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**The Open Door**

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

MARCH, 1947.

Rev. J. F. GOLDIE'S GOLDEN JUBILEE.  
Entered the Ministry 1897. Chairman Solo-  
mon Islands District 1902-47. President of  
the Conference, 1929.

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The Missionary Organ of  
the Methodist Church of  
New Zealand.

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## Rev. John F. Goldie's Golden Jubilee

The following resolution was carried with hearty unanimity but is all too brief and inadequate to express what the Foreign Mission Board and the whole of New Zealand Methodism feel regarding the out-standing service of John F. Goldie for the Kingdom of God.

"The Foreign Mission Board extends hearty and affectionate congratulations to the Rev. John F. Goldie, upon the attainment of his golden jubilee in the active work, and expresses heartfelt thanks that every year of this distinguished ministry has been blessed of God in the salvation of many people.

"During his 45 years in the Solomons, Mr. Goldie has had the joy of seeing a primitive, bloodthirsty, and fear-ridden people entering the light and liberty of God's Kingdom, their languages reduced to writing, educational and medical services of no mean order established, and the development of a native ministry that is already exercising a profound influence upon its people. In all this truly great work he has been, under God, the wise and trusted leader, and he occupies a place in the hearts of his people that none other can ever hold.

"As a Board, we count it a high privilege to have been so closely associated with one of the greatest Pacific missionaries whose record of 45 years' continuous chairmanship must be unique in Methodism. We thank God for John F. Goldie, and for the miracles of grace wrought through him in the Solomons. After 50 years of ministerial service, Mr. Goldie's bow still abides in strength, and we pledge ourselves to work and pray that, before retirement, he may have the joy of seeing the stations, laid waste by war, fully restored and the whole District won for Christ.

"Through the dangerous and difficult years, Mrs. Goldie has been a source of inspiration and help to her husband. She led the women and girls not only to Christ, but also to their rightful place in society. She was one of the sweet singers of Israel and used her great musical gifts with remarkable success. Many of the Roviana hymns have been translated by her, and she continues this good work to-day. The Board extends to her also its heartfelt congratulations."

The Solomon Islands District Synod expressed its appreciation of its honoured and beloved Chairman as follows:—

### THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DISTRICT.

"This Synod is unique in that it is held on a battlefield at a place at which Methodism is not represented. It is also unique in that the Chairman of the District will this year complete fifty years of Ministry in the Methodist Church, forty-

five of which have been spent in the Solomon Islands District as the pioneer of the Mission and Chairman of the District. Synod views this record with gratitude to God for the length of the Chairman's Ministry has given a continuity of service, and a steadiness of development so essential to pioneering work in any sphere, but especially so on a Mission Field. It records its deepest satisfaction in the progress made from savagery to the service of Christ within the term of one man's Ministerial service, and finds the truest witness to the value of its Chairman's endeavours in the number of those still in the active service of the Church who received their inspiration from him during his first decade in the District, and the fact that Synod holds tenaciously to the principles he enunciated and developed through the years. Synod recognises his absolute love for, and devotion to, the native people of the District, and the very heavy burden he has carried so successfully. Synod congratulates him on his virility and capacity for service after so many years spent in a malarial climate.

"Synod associates Mrs. Goldie with this resolution of its esteem and love, and is conscious of the great debt the Islands' Church owes her for her sacrificial services.

"Of old, Abraham had his 'Machpelah,' and today John F. and Mrs. Goldie have their 'Haivo' at Munda Point, a silent witness to the sorrows of service, and a sure testimony to the promise of a more glorious future."

As a youth in Hobart, Tasmania, John Goldie was known as the boy-preacher, and even in those early years many souls were won for Christ through his witness. Later as secretary to the Rev. W. G. Taylor of the Methodist Central Mission, Sydney, and then as a Home Missionary for one year in Queensland he continued his work for the Kingdom. He was received on probation by the Queensland Conference in 1897 and, after five years of successful service in Townsville and the Queensland gold-fields, he was appointed as one of the two pioneer missionaries to the Solomons and Chairman of that newly-formed District. Through the following 45 years Mr. Goldie has revealed great statesmanship, strong leadership, and an utter devotion that, under God, have resulted in the upbuilding of the Native Church in which we all rejoice to-day.

The above resolutions are not a record of John F. Goldie's achievements—that would need a volume—but of the love and appreciation of the Native and Home Churches and their gratitude to God that this great and good man has been spared to continue his leadership and influence during the critical years of rehabilitation.

## The President's Message to the Native Church

During his recent visit to the Solomon Islands District, the General Secretary carried with him a special message from the President of the Conference which was deeply appreciated by the Native Church. This timely word of inspiration and cheer has been translated into the various languages of the District and will be passed on to thousands of our native people with whom the General Secretary was unable to make personal contact.



The Rev. W. T. BLIGHT, B.A., B.D.

### THE MESSAGE.

"In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, I salute you all, my brothers and sisters in Christ.

In the name of the Methodist Church of New Zealand I greet you, fellow members with us of this part of our Saviour's Church.

"We are members of Christ, and we are members of one another in Him.

"We bless the Father Who created us in His own image, Who destined us for fellowship with Himself, and Who redeemed us in Christ Jesus our Lord.

"We bless the Saviour Who died to redeem us: Who rose from the dead: Who lives for evermore, being exalted to the right hand of God: Who gives to all who believe in Him eternal Life.

"We bless the Holy Spirit Who guides us into all truth: Who takes of the things of Christ and reveals them unto us: Who perfects within us the work of grace which our Saviour began.

"We send you our greetings. You have passed through a fiery trial, and we rejoice because it only increased your faith and zeal. God has now brought us into more peaceful days. We hope they will last, and that you will be able to rebuild and replant what has been destroyed, and to make the Church of our Lord in the Islands even stronger than it was.

"We have been thankful to learn that your witness during the war years was used of God to lead others to trust in Christ, and many were blessed in their souls. So we shall continue to pray for you: to send you our men and women to guide the work: and to raise money to help you to rebuild. This is our privilege, and brings us real joy.

"We rejoice that Mr. Goldie is still with you, and we pray that God may give him long life and daily strength. We rejoice that Mr. Scrivin is able to visit you, and we trust that God will give him safe travel. He will see what needs to be done in your Islands, and we shall see that you receive all the help that we can send. You will do your part in peace as in war: and so will we.

"Once more, our love and greetings.

"May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

—W. T. BLIGHT, President of the Conference.

## :: JAPAN ::

The first meeting since 1943 of the General Assembly of the Church of Christ in Japan took place in June. The Rev. Mitchio Kozaki was elected Moderator. A new constitution was provisionally adopted which makes the Moderator the executive head of the Church. The new constitution decentralises administration, giving more autonomy to regional units. The constitution embodies a creed which is described as 'more explicit than the old one' and which is to be supplemented by a catechism. At a mass meeting held after the business sessions, the decision was taken to launch three-year evangelistic and social service campaigns.

The past three months have been a period of intensive consultation in Japan. Bishop J. C. Mann and Bishop S. J. Heaslett, from Britain, and Bishop Charles F. Reifsnider, from the United

States, have visited the country on behalf of the Anglican Communion. Their visit has coincided with that of the 'commission of six' appointed by the Committee on East Asia of the Foreign Missions Conference of North America. Books for the Christian libraries of Japan are now being collected in America and preparations also go forward for the distribution of the 50,000 hymnals now being printed for shipment. Pastors in Japan are reported to be experiencing great hardship on account of inflation and food scarcity.

Foreign visitors have been impressed with the deep unity which binds the Church of Christ in Japan together.

Dr. Kagawa is reported on all hands to continue to be a great strength in the cause of evangelisation. —"International Review of Missions."

## SOLOMON ISLANDS DISTRICT CHAIRMAN'S REPORT—1945-46.

After many delays, and through the kindness of the New Zealand Government, the General Secretary, Rev. A. H. Scrivin, was able to arrange a passage for me in a R.N.Z.A.F. plane. Leaving Auckland on the morning of December 18th, 1944, calling at Norfolk Island, and spending the night at Santo in the New Hebrides, I reached Guadalcanal on the morning of December 19th. We landed on the now famous Henderson Air Field. As I stepped from the plane I was met by Dr. Rutter and Sister Vera Cannon—who was serving with the New Zealand troops. Mr. Sinclair, the Judicial Commissioner, then acting as Government Secretary, also met me, and drove me to Government Head Quarters where I was introduced to Col. Noel, the Resident Commissioner, who had kindly made arrangements for accommodation etc. The following morning I had a long and satisfactory interview with Col. Noel.

On Friday, the 20th December, I proceeded by plane to Roviana. As I landed at the foot of the steps leading up to my old home it was, I think, the greatest thrill of my life. The three lads in the plane were all New Zealand Bible Class boys, and they told me that they got as big a thrill as I did out of this adventure. The Resident Commissioner had kindly sent word on to Roviana, and a great crowd awaited my arrival. It was a scene of great emotion, and great rejoicing. This reunion was a great time for us all. The native leaders had only one question to ask, and that was whether this was only a visit or had I come to stay with them. I replied that I had come to stay with them, and help them to build again the work of God. This satisfied them.

The Government station on which I was kindly entertained by the Acting District Commissioner is on a little island right opposite Kokeqolo. Looking across the lagoon to the mainland, the whole place from Kidu through the Mission property right up to Dude was one vast camp, occupied by about 30,000 American troops. Looking across from the Government station at night it was like a great city with many thousands of lights, and in the day time a scene of bustling activity. The C.O. gave a dinner in my honour the night I arrived, and I was pleased to meet some of the American Chaplains whom I had met in New Zealand. They were keenly interested in the man who had pioneered Christian work amongst the head hunters so many years before. On the Sunday—Christmas Eve—the Senior Chaplain asked me to take several services for him in the Camp, which I gladly did. Late in the afternoon I had to attend a big gathering of our own people—the first native service since my return. It was a wonderful gathering of many hundreds of black-skinned Methodists—the people who had come through great tribulation—and a most inspiring sight. I lifted my heart to God in thanksgiving. They had suffered hunger, nakedness, peril and persecution. Here was the evidence of the indestructibility of the Christian faith, the proof of Christ's words when speaking of His Church "The gates of hell shall not prevail against it." They had lost all they possessed on earth, but retained their unshakable confidence that nothing could separate them from the love of

God. There was a note of triumph in their singing:

Crowns and thrones may perish,  
Kingdoms rise and wane,  
But the Church of Jesus,  
Constant will remain,  
Gates of hell can never  
'Gainst that Church prevail;  
We have Christ's own promise,  
And that cannot fail.

A few days after my arrival I had the opportunity of going all over the site of our head station at Kokeqolo. Accompanied by an American Officer and the Acting District Commissioner, I drove through what was once our Mission plantation. We drove over the spot on which the Maternity Hospital had been on the little hill called Olive, but even the hill itself had been bulldozed, and the place was as flat as a floor. Then we climbed the hill on which stood the Church, College, Sisters' Home, and my own house. We could see that the place had been honey-combed by dug-outs, and air raid shelters by the Japs. It was an ideal place for such shelters, as the soft coral limestone could be very easily worked, and shelters in the form of caves made. The Americans had bombed these caves, and the Japs, sheltering there had to be forced out more dead than alive by flame-throwers when the attack came. On the top of the hill here and there were traces of concrete foundations, but there was nothing left of all the buildings. On the site of my house stood the signal tower directing operations on the largest air field in the Pacific down below.

The officers and Government Officials who had accompanied me were delicately considerate and with sympathy and understanding left me alone on the hilltop looking over the scene of ruin and desolation for a short time. They expressed their sympathy at seeing the work of forty years swept away in a few weeks. Of course they could not see the things which cannot be swept away. Had they been with me at the service on Sunday evening they surely would have realised that there are things which "stand for ever" when "Earth's proud kingdoms pass away." These are things which really matter.

Shortly after my arrival I had the opportunity of visiting Simbo, Ranonga, and Vella Lavella. Apparently not much damage on Ranonga, but on Simbo the people suffered considerably by having all their villages and gardens destroyed, and all their live stock taken away. The Mission buildings are destroyed. I found our people in great heart, and busy repairing the damaged church and houses. Our chief teacher here is one of the very best—faithful, able, and energetic—he has been a tower of strength to his people. On Vella Lavella I was able to visit some of the principal villages, and the head station at Bilua. This station which had been occupied by the Japs, and then the New Zealanders, had been completely destroyed. The place was a scene of awful desolation. The only building standing was our old copra shed, which had evidently been used as a shipping office by the occupying troops. A great

deal of the plantation was still workable, although well overgrown with scrub and young growing coconuts, it could soon be cleared. Shortly after his arrival in the Solomons, Mr. Luxton went over to Vella Lavella, and with scraps of material left by the Military got a temporary house going as a hospital, and also got together with the help of the natives sufficient material of all sorts to make shelters for the European Staff whom we expected. We gladly welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Metcalfe, and Mr. and Mrs. Silvester, and Mrs. Luxton and family and the four Sisters as the end of 1945 drew near. The Metcalfes with Sister Grace McDonald lost no time in getting over to Choiseul, where they received a great welcome. They report cheerfully of the prospects in the circuit. The Bougainville brethren report great activity, and good prospects in that island.

After visiting the villages all round New Georgia, Rendova, Kulambanara, Simbo, Vella and Ranonga, I had to decide on a place to work from—a temporary head station. At that time Roviana was out of the question as about 30,000 Americans were camped there. Our people in the Marovo had been badly hit, and lost everything they possessed, so I decided to stay with them for a time. I found our station there, Patutiva, in a very bad state. The whole village had been occupied first by the Japs, and then by a large American Force. The whole place was a scene of destruction and desolation. bomb craters, gun emplacements, fox holes, air raid shelters, etc., everywhere. The whole village had been completely wiped out, and the natives fled to small islands in the Lagoon, and some took refuge in the mountains of New Georgia. The Church and school house had been used as barracks for some of the troops, and the church of which the people were so proud, will have to be pulled down. The school with some repairs may serve for a meeting place for a time. The mission house which was a short distance from the village was left standing, and after some repairs became habitable again. But what loneliness! I landed at the broken down wharf, but there was not a living creature on the place. I had to let the boat go, and then carried my goods and chattels up the hill to the house, made a fire in the ruined kitchen and made myself a cup of tea. The boat had been seen, however, and soon canoes were coming from all directions. We held a thanksgiving service, and then the people went back to their island hideouts as there was no place for them to sleep. But in the early morning they came back, more than three hundred men, women and children working to clean up the place. The chief, old Natu, and I were soon busy laying out the new village, which has since taken shape. Paula Havea, our Tongan Minister, who had remained with his people all through, and had done a truly heroic work—one of the most humble of men, and one of the noblest Christian spirits I have ever met—came to welcome me with tears in his eyes. He was ordained to the Christian ministry by me years ago, and has proved his worth all through the years, and especially through the years of war. On the following Sunday we gathered in the old school house for a service—the first public service of thanksgiving since the fighting ceased. The service held in the evening after my arrival was a local gathering of Pafutiva people, but at the Sunday service about 650 made a public acknowledgement of God's goodness to them. It was a most impressive service, especially when

Natu, the chief, spoke to them of their obligations to their Heavenly Father. The teachers had been carrying on school work on the smaller islands as far as they could do so without school material, but a fortnight after my arrival we were able to re-open the Marovo Central School with about 120 scholars.

Churches destroyed by direct enemy action, or by the ravages of war, have during the past year been restored or re-built, and churches in new places have been erected—at Simbo, at Marovo, Wana Wana, Burono, Keru, Kusage, Baraulu, and other places. Schools of from 30 to 40 in the smaller villages have been opened and, with the limited quantity of material we are able to supply, are doing well. The services and class-meetings are well attended. At present we are carrying on with scarcely any equipment—in any old building or in the open air but, in spite of these disabilities, the work all round the Roviana and Vella Lavella Circuits is progressing. After the return of Sisters Lina and Effie, School work at Bilua has been resumed, but we expect to complete the temporary Sisters' Home and school at Roviana in time to start the New Year there—a short distance from Kokeqolo.

I have not been able to visit Choiseul and Bougainville circuit but our Missionaries and Sisters who returned to those circuits near the end of 1945 send good reports. Mr. and Mrs. Metcalfe with Sister Grace McDonald took up their work again in Choiseul, and Mr. and Mrs. Joyce, and Mr. and Mrs. Luxton returned to their stations in Bougainville. Their reports seem to indicate that all Mission equipment has been destroyed, but that, generally speaking, our people have been faithful and loyal, carrying on the work as best they could, but in every case maintaining a wonderful witness for Christ.

**The Living Church.** It is here we find satisfaction. The Native Church has come through the years of invasion with a good deal of wood, hay, and stubble burnt up, it is true, but as gold refined in the furnace of affliction. Above I have spoken only of the material loss our Mission has suffered. But there is a brighter side. As mentioned above, there are things which the red ruin of war cannot blast away. The evidence of the foundational strength of our Church is apparent everywhere. The testimony of all the occupational troops leaves no doubt about the reality of the religion of these people. Officers and men have been deeply stirred by their genuine faith and courage. Men who had never darkened the church doors for years have been led back to Christ by the witness of these "living epistles." One Chaplain told me that more than thirty of the men in his area had been definitely converted to God by the over-powering evidence of the reality of Christianity in the lives of these people. These men had expressed a desire to be publicly baptised and, on their confession of faith, received into the Christian Church. As one officer after attending one of their services said: "They say that Christianity is a myth. Well its a mighty myth that can change these savages into cultured, kindly, christian gentlemen."

Our people did not join in the actual fighting, but they were intensely loyal to the Flag, and acted as scouts, information runners, and Red Cross helpers. With tenderness they cared for soldiers lost or hunted by the enemy—hiding them and

feeding them sometimes for months until they were rescued. They saved the lives of hundreds of airmen who had crashed or been shot down by the enemy. There are many fathers and mothers both in New Zealand and America who have their sons with them again because of the assistance given by these black-skinned Methodists in the Solomons. Let us hope that they are thankful to God.

It would not be correct to say that there were not some disappointments. Some whom we loved and trusted failed us. But these were not many. Some whose faith and courage failed them fell by the way-side, and it will be our privilege to lift them up again in the spirit of Christ, but as a whole our christian people stood firm and gave an unmistakable witness in spiritual things to the power of Christ to keep them. The war has brought into prominence some strong Christian leaders—Silas Lezutunui, Stephen Gadipeta, Sakiri Goldie, and Simione Mamupio, and these fine Christian men will be a great asset to the Church of the future. There was a great deal of suffering amongst our people—hunger, nakedness, sickness, and sorrows of heart and mind. It is true that some of the younger men made money by working for the troops, and selling to them curios and specimens of native handicraft, but there were not many communities who shared in this prosperity, and there was a great deal of destitution amongst the people—especially the old people, when I arrived.

Personally I thank God for the faithfulness and loyalty of the Native Church during the years of war—and am pleased with their sane, practical view of things: thankful also for the progress made thus far in the work of rehabilitation since the return of our missionaries. There are many difficulties ahead of us. It is inevitable that the sudden and violent impact of a non-Christian civilisation must leave some marks. But it will be ours to heal the wounds—mental, moral, and spiritual—in the spirit of the Compassionate Christ. This will be the real work of rehabilitation. We have not yet been able to begin rebuilding permanent schools and churches owing to the impossibility of obtaining suitable materials and the entire absence of any means of transport—but we are carrying on very well with temporary buildings. A fine native hospital has been built at Patutiva under the supervision of Mr. Luxton, and is in charge of one of our own trained lads. A similar hospital at Menakasapa, another at Munda, and the main hospital at Bilua under Nurse Joy Whitehouse are in full swing.

At present the most urgent need is first the building and equipment of our main hospital under the direction of a doctor, and secondly the building and equipment of the Training College at Roviana. These buildings should be permanent and impressive institutions which will be worthy of our great Methodist Church. During the war years children have grown up and educational advantages will come to many too late. Many have loyally waited for the re-opening of our Central School. I therefore recommend that our principal hospital and District Training Institution be opened at the earliest possible moment. The rebuilding of the various circuit headquarters, in my opinion, is not quite so urgent. With present temporary buildings, etc., the work can be carried on and our Mission interests safe-

guarded, while the more permanent installations are being gradually built up. Of course all the work of reconstruction is urgent, and as soon as materials and transport are available we should lose no time in the rehabilitation of all our stations. But it is "no good having a long leg if one has a weak heart." In other Mission Districts—Papua, Rabaul, Fiji—immense sums have been spent on their headquarters and training of teachers, and in all the other missions in the Solomons they have strong centres, and I am hoping that we will not be behind these other missions. We will be short of teachers for some time, and will have to make use of untrained men until we get on our feet again. Many of our old teachers will want to rest, and some are looking forward to refresher courses in the College, and we should arrange for that as soon as possible.

The work of rehabilitation will tax severely all our resources. It is safe to say that all the headquarters—District and Circuit—without exception will have to be rebuilt, and all our boats replaced. This will give us an opportunity of planning our stations to greater advantage. In the past we did not have this opportunity, but had to just add building after building—some of them very flimsy—as we had the means to do so. But in making a new start our past experience will be of great value. Dean Inge says: "There are two different kinds of fool. The one who says 'This is old, therefore it must be good,' and the other who says 'This is new, therefore it must be better.'" I trust that in our work of reconstruction we may be able to avoid the folly of both. We have a strong Native Church with us to help, and the great Methodist Church at the Home Base praying for us, and sacrificing much to aid us with their gifts and, above all, endless resources in God. We will go ahead,

Not like the hireling, for his coward dread,  
With backward glances, and reluctant tread,  
But cheerful in the light around us thrown,  
Doing God's will as if it were our own,  
Walking as those to pleasant service led.

—J. F. GOLDIE.



Rev. J. F. Goldie and leading Roviana chiefs  
40 years ago.

## Jesus Indeed a Friend—Japanese Christian Witness

### Interesting News from Buka and Teop

by the Rev. C. T. J. LUXTON.

After leaving Bilua we had a couple of days along the Choiseul coast and then I set off almost non-stop for home, pausing at Kuliro only long enough to take lotu and to pick up some boys, and at Torokina only enough to load a cargo. The worst part of the whole trip was the last lap from Torokina to Buka. I was thoroughly tired, and the boys know that coast so well that I had no hesitaitaion in going to sleep and leaving them to find the way home. However I was roused from sleep with the news that they had lost their way, a nasty thunderstorm was at its height and, of course, everything was blacked out by rain, I gave them a course which they clung to rather fearfully. The jib had split, the wire cable of the top-lift had snapped, and the boat was awash from one end to the other. Daylight found us chugging along, nicely on our course but more like a submarine than a ship. The worst was yet to come; we went to Chinatown in the Passage, leaving there we were half way to Sohana when the sudden racing of the engine revealed that we had slipped our stern shaft, fortunately it hadn't fouled the rudder so we were able to keep head on to the current which was then running at full, however that wasn't for long and soon we were being swept broadside on down the Passage towards the eastern end where there are some nasty reefs. It didn't take long to discover that we could effect only a temporary repair, which I did hurriedly hoping that it would enable us to straighten up and find an anchorage, however it worked better than I had expected and we got right back to Sohana where I borrowed some tools from the engineer and effected a satisfactory repair.

Christmas Day was disappointingly wet, but we had a good crowd for the service at Petats. The Thanksgiving Service followed and a record gift totalling £135 indeed gave us cause to sing the Doxology, not for the amount of the collection only, but for the of thankfulness and the evidence of the peoples' joy in the Gospel.

I am writing this in the little cottage at Teop. We came down here on Saturday, the family coming too for their 'Christmas Holidays.' We conducted services yesterday, this morning I made a trip of inspection to Kekesu, tomorrow is Quarterly Meeting day and on New Year's Day we will have the Thanksgiving Service in the morning and a sing-song in the afternoon. We will depart before the dawn the following morning and get the boat off to Torokina the same evening. On that trip Usaia and family will go as far as Kunua and spend a fortnight in that area, returning for the reopening of school in mid January.

As I had not previously explored Kekesu I was particularly interested in the visit there this morning. Having in mind the discussion at Synod I examined the area pretty thoroughly and am very willing to support the suggestion of Mr. Metcalfe and Mr. Voyce that the future head station for this area be at Kekesu rather than on Teop Island. Rigamu and other teachers are also in favour of the station being moved—they do not like the idea of losing the missionary from Teop, but agree

that in the best interests of the work the change should be made. I suppose you have visited the area, you spent some time here on your previous visit did you not? The only disadvantage I can see is the distance from the anchorage, but a truck would solve that, indeed it would be a run of only ten or twelve minutes, but if one had to carry cargo for that distance it would indeed be a considerable difficulty. There is a good bush road wide enough for a truck, there are a few bomb holes but they would be easily filled in.

The place has a beach frontage, not wholly sandy as at Teop but quite nice, the ground is excellent for gardening, there is a rise on which the buildings could all be built, though perhaps it might be better to have the hospital down on the level near the fresh water spring. The coconut area looks fairly good though a number of trees were cut down by the Japanese, there is a sago grove nearby entirely for mission use. Just a little beyond the mission boundary is a stream where there is good swimming and an excellent place for the natives to do their washing. Of course the whole area is bush-covered at present so I did not see all its advantages, but I am sure it would be a very fine site for our future head station.

Having heard a number of reports about a Japanese Methodist who conducted services here I made enquiries and the following summarises what I learned. The Japanese were camped for a month on Teop, and for a month on Mrs. Faulkner's place just opposite on the mainland. During that period services were conducted on Sundays by a Japanese soldier, though there was no evidence of services on other days, indeed there was no evidence of any Christian services among the Japanese troops. Whether the Jap. concerned was a minister or a local preacher was not known—however he was a Christian, probably not a chaplain as there was no evidence of Christian Chaplains being with the troops, he must have been an officer, however, as he had sufficient influence to prevent the Teop Church being dismantled for the building material it contained (it was destroyed by American bombs). He asked whether the teachers had ever heard of Kagawa, and was both surprised and pleased when they said yes, they knew of him and his work. He said Kagawa was their leading Christian in Japan. He came to the services and preached a number of times. Typical of his services is this one, the natives sang in their own language, he read the scriptures in Japanese, and prayed in Japanese, then he sang "What a Friend we have in Jesus," in the Japanese language, then in hesitant English he said that Jesus was the friend of all peoples, native, Japanese, English, American, etc. It was the experience of Japanese Christians that Jesus was indeed their Friend. He and other Japanese Christians did not want to fight, for fighting was wrong, but they had to obey their Emperor who sent them to fight, had they refused they would have been killed. The teachers did not know whether he was a Methodist, but were sure that he was a Christian.

## Personal and General

### THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

After an absence of 2½ months on a visit to the Solomons the General Secretary returned to Auckland on 20th January—six days prior to the Annual Meeting of the Foreign Mission Board. The report of his experiences and conclusions appears in this issue and indicates something of the huge missionary task confronting the Church.

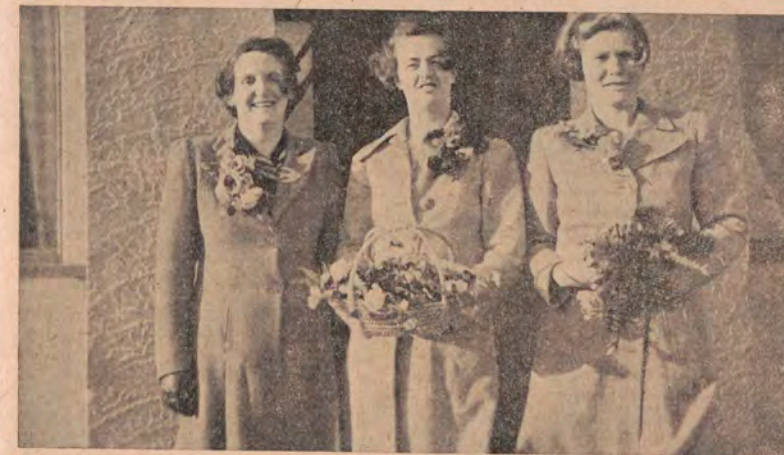
### REV. W. and MRS. GREEN.

All servicemen who enjoyed the generous hospitality of the Rev. W. and Mrs. Green at Suva during the war years, and many others, will be interested to know that Mr. Green has applied for transfer to the New Zealand Conference at the end of 1947. For the past ten years Mr. Green has been Chairman of the Fiji District and prior to that rendered excellent service in Papua and New South Wales. He has the reputation of an able and eloquent preacher, and both he and Mrs. Green are possessed of a genial, happy disposition that commends their religion and their Lord to all who meet them. Mrs. Green, prior to her marriage, was a Deaconess at the famous Sydney Central Mission.

These fine workers with such valuable Home and Overseas experience will be a distinct acquisition to New Zealand Methodism.

### SISTERS ADA LEE, WINIFRED POOLE AND MERLE CARTER.

After three happy and profitable weeks in Fiji, during which they got valuable insight to mission-



ary work in that District and were generously entertained by the Rev. and Mrs. W. Green, Sisters Ada, Winifred and Merle sailed for the Solomons on the auxiliary schooner 'Tagua,' the voyage occupying seven days. Christmas was spent aboard this small boat and Capt. Mathison and his officers sought to make the day a happy one for the passengers.

By arrangement with the Chairman and Dr. Rutter the Sisters remained a month at Honiara, Guadalcanal, the new workers thus gaining valuable tropical experience before leaving for their various stations. Sister Ada is resuming her

teaching work in South Bougainville while Sisters Winifred and Merle have been appointed to Buka and Teop respectively, but the latter will work in South Bougainville until a missionary and his wife have taken up residence at Teop.

### REV. ALLEN H. HALL.

In view of his early departure for the Solomons the Rev. Allen H. Hall was ordained at the recent Conference and will be received into Full Connexion at the conclusion of his Probation.

Tentative arrangements have been made for Mr. Hall to sail for the Field by the auxiliary schooner 'Tagua' towards the end of March. He is being eagerly awaited by the students who are eager to resume, or take up for the first time, their studies at the District Training Institution. Like the other workers, Mr. Hall will occupy, and teach in, temporary quarters until the new Institution has been built.

### SISTER LUCY MONEY.

Sister Lucy Money was dedicated to the Deaconess Order at the recent Conference and will also proceed to the Solomons by the "Tagua." Highly qualified as a maternity and child-welfare worker, Sister Lucy will be warmly welcomed on the Field to which God has called her. Her appointment will be in the hands of the Chairman of the District. While visiting the Marovo Lagoon in December, the Chairman and General Secretary were approached by Ngatu, paramount chief of that area, for just such a Sister to minister to the considerable number of children and to the mothers.

### MR. BRUCE COLE.

The friends of Mr. Bruce Cole will be pleased to know that he has settled in very happily to the big task of reconstruction on Bougainville. At present he is busy dismantling old Service buildings and selecting the timber and other material that will be useful in the re-building programme. He is also servicing several trucks and jeeps which are vital to our transport at Torokina.

### MR. GRENVILLE VOYCE.

Since his return to Bougainville with his parents, Grenville Voyce has rendered excellent service to the Mission, particularly in driving our trucks, maintaining roads and gathering up quantities of valuable material acquired from the War Assets Realisation Commission. At the recent Synod, Grenville joined the staff as a lay worker.

### REV. JOHN TAUFU.

A further recent appointment to the Solomon Islands District is the Rev. John Taufu of Tonga, who, with his wife and infant son, reached the Field in December. He came with high credentials from the President of the Tonga Conference.

## WANTED: MODERN APOSTLES

I have sometimes tried to imagine myself a person who had never heard of the existence and omnipotence of one Great God; who knew not that a Bible-telling about him had come down the centuries; who had been in bondage—for generations now concentrated in myself—to superstition, fear, and materiality. What would happen in my mind and spirit if an evangelist, foreign missionary, or one of my own associates were to open before me the life and character and present fact of Jesus Christ and the interest of a God of love in all my little affairs? Talk about trail-breaking! There is no pioneering in all the range of man's endeavour to compare with clearing the way for that breath-taking collision of ideas within the seething compass of a human soul.

Then, too, the apostle walks in courage of a very high order. Usually he is strictly on his own, far from the familiar home setting. The props of family and community have disappeared. It takes daring to strike out, unsupported, on new paths, the while one keeps steady hold of essentials. A peculiar brand of bravery is required of him who faces, day after day, defeat, defection, intrigue, open hostility or servile acquiescence. Results are long delayed and often most difficult to discern. The promising convert backslides. The closest friend proves false. The fact that other men, through the centuries, have been confronted with like problems, does not lessen the heroic quality of the response demanded of to-day's apostle.

This road, too, must be travelled in utter self-forgetfulness; else the traveller is a failure in actual fact, no matter how brilliant his superficial record may seem. Full of soaring hope, he goes forth—into his own land or a foreign one—only to discover that he has been assigned work unattractive or even menial. He may be placed in a barren station, without equipment, comradeship, or the ordinary refinements of the life to which he has been accustomed. One missionary I knew, city-bred and highly intellectual, whose first task, years ago in Japan, was to assist in the spring butchering from which the school's meat supply came. A doctor, trained to high efficiency in the best American hospitals, is sent to a shack of a jungle dispensary, without water or lights or X-ray or any but the crudest instruments. Teachers go to schools rich only in the potentialities of their students, and even the potentialities are almost invisible! Apostolic ministers of Jesus forget these limitations, and make a new world out of nothing but the impact of their message upon the souls of men.

Pioneering, dangers, material poverty have a way of developing great faith and, hence, unusual power. The faithful disciple of the Son of God learns from him, first to recognise, and then to dare, them all. Weighed down by a killing pressure of his peoples' needs, himself unable to satisfy a tithe of them, he simply has to trust the power of God. So trusting, he grows strong and able. The miracle of the loaves and fishes is no longer an ancient parable, but proven, immediate fact. Despite apparent failure, the real apostle pushes steadily ahead. To his own surprise, he begins to achieve. He finds he can safely rely on what he wonderingly recognises as eternal and

unlimited resources. He links his little self with God's omnipotence.

Henry Clay, the story runs, crossing the Alleghenies in the early days of the Republic, paused once on a mountain summit and stood, listening intently. When asked what he heard, he answered, "I hear the footsteps of the oncoming millions who will people this wilderness." The apostle has an experience like that once in a while. Against every tangible evidence, in the midst of a spiritual wilderness, he yet knows that, plain person that he is, he has been called to be a nation-builder, a moulder of character, a builder of new churches, a healer of the bodies and the souls of men. His small, prosaic task is vestibule to the spacious House of the Eternal.

It is well to recall the apostles of the past; to study those of the present. But it is absolutely essential to produce successors to both of them. The day of the missionary has not passed. One with ears attuned can still hear the footsteps of his oncoming millions. His is still the chance to abandon a familiar, circumscribed, easy existence for the most thrilling adventure in all the universe.

Every field is understaffed. Every nation is a stage on which the drama of the coming of the Son of God must be again enacted. "Wanted: apostles!" If we fail to answer that terribly insistent cry, how is even God straitened! Wanted: apostles, ordinary folk grown extraordinary through Jesus Christ. By him—and him alone—order, beauty, love, and hope will come to this muddled planet; by him and us as his interpreters.

"Wanted: apostles!" Listen, you! Can you teach? A community full of children who someday will make or break a nation awaits your teaching. Have you skilful fingers and nimble wit to fashion and devise? The crafts you impart, in Christ's name, may lift the economic level of thousands of those now the poorest of the poor. Are you a doctor? Miracles of healing you can perform in places where you are the sole messenger of the Divine Compassion. Can you preach? Simply, vitally, direct to mind and spirit? Then you, too, are chosen, and multitudes, who never heard good news before, will be your audience.

**Men Wanted (and Women),** qualified by training and by sure, personal, religious experience to be apostles of a Living God in a topsy turvy world. —"World Outlook."



Training to Preach and Teach.



IS IT  
**YOU**  
THAT  
**HE**  
NEEDS?



**URGENT NEED**

— for —

**Men and Women**



### CAN YOU TEACH?

A COMMUNITY FULL OF CHILDREN EAGERLY AWAITS YOU. THE FUTURE OF THE SOLOMONS WILL BE IN THE HANDS OF THOSE YOU TEACH.

### ARE YOU A DOCTOR OR NURSE?

THE SICK AND SUFFERING FAR REMOVED FROM MEDICAL ATTENTION AWAIT YOUR MINISTRY OF HEALING THAT WILL REVEAL SO CLEARLY THE DIVINE COMPASSION.

### CAN YOU PREACH?

HUNGRY MULTITUDES AWAIT THE BREAD OF LIFE THAT YOU CAN BREAK TO THEM AND THOSE IN DARKNESS AWAIT THE LIGHT THAT YOU CAN REVEAL.

## SURVEYING the FIELD

Report of the General Secretary's Visit to the Solomon Islands District.

NOVEMBER - JANUARY, 46-47.

I left Auckland for Suva on 3rd November, 1946. The Rev. W. Green, Chairman of the Fiji District, and the Rev. A. R. Gardner, General Secretary, Overseas Missions, Australia, met me and during my six days in Fiji I was generously entertained by the Rev. W. and Mrs. Green. Mr. Green and his colleagues gave me every facility to see as much as possible of the excellent work of that District, including visits to the Ballantyne Memorial, Toorak, and Dudley House Schools; the large District Institutions at Davuilevu and Dilkusha; and the historic island of Bau. For several days after my arrival I enjoyed the privilege of the company of the Rev. A. R. Gardner, and Mr. T. Reynolds, General Secretary, and Lay Treasurer respectively, of Methodist Overseas Missions, Australia, who were part of a Commission investigating Educational, and other matters in Fiji, Tonga, and Samoa.

### WARDAMAGE.

During an interview with Sir Alexander Grant-ham, Governor of Fiji, and High Commissioner for the Western Pacific, His Excellency informed me that the British Government was sending a Commission to the Far East to assess and consider claims for War Damage, and that the British Solomons would be treated on the basis finally approved. This gives the Board definite hope that some measure of compensation for damage to our mission stations, assessed by Mr. Goldie at £92,000 will be forthcoming.

### EDUCATION.

His Excellency also stated that a Director of Education had been appointed for the British Solomons. This is the first step on the part of the Government to assume a measure of responsibility for the education of the native people—apart from the training of a few medical, technical, and agricultural students. It is to be hoped that before making recommendations regarding policy, the newly-appointed Director will collaborate with the heads of the Missionary Societies which, thus far, have maintained and controlled all schools in the Solomons.

After my arrival at Honiara, Guadalcanal on 18th November, I discussed Education and other matters with the Resident Commissioner, Mr. O. C. Noel, who stated that he will make no recommendations regarding Education until the Director, who is expected about March, has surveyed existing schools, their methods, etc., and made his report.

His Honor has great hopes for his recently inaugurated scheme of partial government of village communities by Native Councils, elected by the people, which will levy and expend taxation, and administer justice in minor matters.

### MEDICAL.

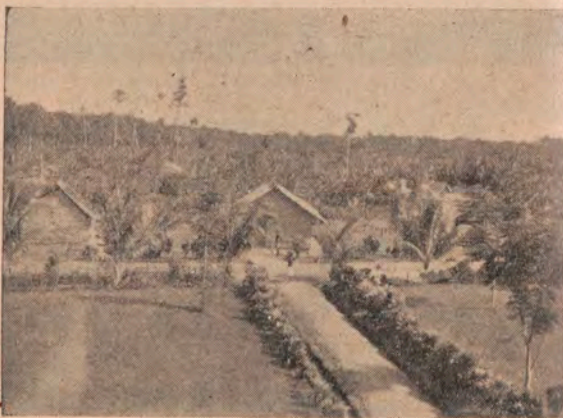
I discussed Medical Policy with Dr. A. G. Rutter, who is now Senior Medical Officer for the Protectorate, but still associated with our Mission in an honorary capacity. He stated that the Gov-

ernment has decided to re-appoint a doctor to the Western Solomons (possibly at Gizo), but considers there will still be need for our Medical Unit, and urges the speedy appointment of a Mission doctor with whom he is anxious to collaborate.

### AGRICULTURE.

The Government has established an Agricultural Training Centre at Ilu, 15 miles south of Honiara, under the direction of an expert from Africa, and is appealing to Missions to nominate suitable trainees and work-boys. The Centre, which occupies 5,000 acres, is in its initial stage. As the future of the vast majority of the natives is on the land, the establishment of an Agricultural Centre is on right lines, but one wonders if it would not have been more economical to have collaborated with the New Guinea Administration in this matter as prior to the war. A further responsibility devolving upon Governments in this matter, is the opening up of markets for the products natives are trained to grow. Otherwise the project will lead to a dead end.

After four days at Honiara, during which time I enjoyed the generous hospitality of Dr. and Mrs. Rutter, I sailed for the Western Solomons on 22nd November, on the Government vessel, 'Kurimarau.' I reached the Roviana Lagoon early on the 24th, and was warmly welcomed by the Revs. J. F. Goldie, J. R. Metcalfe, A. H. Voyce, and C. T. J. Luxton. It was a joy to meet these brethren again, and to learn that they, their wives and families, and the other members of the staff, were well.



A pre-war glimpse of Kihili now abandoned owing to war damage.

### SYNOD.

By mutual agreement, the venue of Synod was changed from Bilua, Vella Lavella, to Torokina, Bougainville, and we proceeded to the latter place by our mission cutter "Daphne," visiting Bilua, Sasamanga and Buin, en route.

Synod opened on Sat. 7th Dec., and concluded on the following Wednesday. The Minutes, which will be reported to the Mission Board and Conference, record the business transacted, but do not express the excellent spirit of fellowship, and very definite sense of God's presence. The Chairman and his colleagues are facing the huge task of reconstruction with a confidence that has been greatly strengthened by the response of the Home Church in the establishment of worthy funds for rehabilitation and extension work. Some idea of the bigness of the task ahead will be gathered from the fact that even now, the sites for the new District Institution, the Hospital, and several Circuit Institutions have not yet been finally decided.

In expressing appreciation of the General Secretary's presence, the Chairman declared this Synod, with its big and vital issues, to be the most important in the history of the District. The messages of assurance and affectionate greeting from the President of the Conference, the Mission Board, and the Dominion President of the M.W.-M.U. were greatly appreciated by the Native Church and European Staff. In responding, the General Secretary congratulated the Chairman and pioneer of the District upon attaining at the forthcoming Conference, the 50th anniversary of his ministry. Forty-five of those years have been spent in the Solomons, and the Synod's appreciation and affection were expressed in a fitting Minute.

During my stay in the District, I was able to visit every circuit, and privileged to participate in numerous inspirational services at several of which large native churches were unable to accommodate the congregation. At a service in the Memorial Church at Mono, I baptised 27 infants.

### RECONSTRUCTION.

The destruction of all our head stations was complete, with the exception that at Sasamanga, Choiseul, the fine native church and the framework of the Sisters' Home, were left standing. I append herewith a brief summary of the present position at each station.

#### KOKENGOLO

(Now usually referred to as Munda).

Apart from a few concrete posts and two graves—one of the latter being that of the infant son of the Rev. J. F. and Mrs. Goldie—no vestige remains of our fine District Institution and Head Station of the Roviana Circuit. Of 170 acres of full-bearing coconut plantation, two solitary palms stand as lonely sentinels on a scene of utter desolation. The famous Munda airfield which occupies the site of the plantation is now largely overgrown with creepers and bush. Kokengolo Hill, on which the major part of our Institution stood, has been partly excavated.

It is possible that the considerable area occupied by the airfield may be utilised for the new Institution, and a special committee has been set up to consider this, and other available sites, with a view to rebuilding at the earliest possible moment; it having been unanimously resolved by the Synod that the Roviana Lagoon is still the right location. United opinion also expressed the desirability of the main hospital being adjacent to the District Institution.

At present there are no buildings of any kind at Munda. During the past two years the Chairman has carried on his work from various parts of the Roviana Circuit, at which temporary houses have been erected by the people who have been eager to have their father-in-God in their midst.

It is of urgent importance that the training of students be resumed at the earliest possible moment, and the Rev. A. H. Hall's arrival is eagerly awaited. Pending final decision re site of the District Institution and the actual rebuilding, tutor and students will 'carry on' in temporary quarters.

A native house for the Sisters, and an adjacent school are nearing completion, and should be ready when Sisters Lina Jones and Effie Harkness return to Roviana from Bilua early in 1947.

#### BILUA

Every building of the Vella Lavella Circuit Institution, and of the District Medical Unit was destroyed, also a considerable portion of our valuable coconut plantation.

Upon his return to the Field in 1945, the Rev. C. T. J. Luxton, after supervising the building of a very serviceable hospital at Patutiva in the Marovo Lagoon, rendered considerable service by preparing for the return of our workers to Bilua with the result that the Rev. A. W. and Mrs. Silvester, and Sisters Lina Jones and Effie Harkness are suitably housed in comfortable semi-native buildings, and Sister Joy Whitehouse in a similar home adjacent to the Hospital. The Hospital itself was adapted by Mr. Luxton from a temporary building on concrete foundation left by the Forces, and is well equipped. The Chairman also has a small semi-native house at Bilua. In addition to the above, a native church and school, four students' houses and an iron store, have been erected since Mr. Silvester's return.

It has been suggested by Mr. Silvester, that in the event of the District Hospital being re-erected at Bilua, the Circuit Institution be moved to Barakoma on the same property but about two miles from the present site. In the event of the Hospital being transferred to Roviana, no change in the site of the circuit institution is suggested. Until the Government has decided upon the location of a hospital they propose to build in the West, it will be unwise to decide regarding our own site.

#### SASAMANGA, CHOISEUL

Of the Mission House at Sasamanga, only the piles remain but, as mentioned above, the framework of the Sisters' Home was left standing, and after the departure of the Japanese, the natives recovered the iron the enemy had taken away, and replaced it, thus providing a Home—even if a dilapidated one—for the Rev. J. R. and Mrs. Metcalfe, and Sister Grace McDonald, upon their return. Mr. Metcalfe has carried out further improvements, and the house is almost back to its pre-war comfort, but its timbers deteriorated during their years of exposure, and the house will have to be renewed at no distant date.

The remaining buildings, with the exception of a small iron stove are of native material—in-

cluding the hospital. The church is semi-native, and a very fine building which happily escaped destruction.

There is no suggestion to change the location of the circuit institution, and reconstruction can be proceeded with as soon as materials and transport are available.

#### KIHILI, BOUGAINVILLE.

Not only was our institution at Kihili totally destroyed, but in addition, almost the entire area of the station so pitted with large bomb craters as to make it quite unsuitable for re-occupation. An adjoining area, however, has been offered by the owners, and Mr. Voyce is hopeful that the transfer will be facilitated by the Government. A large part of the new property has been cleared, and a number of temporary buildings erected, and Mr. Voyce expects to take up residence as soon as it is possible to evacuate Torokina. This move will not be possible until the stores and equipment purchased from the War Assets Realisation Board at Torokina have been removed. The removal depends upon sea transport and the only vessel available so far has been the "Daphne"—a 48ft. auxiliary cutter that is rendering excellent service and was one of a number of judicious purchases made by Mr. Voyce. Other purchases included buildings, stores, fuel and equipment, an excellent saw bench, an engine, and other machinery for generating power. A number of trucks and jeeps were also purchased at a low figure, and are proving invaluable in getting the goods from various sites to the wharf for shipment.

Since their return to Bougainville, Mr. and Mrs. Voyce and family, have been comfortably housed in the Other Ranks Club, which was included in the purchases, and it was here that the Synod found ample accommodation.

Mr. Voyce, however, is gravely concerned that conditions have prevented resumption of his regular supervision of the wide South Bougainville area, and is very anxious to occupy the proposed headquarters at Buin at the earliest moment.

#### TEOP, BOUGAINVILLE.

We had no permanent buildings at Teop prior to the recent war, the well organised station consisting of semi-native and native buildings. The station was completely wiped out, and at present is in the initial stages of reconstruction. A new church has been erected—an excellent building that serves also as a school—a resident teacher's house, and a house for visiting teachers. A small temporary house has been completed for the new missionary whose arrival is eagerly awaited. The people also anxiously await the appointment of a nursing Sister, for which arrangements had been virtually completed at the outbreak of war.

The District Synod is unanimously of the opinion that the new head-station of the Teop Section should be built not at Teop Island, but on the mainland of Bougainville, about two miles distant from the present site. Suitable land for this purpose was acquired years ago and Synod considers the present a most opportune time for the move.

A generous grant from the M.W.M.U is available for the Sisters' Home to which Sister Merle Carter has been appointed, and the Don Alley Fund will provide sufficient for the Memorial Hospital. The

way is open for the establishment of a worthy station at this strategic centre as soon as materials and equipment are available.

The Methodist community on Teop Island is a striking example of the tragic effect of the war, upon the native people in the Bougainville-Buka Circuit. Our Teop people numbered some 300 when they fled to the mountains of the mainland at the approach of the Japanese. Less than 140 of them returned, more than half their number having died of sickness, exposure, etc., at unaccustomed heights.

#### SKOTOLAN-BUKA.

Although sharing the common fate of total destruction, the head station of the Buka Section, under the able leadership of the Rev. C. T. J. Luxton assisted by the Rev. Usaia Sotutu, has made a splendid recovery, and will resume full work in the immediate future, when gardens planted some time ago come into production.

Mr. and Mrs. Luxton and family are housed in a very comfortable and well-built semi-native house with electric light, refrigerator, and other amenities, and a similar building awaits the arrival of Sister Winifred Poole. Usaia Sotutu with his wife and



Part of Kihili, head station of South Bougainville, prior to the desolation wrought by war.

family are also comfortably housed, as are a resident teacher and his wife. It was my privilege to declare open an excellent native church which, in the meantime, will be used also as a school. Mr. Luxton is to be congratulated upon a fine achievement.

This station was heavily bombed by the Japanese, and damage was done to the plantation and wharf in addition to the destruction of all buildings. The site, however, remains a desirable one, and the erection of permanent buildings will proceed as early as possible. Prominent among the latter will be the Maternity Ward and the School which are to form a fitting Memorial of the long and devoted service of Sister Elizabeth Common.

Sister Winifred Poole has been appointed to Skotolan, and will be taking up her work almost immediately.

The first service conducted by Mr. Luxton after his return to Skotolan, was at the re-interment of his 3 year old daughter, who had died with such tragic suddenness at Torokina. The little grave on the hill-side is a poignant reminder of the sacrifices involved in pioneering for the Kingdom of God.

#### MEDICAL UNIT.

The re-establishment of our Medical Work calls for careful consideration and consultation with the Government. We have already been advised that the latter intends to re-establish a hospital in the Western Solomons, and is extending its medical service by means of native medical practitioners and dressers. Our hospital should be located where it can render maximum service. The opinion of the Synod is that it is desirable, if at all possible, that the hospital be adjacent to the District Institution, in order that students may receive adequate medical training. It is anticipated that there will be close collaboration between the Chairman and our Medical Superintendent, when appointed, on the one hand, and the Senior Medical Officer of the Protectorate, (Dr. A. G. Rutter) on the other.

The ministry of healing is an integral part of Christian missions, and we have occasion for gratitude that we are in a position to extend this work at the earliest possible moment. Our immediate need is a doctor to succeed Dr. Rutter, and several more nurses. Good medical equipment is on the Field, but all existing buildings are temporary.

#### STAFF.

I return from my second visit to the Solomons with a yet deeper sense of privilege at being associated with the staff on the Field. The Rev. J. F. Goldie attains this year his golden jubilee in the active ministry, including 45 years chairmanship of the Solomon Islands District. His bow continues to abide in strength and his great devotion and unique experience are of profound influence and value in these difficult days of reconstruction. All his colleagues are rendering excellent service, and are to be warmly congratulated upon the progress made since their return to the Field.

Sisters Ada Lee, Winifred Poole, and Merle Carter, and Mr. Bruce Cole (carpenter) have arrived, and are a welcome addition to the ranks. Mr. Grenville Voyce, who has been rendering good service at Torokina, has also joined the Lay Staff. The arrival of the Rev. A. H. Hall, in February, and the speedy appointment of a minister to Teop, and a doctor to superintend the Medical Unit, will greatly facilitate the work. More teachers and nurses are urgently required immediately.

One cannot speak too highly of the able and devoted work of the Rev. Paul Havea in the Marovo, and the Rev. Usaia Sotutu B.E.M.—especially during the war years in the absence of the white staff. The former has been ten years without furlough, but with the arrival of John Taufu and his wife—also from Tonga—his long overdue furlough will be speedily arranged.

#### NATIVE CHURCH.

Limited time and travelling facilities prevented my visiting many native teachers' stations in circuits other than Roviana. In the latter, how-

ever, in company with the Chairman, I circumnavigated New Georgia, and met teachers and people at numerous stations where excellent work is being maintained. It was a joy to meet the Rev. Paul Havea and his people at Patutiva, where, largely owing to the strong Christian Chief Ngatu and his people, this beautiful station has been largely restored, and a really good hospital erected. It was here that Mr. Goldie made his temporary headquarters upon his return in December, 1944.

There is no need for me to recapitulate the valiant service and faithful Christian Witness of our teachers and people during the war years. That story has been told already by multitudes of returned servicemen, and by our missionaries upon their return to the Field. Suffice to add that, with a few exceptions, including two that were particularly disappointing, we have great occasion to thank God for this rich harvest of the years, and for our opportunity to help still further this Young Church in a future that will hold many problems and temptations.

#### REHABILITATION.

In accordance with the wish of the Board, I discussed with the Synod, the allocation of the Rehabilitation Fund. I submitted a scheme for the replacement of buildings and equipment destroyed on the basis of the claims lodged by the Chairman of the District. In addition to buildings and equip-



KIHILI that was—now a mass of bomb craters.

ment, considerable losses were sustained in boats, plantations, cattle, etc. The boat losses will be partly met from the Boats Replacement Fund, but there will be a large adverse balance in this fund when all boats are replaced. My suggestion that any balance under this head, after replacements have been effected, should be allocated by the Board, after consultation with the District, in accordance with the needs of the Work, met the approval of Synod.

#### CONCLUSION.

In conclusion I return thanks to Almighty God for journeying mercies, and the many manifestations of His grace by which the Native Church and the European Staff have been sustained.

—A. H. SCRIVIN, General Secretary.



## Treasurers' Report for the Year ended Dec., 1946

The Treasurers have pleasure in presenting the Balance Sheet and return of Income and Expenditure for the year ended 31st December, 1946.

The income from the Circuits in N.Z. amounted to £15,755/7/7, a decrease of £269/5/10. This decrease is more than offset by the large amount of contributions received after the close of the books, on December 16th, amounting to £2,024 as compared with £911 outstanding last year.

The income for the Medical Fund was £1,224 16/11. Of this amount the sum of £770/7/8 has been used to defray the cost of such medical work as has been possible during the past year. The balance of £454/9/3 has been added to the Rehabilitation Fund for use in future in the re-establishment of the Medical work. The sum of £85/2/- has been added to the Leper Fund which now stands at £5,803/18/8. The income on the field was £1,337/16/9, and the expenditure amounted to £14,345/11/6. This expenditure includes £1,557 13/8 charged to Rehabilitation, and £3,416 for arrears of payments due to Native Agents, accumulated in former years.

The expenditure in New Zealand was £1,648/0/6 and Miscellaneous payments amounted to £283 10/5 which includes £100 in support of 'Orphaned' Missions, and £48 contribution towards the National Missionary Council.

The balance of the Income and Expenditure Account of £4,641/3/4, and £6,447/4/10 received from the Australian War Damage Commission for War Damage in Buka and Bougainville, have been credited to the Rehabilitation Fund, in addition to the balance of the Medical Fund referred to above. The Rehabilitation Fund now stands at £73,328/3/5. Charges against this Fund will now be made in increased volume, as the work of reconstruction is undertaken. The Working Capital has been increased by a legacy of £250 and by a profit of £7/10/- on investment, and now stands at £24,021/4/10.

The Boat Insurance Fund has been increased by £150 being interest on investments, and transfer from the Income and Expenditure A/c, and now stands at £3,386/14/4.

In addition to the legacy credited to the Working Capital referred to above, other legacies totaling £2,471/12/7, have been credited to the Rehabilitation Fund.

T. L. HAMES,  
A. BLAKEMORE,  
General Treasurers.

## South Pacific Christian Conference

It has been decided that the interim meeting preparatory to the 1950 South Pacific Christian Conference shall be in or near Sydney, from February 23rd to 28th, 1948. The four New Zealand Missionary Societies which have important work in the South Pacific are being asked to send two representatives each, to attend this meeting, i.e., the Anglican Board of Missions, the L.M.S., the Methodist Foreign Missionary Society, and the Presbyterian Foreign Missions Board. By a generous suggestion of the Australian Committee, the travelling expenses by steamer from a New Zealand port to Sydney will be pooled between the Australian and New Zealand Boards, so that the expense of travelling from New Zealand to Aus-

tralia is likely to amount to considerably less than would otherwise be the case.

The Sydney Conference is hoping that there will be Missionary representatives present also. Each Mission Board is invited to send up to three Missionaries as visitors, their expenses being the responsibility of their Board.

All will be aware of the many complicated and important questions which face the Missionary Societies in the South Pacific, many of which can only be faced by united action. Careful preparations are being made, that this Missionary Conference shall be of the greatest value to all. The Rev. Norman Goodall, Secretary of the International Missionary Council, is planning to be present.

### SCHOOL CHILDREN'S GENEROUS GESTURE.

We have been greatly encouraged by the receipt of £5 from scholars of one class in the Devonport District School. This is an unusual source of missionary help and is greatly appreciated. In forwarding the cheque, the Rev. H. A. Cochrane writes as follows:—

"This sum of £5 is the result of two efforts conducted by the pupils of Standard Four of the Devonport District School. These children have taken an interest in the work of the Missionaries of the Solomon Islands and desire the enclosed to be used for the purpose of some suitable Memorial to Moyna Luxton. Some of the children speak of having more efforts to raise the amount

to £10 and endow a cot for the Memorial Hospital. Any further money to the purpose stated will be forwarded when received."

### AN OUTSTANDING COLLECTOR.

We have received recently from Miss Marian Howe of Trinity Church, Wellington, £7 collected by her for the Don Alley Memorial Fund. This makes a total of £60 collected by Marian during the past 8 years for Foreign Missions and represents a splendid effort for which we are very grateful. We hope that many young people will be inspired by Marian's success to similar effort to extend the Kingdom of God overseas. Well done, Marian!

## An M.W.M.U. Message to Our Native Women

In addition to a message from the President of the Conference to the Native Church the General Secretary carried with him a special word of love and goodwill to the women of the Solomons from Mrs. E. Virtue, Dominion President of the M.W.M.U. It is a source of constant wonder and gratitude to our native women that their sisters here in New Zealand remember them in such generous and practical ways.

### A MESSAGE TO OUR NATIVE WOMEN.

I send to you, from the Methodist Women's Missionary Union, their cordial and loving greetings. We greet you with admiration and with thankfulness.

Admiration that in the dark days of war, when our missionaries had to leave, you stood firm and triumphant, thankful to Jesus Christ our Lord that your faith was so grounded in Him that you did not falter in your allegiance to Him—to your King and to your Empire.

The mothers of New Zealand, Australia and America will always remember with deep thankfulness your kindly devotion to their boys when in danger or wounded.

By your Christian living you have shown the world an example of what our faith stands for and many who never believed in our Missions before have seen the light and have been won over.



THE NEW M.W.M.U. DOMINION EXECUTIVE.  
From left:—Mrs. T. Rowe, Secretary; Mrs. M. E. Virtue, President; Mrs. J. M. Bruce, Treasurer: all of Napier.

The past years of war have bound us very close together. May the days of peace that lie ahead bind us still closer in love of Him Who is the Saviour of us all. So we send you our love and assurance that our prayers will be with you all.

Yours in Christian bonds,

EMMIE VIRTUE,

Dominion President of the Methodist Women's Missionary Union, N.Z.

(Continued from Inside Front Cover)

£2; Mr. and Mrs. S. Ferguson, and Mr. A. Grounds, £1 each; Mrs. E. McDonald, 10/-	4 10 0	Ashford, £1	3 0 0	ham St. South Ladies' Guild, £1	7 0 0
League of Young Methodists	12 0 0	Durham St. Circuit:	18 11 0	Christchurch East Circuit:	17 6 0
St. Paul's, Palmerston North	13 5 0	St. Peter's Invercargill Circuit:		Paramata Church	1 0 0
Bluff Circuit:		Mr. and Mrs. Sampson, Rev. Jefferson, and R. Hicken, £1 each; Mr. & Mrs. L. Allott, Mr. and Mrs. R. Wesley, Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Chisnall, and Mrs. and Miss Wild, 10/- each; Mrs. Pasceley, 5/-; smaller amounts, £8/4/	13 19 0	Rev. J. and Mrs. Featherston	3 0 0
Christmas Service Collection	2 12 6	Wellington East Circuit:	1 0 0	Mrs. Wilson	20 0 0
Ashburton Circuit:		Timaru South Circuit:	6 0 0	Mrs. Don Alley	20 0 0
P. O. Alan S. Frampton, £10; Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Frampton, and Mr. H. T. Frampton, £5 each; Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Ford, and Mr. J. E. Moore, £3 each; Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Moore, and Mr. and Mrs. F. Butterick, £2 each; Mr. and Mrs. J. Thomas, £1/10/-; Miss G. M. Butterick, and Mr. J. R. West, £1 each; Mr. L. Hight, Mr. W. J. Moore, Mr. N. F. Butterick, Mr. M. J. Moore, Mrs. W. Butterick, Mrs. C. Butterick, and Mr. G. Ford, 10/- each; Miss N. Ford, 7/6; Mr. T. Watson, Miss E. Watson, and Mrs. H. Watson, 5/- each	38 2 6	Auckland West Circuit:	3 10 0	Grey-mouth Circuit	12 4 0
Mr. J. W. Wells, Waitoa	5 0 0	Dominion Rd. Men's Fellowship	2 15 0	Wellington Central Circuit	5 0 0
Pukekohe Circuit:		Mr. J. Butler	1 0 0	Ruawal Circuit	1 2 6
Mr. G. Buchan, £2; Mrs.		Solomon Islands District:		Mr. T. O. Morgan	2 0 0
		Rev. J. F. Goldie, £20; Rev. J. R. Metcalfe, Rev. A. W. E. Silvester, and Teop Section, £5; Native Teachers, £11/6/-	46 6 0	Anonymous, Reef-ton	1 0 0
		Avondale Circuit:	4 0 0	Rev. and Mrs. T. W. Vealie,	
		Balclutha H.M. Station	1 0 0	Lower Hutt	5 0 0
		Tauranga Circuit:	1 0 0	Gisborne Circuit	1 11 0
		New Plymouth Circuit	11 10 0	St. John's S.S. Ponsonby	1 1 0
		Cambridge Terrace Circuit:		Mrs. T. A. Pybus, Rav'n'sbo'ne	1 0 0
		Cambridge Terrace Fireside Group, £5/13/9; Cambridge Terrace Donations, 6/3; Dur-		Mr. and Mrs. V. Pratley, ..	1 0 0
				Mrs. G. Winstone	5 0 0
				Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Alley,	
				Gisborne	3 0 0
				Tuatapere Ladies' Guild	7 0 0
				"Dunsandel"	5 0 0
				Rev. J. H. Hall, Woodend (sale of Daffodils)	15 0 0
				Collected by Marion Howe, Trinity Church, Wtgn.	7 0 0
				Anonymous, Roviana	10 0 0
				Anonymous, Roviana	5 0 0
				Mr. and Mrs. E. W. A. Kellow, Wellington	5 5 0
				<b>THE FUND NOW TOTALS, £2,828.</b>	

WOMEN'S  
PAGES.

M.W.M.U.

Methodist Women's  
Missionary Union of  
New Zealand.

## M.W.M.U. President's Letter

2 Hukarere Rd.,  
Napier, March, 1947.

Dear Friends,—

What a wonderful little Missionary paper we have in our "Open Door." I want to pay tribute to the editor and all associated with him in its quarterly publication. I wish that a copy could get into every Methodist home. What an insight the articles contained therein give us of the work of our Missionaries—not only in the Solomons—but Missionaries of other denominations in other fields of service, and now that they are back on the field, their letters are brimful of interest.

When we read of the tremendous amount of work and travelling undertaken by Rev. J. F. Goldie—and the way the native people have welcomed him back in their midst, it must stir his heart as it does ours.



Mrs. M. E. VIRTUE  
Dominion President, M.W.M.U.

This is my first letter to you for the "New Year" As we look back over the past year, we do so with grateful hearts—so many blessings have come to us as a Missionary Union, for which we give our grateful thanks to our Heavenly Father—but we want this 1947 to be a year of growing membership. We want new workers to replace those who have passed on—or who have had to step down. We want to cultivate the spirit of togetherness in our work.

After 5½ years Miss Purdie has relinquished her position as Lady Superintendent of Deaconess House. During those years she has rendered a noble service, not only to the Trainees, but also to the number of Training College students who have found our Deaconess House a "home away from home."

She writes: "I have enjoyed all the outside contacts, Training College functions, speaking at various Guilds and Auxiliaries, Nurse Maud association and kindergartens, etc. I have quite a lot of regrets at leaving, but it has been a heavy strain."

We greet Mrs. Linyard who has replaced Miss Purdie and wish for her much joy in her work.

I have just returned from Auckland where I attended the Foreign Mission Board Annual Meeting. Rev. A. H. Scrivin had only returned a week before from a visit to the Solomons, and he was able to give us first-hand information of our workers, also the war damage. We rejoice to know that our workers were all well.

Sister Merle Carter who left recently for the Solomons has been appointed to Teop. This has been made possible by a grant from the M.W.M.U.

Sister Winifred Poole has been appointed to Skotolan. She will be working with Rev. and Mrs. C. T. Luxton.

While in Auckland I had the pleasure of spending a few hours at Kurahuna. On reaching the entrance gate, several of the Maori girls were there to greet me. While others were busy mowing the lawn. We were a happy family round the dining table. Two of the girls had just started at Grammar School. The youngest inmate is Eileen—a little curly headed lassie.

After the meal I was entertained with action songs, and choruses—a great treat to me.

The Kurahuna committee are deeply grateful for the loyal support of so many of our M.W.M.U. members, but they feel that there are some Auxiliaries who have not properly organised method for gathering Kurahuna funds, and they suggest that there be a continued effort to secure new members to contribute to the funds. If all Auxiliaries would appoint a Kurahuna treasurer, who would receive each month the contribution of those who wish to help in this special work of the M.W.M.U., the financial situation would be considerably eased. Recently an estimate was made of the income which would accrue if each of our 4,000 members (the Gleaner's members were not counted in this) contributed the one penny per week, the total annually would be £866/13/4, this would be sufficient to enable the Kurahuna Committee to meet all commitments.

I ask for your prayers for the Matron and staff as they seek to guide the feet of our Maori girls into the way of truth.

I also visited our Maori Youth Centre and learned from Sister Joyce Webber much of the activities that are being carried out there. It must be the means of helping our Maori youth, who, but for the centre, would have to spend their leisure on the streets.

I must pay tribute to Sister Edna White who is our "Box Organiser." It is a joy to meet her in Auckland where she is doing a great work, and does it all with a cheerful smile. Shopping and its difficulties of getting what one wants these days, must many times become a nightmare to her. Our Sisters and Missionaries are very appreciative of her work on their behalf, and our M.W.M.U. is also deeply grateful to her.

Easter is early this year, so I send to our Auxiliary women and all readers of this page my Easter Message. "Behold a sower went forth to sow." I trust that the Missionary seed sown in your Auxiliaries may bring forth much fruit. May we scatter widely seeds of loving service, and do greater things than heretofore. If we do this we can leave the result in Higher hands.

May we accept the joy of working for Christ, and go forward recommissioned to serve in His great army.

Loving greetings to you all, from your partner and friend,

EMMIE VIRTUE.

### NORTHLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Eight auxiliaries were represented at the October meeting. Owing to her removal from the district Mrs. Riddell, the Stamp Secretary, tendered her resignation. Northland regrets the loss of an enthusiastic worker and feels that Hamilton will be the richer for her transfer. Mrs. Hellier was appointed Stamp Secretary. A request for President's letter from Wayby means an additional gleaner. Council Treasurer announced that £68 had been received from auxiliaries for the quarter. A comprehensive report of Conference was presented by the four ladies who had attended.

### AUCKLAND.

The District Council met on November 4th, 1946, with the President, Mrs. G. Beavis, in the chair, 67 representatives being present. The Reception of Conference reports was the chief business. Miss Rishworth shared with us the inspiration of Conference Devotional sessions. Our secretary, Mrs. Carter, summarised the business sessions, then three delegates gave their first impressions of Conference.

One hundred and forty members and visitors attended the Christmas meeting held on December 9th, 1946. Sympathy was expressed with the relatives of the late Mrs. Williams, President of the Avondale Branch, and the late Miss Carr, one of the original members of the auxiliary, and a much-loved and devoted member until her death. Two beautiful Christmas solos were rendered by Mrs. H. Pratt. The offering was dedicated by Rev. G. I. Laurensen, who later addressed the meeting, speaking on the Maori Mission work. As the needs of the Maori people have changed, so have the methods of the Mission. These changes have been reflected in increased staff, salaries and equipment, and particularly in the

development of deaconess work among the Maori women and children. Mr. Laurensen stressed the great and urgent need for more Maori Social Centres such as those now operating in Auckland and Hamilton, and urged us to do all that we could to understand and co-operate with the Maori people.

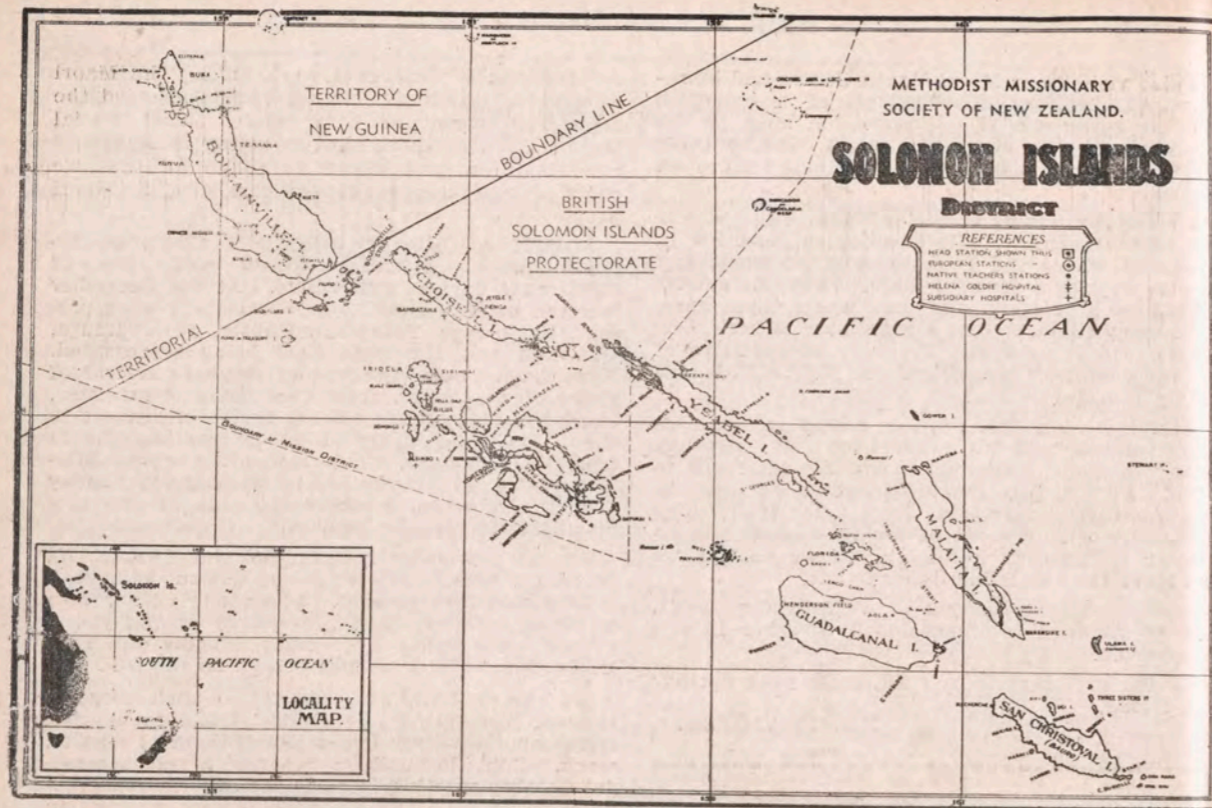
**SOUTH AUCKLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL** reports that the spiritual warmth and glow of Conference days is still active. At the December meeting held in Hamilton, 18 members were present, Cambridge, Tekawhai, Huntly, Te Awamutu, Hamilton and Hamilton East being represented. News from Cambridge was of the safe arrival of Sister Merle Carter, their own home town sister, in Fiji where she is awaiting further transport to the Solomons. A box of goods was brought in from Te Awamutu. This is a gift for the Solomons from Te Mawhai undenominational Sunday School. Tekawhai reported the gain of two new members during the quarter.

At the November meeting of the **TARANAKI** District Council, Sister Anne Wilson addressed the 16 members present. She spoke of her own work among the Maoris, especially among young people. Sister has 10 Sunday Schools and four Bible Classes, with a total of 200 on the roll.

To the **WANGANUI** District Council came a request from the Patea Ladies' Guild for a visit from some auxiliary ladies to tell them of mission work. Gonville auxiliary reported a very successful October meeting in conjunction with the Presbyterian W.M.U. Trinity's September meeting in the form of a social afternoon raised £3/9/3 for general funds. The Evening Circle had held evenings for clearing and sorting stamps, and members had been making cot and pram covers in crochet to help the sisters in their work among the Maoris. Attention was drawn to and help solicited for the Maori Children's Camp to be held on the Wanganui Racecourse in January. About 80 children between the ages of 11 and 17 years would be in camp.

**MANAWATU.**—District Council President for this year is to be Mrs. J. F. Jack. Mrs. Harkness, of Pahiatua, voiced appreciation of the services of the retiring president, Mrs. Boniface. Mrs. J. G. Murray, of the Bay of Plenty, was welcomed as a visitor from the P.W.M.U.

**HAWKE'S BAY.**—The District Council meeting was held in Hastings on February 3rd. Members were pleased to welcome Mrs. Olds, president of Trinity Auxiliary, Wellington, as a visitor. Mrs. Poole, of Gisborne, read an interesting letter from her daughter, Sister Winifred. Convention was fixed for May 30th in Gisborne. The Questionnaire conducted at the last Convention was so successful that it was decided to conduct a second. Gisborne reported a successful meeting with the Fireside members as their guests, including the members of the newly-formed Fireside Club at Maungapapa. The Hastings Evening Auxiliary reported that the sum of £12 raised by carol-singing had been handed in towards the year's Special Objective. At the November meeting this auxiliary regretfully farewelled their president, Mrs. Linyard, who has left to become Lady Superintendent at Deaconess House. Trinity Auxiliary had farewelled Miss Morgan, who was returning to America.



## Missionaries Addresses

- Rev. J. F. Goldie, Roviana, New Georgia, British Solomon Islands.  
 Rev. J. R. Metcalfe, Choiseul, British Solomon Islands.  
 Rev. A. H. Voyce, Buin Bay, South Bougainville, Territory of New Guinea.  
 Rev. A. W. E. Silvester, Vella Lavella, British Solomon Islands.  
 Rev. C. T. J. Luxton, Buka Passage, Bougainville, Territory of New Guinea.  
 Rev. A. H. Hall, Roviana, New Georgia, British Solomon Islands.  
 Dr. A. G. Rutter, Senior Medical Officer, Honiara, Guadalcanal, British Solomon Islands.  
 Mr. Bruce Cole, c/o Rev. A. H. Voyce, South Bougainville, Territory of New Guinea.  
 Mr. Grenville Voyce, c/o Rev. A. H. Voyce, South Bougainville, Territory of New Guinea.
- Sister Lina Jones, Roviana, New Georgia, British Solomon Islands.  
 Sister Grace McDonald, Choiseul, British Solomon Islands.  
 Sister Ada Lee, Buin Bay, South Bougainville, Territory of New Guinea.  
 Sister Effie Harkness, Roviana, New Georgia, British Solomon Islands.  
 Sister Joy Whitehouse, Vella Lavella, British Solomon Islands.  
 Sister Winifred Poole, Buka Passage, Bougainville, Territory of New Guinea.  
 Sister Merle Carter, Buka Passage, Bougainville, Territory of New Guinea.  
 Sister Lucy Money, Roviana, New Georgia, British Solomon Islands.

Add "Methodist Mission" in every case except that of Dr. A. G. Rutter.

### "THE OPEN DOOR"

Editor: Rev. A. H. SCRIVIN,

Probert Chambers,  
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