

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH
WELLINGTON

REPORT

OF THE

Kirk Session and Managers

FOR

Twelve Months ended June 30th
1913

Wellington:

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1913

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OFFICE-BEARERS*Minister :*

REV. JAMES GIBB, D.D., The Manse, Woolcombe Street.
Telephone 716.

Session Clerk :

MR. M. D. MENELAUS, 43 Ellice Avenue.

Deaconess :

SISTER NORA, 347 Terrace. Telephone 2210.

Clerk of Management Committee :

MR. G. W. MORICE, M.A., 284 Terrace.

General Treasurer :

MR. J. G. W. AITKEN, 2 Levy Street.

Convener of Church Extension Committee :

MR. A. R. STONE, Bolton Street.

Convener Seat-Letting Committee :

MR. WM. HOPKIRK, 104 Majoribanks Street.

Organist and Choirmaster :

MR. CH. W. KERRY.

Church Officer :

MR. J. WHITEMAN, Willis Street.

ELDERS :

	INDUCTED
AITKEN, J. G. W., Levy Street	1884
ALLAN, WM., Willis Street	1884
ATKINSON, JAS., Burnell Avenue	1903
BOAL, J., Willis Street	1903
BLACK, J. W., Kelburne	1909
BUTLER, J. S., Kelburne	1909
CALDOW, R. T., Ellice Street	1906
GILL, T. H., M.A., L.L.B., Ellice Street	1903
GLEN, G. F., Botanical Gardens	1909
HOPKIRK, WM., Majoribanks Street	1888
HOWITT, A., Austin Terrace	1913
JOHNSON, CAPT. H., Church Street	1902
JOHNSON, S. CLARKE, Karori Road	1902
JOHNSTON, A., Kelburne	1911
KERSLEY, H. W., Kelburne	1902
LAURENSEN, F. F., Murphy Street	1911
LOMAS, E. K., Abel Smith Street	1913
MACKAY, J., Brougham Street	1897
MACFARLANE, J. B., Stafford Street	1911
McKERROW, JAS., Ghuznee Street	1881
MAINLAND, H., Kelburne	1903
MENELAUS, M. D., Ellice Avenue	1895
MORICE, G. W., Terrace	1913
MITCHELL, J., Roxburgh Street	1897
RAMSAY, W., Wright Street	1913
SCLATER, J., Thompson Street	1911
SMITH, A. P., Kelburne	1913
STONE, A. R., Bolton Street	1909
SNODGRASS, R. B., Hataitai	1911
THOMSON, A. D., Kelburne	1913
TROUP, G. A., F.R.I.B.A., Kelburne	1895

MANAGERS—1913

ANDERSON, J. D.	Talavera Terrace
ANDREW, R. L.	Kelburne
BADDEN, W.	Pirie Street
BRUCE, J. L.	Kilbirnie
CAMPBELL, J., F.R.I.B.A.	Cleremont Terrace
CRAWFORD, H.	Nairn Street
CRAWFORD, R. J.	Berhampore
DOUGLAS, D.	Dixon Street
ELLIFFE, G. H.	Kelburne
FINLAY, J. B.	Hawker Street
GILMOUR, G.	Willis Street
JENNINGS, W.	Willis Street
KIRKCALDIE, J.	Thompson Street
KNOX, J.	Cleremont Terrace
MCDONALD, J.	Maurice Terrace
MORICE, J. M., B.Sc.	Roseneath
REID, G.	Dixon Street
SMITH, H.	Terrace
WILSON, A. M.	Cambridge Terrace
ORR, J. A.	Island Bay

MANAGERS' COMMITTEES

Property Committee :

MESSRS. CAMPBELL, H. CRAWFORD, GLEN, JENNINGS,
MCKERROW, H. SMITH, A. P. SMITH AND
MENELAUS (Convener).

Seat-Letting Committee :

MESSRS. ANDERSON, BADDEN, DOUGLAS, ELLIFFE,
FINLAY, McDONALD, G. W. MORICE, MENELAUS,
REID, RAMSAY, A. P. SMITH, H. SMITH, SNODGRASS,
STONE, AND HOPKIRK (Convener).

Finance Committee :

MESSRS. AITKEN, BRUCE, GILMOUR, KIRKCALDIE,
AND MCKERROW (Convener).

Home Mission Committee :

MESSRS. AITKEN, ALLAN, ANDREW, HOWITT, JOHNSTON,
CAPT. JOHNSON, ORR, THOMSON AND STONE (Convener).

Choir Committee :

MESSRS. CALDOW, R. J. CRAWFORD, DOUGLAS, JENNINGS,
CLARKE-JOHNSON, SNODGRASS, WILSON AND
MACFARLANE (Convener).

ELDERS' DISTRICTS

No. 1—Thorndon, Kaiwarra, and Wadestown.

Elder : Mr. R. B. Snodgrass.
Collector for Missions : Miss Stark.

No. 2—Talavera Terrace to Customhouse Quay ; Aurora Terrace
to Grant Road.

Elder : Mr. J. B. Macfarlane.
Collector for Missions : Miss Glen.

No. 3—General (Young Men)

Elders : Messrs. J. S. Butler and A. Howitt.
Collector for Missions : Mr. Wm. Badden.

No. 4—Kelburne.

Elders : Messrs. J. W. Black, S. Clarke-Johnson and
A. P. Smith.
Collector for Missions : Mrs. McCullough.

No. 5—Talavera Terrace to Customhouse Quay ; Aurora Terrace
to Dixon Street.

Elders : Messrs. G. A. Troup and F. F. Laurenson.
Collector for Missions : Miss Gibb.

No. 6—General (Young Women)

Elders : Messrs. J. Boal and G. W. Morice.
Collector for Missions : Miss M. Chappell.

No. 7—Willis Street to Woolcombe Street ; Dixon Street to
Ingestre Street.

Elder : Mr. J. McKerrow.
Collector for Missions : Mrs. F. S. Pope.

No. 8—Dixon Street to Ingestre Street ; Cuba Street to Willis
Street.

Elder : Capt. H. Johnson.
Collector for Missions : Mrs. F. S. Pope.

No. 9—Willis Street to Cuba Street; Ingestre Street to Webb Street.

Elder : Mr. J. Mackay.
Collector for Missions : Miss Ballingall.

No. 10—Woolcombe Street to Willis Street; Ingestre Street to Wordsworth Street.

Elder : Capt. H. Johnson.
Collectors for Missions : Messrs. C. Chappell and R. Nichols.

No. 11—Aro Street, Taitville, and Mitchelltown.

Elder : Mr. H. Mainland.
Collector for Missions : Mrs. J. Wilson.

No. 12—Ohiro Road, Maarama Crescent, Brooklyn, and Vogel-town.

Elders : Messrs. A. Johnston and W. Ramsay.
Collector for Missions : Miss C. Allan.

No. 13—Webb Street, Arthur Street to Rolleston Street.

Elder : Mr. R. T. Caldow.
Collector for Missions : Miss Allan.

No. 14—Buckle Street to John Street.

Elder : Mr. J. Sclater.
Collector for Missions : Miss Wallace.

No. 15—Buckle Street to Harbour; Tory Street to Cuba Street.

Elder : Mr. W. Allan.
Collector for Missions : Miss Badden.

No. 16—Cambridge Terrace and South of Basin Reserve.

Elder : Mr. J. Mitchell.
Collector for Missions : Misses Myra Scott and G. McLeay.

No. 17—Clyde Quay : Oriental Bay and Roseneath.

Elder : Mr. A. R. Stone.
Collector for Missions : Miss Aitken.

No. 18—Clyde Quay and Majoribanks Street to Shannon Street.

Elder : Mr. W. Hopkirk.
Collector for Missions : Mrs. Menelaus.

No. 19—Majoribanks Street to Elizabeth Street; Kent Terrace to Austin Street.

Elder : Mr. T. H. Gill.
Collector for Missions : Miss McLeod.

No. 20—Elizabeth Street to Pirie Street, and Kent Terrace to Austin Street.

Elders : Messrs. J. G. W. Aitken and A. D. Thomson.
Collector for Missions : Miss Myra Scott.

No. 21—Pirie Street to Ellice Street; City Boundary to Kent Terrace.

Elder : Mr. G. F. Glen.
Collector for Missions : Miss McLeod.

No. 22—Ellice Street and Brougham Street to College Reserve.

Collector : Mr. H. W. Kersley.
Collector for Missions : Miss Wimsett.



ARRANGEMENTS FOR 1913-14

PUBLIC WORSHIP every Lord's Day, morning at 11, evening at 7.

SACRAMENTS :—(1) Baptism in the Church on the first Sunday of every month. (2) Lord's Supper on the second Sunday of March, June, September, and December.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS meet in hall adjoining the Church and in the Mount Cook School on Sunday afternoons at 2.30.

BIBLE CLASSES FOR YOUNG MEN meet in the class-room, Willis Street, and in the school-room, Mount Cook, on Sunday afternoons at 2.45.

BIBLE CLASSES FOR YOUNG WOMEN meet in the class-room adjoining the Church, in the Managers' Room, and in Mount Cook School, on Sunday afternoons at 2.45.

JUNIOR ENDEAVOUR SOCIETY, Sunday mornings at 10.

PRAYER MEETING every Wednesday at 7.30 p.m.

THE ST. JOHN'S LADIES' ASSOCIATION meets in the school-room, on the first and third Tuesday of every month at 2.30 p.m.

MOTHERS' MEETING is held every alternate Thursday at 2.45 p.m., in the Boys' Institute, Arthur Street.

YOUNG WOMEN'S MISSIONARY GUILD meets from March to November, in Members' Homes, at 7.30 p.m.

CHOIR PRACTICE, Thursday evenings at 8 p.m., in the Church.

THE SESSION meets on the third Wednesday of every alternate month after the prayer meeting.

THE MANAGERS meet on the second Wednesday of each month at 8.30 p.m.

THE BOYS' INSTITUTE meets in the rooms, Arthur Street, every evening at 7.

GYMNASTIC CLASSES meet in the Gymnasium during winter months.

THE LITERARY AND DEBATING SOCIETY meets in the Willis Street class-room every Tuesday evening (from April to September), at 7.45.

ST. JOHN'S SUNDAY SCHOOLS' ASSOCIATION

President :

REV. JAMES GIBB, D.D.

Vice-Presidents :

MESSRS. ALLAN AND HOPKIRK.

General Secretary :

MR. GEO. H. ELLIFFE.

General Treasurer :

MR. WM. MCKENZIE.

Honorary Staff :

MESSRS. J. G. W. AITKEN AND WM. ALLAN.

WILLIS STREET SCHOOL.

MEETS EVERY SABBATH AT 2.30 P.M.

Superintendent :

MR. WM. HOPKIRK.

Teachers :

MRS. WHITEMAN	MISS D. WYLIE
MISS M. MCLEAN, M.A.	" E. WALLACE
" M. CLACHAN	MR. W. BADDEN
" J. GIBB	" A. EAST
" R. McRAE	" G. REID
" M. BALSTON	" J. H. KRAFT
" M. GIBB	" F. F. LAURENSEN
" S. GRANT	" G. W. MORICE
" E. MORRISON	" G. ELLIFFE
" C. ROGERS	" J. BENNETT
" I. SCOTT	" J. MACFARLANE
" E. TAYLOR	" W. TAYLOR

Secretary :

MR. J. M. MORICE.

Assist.-Secretary :

MR. J. MACMORRAN.

Organist and Librarian :

MR. JAS. HOPKIRK.

Assistant Librarian :

MISS B. BADDEN.

Cradle Roll Superintendent :

MISS M. SCOTT.

MOUNT COOK SCHOOL.

MEETS EVERY SABBATH AT 2.30 P.M.

Superintendent:

MR. ALEXR. JOHNSTON.

Teachers:

MRS. L. ANDREWS

MISS ALLEN

„ BALLINGALL

„ HOPKIRK

MISS McLEOD

„ SIMMONDS

MR. H. CRAWFORD

„ RAMSAY

Superintendent Cradle Roll:

MISS BALLINGALL.

Delegate to S.S. Union:

MISS HOPKIRK

Secretary:

MR. W. MCKENZIE.

Assistant Secretary:

MISS MCKENZIE.

Librarian:

MISS McMORRAN.

Organist:

MISS ALLAN

ST. JOHN'S BIBLE CLASS ASSOCIATION

President:

REV. JAMES GIBB, D.D.

WILLIS STREET YOUNG MEN'S BIBLE CLASS AND INSTITUTE

MEETS IN THE WILLIS STREET CLASS-ROOM EVERY SABBATH AT 2.45 P.M.

Leader:

MR. AD. HOWITT

Sub. Leaders:

MESSRS. R. L. ANDREW AND J. A. ORR.

Committee:

MISSIONS ...	...	...	...	W. E. SHAW
LOOKOUT ...	...	...	W. S. HOPKIRK AND A. ROSIE	
LIBRARY ...	...	...	J. S. MARTIN	
ATHLETICS AND SOCIAL	...	...	W. A. HOPKIRK	
BIBLE STUDY	...	...	H. LARKING	
TREASURER	...	...	J. B. WATSON	
ORGANIST	...	...	J. S. MARTIN	
SECRETARY	...	...	A. R. COAD	
SOCIAL SERVICE	...	...	F. ROSS	
EVANGELISTIC	...	...	D. DOUGLAS	

ST. JOHN'S LITERARY AND DEBATING SOCIETY

MEETS EVERY TUESDAY EVENING, FROM APRIL TO SEPTEMBER, IN THE CLASS-ROOM AT 7.45.

Patron:

MR. J. G. W. AITKEN.

President:

REV. JAMES GIBB, D.D.

Vice-Presidents:

MESSRS. J. S. BUTLER, J. BOAL, AD. HOWITT, C. S. MOORE AND G. A. TROUP.

Secretary:

MR. R. L. ANDREW.

Treasurer:

MR. D. A. HARLE.

Committee:

MESSRS. D. DOUGLAS, A. ORR, A. R. COAD AND A. ROSIE.

MOUNT COOK YOUNG MEN'S BIBLE CLASS

MEETS IN MOUNT COOK SUNDAY SCHOOL EVERY SABBATH
AT 2.45 P.M.

Leader:

MR. A. R. STONE.

Secretary:

MR. H. JOHNSTON.

Treasurer:

MR. WM. FERGUSON.

Librarian:

MR. G. RENNER.

Organist:

MR. WM. ALLAN.

ST. JOHN'S YOUNG WOMEN'S BIBLE CLASS, No. 1

(Willis Street)

MEETS IN THE GIRLS' PARLOUR EVERY SABBATH AT 2.45 P.M.

Leader:

MR. J. BOAL.

Sub-Leader:

MISS M. CHAPPELL.

Committee:

MISSSES N BURNS, H. D. BROWN, A. CHAPPELL, F. W. CRAW-
FORD, W. COPELAND, N. CLYDE, E. CHANT, M. CHAPPELL,
D. DUTTON, B. FERGUSON, MAY HILL, MYRA HILL, K.
HAY, M. HOLMES, C. HORRELL, G. JONES, W. MILLAR, R.
NICHOLS, M. PULLMAN, E. ROWNTREE, E. SMITH, L.
THOMPSON AND M. WILSON.

Secretary:

MISS M. CHAPPELL.

Assistant Secretary:

MISS E. K. HAY.

Librarians:

MISSSES N. CLYDE AND C. HORRELL.

Organists:

MISSSES R. NICHOLS AND F. CRAWFORD.

Treasurer:

MISS A. SMITH.

ST. JOHN'S YOUNG WOMEN'S BIBLE CLASS.—No. 2

MEETS IN THE MANAGERS' ROOM EVERY SUNDAY AT 2.45 P.M.

Leader:

SISTER NORA.

Sub-Leader:

MISS N. MITCHELL.

Conveners of Committees:

MISSIONS	...	...	...	...	MISS N. ALLAN
SOCIAL	...	...	...	...	MISS A. HOPKIRK
DISCUSSIONS	...	...	...	...	MISS E. STILL
LOOKOUT	...	...	...	...	MISS J. JOHNSTON
ORPHANAGE	...	...	...	...	MISS W. TURNER
SUNDAY SCHOOL	...	...	...	...	MISS D. GIBB
PRAYER, FLOWER AND SUNSHINE	...	...	...	...	MISS E. MACDONALD
LIBRARY	...	...	...	...	MISS M. ANDERSON

Delegates to District Union:

MISSSES J. JOHNSTON AND E. MACDONALD.

Secretary:

MISS E. WIREN.

Treasurer:

MISS P. KITCHING.

Organist:

MISS N. ALLAN.

Corresponding Secretary:

MISS E. FALLOWS.

JUNIOR CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOUR SOCIETY

MEETS IN THE MANAGERS' ROOM EVERY SUNDAY AT 10.15 A.M.

Leader:

SISTER NORA.

Sub-Leaders:

MESSRS. W. S. HOPKIRK AND F. ROBERTSON.

MEMORANDA.

COLLECTIONS, SEAT-LETTING, ETC.

THE ORDINARY SUNDAY COLLECTIONS, together with the Seat Rents, etc., provide the funds for defraying the congregational expenses, the chief of which are the Minister's Stipend, and retiring allowance to the late Minister, salaries of Church officials, etc.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS.—(1.) As appointed by the General Assembly are made from time to time, including Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, Assessments for Assembly Expenses, Maori Mission, etc. (2.) As appointed by the office-bearers for Sunday School, relief of poor (once a quarter), and such other objects as it may be deemed necessary to help.

The Church Extension Fund, which is wholly devoted to help in planting new charges and assisting weak ones throughout the bounds of the Church, is taken up by the envelope system. The envelopes are placed in the pews once a quarter.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.—The regular contributions of the congregation to Missions are collected quarterly by the Women's Missionary Association.

The Seat-Letting Committee is in attendance at the Church at the close of the prayer-meeting on Wednesday evenings to let sittings to new applicants.

Report



YEAR ENDING JUNE 30th, 1913



THE year now ended has been one of steady, happy and successful labour. We have had our difficulties and discouragements. The work of the Church of Christ has not at any period been easy—how could it be in a world that has lost touch with God? The difficulty of the task is intensified by the number of those within the church who have only a name to live and give little signs of the spirit of Christ in their character. But in our own case in spite of outside foes and lukewarm friends, the history of this year has been one of sustained prosperity. The finance is satisfactory. The contribution to missions and philanthropy is very large. The Sunday attendance, especially in the evening, fills the church. The prayer meeting secures week by week the presence of a large number of earnest men and women. The membership roll contains the names of close on 800 communicants, and the attendance at communion has outdistanced anything previously known. We have indeed great reason to thank God and take courage.

THE MINISTER.

We would again record our great appreciation of the services rendered to the church by our Minister. He is a very busy man and the claims upon his time by the wider work of the church as a whole are many in number—the wonder is often expressed how he manages to get through so much. But his other tasks are never permitted to interfere with his preparation for the pulpit, the work of the pastorate,

and the supervision of the organisations of the congregation. His sermons are highly appreciated, always stimulating and helpful; his addresses at the Prayer Meeting bring comfort and inspiration to many; his visits to the sick and bereaved are full of consolation. His influence among us grows with the years and our hope is that he may be long spared to the congregation and the work to which he is so deeply devoted.

Early in the current year Dr. Gibb suffered from a rheumatic affection of the knee which for a time made locomotion difficult and painful. Although the malady has not entirely disappeared it has very much abated, and there is good reason to think that it will not in any way interfere with the Minister's work. In spite of this disability he has this year succeeded in overtaking a larger amount of pastoral visitation even than formerly, thanks to the gift of a motor car presented by some members of the congregation—a gift appreciated by the Minister as much for the kindness which inspired it as for the great assistance it has rendered him in the discharge of his duties.

Our prayer is that the divine blessing may ever rest on our Minister and his work.

KIRK SESSION.

There are 25 elders, one fewer than at this time last year, Mr. L. L. Paul having taken up his residence in Melbourne. He took his full share of the work of the congregation, and as leader of the Young Men's Junior Bible Class rendered praiseworthy service. A minute to this effect was entered in the records at the time of his departure.

The Communion Roll.—There are now the names of 790 communicants on the roll, an increase of 71 on last year's figures. The particulars are as follows:—

Total roll in June, 1912	...	...	719
New members added by examination	66		
New members added by certificate	97		
	—		163
			<hr/>
			882
Removed by death	...	...	2
By certificate	...	...	76
Otherwise	...	...	14
			—
			92
			<hr/>
			790

The death roll is mercifully small, containing only the names of two members in full communion. Mrs. J. B. Finlay was called away suddenly in the midst of a career of beneficent activity, inflicting upon the congregation a loss not easily measured. Mr. Whitehouse died full of years; he was the oldest member of the congregation and one of the oldest settlers in Wellington.

The Quarterly Communion.—The attendances were: September, 445; December, 486; March, 458; June, 521. The attendance in June surpasses any previous record by a considerable figure.

The Sacrament of Baptism was administered to 22 infants and 1 adult.

Attendance at Public Worship and the Prayer Meeting continues to be highly satisfactory. This means that the church is as a rule well filled at the morning services and still fuller at night. But it does not mean that all our members have a conscience in the matter of church attendance. Many persons are attracted to our worship who are not definitely attached to us either as communicants or adherents. Their presence hides the blanks that would otherwise be frequently evident in our pews. It were heartily to be wished that all our people realised that not inclination but duty should determine their relations to the church and participation in its services and work.

The attendance at the prayer meeting has been good. The class room is always well filled and the exercises are of great profit to those who attend regularly. The meeting helps to intensify the spirit of brotherhood so essential to successful church work.

Anniversary Services.—The congregational anniversary was conducted by the Rev. R. E. Davies, M.A., Knox Church, Dunedin, on the 27th October. Mr. Davies also assisted at the annual social meeting, and his services on both occasions were much appreciated. The collection amounted to £138.

The social life of the congregation has been cared for to the utmost of our opportunity. The minister has diligently visited the people, and new comers have been called on not only by him but by members of the Women's Association and by the elders in their respec-

tive districts. The organizations of the church have their own social meetings and are always eager to entertain strangers. An "At Home" given by the minister and office-bearers to new comers within a certain period did at least something to promote the feeling of fellowship and unity in the congregation.

THE SERVICE OF PRAISE.

The most noticeable incident in the period under review was the departure of Mr. J. Maughan Barnett, who for 18 years occupied the position of organist and choir master. It is not necessary to emphasise here the ability with which Mr. Barnett discharged his duties. It is universally recognised that as a musician his work entitles him to the highest rank, and under his leadership the singing of the choir and congregation reached a high level of excellence. We were exceedingly sorry to part with this valued helper of the church.

After careful consideration of a large number of applications for the position thus vacated. Mr. C. E. Kerry, organist of St. George's Church, St. Kilda, Melbourne, was chosen to succeed Mr. Barnett. Mr. Kerry was highly commended not only as a musician but as a Christian man, and his work during the comparatively short period he has filled his present office verifies this testimony. The choir has been strengthened in numbers and we are hopeful that ere long every seat in the choir stalls will be occupied at both services.

The weekly practices are held in the church on Thursday evenings and are well attended. Members and adherents possessing a good voice and some measure of musical ability are heartily invited to connect themselves with the choir. However tastefully the anthems may be rendered and however vigorously well-known tunes may be sung, new hymns are apt to drag unless there is a powerful as well as cultivated body of singers in the choir. The number of members is: Sopranos, 13; contraltos, 8; tenors, 6; and bass, 7.

MISSIONS—FOREIGN, MAORI AND HOME.

The Women's Missionary Association.—Once a month the Women's Association give the first hour of their meeting to prayer for foreign missions and to dis-

cussion of missionary news. In this connection the Women's Association is the congregational branch of the P.W.M.U. It is with great content we record the deepened interest which has been shown by our women folk in the glorious work of evangelising the heathen. The attendance at the meetings has far surpassed anything previously known; and that a spirit of strong enthusiasm has been quickened is in many ways manifest. During the year the society was privileged to receive a visit from Dr. and Mrs. Bowie, of Ambrim, which bore fruit in various practical directions. China has been engrossing much of our attention of late, and that is well. But it is not well to forget our missions in our absorption in the work of evangelising that great land. Dr. Bowie's visit was a timely reminder of the importance of our agencies in the New Hebrides, and the women this year have added Dr. Bowie's hospital in Ambrim to those of Dr. Kirk in Canton and of Dr. Porteous in Jagadhri to their list of recipients of clothing and surgical necessaries.

The Association, assisted by volunteers from the Young Women's Missionary Guild, collect the direct quarterly contributions of the congregation to missions, and this year have obtained in this way a sum of upwards of £120. In addition to this a sum of over £8 was contributed by the Association for various missionary purposes, making a total contribution of nearly £129.

The Young Women's Missionary Guild.—The Guild has met once a fortnight throughout the year. It is in these days a singular association, for no speeches are ever delivered, no reports ever presented. The girls spend all their time in working, and they work well. They prepare articles of clothing, etc., for an annual sale which, in October last, brought in £48, of which £35 were allocated to Home and Foreign Missions and the Orphanage.

Bible Classes' Missionary Department.—The contribution of the Young Men's Bible Class to Missions was £32; the Young Women's Class, No. 1, £31; Young Women's Class, No. 2, £11; Mt. Cook Young Men's Class, £4. The Sunday Schools contributed £15 10s. Various other contributions were made to Missions, including a sum of £22, a retiring collection to the British

and Foreign Bible Society, making a total contribution to Missions (Foreign and Maori) of £260.

Home Missions.—For the Home Missions of the church and the augmentation of the smaller stipends in sanctioned charges, upwards of £125 was collected by means of quarterly envelopes. The Young Women's Guild donated £10 and the Young Women's Bible Class No. 1 £4, making a total of over £139.

Contributions in Aid of Various Objects.—The Wellington Presbyterian Orphanage: To this the congregation contributed £116 by retiring collection; Young Women's Guild, £15; Young Men's Bible Class, 13s., making a total of nearly £132. In this connection it should be noted that the Women's Association devotes a very large part of its energies to the fashioning of clothing, etc., for the Orphanage which is greatly benefited by these gifts. For the poor £76 were collected on Communion Sundays. For the Youth of the Church Fund, £22, Bible in Schools League, £30; General Assembly local expenses, £27; and to many other objects contributions of varying amounts have been made. The donations to the special Missionary Fund which is to be devoted to paying the stipend of Miss Christensen when she goes into the foreign field have not been included in this statement, though a portion of the amount promised was in hand before the year closed. Even without this the altruistic giving of the congregation has amounted to £800 for the year.

THE WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION.

The report from this society is the best that has yet been presented. The membership is now 52, with an average attendance of 30 for the year. The gratifying growth of the society necessitated removal from the room in which the meetings had previously been held. A part of the main hall was curtained off, carpeted and a gas stove provided, the cost of all these things being defrayed by the generosity of a few members of the congregation in response to an appeal made by the women, among whom the late Mrs. J. B. Finlay was the most active and successful. A new sewing machine was obtained through the efforts of the same indefatigable lady at cost price. The death of Mrs. Finlay was a heavy blow to the Association, and indeed to the church, which

could ill spare a worker so capable, energetic, and devoted.

The activity of the Association in the department of Missions has been alluded to in a previous paragraph. In the Dorcas Department no fewer than 248 garments were made, many members taking work home with them, thus increasing the society's usefulness and output. Of these garments 157 were given to the Orphanage, and of the remainder most were distributed among the poor by Sister Nora.

The income of the Society is derived from the quarterly communion collections (£76) and the annual subscription of members. £13 10s. are paid per quarter by way of help to certain beneficiaries and the balance left in hand is insufficient to purchase the quantities of material required by the work. Various friends, notably Messrs. Morrison, Allan, Smith, and Kersley made donations of large quantities of material and to them the Society returns its grateful thanks.

The Visiting Committee has diligently carried out the task of calling on new members and adherents of the congregation.

In order to extend its usefulness and in view of the fact that there are many women in the congregation who for various reasons cannot attend the meetings of the Association, an effort is being made to secure a large list of honorary members at a fee of 5s. per annum.

The Association has greatly helped the mothers' meeting conducted by the Deaconess in the Boys' Institute, and in many other ways confirmed its title to be regarded as one of the most beneficent agencies connected with the congregation.

We are thankful indeed for so good a tale of work attempted and accomplished, and press the claims of the Society on the women of the congregation who have not yet connected themselves with its membership.

THE DEACONESS.

Sister Nora has given an excellent account of herself in many departments of the church's work. She has helped the minister with the visiting of the sick, the aged, and the infirm. She has a large sick list of her own

among the poor outside the congregation. She has occasionally helped in the nursing of some of these as well as ministered to their spiritual needs. She is the almoner of the Women's Association for the distribution of their charities among the needy. She conducts the Mothers' Meeting in the Boys' Institute and is leader of the Young Women's No. 2 Bible Class. She is able to lighten the minister's burden in other directions. In a congregation such as our own there is a multitude of matters to be attended to, matters that do not readily suggest themselves to those not intimately acquainted with the nature of church work. Sister Nora has helped to economise Dr. Gibb's time in connection with these administrative details. altogether the Deaconess is well worthy of the esteem with which we are sure she is regarded by the people of the church.

THE MOTHERS' MEETING.

This meeting is held once a fortnight in the Boys' Institute, and is well attended, some 30 or 40 mothers, often with little children accompanying them, being regularly present. Afternoon tea is provided through the kindness of various friends, garments are given away or sold at nominal rates, and a bright, helpful address with the singing of well-known hymns comprise the afternoon's programme. Thanks are due to Dr. Hogg and Dr. Platts-Mills for medical attention freely given to poor people at the request of the deaconess, and to Mr. L. Mackenzie for medicines gratuitously supplied.

SABBATH SCHOOLS.

The work in this important department has been carried on with praiseworthy diligence by superintendents and teachers, and with no small measure of success. The roll does not indeed show any sign of increasing, the total this year being 7 less than last. But the circumstances under which the Sunday school work is conducted in our parish are well known, and an increasing roll of children is not to be looked for. The schools, however, have been in good heart. The teachers have been regular in their attendance, deeply interested in their task, and it is safe to say that in respect of discipline and equipment the work was never in a better condition. Particulars of attendance of scholars and teachers are given in the following tables:—

Scholars.

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Average.
Willis Street ...	104	105	209	148
Mount Cook ...	39	37	76	52
	—	—	—	—
	143	142	285	200

Teachers and Officers.

	Men.	Women.	Total.	Average.
Willis Street ...	14	16	30	
Mount Cook ...	5	8	13	
	—	—	—	
	19	24	43	

There have been a number of resignations from the staff owing chiefly to removal from the city, but these have been more than made good, the teachers' roll numbering 4 more than last year. Among the resignations may be noted those of Miss Reid, leader of the Junior Girls' Bible Class, and Miss Rash, librarian and organist, both of whom married and left Wellington; Mr. L. L. Paul, leader of the Boys' Junior Bible Class. Miss McLean, M.A., has taken up the work of the girls' class and Mr. G. Elliffe the Boys' Class. Of the 43 teachers and officers 41 are members in full communion with the church and 5 are office bearers.

The anniversary services conducted by the minister were held on the last Sunday of May and were well attended. The church was tastefully decorated for the occasion and the services of song led by a children's choir. The collection was £43, a sum, however, not equal to the needs of the work. The annual social was held 3 days later, and the usual sectional socials have been held at intervals through the winter. The total revenue of the Sunday schools amounted to £108. The contributions to missions were £15; to the Youth of the Church Fund, £5; for self-support, £70; and other objects, £15.

Comparatively few scholars presented themselves for the Assembly's Sunday School Examinations and the local Sunday School Union's Examinations, but of those who entered only 5 failed.