

# The Open Door

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

SEPTEMBER, 1943.

## REHABILITATION IN THE SOLOMONS.

ASCERTAINED DAMAGE  
TO DATE **£43,217.**

CONFERENCE OBJECTIVE —  
Not less than **£25,000.**

For the sake of our sorely  
stricken Native Church  
and  
in gratitude for the preservation  
of your home and loved ones  
**WE SOLICIT YOUR HELP.**

"A Great Door & Effectual is opened unto us"

S<sup>T</sup>. PAUL.

# **REHABILITATION of the SOLOMONS**

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## **MEANS RESTORATION OF:**

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### **DISTRICT TRAINING INSTITUTION.**

Where the Native Ministry is Trained and where the new School for Girls will be situated.

### **SCHOOLS and COLLEGES.**

Where such excellent educational work has been done in the past.

### **TECHNICAL and AGRICULTURAL TRAINING.**

With its peculiar advantages and opportunities for a developing race.

### **MEDICAL WORK.**

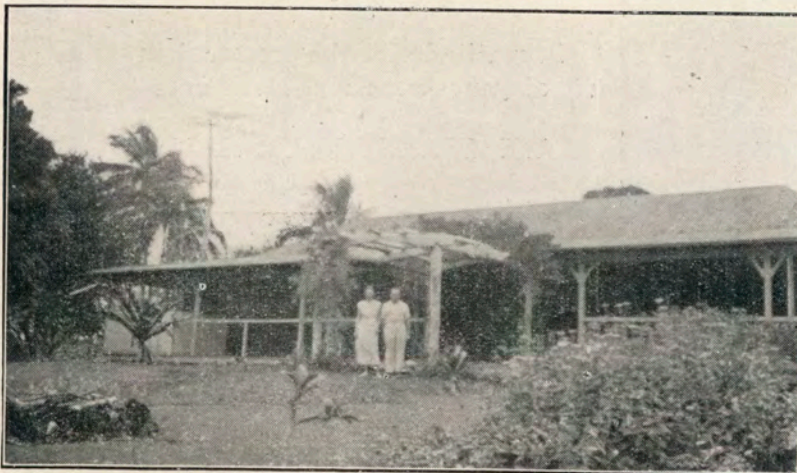
The return of Doctor and Nurses and the training of native medical assistants.

### **TRANSLATION of SCRIPTURES.**

Giving to the people God's Word in their own tongue.

### **FULL WORK of MINISTRY.**

Support and encouragement of Native Ministry that all may know the Gospel of Jesus Christ.



Mission House, Bilua,  
now destroyed. Rev.  
A. W. and Mrs. Silves-  
ter in front.

# THE OPEN DOOR

Price - One Shilling per Annum  
Posted, One Shilling & Threepence

The Missionary Organ of  
the Methodist Church of  
New Zealand.

VOL. XXII., No. 2.

SEPTEMBER, 1943.

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY.

## The Credit Side.

Amid the sorrow, havoc and tragedy, it is good to remember that there is also a credit side to War's grim ledger.

In the Solomons we have seen much of sorrow and loss. Stations and institutions built by the labour and sacrifice of years have been destroyed. Carefully planned organisation has been disrupted. Plantations and boats have been destroyed. Our devoted workers have lost much, if not all, of their private effects—some of high sentimental value that no money can replace. Some of the native christians have made the supreme sacrifice.

But none of these things has been able to separate our people from the love of Christ; in all they have been more than conquerors and herein lies the greatest and most glorious item on the credit side. The faith of the Native Church has been steadfast in the midst of their fiery trial. The work and policy and faith of the Missionaries and those who, through the years, have held up their hands have been vindicated.

Another item of major importance on the credit side is that, as never before, the claims of weak and inarticulate races and peoples are being urged. In a recent broadcast address, Mr. Sumner Wells stated—"If this war is in fact a war for the liberation of peoples, it must assure the sovereign equality of peoples throughout the world as well as in the world of the Americas. Our victory must bring in its train the liberation of all peoples. Discrimination between peoples because of their race, creed, or colour must be abolished. The age of imperialism is ended. The right of a people to their freedom must be recognized as the civilized world long since recognized the right of an individual to his personal freedom. The principles of the Atlantic Charter must be guaranteed to the world as a whole—in all oceans and in all continents."

Our missionaries have at times stood alone in urging this great principle when land and other rights of primitive people have been threatened by powerful and selfish interests. If, as one outcome of the War, it is generally adopted, it will be an item to underline in red on the credit side.

An interesting credit item on Bougainville is the way the Konua area has been opened up to our native teachers. For years we have sought to occupy it more fully but with only limited success.

When, for brave and devoted service to Europeans and natives, our Fijian ministers and native teachers were relentlessly hunted by the Japanese invader, they fled for safety to the mountains of Konua and continued their ministry there and established a real christian fellowship in that wild and almost untouched area.

Thousands of men in the Forces have learned for the first time what Christian Missions really mean. In the Solomons alone more than 250 airmen who have 'baled out' or been forced down to the sea—many of them wounded—have been rescued by our christian natives and helped back to their own bases. In the Solomons, Papua and New Guinea alone the lives of many hundreds of our boys have been saved by the same loyal and loving service and glowing tributes to this fact have come from England, America, Australia and New Zealand. The 'Methodist Recorder' affirms that the men who have thus seen the effect of Christian Missions on the lives of erstwhile savages will be among the finest missionary advocates in the Church.

There has been great gain also in the yet deeper interest and affection of the Home Church for the Solomons. As never before, our hearts have gone out to the Native Church that has suffered so sorely and yet so bravely in our defence. Many here whose homes and loved ones have been spared the horrors of bombing and invasion because the enemy was held on the Solomon Islands line have, in the past, given all too little thought and substance to our missionary enterprise, but will now, because of their deliverance, render grateful and eager service to this great task. More than ever the Solomons will be a part of our Church fellowship.

Therefore we thank God, that though we walk through the valley of the Shadow, we know Him near to us and sense more fully His Grace and Power. We remember, as John R. Mott remarks, "Difficulties are not without their advantages. They are not to unnerve us. They are not to be regarded simply as subjects for discussion, nor as grounds for scepticism and pessimism. They are not to cause inaction, but rather to intensify activity. They were made to be overcome. They are to call forth the best that is in Christians. Above all, they are to create profound distrust in human plans and energy and to drive us to God."

## The Vice-President's Appeal.

CALLING THE CHURCH TO SACRIFICE.

In the last issue of our Missionary Organ our worthy President made a timely Rehabilitation Appeal and called for some sacrificial giving. I have been requested (as Vice-President) to supplement the appeal and as a Circuit F.M. Treasurer, knowing a little of the value of making personal contacts I undertake the task with a sense of duty and pleasure.

At the conclusion of the last war the word that was in everyone's lips was Reconstruction. It was a simpler word perhaps than the one which is uppermost in our minds to-day but they both stand for a great deal. In the Oxford Concise Dictionary the meaning of the word 'habilitate' is given as 'the furnishing of working capital for a mine.' With this definition of the word in our minds what an impetus it should provide.



Mr. Hedley Oldham,  
Vice-President of the Conference.

We are all aware that before the rich metal is procured a great deal of preparatory work has to be done. It sometimes occurs that even when large sums have been spent in staking out a claim and providing the necessary machinery the results are disappointing. In other ventures the prospectors have struck it rich and been thrilled at the success of their labours.

We are convinced that the work of our missionaries in the Solomons was producing fine ore. The dross of heathenism was being removed and the precious metal in the shape of changed lives was being won from degradation and darkness.

We believe too, that the metal, bearing the impress of God will come through the fiery ordeal and be fit for the Master's use in the coming days.

It is most encouraging to read of the efforts of the native preachers and teachers to continue the work during the absence of their white leaders.

We know that every missionary and sister is looking forward to the time when it will be possible for them to return and carry on the glorious proclamation of the 'Good News.'

It rests with the members of the home Church to provide the wherewithall to make their return possible.

The £25,000 asked for by Conference as the amount required, is modest and attainable if every member fully realises the need.

The amount already received in cash and promises is over £10,000. This sum has been contributed mostly by the members in the North Island as their efforts for Foreign Missions are held in the first half of the year.

As a member of a South Island Circuit I trust that we in the South Island will not fail to respond liberally.

Let me quote two instances of the ready response to the appeal which have come under my notice.

The first is that of an airman (a worthy member of the Blenheim Circuit). After undergoing his training he was posted to the Islands. On one of his flights he passed over Munda and saw the havoc which had been wrought. On his return to N.Z. on furlough he promptly despatched a cheque for £8 to the F.M. Secretary stating that he was convinced that the money would be needed.

The second instance is that of another member of the same Circuit, who having purchased some Bomber bonds thought the best use he could make of them was to send them along to the F.M. Office. By so doing he set an example that many others could follow. To what better use could these bonds be put than that of making good the havoc that has been caused by allied bombs used to drive the Japanese out of the Solomons?

Methodism has always been to the fore in the matter of overseas missions. It is encouraging to read that in the Old Country the interest of the missionary activities was the best of recent years. Despite the special difficulties attendances were larger and the Committees reported a welcome increase of income and a year of remarkable success in the field overseas.

Shall we not emulate our British brethren and in addition to our prayers give to the point of sacrifice?

## Thank God for the Missionaries.

By CHAPLAIN W. WYETH WILLARD, U.S.N.R., with the Marines.

For six months, from August 7th, 1942, until the end of January, 1943, I served with the United States forces in the Solomon Islands. The first white civilian which I met during that initial American offensive, was Mr. Frederick A. Rowley, Anglican missionary serving the Melanesian Mission of Sydney, N.S.W. That was on September 19th. Rowley had been a teacher in a Church of England school on Guadalcanal. Along with nine of his boys, he had cut his way through the bush. Although the Japs had shot and killed one of his charges, the others had managed to reach safety behind our American lines. Rowley was so exhausted, emaciated, and weak from his harrowing experiences and narrow escape from death, that he had to be hospitalized at our Marine Sick Bay on Tulagi.

The first white woman I saw in five months was a Methodist missionary, Miss Merle Farland, of Auckland, New Zealand. That was on Sunday, December 21st. Miss Farland had faithfully stood by her native friends, and would have willingly served them even longer amidst the tumult of war. But orders had come from our High Command for the women missionaries to be evacuated. And Miss Farland had obediently but reluctantly yielded to the order.

I visited the Anglican churches on Florida Island. The earnestness, simplicity, and yet depth of faith, the devotion of the natives have left a deep impression upon all Marines who served in the Tulagi-Gavutu-Florida Islands area.

On Guadalcanal I met and became acquainted with converts of the Methodist and South Sea Evangelical Mission. Their love for Christ and zeal for the gospel would put to shame the average nominal luke-warm, wishie-washie, namby-pamby, milk-toast type of Christian, so prominent in many "Christianized" countries. The natives had come out of a cruel paganism, with its terrifying fears, and primitive superstitions, into the light and truth of the glorious gospel of Christ.

Many of the United States Marines, who had come to the Solomon Islands with a skeptical view of missionaries and their work, through personal contacts with missions, missionaries, and Christian natives, so reversed their former opinions and abandoned their pre-conceived notions, that they are now whole-hearted supporters of the foreign mission enterprise.

During the Christmas season, I had the privilege of entertaining the Right Reverend the Bishop of Melanesia, W. H. Baddeley, and also Rev. H. V. C. Reynolds, of Lower Hutt, New Zealand. Bishop Baddeley conducted a Sunday service for me on King George Field, Tulagi. Rev. Reynolds took care of my Sunday services for the units stationed on Gavutu. The appreciative Marines, of their own volition, took an offering of \$50 for the missionary on Christmas. I also had as a roommate for several nights another Anglican missionary by the name of Rev. David L. Francis. I count these brave men, who have endured for years the malaria of the tropics, and the other perils of the Solomons, as great men, heroic souls, engaged in the most blessed and fruitful enterprise in the world to-day.

Then again, when one encounters—as I did in the Solomons—the excellent work of the Anglicans, Methodists, and the South Sea Evangelicals (who sent out missionaries of the Baptist, Brethren, Presbyterian and other churches), various denominations and their names, diverse agencies and their supporters, grow dimmer and dimmer. But Jesus Christ, that bright and morning Star, that Sun of Righteousness, that Light of the world, becomes more dazzlingly brilliant and radiant.

"Fair is the sunshine,  
Fairer still the moonlight,  
And fair the twinkling, starry host;  
Jesus shines brighter,  
Jesus shines purer  
Than all the angels heav'n boast."

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## Back to the Solomons.

The Rev. A. H. Joyce was appointed Chaplain to the Forces in the Pacific toward the end of August, and within a few days, left New Zealand.

With the consent of the Mission Board he had sought the appointment in order to contact the Native Church more speedily than would have been possible otherwise. The General commanding the Solomons Area asked for Mr. Joyce's appointment

because of his intimate knowledge of the Group.

We are hoping, that, in addition to his military duties, Mr. Joyce will be able to meet and encourage many of our native teachers and people and afford valuable leadership, and that when the Forces move on beyond our District, he will be released to resume his full work as a missionary.

Now that the Japanese have been driven out of New Georgia and Vella Lavella, further application is being made for the return to the Field of the Rev. John F. Goldie and his colleagues.

## More than Conquerors.

By the Rev. C. T. J. LUXTON.

In the middle of Buka Passage which separates Buka from Bougainville is the small island of Sohana. It stands high out of the water, and its precipitous cliffs are skirted by a coral ledge, past which the deep waters of the Passage swirl with amazing swiftness.

Sohana was the headquarters of the Government officer and native chiefs were summoned here to learn the behest of the benign Government. Here too the native medical orderlies, one from each village, would come to receive the free distribution of medicines as often as desired. Here was administered the white-man's justice. It was a typical out-post of Empire, where the Australian Ensign was proudly raised each morning at sunrise, and lowered each evening at sunset.



Luke Zale with his wife and child.

Here too would foregather each steamer time some ten or a dozen white men from the plantations scattered along a hundred and fifty miles of coastline, men who perhaps had not seen another European since the previous steamer six or seven weeks previously.

Now the scene has changed. Instead of the Australian Ensign, the Rising Sun floats in the breeze, and the island is the headquarters of the Japanese army of occupation. Anti-aircraft guns and other defences bristle on the once peaceful greens. Many buildings have sprung up, the

materials for which have been procured by dismantling plantation and Mission buildings, including most of our Mission buildings at Skotolan, fifteen miles distant.

The native chiefs are still summoned to the island, but now it is to learn the will of Nippon, and to pay homage to "their Emperor." To those who fail to co-operate, persuasive measures are administered, and thus has tragedy stalked into the lives of the peaceful native people.

In the north of Buka lived a chief named Bia. Not only was he the senior chief of his village, but he was also assistant to the paramount chief of the district, and consequently a man of considerable importance. He was a strong supporter of our Mission and his elder son was training for the Mission work.

When the Japanese invaded Buka a small band of Australian soldiers was cut off and was in danger of capture. Bia came to their aid and kept them in hiding until they could make their way to the larger island of Bougainville.

The fact that Bia had aided them to escape became known to the Japanese, so Bia also became a fugitive. He was captured and taken but neither the cajolery nor the threats of the Japanese officers could persuade him to disclose the new hiding place of the escaped Europeans. Seizing an opportune moment, Bia eluded his guards and leaped over the cliff to the water some thirty feet below, but instead of falling into deep water he crashed on to the coral rocks at the waters edge.

He had suffered considerable injury, and there the Japanese left him for many hours, before they took him once more before their officers for further questioning. His loyalty never wavered and he refused to speak. At last the exasperated official ordered that he be put to death. The injured man was drenched with kerosene, which when ignited, achieved its end. The Japanese had not yet completed their dealings with their victim, and from the charred body the head was severed with a sword.

Among the officers of the Japanese invading force was one who had lived for some years in Fiji where he had learned to speak the language like a native. He had later toured through the Bougainville and Buka area where he had made the acquaintance of the Fijians who were on the staff of the Mission. One of the first activities of the Japanese therefore was the endeavour of this "friend of the Fijians" to make contact with our

Native ministers. At Skotolan, our head station on Buka, he found that all the natives had fled at his approach, so he left a letter written in Fijian on the school blackboard, inviting "Dear Usaia" to come to Sohana and meet his old friend, and to co-operate with the invading forces.

Usaia ignored the invitation. Other messages came and were also ignored, until a definite command was made that he appear at Sohana. Usaia decided that it was time to move to a place of safety, and with the assistance of some of the mission teachers and senior scholars he transported his wife and family to the area of Kunua, on Bougainville.

Our senior teacher is Luke Zale, a native of Choiseul, he has for many years been stationed on the island of Petats, where with three assistants he ministers to the welfare of between three and four hundred people. With a number of others, Luke was summoned to appear at Sohana and placed under armed guard. He and five others were particularly named as marked men for having assisted the Fijians, Rev. Usaia Sotutu, his wife Margaret, and their five children to escape from Buka.

Luke determined to warn his friends so that they also might escape to Bougainville. Awaiting an opportune moment he made a dash for the cliff, apparently with the intention of leaping into the sea, the guard fired their rifles at him but missed. Luke knew his ground and slipped over the edge of the cliff to drop to a small ledge from which he crawled through long grass and undergrowth to a small cave. Here he waited in anxious silence while the guard searched in vain for him.

When darkness fell Luke stealthily made his way down the cliff, and slipping silently into the sea swam out into the current of the Passage for a distance of about three miles to the island of

Madehas, or St. Mathias. Here he rested before attempting to swim across a particularly difficult stretch of water, the western end of the Passage where its swift flowing waters pile high against the wind-driven waves of the ocean. Successfully crossing this half mile of rough water Luke landed on the south west corner of Buka and then walked overland to a large shallow lagoon some miles up the coast where there were some canoes. From there he journeyed to his home on Petats eight miles further north.

On arrival he immediately acquainted his colleagues of the impending danger, and preparations were promptly made for their departure. The people sadly gathered on the beach as the little party embarked in their canoes. There was Luke with his wife Martha Sigel and their little son and infant daughter, and Wili, Kavop, Kapok, Toti, and Palis, each with their respective families.

They skirted the chain of islands which extends some 20 to 30 miles to the south, and then set out across the open sea for a similar distance, eventually arriving at Kunua, an outpost of our Mission on the west coast of Bougainville, where they made a landing through the rolling ocean surf.

Leaving the beach they treked inland. Hour after hour they tramped on, wading streams, scrambling up steep ridges, pushing through long grass and jungle growth, climbing ever higher into the towering mountain range. At last they reached their goal, the comparative safety of a mountain village where they joined once more with those for whom they had placed their lives in danger, their native minister and his family.

### M.W.M.U. CONFERENCE.

From all over New Zealand Auxiliary representatives will gather in Auckland on Oct. 12th-15th for the Annual M.W.M.U. Conference. After three years of splendid leadership Mrs. C. E. Taylor and her Feilding Executive will hand the reins of office to President-Elect Mrs. H. Nicholson and her Wellington Executive.

It is expected that a special feature of the Conference will be the presence of nearly all the Home and Overseas Sisters.

Among the many important matters under consideration will be the Rehabilitation of the stricken Solomon Islands District. During the time the Missionary Sisters have been evacuated the M. W.M.U. has continued to pay their full salary and allowances. This money will be spent by the Mission Board in the rehabilitation of Sisters' work after collaboration with the M.W.M.U. Executive. It is expected that the Rev. John F. Goldie will attend the Conference and outline, as far as possible at this stage, the reconstruction policy.



RETIRING DOMINION EXECUTIVE.

Mrs. B. A. Flavell (Secretary), Mrs. C. E. Taylor (President),  
Mrs. C. M. Goldsmith (Treasurer).

# The Stricken Solomons!



Nurses' Home, Bilua, as it was.

## **FURTHER SERIOUS LOSS!**

# Bilua Station and Hospital Gone!

Bilua was the head station of our Vella Lavella Circuit, the site of the Helena Goldie Hospital and headquarters of the Medical Unit.

Buildings of European material included the Hospital—central administrative block and Gorman Wards, Mission House, Doctor's House, Nurses Home, and copra store. There were many buildings of native material including a large church and the homes of tutors and students. All these buildings have gone and with their furnishings will cost at least £8,350 to replace.

The situation as we know it is stated on the opposite page but to this ascertained loss must be added the cost of replacing missionaries' personal effects and property and the deterioration of Mission property, boats, etc. left without adequate oversight owing to proximity of the enemy. It has also to be remembered that the whole of our remaining property with replacement value of an additional £26,650 is in imminent danger of destruction.



Part of the Helena Goldie Hospital.

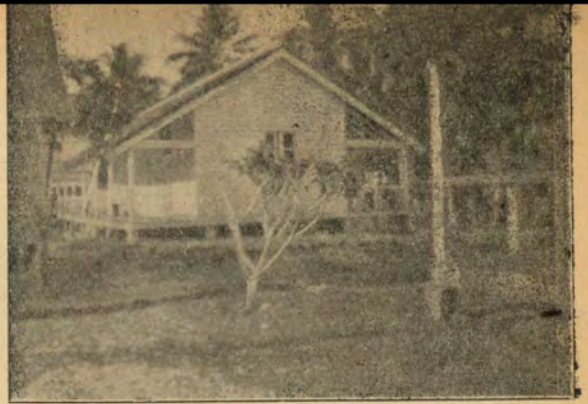
The Gorman Wards have been added since this photo was taken.

Recent information is that the whole of our Hospital plant has been demolished, including Doctor's and Nurses' Homes.



## Replacement Cost of Buildings, Plant, and Property already destroyed.

<b>RÓVIANA, including Gizo</b>			
Buildings and Plant	..	18,900	0 0
Plantation	..	4,500	0 0
<b>BILUA, including Hospital</b>			
Buildings and Plant	..	8,350	0 0
<b>BOUGAINVILLE - BUKA</b>			
Buildings and Plant	..	3,000	0 0
Plantation	..	2,500	0 0
<b>BOATS</b>			
"Ilehe", "Saga"	..	1,750	0 0
<b>DISTRICT STOCK etc.</b>	..	4,217	0 0
		<u>£43,217</u>	<u>0 0</u>



One of the Gorman Wards: corner of other just showing on right: both destroyed.

### REHABILITATION FUND—Cash and Promises.

Prev. ack'ed (Amended)	4,888	15	6	"Friend"	50	0	0	Gonville Sunday School	2	0	0
Mrs. M. Sproule	5	0	0	Mr. Chainey	25	0	0	Gonville Junr. Y.W.B.C.	1	10	0
Anon.	2	0	0	Mr. L. Bassett, Wanganui	7	0	0	Gonville Combined B.C.	2	10	0
R. J. Dingle	5	0	0	Mr. Robinson	5	0	0	Gonville Senr. Y.M.B.C.	2	0	0
Mr. Fletcher	2	6	0	Mrs. F. W. Walters, "Oto.	50	0	0	Sale of Stamps	2	18	0
Anon.	50	0	0	Mr. H. E. Walters	25	0	0	Papakura Circuit	30	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Teasey, Taur.	100	0	0	Miss N. Walters	25	0	0	Mr. and Mrs. Underhill	2	0	0
"In His Name," Onehunga	100	0	0	Mr. G. Hall	25	0	0	A. C. E.	2	0	0
Mrs. L. E. Jurd, Taur.	50	0	0	Mrs. Rogers, Sen.	5	0	0	Thank Offering	10	0	0
Mr. John Exley, Taur.	5	0	0	Miss N. Rogers	5	0	0	Anon. Warkworth	1	0	0
Mr. A. Chapman, Taur.	5	5	0	Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Rogers	5	0	0	Remuera Church	5	0	0
"Friend" per A. Bensley	6	0	0	Mr. C. E. Taylor,	5	0	0	Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Nuttall	5	0	0
Tauranga Tea	2	0	0	Feilding	100	0	0	A Minister	25	0	0
Mr. P. Rushton, M'sville	100	0	0	Mr. T. R. Hodder,	100	0	0	Napier Rotary Club	5	5	0
Mr. H. A. Wagstaff	25	0	0	Palmerston North	50	0	0	Napier Family	10	0	0
Mr. A. Coombe, Te Aroha	20	0	0	Mr. J. Boniface	5	0	0	Mr. and Mrs. Shearer	10	0	0
Mr. W. T. Dale	5	5	0	Onehunga Circuit	2	0	0	Greenmeadows	5	0	0
Mr. W. A. Clarke	7	10	0	J. B. Bennett	3	0	0	Wesley Hall Y.W.B.C.	10	0	0
Mr. F. E. Callaghan	1	0	0	Taranaki St.	3	0	0	Hamilton Circuit	110	4	0
Mr. F. M. Gane, C'bridge	10	0	0	Public Meeting, Well.	41	11	8	Tauranga (additional)	5	10	0
"Thankful"	5	0	0	Mrs. W. M. Willis	5	0	0	In Memory	4	0	0
Rev. A. and Mrs. Voyce	20	0	0	H. Smithers	5	0	0	Mr. & Mrs. & Miss Leaf	10	5	0
Miss Shorland	6	0	0	Dargaville Circuit	2	12	11	Mrs. E. N. Metcalfe, Matakohe	10	0	0
Late Rev. and Mrs. Jones	6	0	0	Mrs. E. V. Metcalfe	1	0	0	Mrs. Tolley, Feilding	20	0	0
W. Moffitt	5	0	0	Friend of Missions	1	0	0	Miss Tolley	1	0	0
A. H. Nathan and Co.	10	0	0	Overseas Soldier	3	0	0	Mr. S. Bowron	30	0	0
Mrs. T. Teague	10	0	0	Frieston Sunday School	5	0	0	Mrs. F. E. Mason	5	0	0
A. W. Martin	10	0	0	J. C. Field	1	1	0	Anon.	5	0	0
P. W. Denton	10	10	0	Stratford Rot. Club	2	2	0	M.W.M.U.—Sisters'			
Te Aroha Friends	2	0	0	F. C. Utting	50	0	0	Rehabilitation	314	14	8
Mrs. B. Leeks	10	0	0	Mrs. Campion	5	0	0	Mrs. T. P. Rogers	1	0	0
M.W.M.U. for Sisters' work	27	0	0	Trinity Church, Dunedin	8	10	0	Mrs. & Mr. Bean	5	0	0
Misses Arthur	3	3	0	Mrs. Dewsbury (Epsom)	10	10	0	Third Gener. of Missions	50	0	0
W. M. Mansell	1	10	5	Hamilton East Circuit	10	10	0	For His Cause	5	0	0
"Helper"	3	0	0	Mrs E. G. Reynolds, Gis-				Mr. and Mrs. E. G. A.			
Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Sexton	3	0	0	borne, (Commonwealth				Reynolds, Gisborne.	10	10	0
Mrs. Grant	2	6	0	Bonds)	100	0	0	Rev. & Mrs. G. W. Aitkin,			
Miss G. H. Buss	5	0	0	Messrs. H. and G. Bennett	50	0	0	Gisborne.	10	0	0
Enzed	10	0	0	Palmerston North	5	0	0	Anon—Gisborne	5	0	0
Hamilton Circuit	26	0	0	Sale of Stamps	5	4	7	Miss L. Brokenshire	5	0	0
Sale of Stamps	3	12	6	Napier—Collection	29	5	1	Mr. & Mrs. C. A. Harries	3	3	0
Anon.	220	0	0	"Two Well-Wishers"	50	0	0	Mr. Houston	2	2	0
N.Y.	5	0	0	Collister Family	10	0	0	Mr. G. M. Clark	2	2	0
Mum and Dad Freeman	2	10	0	J. H. Edmundson	5	0	0	Rev. A. & Mrs. Blakemore	2	0	0
Raetihi-Ohakune Circuit	5	0	0	A. Eric Lawry	5	0	0	Dr. T. C. & Mrs. Lonie	20	11	6
Miss O. M. Kite	7	6	0	Mrs. Dean	3	0	0	Other Donations—Gisborne	20	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Kirk	2	0	0	Alec. McGregor	5	0	0	Paeroa Circuit	16	15	0
Mrs. F. E. Legge	1	0	0	Mrs. Robertson	10	0	0	Opotiki Circuit	32	12	3
G. Beswick	1	0	0	Mrs. Stokes	5	0	0	Mr. & Mrs. & Miss E.			
H. Silvester	2	0	0	Ashburton Snr. Y.W.B.C.	5	0	0	Fergusson	50	0	0
Mrs. Bulmer	5	0	0	Wanganui	8	1	5	"Helper"—Hastings	1	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Amos Smith	5	0	0	Flying Officer & Mrs. Garlick	5	0	0	C. Carter	1	0	0
Chas. Carter	2	10	0	Miss E. Paltridge	2	0	0	Mr. and Mrs. Lynneberg	100	0	0
Kia Ora, Hamilton	5	0	0	Lt.-Col. W. Shakespeare	1	0	0	"Remembrance"—St. Albans	25	0	0
Don Pratt, Christchurch	5	0	0	Baptist Chaplain's Wife	1	0	0	Newman Johns	1	0	0
Anon., per W.W.A.	25	0	0	T. G. R. Stevens	1	0	0	Pitt St.	197	14	2
F. G. Fullerton	1	0	0	Rev. G. P. and Mrs. Hunt	5	0	0	"The Extra Bit"	10	0	0
Franklin Rd Women's				"For His Sake"	2	10	0	Waihi Circuit	30	17	0
Guild	1	0	0	Remuera-Envelopes	7	6	0	A. Painter—Willowby	1	0	0
Mrs. T. P. Rogers	1	0	0	Hastings Circuit	31	0	9	Mr. & Mrs. Greenslade, Will'by	1	0	0
Sale of Stamps	17	6	0	T. L. Caley	3	0	0	Carrie Bros.	3	3	0
Chas. W. Kayes	5	0	0	"In Admiration of our	5	0	0	Mr. Freak	5	0	0
Wesley Chambers Trust,				Mission Boys"	5	0	0	Mr. & Mrs. A. C. Wakelin	5	0	0
Hamilton	125	0	0	Mrs. J. H. Blackwell	200	0	0	Mr. & Mrs. Blackmore	5	0	0
Newsome's Ltd., Wanganui	200	0	0	Anon. (per Rev. Walker)	50	0	0	Mr. & Mrs. H. C. Withell	10	0	0
Mr. F. J. Whitlock, (Addit.)	10	0	0	H. Chong	1	0	0	Mr. & Mrs. G. H. B. Lill	28	0	0
Mr. Newsome, Sen.	10	0	0	Mr. Buxton and Family	2	0	0	"Thankful" Coromandel	10	0	0
Mr. S. Newsome	10	0	0	Rev. Dawson	1	0	0				
Mr. P. S. Whitlock, Wang.	100	0	0	Mr. and Mrs. T. Browne	2	10	0				

(Continued on Page 11).

## Personal and General.

### REV. JOHN F. GOLDIE.

The veteran Chairman of the Solomon Islands District is eagerly awaiting the opportunity to get back to his beloved native people. In the meantime he is doing valuable work as deputation and on behalf of the Rehabilitation Fund. After six weeks in the South Island he will visit the Wellington District prior to attending the M.W.M.U. Conference in Auckland.

### REV. A. W. E. SILVESTER.

Two Service-men who have recently met Mr. Silvester bear glowing testimony to his "magnificent" work. His own letters indicate that he is in good health and able to contact nearly all the teachers and people of Vella Lavella. As far as we can gather he is still unable to travel beyond the main island of his circuit, but, with the forward move of the Allies this restriction should soon be removed. It is a source of profound gratitude that Mr. Silvester is not only safe but rendering such splendid service.

### REV. D. C. ALLEY.

Chaplain John Churchill, writing from Fiji, states:— "I visited our native school in Suva yesterday and met Margaret Sotutu, who recently arrived from Bougainville. She had news of Don Alley. One of the Solomon Island boys who had been forced to work on a Japanese ship, but later escaped, and is in or passed through Fiji, saw Don Alley in a prisoner-of-war camp at Rabaul. He was in a compound with other missionaries, gardening. He looks well, but has grown a long beard. The boy was unable to approach near enough for conversation, but knew that it was Don."

### REV. J. R. METCALFE.

After a happy re-union with his wife and daughter and a well-earned furlough in Melbourne, the Rev. J. R. Metcalfe has been doing deputation in Victoria. He and Mrs. Metcalfe are eager to be back on the Field.

### DR. ALLEN G. RUTTER.

With an early return to the Solomons in view, Dr. Rutter is seeking staff and equipment. He has recently contacted another Nursing Sister of outstanding promise to whom the Solomons are calling, and is gathering up medical instruments and equipment. There will be much rejoicing on the Field when the Doctor and his Staff are able to resume their ministry of healing. During the past year Dr. Rutter has been doing valuable work

as Registrar of Surgery at Cook Hospital, Gisborne, and just recently Mrs. Rutter has done much appreciated deputation work for the M.W.M.U.

### NEW CHAIRMAN OF THE MISSION BOARD.

The Rev. E. T. Olds was warmly welcomed when he assumed the chairmanship of the Foreign Mission Board, at a recent meeting. In extending the welcome the General Secretary referred to the very able succession in which Mr. Olds followed making special reference to the high service rendered during the last twelve years by the Revs. E. D. Patchett and F. Copeland.

### REVS. USAIA SOTUTU AND ERONI KOTOSOMA.

A recent cable advises that these two Fijian ministers have reached Fiji from the Solomons. For more than twenty years they carried out splendid pioneering work on Bougainville. Eroni Kotosoma opened up our work at Teop and has worked in that area almost ever since, while Usaia Sotutu has been the European missionaries' right hand man ever since the establishment of our work at Buka. In our last issue we recounted some of the great service rendered by Usaia since the outbreak of war.

### A NOBLE GIFT THAT SHOULD CHALLENGE THE MORE FAVOURED.

I had been wondering much how I could possibly increase my little contributions to the Rehabilitation Fund and the other day the answer came. Not a big increase certainly, it is only the little bit extra each month that we old folks are now receiving in the age benefit. I have managed without it so far so why not continue to do so. I inclose a 10/- p. note for this first two months extra, and will continue sending it in two monthly instalments so long as God spares me or, as I prefer to think of it, until He calls me Home.

### MISSIONARY SISTERS.

With one exception, all the Sisters on the Mission Staff at the time of evacuation are eager to return to the Field at the earliest possible moment. Three additional trained nurses and three others in various stages of their training have heard God's call to the Solomons and look forward eagerly to the day of their appointment.

The Mission Board is hoping the call will also come to several teachers with a few years experience and the General Secretary will be happy to hear from any who are fitted and willing to undertake this great service.

### MISSIONARY INCOME IN GREAT BRITAIN.

There was great rejoicing throughout British Methodism when it was reported that the 1942-43 Missionary Income had beaten all records. From all sources the total reached the splendid sum of £470,422.

## Getting Ready.

By SISTER LINA JONES.

To us who have come from the Field MUNDA means KOKENGOLO, and the Head Station as we knew it before we left there—the three mission houses, the church, the hospital buildings, the school and college, and other buildings. The destruction of all these meant also the destruction of all the equipment, material and goods contained therein. We cannot put up new buildings till some of us return to the Field. But we can begin, while waiting here in New Zealand, to prepare for the teaching to be done on our return.

Before the war, the Solomon Islands were comparatively unknown, and civilisation had not touched them a great deal. But now the Group is known all over the world; the people there have suffered what we in New Zealand have not experienced—modern warfare in their midst. They have seen the ability of the white man in the conquest of the air, but also in the power of destruction. They will no longer be cut off from other countries, no longer a land of little importance. Therefore the people will be more thirsty than ever for knowledge. By education we shall need to prepare them for what lies ahead, and fit them to take their place in the scheme of things, even as they were learning to do before the war. We owe it to them to do all we can to compensate in some measure for the horror of this war in their land. There must be no haphazard teaching, no waste of time or material in our educational system. Each grade of school must fit its pupils for the next grade. To this end we aim to correlate the work of all our Mission schools. This is something which, in a large measure, can be prepared now.

For this purpose I am doing some observation in certain schools in Auckland to get ideas which can be incorporated into this new syllabus. Then I propose

1. To work out an extensive scheme to correlate the work for

(a) Primer classes (Kindergarten or Junior schools of headstations; primer classes of village schools).

(b) Village schools.

(c) Circuit Training Schools

(d) District Training School.

It involves schemes in Arithmetic; Reading in the native language; Reading in English; English comprehension; General knowledge, which will include such geography and history as are suited to the native people, easy science and hygiene, important current events etc. Knowledge such as this will be required more than ever after the war. As these lessons will be largely used by

native teachers, they will have to be made out in full detail.

Books will have to be prepared for Roviana Reading, General Knowledge, and the early stages of Arithmetic. The teachers need special help in Number work when children begin school. For higher work they can follow our New Zealand books.

2. To do as much translation work as is possible here.

3. To replace apparatus and teaching aids which were in the Kindergarten at Kokengolo. All Primer classes in our New Zealand schools at the present time have such lesson aids. Through the years at Kokengolo we had built up a good supply of them. Now we have to begin again. While it will be possible to buy some of these things a good many will have to be made, especially the learning-to-read sets which have to be in the native language. We want to make, not just for Koken-golo, but for other stations and the village schools in order that ALL children shall have the best teaching possible.

This, therefore, is something of what is to be done against the day of return, so that the work which has been so rudely interrupted can be taken up again without unnecessary delay.

Maybe some of you who read this would like to help. You can do so by looking out pictures, such as:— Good pictures from magazines or books, coloured, sepia or black and white—children and people of all nations, animals, birds, flowers, boats, scenes, objects, nature pictures. Picture Post-cards—it does not matter if there is writing on the other side, so long as they are clean. Christmas cards with pictures. Pictures from calendars and almanacs. Bible pictures.

The pictures can be from full magazine size down to very small ones, as all sizes are useful in different kinds of work.

They can be sent to me at the Foreign Mission Office, P.O. Box 23 W., AUCKLAND.

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### REHABILITATION IN THE SOLOMONS!

HAVE YOU SENT YOUR  
SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION?

WE COUNT ON YOU!

## A Refugee Missionary tells his Story.

By Rev. JOHN E. BRASTRUP, Methodist Missionary to the Belgian Congo and recently in Auckland.

It sounds all like a fairy tale but as the Danish fairy tale writer Hans Christean Andersen says: "It is very true."

I am a refugee missionary. Having left my country, the German occupied Denmark, and now for three years having been trying to return to my Mission in Africa, I am a real refugee, a man without a country. And I am only one of the many, which the war has forced to wander hither and thither all over the globe to find a haven to stay.

A couple of months before the war started I left my mission-field in the Belgian Congo to go on furlough. I had been in Africa for nearly twenty years. Every five years I had gone on furlough and I had always visited my friends and my Mission-board in America, as well as my relatives and Mission-supporters in Denmark, my native land.

This time I wanted to do the same, so together with other missionaries I went via Australia and New Zealand to America where I arrived in September, 1939, one day after the war had broken out. Now I wish that I never had left Africa. I have been longing to go back ever since. One cannot live among the black people for many years without coming to love them. I had been "sitting down", as we say, with the people in the villages, deep in the African jungle, evening after evening around their campfire. I had been following the trail of David Livingstone. I had been helping these people, been their preacher, doctor, dentist, builder, teacher, and what not. I know they loved me too. But the tropic sun had sapped my strength and I had to go home.

In America I travelled from Coast to Coast telling my Africa-stories, showing movies, and playing records of African music and song.

I reached Denmark two months before the Germans invaded the country, or as the Germans say, came to protect us against the bad Englishmen. What a time! I pray I never will have to see that again. While I was travelling around to the different Methodist churches in Denmark, one morning early, the 9th of April, 1940, I was staying in a town in the middle of Denmark, when I awoke, hearing the noise of 200 German bombing planes coming just over the housetop. We Danes did not really know what it was all about before the whole thing was over, and every part of the country had been invaded, all our air fleet destroyed, the army disarmed and our thousand of years independence had been taken from us. Had we not liked the German's before we certainly did it less

after this event. Here we had the ugly sight of foreign soldiers marching to full music through our streets singing: "We are marching to England."

They surrounded the King's palace, shooting down the King's guard. Many of our soldiers on the German border had been killed when they came with a "blizh" of forty miles an hour. No one could stop them. The King saw it was useless to try to resist the invaders so he ordered that the shooting should cease. Since then we have been a nation in slavery to the Nazi military machine. Officially we have our independence, with King and Government intact, but although they dislike the Nazis they still have to do what they tell them.

In spite of the German invasion I continued travelling around and speaking in the churches. I kept on with that work until June 1941, when I left Denmark. Immediately after the invasion I asked the German consulate for a visa to travel through Germany, our only port open to the rest of the world, but when they learned that I was a missionary and wanted to go to Belgian Congo they refused. Still I did not give up. I secured from the Government in Washington a permit to return there and a transit visa through Spain, and Portugal so when a whole year later I again applied for a German visa, they had forgotten about me, and as I did not tell them I was going to Africa, they gave me a visa for America. I flew then via Berlin and Madrid to Lisbon in Portugal, in one day.

When I came to Lisbon I applied to the Belgian Government in London for a re-entry visa to the Belgian Congo, but because I had been through Germany and came from a German occupied country the permit was not granted to me. I suppose they thought I was a spy. I had then to come back to the States where, through the assistance of the International Missionary Council I managed to convince the Belgian Government that I had no affiliation with Germany, but was just an ordinary missionary, and they gave me the permit.

I had come back to America because I had no other choice, I had become a refugee. The support from Denmark was cut off. The Methodist Mission Board in America had helped me to get over to America, the International Society for Overseas Relief made it possible for me to exist. This Society, which the churches in New Zealand have subscribed to, has done a great work to relieve

the needy Orphaned Missions whose funds from the occupied countries have been cut off.

I had to wait in America a year and half to get a boat. The Mission Boards of the larger denominations had united in a committee under the International Missionary Council for travelling missionaries in war time. The American Government only dealt through this committee, so I had first to come on the priority list of this committee before I could come on the priority list of the Government. I finally managed to get a British boat going to New Zealand. They thought in New York that if I got to New Zealand then I would easily get a boat further on. But when I came here I found out that all roads stopped here, and

that it will take months before there is any boat leaving for Australia.

Through four years of wandering around the globe to get back to my life work in Africa I am glad to testify that in spite of all trouble I have the blessed feeling of the presence of the Lord. When I was in New York a year ago I had an operation and afterward a heart attack which nearly ended my life, Christ came so wonderfully near to me and assured me that I should not die but return to my people in Africa to tell them about His salvation. I do not mind what I have to go through, I know my Lord is with me, even unto the end of the world.

## Rehabilitation Fund

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS continued from page 7.

Miss N. Davies, Coromandel	1 0 0	Miss S. L. Cunningham—		Waipawa—	
Mrs. M. Bennett, Port Albert	5 0 0	Mt. Albert	20 0 0	M. J. Waldron	5 0 0
Miss Gubb	1 0 0	Mrs. S. A. Pearce	40 0 0	Sun. School children	1 1 6
Mr. Richardson	1 0 0	Epsom	105 0 0	M. Gull	10 0
Mrs. W. K. Becroft	1 0 0	"Grateful"—Epsom	5 0 0	Bible Class	5 0
L. Bennett	10 0 0	Mr. F. Winstone-Epsom	50 0 0	Mrs. G. M. Binet-Miss. Bay	3 0 0
Part Sale Flowers	18 4 0	Mt. Eden	90 5 0	Mrs. Reid, Avondale	2 6
Glorit, Kauka.-Silverdale	4 10 0	Remuera	63 18 6	New Lynn Lad's G'd	10 0
Makarau	1 5 0	Dominion Dd.	100 0 0	Kia Ora, Hamilton	5 0
Silverdale	2 11 6	Mr. J. Watkinson, in mem-		Fielding—	
Upper Waiwera	1 0 0	ory of his wife	100 0 0	Miss Pierce	1 0 0
Kaukapakapa	6 6 0	Birkenhead Circuit	29 10 0	Miss Tolley (additional)	3 0 0
Lincoln (per L. W. J.)	10 0	Warkworth	46 7 1	Kakariki	1 10 6
D. White—Te Awamutu	15 0	Bay of Islands	19 4 0	Mr. E. C. Tozer, Mis. Bay	10 0 0
Miss Cunningham	1 0 0	Rotorua—		Mission Bay	1 0 0
Mr. & Mrs. Prime—Paeroa	10 0 0	Mrs. Chandler	10 0 0	Miss E. Paltridge	2 0 0
Mr. J. P. Gamble	5 5 0	The Misses White	5 0 0	Mr. J. H. Thompson	1 0 0
Mrs. Ferrer	10 0 0	Rev. & Mrs. W. H. Speer	25 0 0	Mr. H. S. Wilding	1 0 0
Anon—Mt. Eden	3 0 0	Mr. & Mrs. E. J. Gibbon	4 0 0	Miss Sage	1 0 0
Mr. & Mrs. F. W. Stone,		Mrs. L. Shaw	10 0 0	Mrs. B. French	1 0 0
Mt. Eden	10 0 0	Rev. & Mrs. J. B. Dawson	2 0 0	Miss E. C. Kirk	1 5 0
Miss Carr	1 0 0	Mr. M. Boord	10 0 0	Waiuku	18 5 0
Mrs. Mather	1 0 0	Dr. Wallis	1 0 0	Pukeoware	9 10 0
"Friend" Mt. Eden	3 0 0	Mr. & Mrs. L. Tester	2 0 0	Kohekohe-Te Toro	2 10 6
Sale of Stamps	1 10 3	Miss Pascoe	5 0	Glenbrook	1 2 6
Mission Bay	25 15 0	Mr. P. A. Kusabs	2 2 0	Friend, Caversham	10 0 0
Mr. & Mrs. Parton	2 0 0	Miss Veall	1 0 0	Mrs. G. Bowron	10 0 0
Mrs. M. Burley	2 2 0	Mr. & Mrs. G. Davidson	1 0 0	Mrs. J. Ballantyne	100 0 0
G. Wong	1 0 0	Miss Wylie	1 0 0	Miss A. G. Ballantyne	100 0 0
"Anon."—Waimamaku	10 0 0	Mr. & Mrs. E. T. Harris	2 0 0	Miss S. H. Ballantyne	100 0 0
St. Peters—Invercargill	6 4 6	Anonymous	5 0 0	Mr. Smith-Trinity, Dun.	20 0 0
Cones, Waitohi—Temuka	2 0 0	Dr. Bridgeman	1 1 0	Mrs. W. H. Duke	50 0 0
Liberty Loan Bonds		Mr. S. A. Pethybridge	5 0 0	Dr. Lyth	100 0 0
Te Awamutu Circuit	5 0 0	Mrs. F. J. Thomas	2 2 0	Mrs. Lyth	50 0 0
"Anon."	3 0 0	Nurses—King George Hos.	1 10 0	Stanton Bros, Dunedin	100 0 0
Papanui Circuit	4 0 0	Mr. G. E. Brown	10 0	"Anon"-Willowbridge	5 0 0
St. Paul's, Palmerston Nrt.	3 0 0	Mr. G. R. Dansey	1 0 0		
Rev. & Mrs. M. Rugby Pratt	6 0 0	Mr. & Mrs. Stenbridge	1 0 0		
National Savings Bonds		Mrs. M. Henderson	10 0		
"Anon"—Blenheim	2 12 6	Mr. S. Dalbeth	10 0		
A. W. Barnett—Nukuroa	55 0 0	Messrs F. & G. Hutchings	2 0 0		
				TOTAL TO DATE	£10,311 5 0

CONFERENCE APPEALS URGENTLY FOR NOT LESS THAN £25,000.

THE ABOVE TOTAL OF £10,311 FOR THE FIRST HALF OF THE CONNEXIONAL YEAR IS ENCOURAGING.

WE EARNESTLY REQUEST THOSE WHO HAVE NOT CONTRIBUTED TO THE REHABILITATION FUND TO HELP WITH A REALLY SACRIFICIAL GIFT.

# WOMEN'S PAGES

# M.W.M.U.

Methodist Women's  
Missionary Union of  
New Zealand.

9 Ranfurly Avenue,  
Feilding,  
August, 1943.

My dear "Open Door" friends,

It is with mixed feelings that I sit down to write this my last letter to you as President of the M.W.M.U. Our term of 3 years which looked so long in anticipation has gone very quickly and now we can see "the end of the road." It has been such a wonderful privilege: I can never be grateful enough for all the 3 years have brought to me. I have felt everywhere the pulse of a real fellowship and a warm enthusiasm for a great cause and have realised afresh how good God is in allowing us to have a share in His great Kingdom building work. To me personally has been shown nothing but love and understanding and patience in my many failings and to you, dear friends, I can only say how grateful I am for all the wealth of friendship and fellowship with which I have been enriched. Surely I should be a better woman all my days because of this experience. Then too I am conscious that I have not always been my best and so I have often failed you and for this I feel a deep sense of regret. I often pray to be kept humble and perhaps the remembrance of my failures is an answer to these prayers.

Our Auckland Conference (Oct. 12-15) looms ever closer upon our M.W.M.U. horizon and it is with much prayer that we are planning not only the programme and all the business of Conference but mostly ourselves: for unless we go there in the right spirit and consciously guided by God and sure of His presence within us, then we cannot expect Conference to be the happy experience we are praying it may be. Friends all, will you join us in our prayers so that together we may rejoice in a God-guided Conference.

### New Executive.

The closing act of this Conference will be the induction of the new Executive in Wellington. I want to introduce you to them now. President elect Mrs. H. Nicholson. I feel so proud and happy to name her as my successor and with every confidence I shall hand over to her the reins of office. To her Secretary Mrs. Riddell with whom I was once co-student and to Mrs. Denby, Treasurer elect we extend a very cordial welcome to office and pray for Mrs. Nicholson and all her officers that,

with a sure sense of God's blessing and a consciousness of His benediction, they may come to their honoured task.

### Sister Merle.

I have no fresh news for you of any of our Sisters except Sister Merle from whom I recently heard. In a letter from her headquarters in New Caledonia she writes happily of her work but adds—"The news lately has made me very homesick for those places (in the Solomons.) Having been there so long, behind the enemy lines, I would love to have been there when our troops moved up. However I will have to be content with this job meantime."

Are we doing all we can to make ready for the glad day when all our workers will be able to return.

Recently, we have had cause to rejoice with many of our friends in the return on furlough, of their lads and we do indeed rejoice with them but in our joy we remember those whose sons can never come back to them and for all such we specially pray even as we rejoice with those who rejoice.

### Kurahuna.

Because the work is going on quietly there with no flourish of trumpets, I have not called it to your remembrance for some time but I do so now and ask your earnest prayers for Sister Netta and Sister Elizabeth as they seek to guide the feet of our Maori girls into the way of truth. Like all youth work in these restless difficult days, life at Kurahuna presents many problems that call for patient prayerful dealing and I ask your prayers afresh, for that splendid service.

### Close.

And now, my friends, I commend you to God and pray for you all that you may prove increasingly how good He is to provide and to Strengthen and to equip for service. May He keep us all in His love and use us all more and more to bring in His Kingdom of love on this earth. Thank you again for all you have done for me and for all you have been to me. "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, making mention of you always in my prayers." Though I may no longer be your President may I always be

Your friend,  
ISABEL TAYLOR.

**SOUTH AUCKLAND DISTRICT.**

High lights of South Auckland's Convention included devotional sessions of high spiritual value; a prayer session for home and overseas work; national intercession; an appeal by Sister Violet Kruse for a greater church consciousness toward the Maori people and the necessity for the Church to be one step ahead of outside secular activities in order to maintain the spiritual influence over the 30,000 Maori people in the districts under the care of our church. Sister Elizabeth Common, after describing the joys of service in the Solomons where she has been stationed for 17 years, paid tribute to the loyalty of the natives to the Gospel and also their loving devotion and service to our Allied wounded.

**TARANAKI—WANGANUI DISTRICT.**

The keynote of the Taranaki-Wanganui District Convention was: "Missions are essential in the building of a better world." A most comprehensive Educational Session gave information re Kurahuna, Deaconess House, Home and Overseas Sisters, Philatelic Department, Rehabilitation, District Working, etc. Many greetings were received from Sister churches. In the evening a splendid musical programme was presented and the girls of the Rangiatea School dramatised "A day in the Islands" depicting the life of the girls in Sister Ada's home in the Solomons. The scenes were full of interest and humour. A sketch "Information Bureau", by members of the Evening Branch, was well received. Special Objective and Rehabilitation Fund Offering amounted to £9/12/3.

**WELLINGTON DISTRICT NEWS.**

Since the Waiwhetu Auxiliary has changed to evening meetings there has been increased attendance. Members held a successful social function as a special effort towards funds and Rev. Parker addressed a recent meeting on "Reminiscences of Home Mission Work."

Lower Hutt Auxiliary's Annual Report revealed a year of progress. The income was £6 more than that of last year, Kurahuna and Gleanings Funds showing increases. Many interesting speakers had visited the Auxiliary, including Mrs. Davies, from Uganda; Mrs. Cook, from China (her subject dealing also with missionary contacts among the Chinese in New Zealand, as well as in their native

land); an Easter message from Mrs. Lopdell; Rev. F. Bateup, describing work among North Auckland Maoris. At the August meeting Rev. F. J. Parker presented the challenge of "Rehabilitation", stressing the need for our prayers as well as material gifts. He paid tribute to the sufferings and sacrifice of our native peoples in the Solomons —through their fortitude we have been saved from devastation in this country.

**MANAWATU DISTRICT.**

Feilding has had the privilege, within a few weeks of hearing Revs. J. F. Goldie, A. H. Scrivin and A. H. Voyce. Rev. Goldie was present at a meeting of the N.Z. Executive and was also the speaker-guest at the July meeting of the Auxiliary when he gave a most interesting talk on the present state of our Solomon Island Stations and forecasted what the enormous task of Rehabilitation will cost. A strong plea was made for the Solomon Island Girls' School which will have a place in Rehabilitation plans. All joined in Mr. Goldie's earnest hope that he may soon be able to go back to the work and the people he so loves.

Rev. Scrivin took the evening service on our F.M. Sunday and in place of a sermon, showed films depicting scenes in connection with Mission work in India, New Guinea and the Solomons.

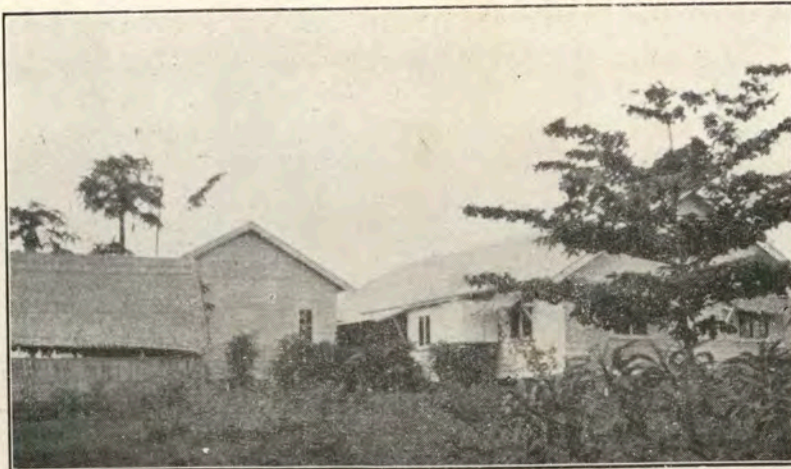
Rev. Voyce spoke at the Missionary week-night meeting, on the historical and geographical background to the Solomons. The customs of the people were death with and an interesting collection of curios was displayed.

**PETONE.**

Petone Auxiliary reports that the year just ended has been one of help and inspiration. The three special speakers during the year were Sister Lina, Rev. Metcalfe and Sister Ivy, Hutt Valley visitors being present on these occasions. The year's income is substantially ahead of previous results.

**WELLINGTON.**

Wellington's Annual Report shows a heartening increase in membership, which now totals 354. Financially, the year has been a record one, receipts totalling £920/3/2. The dedication of newly-elected officers was conducted by Rev. A. Petch. A presentation was made to the retiring President and Treasure and appreciation was expressed of the Secretary's services.

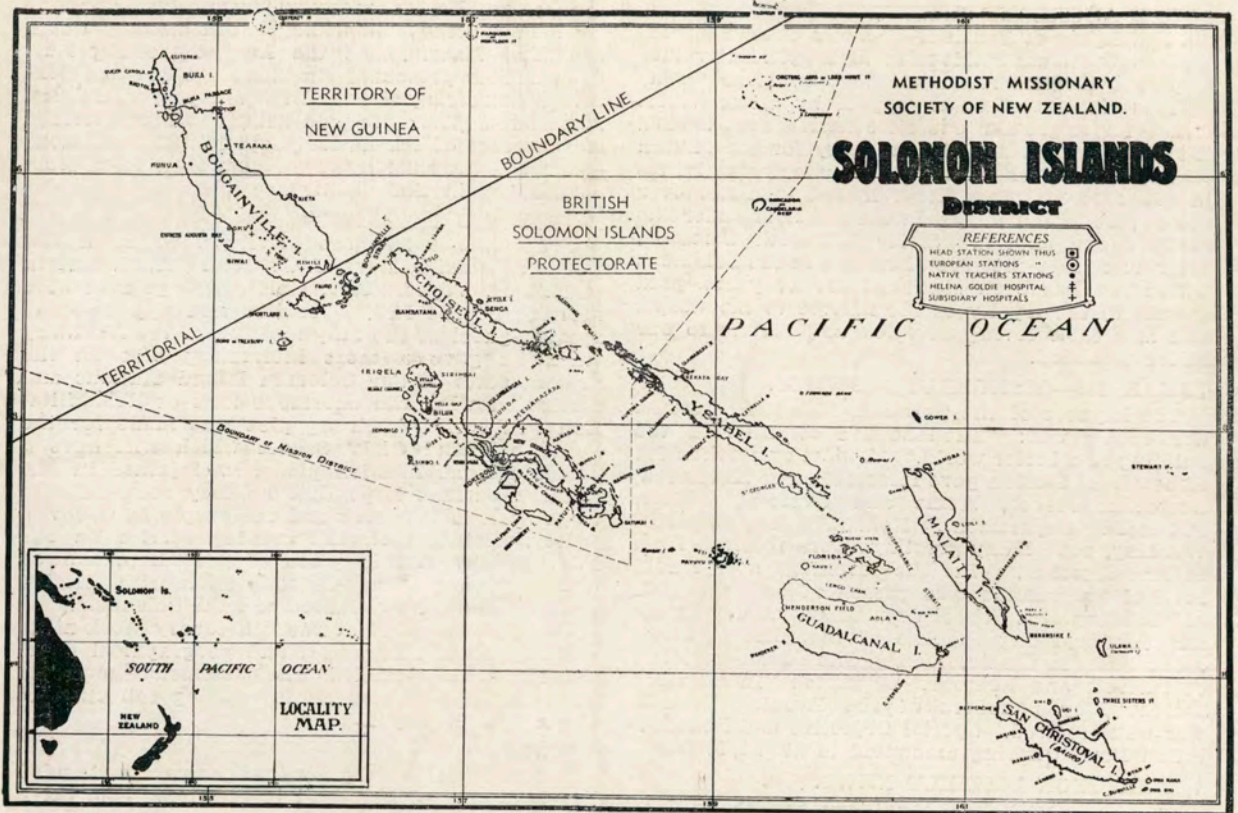


The Doctor's House, Bilua (back view), now destroyed.



Queen Salote of Tonga, who will celebrate the 25th anniversary of her coronation on 11th October, 1943.

THE OPEN DOOR



**The Challenge of the Solomons in War Time!**  
**Our European and Native Staff and the Native Church need your Prayers and Practical Support more than ever.**

**“THE OPEN DOOR”**

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

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

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

The New Zealand Children's Missionary Paper,

**“THE LOTU”**

Editor: Rev. A. A. BENSLEY,  
 Devonport Street, Tauranga.

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