling per Annum
Posted, One Shilling and Sixpence

The Missionary Organ of
the Methodist Church of
New Zealand.

VOL. XIV., No. 4.

MARCH, 1936.

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY.

“WHITE UNTO HARVEST.”

Extracts from the General Secretary's Report on his visit to the Solomon Islands District, 1935.

For journeying mercies and abundant health during 5½ months of constant travel, we give to God our humble and grateful thanks.

Staff.

As a society, we have every reason to be abundantly grateful to God for the men and women He has called to His service in the Solomons, and our impression is that each worker is equally grateful for the opportunity and privilege of service. As long as the staff is human, there are certain to be minor differences, but it augurs well for the future of the work that regarding the things that really count—major matters of policy and all vital interests of the kingdom—there is among our men and women a real spirit of unity.

Our visit has impressed us more than

ever with a sense of gratitude to God for the wisdom, statesmanship, courage, and devotion of the Chairman of the District. None of us can fully realise all he has meant, and still means, to the Solomons. It is hard, too, to realise that there is only one man in the active ministry in our Conference who is his senior. In spite of a long ministry under very difficult conditions, he retains the ardour and vigour of youth, and we are glad in the expectation that he will be spared to lead our work on the Field for yet many years. He has our love and utmost confidence and, in spite of occasional disagreements on minor matters, we believe this to be true also of every member of the staff.

That there is much more work to be done than the present staff can compass there can be no shadow of doubt. Exten-



Native Teachers,
Kokeqolo, Roviana.

sion—for which, particularly on Bougainville and Buka, the time is fully ripe—demands more workers. Even to develop adequately the work we already have in hand, the present staff is insufficient. Pioneering work involves much travelling on the part of the missionary, and even in well-established circuits the man in charge must pay frequent visits to his numerous stations to encourage and direct the native teachers. This travelling involves absence from the circuit or section training institution which militates against the training and development of students for the native ministry which, in turn, hinders the supply of workers at a critical period. The re-appointment of a third man to the Bougainville-Buka Circuit is an urgent necessity. Messrs. Cropp and Voyce are men of exceptional strength and devotion, and have been remarkably successful both in pioneering and consolidation work, but they are being overtaxed as also are their wives. They have great plans for extension among people who eagerly await the Gospel as soon as men and money are available.

The work among the women, girls, and babies of Southern Bougainville—to say nothing of the loneliness of the missionary's wife who seldom, if ever, sees another white woman—demands the appointment of a Sister to Tonu as soon as possible.

Medical Work.

Our medical work has been sorely

stricken by the withdrawal of the doctor and his nursing staff, but is still a vitally important branch of our organisation.

Mrs. Leadley and Nurse Cannon are doing excellent work at Roviana, assisted by a competent staff of native medical assistants and nurses. The building used as a hospital was not erected for this purpose, but has been adapted and serves fairly well. It is of European material with a central ward capable of accommodating six cots, and a wide verandah, various parts of which are used as out-patients' department, dispensary, etc.

The maternity ward is an adjacent native building which is shortly to be renewed.

Since the withdrawal of the doctor and staff from Bilua, the medical work at Roviana has increased considerably.

Maternity and Child Welfare Work.

In addition to the work being carried out at Roviana, splendid service is being rendered by Sister Ethel McMillan at Bambatana, on the Island of Choiseul, Sister Eliabeth Common at Skotolan, on the Island of Buka, and Mrs. A. H. Voyce at Tonu, in Southern Bougainville, particularly as regards Maternity and Child Welfare Work. Each of these workers has a maternity ward and facilities—not always adequate—for the care of orphans and other babies.

Native girls assist in this highly important work and thus acquire valuable training.



Sister Ethel McMillan and her black babies at Bambatana.

There are excellent native hospitals at Patutiva, Bambatana, Tonu, Tiop and Skotolan, all under the care of native medical assistants trained by our doctors and nurses, and in several other places very good medical work is being done by the missionaries and their wives and native medical assistants or teachers. Native medical assistants are also bravely carrying on, as far as they are able, at the "Helena Goldie Hospital," Bilua, and in the care of the Leper Settlement.

To see the work and its possibilities is to realise the urgency of the complete re-establishment of our medical unit. The valuable work the native medical assistants are doing is possible only because of the training they have received, and it is imperative that the source of such an essential service be not allowed to dry up. But this will surely happen if we are forced to continue long without the doctor, who is able, not only to train more native assistants and nurses, but also to give refresher courses to those already at work. We have an excellent and well-equipped hospital at Bilua, and also a new house for the medical superintendent, and what is more, a brilliant and devoted young doctor eager to take up the work. It is unthinkable that the Church, by inadequate support, should long delay the appointment.

Educational Work.

Considering the fact that even in the oldest part of the District the people have

had a written language for not more than 30 years, the educational standard reached, particularly at Roviana, is of a high order. Not only is this true of our District and, to a lesser degree, our Circuit Institutions, but also of most of the village schools in the British Solomons. Throughout New Georgia and Vella Lavella, and to a lesser extent, Choiseul, it is unusual to find a native—apart from the very old and very young—who cannot read and write. On Bougainville and Buka most of the village schools have been established from a few weeks to a few years only, but even there excellent progress is being made.

We examined scores of village schools throughout the district and were profoundly impressed with the effectiveness of the work achieved in most of them. We also had the privilege of seeing the students of the various circuit and section training institutions at work both in and out of school, and noted not only the excellent work the white brethren are doing, but also the outstanding capacity of many of the native tutors. Many of the tutors and catechists, in addition to the native probationers, show real power and initiative that augur well for the future leadership of the Native Church.

In a recent report on education in the British Solomons, the Resident Commissioner made the following remarks, which constitute a striking testimony both to the educational policy of our mission and



View of Mission Station, Tonu, showing houses of Native Medical Assistant and Native Tutor, with School in the distance.

the thoroughness with which it has been carried out by Mr. Goldie and his European and Native colleagues:—

It should here be said to the credit of the Methodist Mission that the native clerks at present in Government service have been trained, without exception, under Mr. Goldie's care."

"It was generally conceded that the native teachers of the Methodist Mission were probably in advance of the rest of the group."

The Alma Mater of practically all the Western Solomon Islanders who, as preachers, teachers and Government servants, are making such a large contribution to the well-being of their people is our District Training College at Kokeqolo. From the early days of the mission the Chairman has been convinced of the importance of a well educated as well as a saved and sanctified native ministry and people. He has been ably supported by his European and Native colleagues with the result that, to-day, we have a college of which we have every right to be proud. I have seen other native institutions that can boast better buildings and equipment, but none that is doing more effective work.

Some of the graduates of this college have done splendid work in the pioneering field of Bougainville and Buka, acting as catechists of various sections. Many more

are ready and eager to go to this newer and needy work, but the Government of the Mandated Territory of New Guinea has refused to let these highly-qualified and devoted teachers enter that territory of which Bougainville and Buka form a part. The objection is based upon the, to us, inadequate reason that trouble has been caused by certain Solomon Islanders, principally Malaita men. It seems unreasonable and illogical to exclude Christian teachers, who are both wanted and needed by the people, because trouble has been caused by an entirely different type. The Government is also anxious that we should repatriate the Solomon Islands teachers now in the territory, and has refused to give permission to those who have gone to the British Solomons on furlough to return.

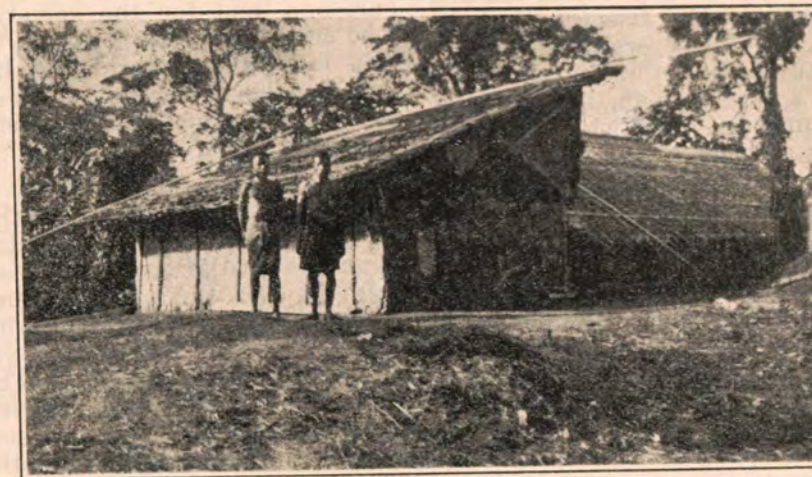
The Chairman and I journeyed to Rabaul to interview His Honor the Administrator, but unfortunately he was away and did not return until the night before my boat sailed for Sydney. He graciously gave us an hour of a very busy morning, during which the above and other matters were discussed. He was adamant regarding the non-transfer of British Solomon Islands' teachers to Bougainville and Buka, but promised to consider the question of permitting Bougainville and Buka students to go to Roviana for training. The Chairman remained in Rabaul for a further interview, at which His Honor gave consent for Bougainville and Buka students,



On Choiseul — Village Church-School with people and scholars. Teachers on extreme right.

to the number of thirty, to proceed to Kokeqolo for training. We are grateful for this concession, which will greatly facilitate our work, and equally grateful to the Chairman for his able advocacy of our case.

a Central Training School for girls. Many of our teachers are unmarried—and gravely handicapped in their work in consequence—because of the lack of suitably trained girls. An educated Christian girl, trained in simple methods of hygiene,



Native house in the mountains of North-east Bougainville. Note tiny door, the only entrance.

Technical Training.

Closing down the saw-mill and the cessation of building, repairs, etc., for financial reasons, have interfered with our important technical work. In Joni we have a devoted and capable craftsman. He has a number of students under his care, and these, directed by the Chairman, are doing very good service as shipwrights and carpenters. They have recently reconditioned the "Ilehe" and installed in her the engine they had removed from the old "Hilda," thus giving to Choiseul a very serviceable boat. This class of work is not only valuable training for the technical students, but saves the Society a considerable sum of money.

It is important that, in the near future, the technical work and saw-mill be again in full swing and making their considerable contribution to the development of the race.

Central Training School for Girls.

Viewing conditions on the Field and discussing the matter at length with the Chairman and other workers have convinced us more than ever of the need of

maternity and child-welfare work, teaching and Christian leadership, can, as a teacher's wife, exercise a profound influence upon the women and girls of the village and definitely hasten the coming of the Kingdom of God.

Our idea had been that such a school could be maintained at the District Institution, thus solving some of the problems of supervision, staff, and consequent cost of maintenance. The Chairman, however, is of the opinion that it should be a separate institution. This would mean not only the initial cost of such a venture, but also a fairly considerable annual expenditure for additional staff. We hope, through the year, to secure from the Chairman an estimate of both initial cost and annual expenditure.

At Bambatana, Tonu, and Skotolan, very good work is being done in the training of girls, and quite a number of teachers are happier and more effective in their work because they have as wives girls trained in these circuit institutions. The good work thus done serves to emphasise the possibilities of a well-staffed and equipped central school.

Conclusion.

That a wonderful work of God has been wrought in the Western Solomons is beyond dispute. Every activity has had, and still retains, as its central purpose, the winning of the people for Jesus Christ and revealing to them His way of life and service. Darkness has been made light before them, and these erstwhile treacherous fighters, head-hunters and cannibals have found, and rejoice in, the way of peace. Nothing on the Field impressed and moved us as much as the Class Fellowship Meetings of which we attended a large number. Here with real conviction, and often deep emotion, men and women testified to the transforming power of God's grace in their lives and of their devotion to Him who has so wonderfully led them into the way of life and love. It is wonderful in our eyes and, as a Church, we should thank God for the privilege of being associated with such a triumphant task.

The statistical returns, as reported on the following page, give some idea of what has been accomplished in 33 years among a savage and primitive people.

Some time ago a Government official was enquiring of some Roviana people their relationship to the Methodist Mission. The reply was, "We are the Methodist Mission." This is a good illustration of the remarkable way in which the life of these people has been changed. The whole community is the church and all the affairs of its life have to fall into line with this fact. The chiefs lead their people both by precept and example in the things of the Spirit, and we listened to many of these chiefs and people telling with deep emotion of how the coming of the Gospel had made all things new for them. In the Menakasapa Church, New Georgia, this transformation is depicted by the broken and discarded weapons of war placed at the foot of the cross. At Senga, on the Island of Choiseul, in a very dramatic way, the people staged a sham attack on the village, depicting scenes of carnage that were common less than 20 years ago. This was followed by a class meeting in which chiefs and people thanked God for the Gospel—His Word that had changed strife to peace.

Inscribed above the pulpit in another New Georgia Church, in a village called Hobart, are the following words:—

"Come on, Hobart! Let us all shelter beneath the Cross of the Lord Jesus Christ which is for the blotting out of our sins, and for the salvation of men who seek God by faith and in truth. 'For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish but have everlasting life.'—John 3:16."

These are all indicative of the change that has been wrought by the message we have been called to proclaim. Similar triumphs of the cross await us on Bougainville and Buka, where the Field is white unto harvest, and the whole Church in the Solomons has to be yet further built up and established. This is the great and glorious task of New Zealand Methodism, which will be accomplished as we yield ourselves fully to the spirit of prayer and sacrifice. May we be found faithful.



Shooting fish with bow and arrow on the coast of New Georgia.

Some Inspiring Facts and Figures.

STATISTICAL RETURNS, 1935.

| | Roviana. | Vella L. | Choiseul. | Boug. Buka. | Total. |
|----------------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|-------------|--------|
| Churches | 32 | 18 | 33 | 75 | 158 |
| Other Preaching Places | 14 | — | 2 | 36 | 52 |
| European Missionaries | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 6 |
| Missionary Sisters | 3 | — | 1 | 1 | 5 |
| Native Probationers | 2 | — | 1 | 2 | 5 |
| Catechists and Native Teachers | 45 | 18 | 36 | 110 | 209 |
| Local Preachers | 65 | 34 | 8 | 3 | 110 |
| Class Leaders | 54 | 19 | 34 | 4 | 111 |
| European Members | 5 | 2 | 3 | 12 | 22 |
| Native Members | 3475 | 1153 | 1197 | 240 | 6065 |
| Native Members on T. and Juniors | 142 | 579 | 751 | 65 | 1537 |
| Deaths | 49 | 3 | 55 | 2 | 109 |
| Sunday Schools | 10 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 15 |
| Sunday School Scholars | 378 | 170 | 120 | 60 | 728 |
| Day Schools | 31 | 17 | 31 | 106 | 185 |
| Day School Teachers | 48 | 18 | 36 | 110 | 212 |
| Day School Scholars | 1065 | 320 | 805 | 1583 | 3773 |
| Adherents | 3690 | 1800 | 2771 | 6740 | 15001 |

Question 7.—What is the Spiritual state of our Circuits? and can any measure be adopted to promote the work of God therein?

The circuit and section reports were presented and read to Synod. These reports showed a substantial increase in membership and adherents and also a most encouraging increase in the returns from the Annual Offering.

Synod records with deep thankfulness to God that the spiritual tone of our circuits has stood the test of the lean years through which we have passed, and the

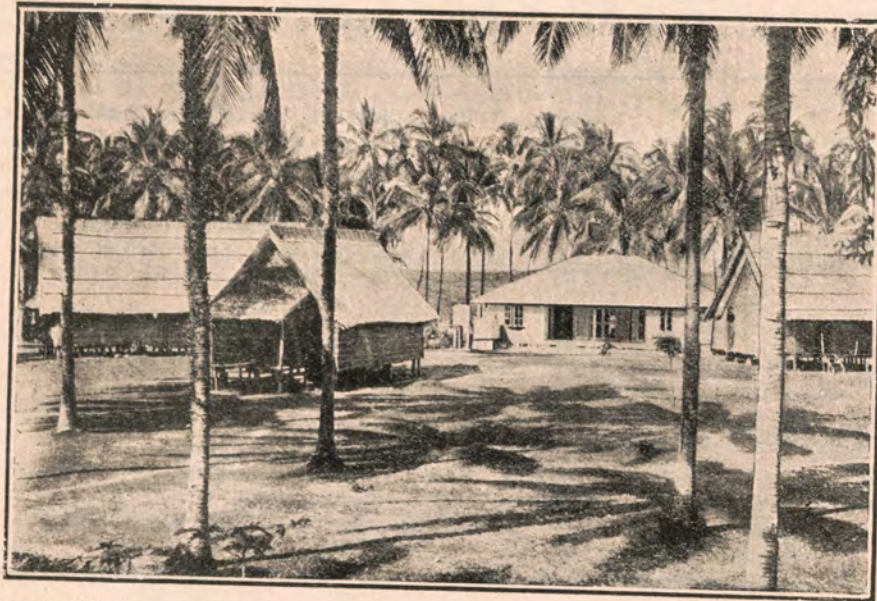
faith of the people strengthened through adversity. The enthusiastic welcome given to the General Secretary throughout the district, and the increases before mentioned, testify to the fact that the Lotu is a very vital part of the life of the people. Not all have stood firmly against temptation, neither have they all faced up to their Christian privileges, but the progress shown proves that the Kingdom of God is growing in our midst.

Question 10.—What was the amount raised during the year in each circuit in aid of mission work?

The returns are as follows:—

| | |
|--|------------|
| Roviana Circuit | £762 15 0 |
| Vella Lavella | 349 6 0 |
| Choiseul Circuit | 451 0 0 |
| Bougainville-Buka | 94 3 6 |
| | 1657 4 6 |
| Sales of Produce in Excess of Working Expenses:— | |
| Roviana | 20 0 0 |
| Vella Lavella | 37 16 0 |
| Bougainville-Buka | 4 16 10 |
| | 62 12 10 |
| | £1719 17 4 |

Will you help to Send the Doctor back in 1938?



Men's Ward. Out-patients. New Central Block. Women's Ward.
The Helena Goldie Hospital, Bilua, from which, through shortage of funds, we have been compelled to withdraw our doctor and nurses.

HELENA GOLDIE HOSPITAL.

During 1933 upwards of 26,000 treatments were given in this hospital and the average number of cot cases was 55.

During the past year two of our European workers have had to make special trips to New Zealand for medical treatment, involving loss of months time and much money which would have been avoided had a Doctor been on the Field.

Reappointment of NURSE EDNA WHITE.

FIRST STEP IN RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF MEDICAL UNIT.

There will be great joy in the Western Solomons and throughout New Zealand at the reappointment of Nurse Edna White to the "Helena Goldie" Hospital, Bilua.

Sister Edna ranks high among the splendid band of workers who have served Christ and the Church in our Solomon Islands district. She knows the dialects of both Roviana and Vella Lavella, and during her five years of service won completely the confidence and love of the natives.



Sister Edna White.

Heart-Stirring News!! Send the Doctor Back!

"THAT IT BE THE BOARD'S OBJECTIVE TO RE-ESTABLISH THE MEDICAL UNIT IN 1938."

This was the Resolution of the Board of Missions at its Annual Meeting on January 22nd, and it should make glad the heart of New Zealand Methodism and challenge it to a whole-hearted support of the Board in its effort to send back the Doctor and Nurses to the Solomons.

Dr. E. G. Sayers and the General Secretary, in no uncertain way, made clear to the Board the greatness of the opportunity for this Christ-like service and the urgency of the need. The nearest available doctor for most of our people is between 300 and 400 miles away—open sea in canoes or tiny boats most of the way. This simply means that no doctor is available and many people die as a result. One has only to remember the way both Dr. Sayers and Dr. James were literally overwhelmed with work to realise the present position with no doctor at all on the Field. Not only do the natives suffer and die needlessly, but our missionaries also, and their wives and children are subjected to grave risks where no qualified medical attention is available.

Dr. Allen Rutter, at present Senior House Surgeon at the Wellington Hospital, has been granted a Travelling Scholarship that will enable him to study Tropical Medicine and Hygiene in London. He will be open for appointment in 1938, and has long felt the call of God for service in the Solomons.

In view of all this, dare we do less than that set by the Board as its objective? But to carry out its objective the Board must have a larger annual income. The generous Gorman Bequest will help us to the extent of £100 per annum, but to maintain a doctor and two nurses and enable them to do their work efficiently we need £1,500 more per annum. AND WHAT DOES THIS MEAN PER MEMBER OF OUR CHURCH IN NEW ZEALAND? JUST ONE FARTHING PER WEEK EXTRA! SHALL OUR PEOPLE IN THE SOLOMONS SUFFER AND DIE FOR THE LACK OF THAT EXTRA FARTHING PER WEEK? IT IS FOR NEW ZEALAND METHODISM TO SAY!



Dr. A. G. Rutter.

of the natives. Dr. Sayers speaks in the highest terms of her ability, temperament and capacity for the peculiar needs of a tropical station.

Not only is Sister Edna a first-class nurse, but she is a woman of God, eager for the salvation of the people and the upbuilding of the Kingdom of God in their hearts. A medical worker has peculiar advantages in commending the Great Physician, which Sister Edna will be quick to seize, and the Rev. and Mrs. Silvester will find in her an able and loyal colleague.

The only reason for Sister Edna's return to New Zealand in 1932 was the claims of her parents, and the Board of Missions, realising the sacrifice the latter are making in consenting to their daughter's return to the Solomons, passed a vote of sincere thanks and appreciation to them. With them the claims of the Kingdom of God are paramount, and with the true missionary spirit they send forth again their daughter to this high service.

Sister Edna expects to sail in April. We congratulate her upon the opportunity to return to the work that is so near her heart, and confidently bespeak the prayers of the whole Church on her behalf.

Pray! Work! Give! and Urge your friends to do the same.

The Story of an Historic Spear.

By Rev. A. H. VOYCE.

The spear of which I am going to write is typical of the Siwai fighting spears. It is about 9 or 10 feet in length. The head is very dangerous looking, having many barbs of flying fox bone set facing backwards, below which is a buffer, and below again is a plaited band of orchid epidermis in red and yellow. It is very old, and rather dilapidated looking. Now for the story.

KAUMA, one time Chief of Tonu, in the district of Siwai, was the Paramount chief of these parts, paramount for two reasons, first, because by inheritance he was the supreme high chief of his tribe, which was the supreme tribe of the district, and second, paramount because of his skill in battle, skill in leading his worthy warriors in the fight, and his knack of inspiring confidence by his quiet chiefly bearing. He was a man to be reckoned with in the fighting times, as many a village, and many a chief in other parts, learnt by sad experience. Only last month were the final "Peace" ceremonial feasts partaken of by his people, given by descendants of one of the chiefs against whom he waged long conflict in days past. This ceremonial feast cemented bonds of friendship amongst these two sections of people who were at one time the bitterest enemies.

Now when the time for a raid drew near, or, if some other chief was advancing to attack Kauma, then, of necessity he had to call his fighting men together from all the villages where his allies lived. He had, what to us appears a novel method of demanding, or soliciting, their aid. He had some specially trusty warriors. One of them by name DEIJO is still living. He would give his well known fighting spear to one of these men, and this messenger would go from village to village, making a ceremonial approach in each case, dancing up and shaking the spear in fighting attitude in the faces of his people. This was quite sufficient. It was equal to a press notification of the declaration of war. The warriors would then rally to the call of their paramount

Chief, and gather to render him their aid.

Now during the visit of Mr. J. W. Court in 1927, a new church was opened at Tonu. To complete this church John Kauma (for he was baptised by Mr. Cropp, the first fruits of Siwai for the Methodist Church) worked very hard carrying posts, personally doing much of the intricate tying with vines and at the same time teaching some of the young idea how to accomplish this task, and he rejoiced in its completion, and spoke much of his joy in the Lotu. But alas, he did not live to see it opened. During Mr. Court's visit he died, and we all attended his very impressive cremation ceremony. But his people after his death brought us the spear. They said "The Lotu has now done away with all fighting, we now want this spear hung in the church as a symbol that we lay all our old customs beneath the altar of Jesus Christ. The Cross is triumphant o'er the spear. Thus it was Mr. J. W. Court opened the church and dedicated it as a memorial to some teachers who had died in the early days of the Lotu in Siwai, and to John Kauma, the Christian Chief, and he deposited the spear beneath the pulpit. This took place on September 17th 1927, and there the spear remained until the big earthquake of 1931 so damaged the church that it had to be pulled down a year later.

The spear has been handed to Mr. Scrivin as an object of historic interest in connection with Mission Work in Siwai. What could not that old spear tell could it talk, tales of fighting and cruel slaughter, tales of the fierce and powerful chief Kauma, master of a harem of eight wives, father of 23 children, friend of the Lotu, and follower of Christ, tales of the early days of the Lotu, of hearts perhaps that were touched by the Divine in that very church where it reposed for years, of longings that were kindled, of desires that were fired for service for the Christ, and above all of hearts that were surrendered to the Chief of all Chiefs, JISU KARISITO, as they call Him.

The Mission Board.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The above meeting was held on January 22 and 23, in the Pitt Street Church parlour, Auckland, the President of the Conference being in the chair. Special words of greeting were addressed to the visiting members who were present, including the President of the Conference, the President of the Methodist Women's Missionary Union, Mrs. W. H. Duke, of Dunedin, and Mr. J. E. Astley, who has recently returned from a visit to Europe. After the opening exercises, the Rev. R. B. Tinsley was appointed minute secretary.

The President called attention to the fact that the British Empire was overshadowed by sorrow at the death of His Majesty King George V., and called the members of the meeting to stand in sympathy, during which the National Anthem was softly sung, and concluded with prayer offered by himself. A resolution was passed expressing sympathy with the Royal Family.

During the session opportunity was given for a period of intercession and thanksgiving on behalf of the work in the Solomons. The secretary was instructed to convey the greetings of the Board to the Native Church, the missionaries in the field, and to the Australasian Mission Board, from which a fraternal greeting was received. The President expressed his deep appreciation of the reception he had received on his recent visit to the Centenary Celebrations in Fiji.

Mr. T. L. Hames, the Lay Treasurer, presented the financial statement, which showed that £15,494 had been received from all sources during the year, which more than counter-balanced the expenditure by £1404, but the accumulated debt, though substantially reduced by nearly £5000, still stands at £10,000, £1364 having been raised this year towards its reduction. Some of the contributions—such as Mr. and Mrs. Gorman's generous gift of £3000—are being held in trust for the Medical Mission Fund, and other legacies and gifts are being held for the

Equipment Fund, and therefore are not at present available for general working expenses. It is worthy of note that the Native Church gave £1685 towards the annual income, the Women's Auxiliaries, including the Y.W.B.C. Movement, raised £1323/10/-, and the Y.M.B.C. £191/19/6.

The Board expressed its approval of the publication through the British and Foreign Bible Society of the Rev. A. H. Cropp's translation of the Acts of the Apostles in the Petats dialect.

The General Secretary, the Rev. A. H. Scrivin, referred to his visit to the Solomon Islands District, and spoke in the highest terms of the excellent work that had been accomplished during the thirty-four years since the Mission had been established, and that to the extent of its possibilities it had undertaken the moral, spiritual, educational and industrial training of thousands of natives within its sphere of influence in the Western Solomons, including the islands of Buka and Bougainville.

Native medical assistants, previously trained by Drs. E. G. Sayers and C. James and nurses, were also doing a fine work in various native hospitals. One of the young students of Roviana, rejoicing in the name of John Wesley Kere, aged sixteen, had successfully passed an entrance examination for special education and medical training at Suva. Bearing in mind that this is a son of a former head-hunter, it speaks volumes for the moral and uplifting influence of our work in the Solomons.

The returns for the district show that at present there are 11 European workers and 214 native ministers and teachers, a native membership of 6065, and adherents totalling 15,000.

Mrs. W. H. Duke, President of the M.W.M.U., gave her report concerning the Union's activities, and testified that the main source of their strength was in prayer. The total income for the year had been £2582/6/3, for Home and Foreign Missions, a larger proportion of

which had been allotted to the work in the Solomons, of which £109 had been donated for the medical needs of the workers on the field, and boxes to the value of £225 16/8 had been sent to the Islands. The Board expressed its appreciation of the splendid account of the Union's stewardship.

Gratifying comments were made at the early return of Nurse Edna White to the medical work at Bilua, to which the Board has appointed her. Dr. Sayers pointed out that an adequate allowance for the hospital work which Nurse White was to undertake was most essential.

A long discussion ensued regarding the re-establishment of the medical unit, with the re-appointment of a doctor and nursing staff. Some members of the Board expressed the fear lest the work might suffer or lapse altogether through lack of sustained interest and financial support. After moving speeches by the Rev. A. H. Scrivin and Dr. E. G. Sayers, a resolution was unanimously passed which eventually commits the whole Church to a solemn undertaking, as implied by Dr. Sayers' words, to stand by our native church and also our own European workers whose lives are sometimes placed in jeopardy by

the climatic conditions under which they serve the interests of the Kingdom. The resolution was: "That the Board recommends that the Church's objective be the re-establishment of the medical unit in 1938."

The Rev. D. C. Alley was recommended and subsequently appointed by Conference to the Solomon Islands.

The Rev. A. H. Cropp is due for furlough in June, and the chairman, the Rev. J. F. Goldie, in December of the present year. The Rev. Belshazzar Gina is expected to be free for deputation work in 1937.

During the session Sister Edna White, in responding to the recommendation of her re-appointment to the Solomons, gave a moving address and sought the prayers of the Church for her work.

Mr. L. Peak reported on certain legal difficulties in immediately adopting the name "Overseas Mission," and it was resolved to recommend that any change be deferred until inquiries had been made.

We separated realising more fully than ever that the winning of the Western Solomons for Jesus Christ, healing their diseases, and enlightening their minds constitute the greatest of all the tasks of the Church.



Village Scene close to Bambatana, Choiseul.

Reinforcements for the Field.

Appointment of Rev. D. C. Alley and return of Rev. Paula Havea.

The appointment by the Conference of a third man to the extensive Bougainville—Buka Circuit, has given much satisfaction to all who have our overseas work at heart and will prove of great encouragement and help to the workers on the field, who, with depleted ranks, have been so bravely seeking to carry on the great task. The new man is the Rev. D. C. Alley. He has been conscious of God's



Rev. D. C. Alley.

call to him to go to the Solomons for ten years and during that time has sought to fit himself for that work. He was ordained at the recent Conference after a good college course and four years of successful service as a Probationer. Mrs. Alley has also made herself more fitted

to serve the Solomons by a nursing course. This appointment will make it possible for the important work at Tiop in North-east Bougainville to be more fully developed and established, and will be a source of great inspiration and help to our native teachers and people in that Section.

Rev. Paula Havea.—Mr. and Mrs. Alley and Sister Edna White will be joined in Sydney by the Rev. Paula Havea and his wife, who are returning to the Solomons after an extended furlough in Tonga. For many years these devoted workers rendered splendid service in the Roviana Circuit, and they will be welcomed back with much joy by the people they have served with such devotion. Just how great that devotion is may be judged by the fact that they have left seven children behind to be educated in Tonga. It is probable that Havea will be appointed to Patutiva in the Marovo Lagoon, where the Rev. Tom Dent exercised a fruitful ministry.

Mrs. J. R. Metcalfe is also expected to sail from Sydney in April to rejoin her husband on Choiseul. She tarried in Australia to place Elizabeth—their only child—at school. Theirs, like Havea's, will be a wistful and lonely home.

We commend these workers to the constant prayer of the whole Church and to the care and guidance of Him who has called them and in whose name and ours they go forth to serve.

FOREIGN MISSION DEPUTATION PLAN, 1936.

The Rev. A. H. Cropp is expected to arrive in New Zealand in August, and will do Deputation work in the Nelson, North Canterbury, and South Canterbury Districts. The General Secretary will be the Deputation in the other Districts and will be assisted by returned missionaries and others. The success of the Deputation will depend largely upon the measure of prayerful and careful preparation in each circuit.

JOHN WESLEY KERE.

There passed through Auckland recently, en route to Fiji, the 16-year-old Solomon Islander whose name and picture accompany this article. John Wesley Kere was nominated by the Rev. J. F. Goldie from our day-school at Kokegolo, to the Resident Commissioner of the British Solomons as a candidate for the entrance examination preparatory to medical training in Fiji. His examination work was so satisfactory that he not only passed, but also was awarded a large Silver Jubilee Medal.

John Wesley has entered the Queen Victoria School, Suva and will pass from that institution to the Medical School, finally graduating N.M.P. (Native Medical Practitioner.) Hugh Wheatley, known to many in New Zealand, and his brother Kitchener, are already students at the Medical School, both having been nominated by Mr. Goldie from the Methodist Mission in the Solomons. These boys are half-castes and are making excellent progress, but John Wesley Kere is a full blooded Solomon Islander whose father's early years were spent in dark savagery. The travelling and training costs of these students are borne by the Government and upon the completion of their training the graduates will receive Government medical appointments in the Solomons.

We are both proud and grateful that our Mission is making this splendid contribution to the future well-being of the Solomons and are confident that in what-

ever part of the Group they may be appointed when they have graduated, they will minister well to both the physical and spiritual needs of the people and honour Him who has called them to this high service.

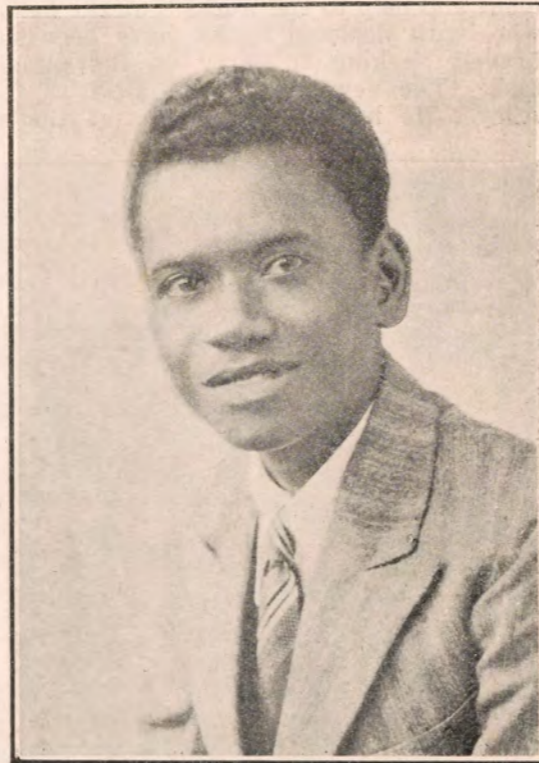


Photo: T. H. Ashe, Onehunga.

Good News from Buka.

We congratulate the Rev. and Mrs. A. C. Cropp upon the birth of their second son at Skotolan on January 19th.

Mr. Cropp reports yet another cause for rejoicing as follows:—"I have good news. All the adherents of the church at Hapan, which was closed temporarily owing to the activities of the Buka Prophets, have returned to our church, and services are again being held regularly.

Our Gift Day, held at Petats on Christmas Day, yielded £57/9/0, which is nearly three times that of last year. This does

not include the gifts from the Europeans nor from Tiop."

We are very thankful for the cash the M.W.M.U. place to our credit each year at Burroughs Wellcome. An account of this amount, together with the value of the drugs in the gift cases and the value of any other drugs we purchase, is given to the Administration, and according to the amount we use each year so they issue drugs to us. If we use but little, then we receive but little from them."

Debt Reduction.

In acknowledging further contributions to the Debt Reduction Fund, we desire to express heartfelt thanks to all donors who, by their timely and generous help, have enabled the Missionary Society to carry on its great work. Our Deficit is still £10,039 and our Capital Account overdrawn by £1,829, but we have been lifted out of the impossible position of two years ago, and for this we thank God and take courage.

| | £ | s. | d. | | | |
|----------------------------------|------|----|----|--|-------|------|
| Previously acknowledged | 4443 | 15 | 1 | "J.A." | 100 | 0 0 |
| Miss Cunningham, Mt. Albert | 2 | 0 | 0 | "J.C." | 30 | 0 0 |
| Mr. C. H. Virtue | 2 | 0 | 0 | "Martere" | 5 | 0 0 |
| Balclutha Methodist Country Home | 5 | 0 | 0 | "Anonymous," Franklin Road | 5 | 0 0 |
| Mrs. Taylor, Hastings | 10 | 0 | 0 | A. C. Reed | 1 | 1 0 |
| "Anonymous," Rakaia | 1 | 0 | 0 | C.W.I., Caversham | 1 | 0 0 |
| Mr. R. H. Nesbitt | 5 | 0 | 0 | Wellington East | 9 | 0 0 |
| Canterbury Y.W.B.C. | 8 | 0 | 0 | "Tom Bracken" | 2 | 0 0 |
| "Sympathiser," Hokianga | 1 | 0 | 0 | P. Rushton, Morrinsville | 10 | 0 0 |
| Auckland Central—Pitt Street | 3 | 0 | 0 | "Well-Wisher" | 5 | 0 0 |
| Taranaki Street Junior Y.W.B.C. | 5 | 0 | 0 | "Inasmuch" | 10 | 0 |
| Y.W.B.C. Union | 10 | 12 | 6 | Havelock | 7 | 6 |
| Bruce Moodie, "Lotu" | 1 | 0 | 0 | "My Mite" | 10 | 0 0 |
| "Anonymous," Auckland | 1 | 0 | 0 | Stratford Circuit | 6 | 6 |
| Geo. Dennis, Enfield | 10 | 0 | 0 | Blenheim Circuit | 4 | 0 0 |
| Mr. F. Willoughby, Woodville | 1 | 0 | 0 | " | 5 | 0 |
| "Anonymous," Dunedin | 5 | 0 | 0 | Gravity | 10 | 0 |
| "Grateful," Hastings | 1 | 0 | 0 | J. T. Burrell, Palmerston North | 3 | 6 5 |
| Mr. W. Powell, St. Clair | 1 | 0 | 0 | "Helped" | 5 | 0 0 |
| "E.G.W.", New Plymouth | 10 | 0 | 0 | A. J. Pople, Onehunga | 2 | 0 0 |
| Wakefield-Dovedale | 1 | 0 | 0 | Wild Bush B.C. | 10 | 0 |
| "Well-Wisher" | 10 | 0 | 0 | "Anonymous" | 10 | 0 0 |
| "A Friend" | 15 | 0 | 0 | "Thanksgiving" | 15 | 0 |
| Mr. L. M. Leaf, Matakoho | 2 | 0 | 0 | R.H.J. | 2 | 0 0 |
| A M.W.M.U. Member | 12 | 0 | 0 | E.M.W. | 10 | 0 0 |
| Blenheim Y.W.B.C. | 1 | 1 | 0 | "Anonymous," New Plymouth | 1 | 0 0 |
| " | 10 | 0 | 0 | "In Memorial," R.K.M. | 10 | 0 0 |
| " | 10 | 0 | 0 | Geo. Dennis, Enfield | 10 | 0 |
| " | 10 | 0 | 0 | Taupiri Junior Y.W.B.C. | 10 | 0 |
| " | 10 | 0 | 0 | "A Friend" | 25 | 0 0 |
| "Special," Spring Creek | 10 | 0 | 0 | Miss Sayers, St. Albans | 5 | 0 0 |
| "Anonymous," E.M.W. | 1 | 0 | 0 | "Wednesday's Prayers" | 10 | 0 |
| M.W.M.U., Napier | 4 | 0 | 0 | M. Leslie, New Plymouth | 1 | 0 0 |
| " | 1 | 13 | 0 | Blenheim | 1 | 5 0 |
| " | 18 | 6 | 6 | Rev. H. E. Bellhouse | 5 | 0 0 |
| "Anonymous," Ashburton | 5 | 0 | 0 | Rev. D. C. Alley | 10 | 0 |
| " | 11 | 0 | 0 | Rev. J. F. Goldie—additional | 100 | 0 0 |
| " | 7 | 0 | 0 | Y.W.B.C. Movement | 15 | 1 4 |
| " | 2 | 0 | 0 | Junior Y.W.B.C., Pitt Street | 10 | 10 0 |
| "Two Sisters," Hastings | 1 | 10 | 0 | Refund per Rev. A. H. Cropp | 55 | 0 0 |
| "Flowers" | 1 | 0 | 0 | Vera Cannon Fund, per Sister Vera Cannon | 50 | 0 0 |
| M.W.M.U., Motueka | 2 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| "Anonymous" | 1 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| Willowby Sunday School | 1 | 2 | 0 | | | |
| | | | | Total | £5154 | 1 10 |

WOMEN'S PAGES

M.W.M.U.

Methodist Women's
Missionary Union of
New Zealand.

Dunedin,
March, 1936.

M.W.M.U.

Dear Fellow Members,—

On my way home from the Annual Board Meeting I had the pleasure of meeting our Woodville Auxiliary. This, as you know, is a very live Auxiliary, as they have practically every woman member of the church an Auxiliary member; would that more of us could say the same. They had sent invitations to various Auxiliaries in the district, and there were representatives from Feilding, Palmerston North, Pahiatua and Ekatahuna present. It was good to meet such an interested group of members and to know they are so keen to help spread the knowledge of God's Kingdom.

Then in Christchurch I attended a meeting of the Cashmere Branch. I was able to tell both of these gatherings some of the decisions made at the Board meeting.

Sister Edna White's re-appointment will rejoice all our members, and not only ours, but those on the field also. It will be a great encouragement to our people to feel there is a trained nurse again at the hospital.

Mr. Scrivin's visit has made him realise more than ever the necessity for the re-instatement of the doctor as soon as possible, and it was decided that our objective be to send a doctor back in 1938.

No one can carry out the training of the natives in medical work as well as the doctor, and we must keep up the supply of trained native assistants, as all who go as teachers to the villages need some medical instruction, and those who have been trained need refresher courses. In Bougainville a fine new Native Hospital has been built by the people of the various villages.

You will all have heard or read of the beautiful gift which Mr. and the late Mrs. Gorman have given to help re-instate the doctor. The interest only on this amount

is to be used, so that we need a steady annual increase in income to carry on the medical work. May we each one do our part. Mr. and Mrs. Voyce and Mr. and Mrs. Cropp are doing great things in Bougainville and Buka. They have so many requests for teachers and have to refuse so many on account of lack of funds, so it will be a great encouragement to them to know that a third missionary is to be appointed to their district. The Rev. D. C. Alley is recommended to Conference for this appointment.

Mr. Scrivin is full of praise for the standard of education reached in the Solomons. He said that in the early days of the mission, Mr. Goldie visualised not only an educated ministry, but also an educated people; he has kept this steadily in mind, and in New Georgia and Vella Lavella practically all but the very young and very old can read and write. This in 30 years.

All our native teachers can teach the villagers to read and write and do creditable work on slates. This reflects great credit on those who have been in charge of the schools.

Mr. Goldie and Mr. Scrivin discussed the question of a Central Training School for girls. The need for this is great. An educated Christian girl can, as a teacher's wife, exercise great influence on the women and girls of the village. Mr. Goldie feels that this must be an entirely separate institution. This would mean considerable initial cost and also increased annual expenditure for staff. Though the way does not seem open at present for this, let us remember this need in our prayers.

In a letter from Sister Ethel since last I wrote you, she said they have had a great deal of sickness amongst the elder girls; fortunately the little ones were well. She has a very full house, but has received so many gifts of native food that they have kept well within their

allocation. She goes on to say that with so many in the Home it is almost impossible for her to do any village visiting, and much regrets this, as she says it is such worth-while work. Wishes they could have a second Sister at Choiseul.

Vera Cannon writes very happily of her work. They are always kept busy in hospital. She spoke of one boy who had been in hospital for a long time, and by special request from his parents doctor called to examine him. The doctor was satisfied with the treatment and said to carry on, but she adds: Assurance from a doctor makes a big difference. She says very amusingly that when the women want a boy they like to call on Marama, and if they want a girl she can usually supply, so they specialise accordingly.

Mr. Scrivin brought back a very encouraging message to us: That members in the Islands feel they can absolutely rely on the M.W.M.U. as one of the bulwarks of our missionary enterprise. May we be worthy of their trust. During this quarter we shall again be commemorating our Lord's death and rising again. As we bring our Easter gifts to be used for the extension of His Kingdom, may we remember that he wants our lives to be consecrated to His service. May God give us faith to attempt greater things for Him than we have in the past, and so help to fulfil His last command: "Go ye therefore and teach all nations."

Yours very sincerely,
H. LILIAN DUKE.

CHRISTCHURCH NOTES.

Conference is being held here this year and many of the delegates are women, most, if not all, being members of our Auxiliary. The Auxiliary are entertaining these delegates at East Belt during Conference, and are also arranging the missionary tea.

Nurse Clark, who has done such long and faithful service at the Dilkusha Indian Mission in Fiji, passed through Auckland recently on her way home to Australia on furlough. A letter received from Mrs. William Donnelly of the High School at

Suva, speaks of the interesting time during the Centenary Celebrations. She is teaching at present at the High School.

We rejoice that Nurse Edna White is returning to the work in the Solomons, where she did such valuable work before; we realise how much her father and mother will miss her.

From an English paper we glean:—

Miss Gladys Nunn, of Cheerloo Christian University, spoke of the way in which Chinese, American and English work as colleagues in the great centre for Chinese workers. Positions of precedence are given irrespective of races, and all work in perfect harmony. Miss Nunn is training Chinese men and women, hoping to establish a Massage and Therapy Association comparable with the English Association.



THE OPEN DOOR.

Names and Postal Addresses of Missionaries, Missionary Sisters and Lay Missionaries.

SOLOMON ISLANDS MISSION DISTRICT.

MISSIONARIES.

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Rev. J. F. GOLDIE | Roviana, British Solomon Islands. |
| Rev. J. R. METCALFE | Bambatana, Choiseul, via Faisi, Solomon Islands. |
| Rev. A. H. CROPP | Buka Passage, Bougainville, Mandated Territory of New Guinea. |
| Rev. A. H. VOYCE | Kieta, Bougainville, Mandated Territory of New Guinea. |
| Rev. E. C. LEADLEY | Roviana, British Solomon Islands. |
| Rev. A. W. E. SILVESTER | Gizo, British Solomon Islands. |
| Rev. D. C. ALLEY | |

MISSIONARY DOCTOR.

"One offering to go when we can send him. When shall it be?"

MISSIONARY SISTERS.

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Sister ETHEL McMILLAN | Bambatana, Choiseul, via Faisi, Solomon Islands. |
| Sister ELIZABETH COMMON | Buka Passage, Bougainville, Mandated Territory of New Guinea. |
| Sister LINA JONES | Roviana, British Solomon Islands. |
| Nurse EDNA WHITE | Gizo, British Solomon Islands. |
| Sister ADA LEE | Roviana, British Solomon Islands. |
| Nurse VERA CANNON | Roviana, British Solomon Islands. |

NATIVE MISSIONARIES.

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Rev. NAPATALI FOTU | Simbo, Roviana, Solomon Islands. |
| Rev. PAULA HAVEA | Roviana, Solomon Islands. |
| Rev. BELSHAZZAR GINA | Roviana, British Solomon Islands. |
| Rev. NATHAN KERA | Bambatana, Choiseul, via Faisi, Solomon Islands. |
| Rev. ERONI KOTOSOMA | Tiop, Bougainville, Mandated Territory of New Guinea. |
| Rev. USAIA SOTUTU | Buka Passage, Bougainville, Mandated Territory of New Guinea. |

Add "Methodist Mission" to every Address.

"THE OPEN DOOR"

Editor: Rev. A. H. SCRIVIN,
Probert Chambers,
Queen Street, Auckland.

Copies are supplied by appointed agents in the Circuits at 1/- per annum; single copies posted at 1/6 per annum.

Orders and remittances to be sent to
Rev. W. A. SINCLAIR,
Probert Chambers,

Queen St., Auckland C.1.

Will agents kindly remit direct to Rev. W. A. Sinclair and thus prevent confusing these sums with those intended for the General Fund.

Scott & Scott Ltd., Gas Co.'s Bldgs., Pitt St., Auckland.

The New Zealand Children's Missionary Paper.

"THE LOTU"

Editor: Rev. E. P. BLAMIRE

is issued quarterly, and is supplied to Sunday Schools in fives or any multiple of five, at the rate of £2 per 100 per annum. Single copies 1/- per annum.

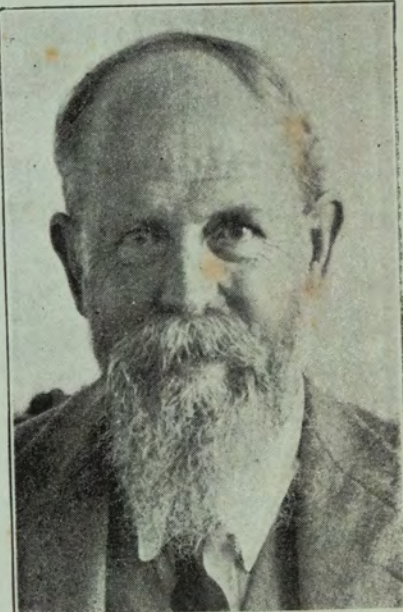
Apply to

Rev. W. A. SINCLAIR,
Probert Chambers,
Queen St., Auckland C.1.

The Open Door

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

JUNE, 1936.



The Rev. Charles F. Andrews.
Missionary, Mystic, Saint.

"A Great Door & Effectual is opened unto us"
ST. PAUL.

Price: ONE SHILLING Per Annum.
Posted, One Shilling and Sixpence.