



Spiritual Strength for National Welfare

That very important word spiritual has various meanings, some of which are restricted in their application to life. In its wide sense the word links with the striving of mankind for ideals beyond the bounds of materialism, ideals for which individual selfishness must be subordinate to national and international welfare.

Recently the editor of the Founders Society's "Bulletin" was glancing through a file of "New Zealand Centennial News" which he edited for the Department of Internal Affairs. The Foreword of the final issue (6 February, 1941) had this passage:—

"One great fact emerges from those historic celebrations. They closed officially on 16 November, but they did not end on that date. The final big ceremony at Whakarewarewa was only one of many actions in the making of a spiritual organism which will live on for the benefit of New Zealand."

A "spiritual organism," in the robust sense of spiritual, is one which does not worship Mammon; it is for ever against regimentation of humanity under despots; it believes that there can be no strong structure of social welfare without recognition of human rights; it believes that mutual kindness must replace mutual suspicion and distrust.

In its outlook for New Zealand's welfare the Founders Society is deeply conscious of importance of the spiritual factor. That is why the Dominion Conference was so emphatic in its resolution to turn the Founders Pledge into action on a widening front.

For this purpose every Branch of the Society must have zealous workers. Even one man or one woman can work wonders when the "will to win" is strongly founded on a great cause.

New Zealand has some striking examples of one-man successes in national affairs. For instance, the Plunket Society, which is preparing a campaign for funds, owes its existence to the indomitable persistence of the late Sir Truby King, who had the Wakefield way of triumphing over obstacles—triumph of spiritual strength.

Members of the Founders Society, who look back on marvellous achievements of ancestors, must find enough inspiration to move them into vigorous performance with their Pledge.

Inspirational Dinner

Dinner of delight for body and mind came on Friday evening, 8 February, for a big assembly at Wakefield House, an inspirational prelude for next day's Dominion Conference. That merry meal was a heart-warming family affair.

"Members of our far-flung family, here for the Society's first big conference," said the Dominion President, Mr. Max Wall, "I am sure you will prove yourselves members of one great family, ready to tackle your tasks in a friendly family spirit."

Mr. Wall specially mentioned the quick growth of the Manawatu Branch under the presidency of Mr. L. Buick-Constable who, with a good helping team, had worked with enthusiasm and much organising ability. He was about to take up an important position in Fiji, where he might try to form a Pacific Branch of the Society.

Before, during and after dinner all the folk showed that they had the right family spirit.

Successful Dominion Conference

From various important viewpoints the Dominion Conference of the New Zealand Founders Society at Wakefield House, Wellington, on 9 February, was impressively successful. Discussions covered the whole range of the Society's constitution and objects, and ways for further progress came well into prospect. The general feeling at the finish was that similar conferences should be arranged at suitable times. The Dominion Council has decided that the next one will be held in conjunction with the Society's annual meeting at Wakefield House this year.

The attendance was as follows:—

Dominion Councillors and Vice-Presidents, Mr. Max Wall (Dominion President), in the chair; Mrs. Burnard, Mrs. H. O. Pittendrigh, Misses A. D'ath, W. Helliwell, A. Woodhouse, and J. Sellar; Messrs. E. Gale, J. W. Carr, A. Seed, A. E. Mexted, Duff Daysh, A. Diamond and A. Raymond.

Mr. J. M. Andrew (Dominion Treasurer), Miss S. Helliwell (Dominion Secretary).

Representatives of Branches: Auckland, Miss I. O'Connor, Mr. H. Duder; Bay of Plenty, Mrs. M. C. Cox, Mrs. E. M. McKee, Mrs. A. J. Addenbrooke; Wanganui, Mrs. F. Spurdle, Mr. T. Barrett, Mr. G. Walker; Wairarapa, Mrs. I. Jones, Mr. C. E. Mountfort; Manawatu, Mrs. E. M. Guerin, Mr. L. Buick-Constable, Mr. Lovelock; Canterbury, Mrs. M. Jones, Mr. L. Haylock.

Representatives of Wellington Women's Committee, Mrs. W. H. Brown and Mrs. E. M. Coates.

Apologies for absence were received from the Taranaki Branch, Mrs. Miller (Wairarapa Branch), Mr. Bishop (Auckland Branch) and Mr. R. Greenwood (last year's Dominion President).

This report gives the main points of interest, after the resolutions of the conference had been reviewed by the Dominion Council.

Formation of Branches

It was agreed that any Branch, instead of forming sub-branches, should appoint representatives as organisers in suitable parts of its district. In accordance with the Society's Rule 28 (a), if at least twenty eligible persons in a locality can be enrolled, a Branch can be established.

The fixing of boundaries for any new Branch should be by consultation with neighbouring branches and the Dominion Council.

As it was felt that territorial boundaries might not be always completely desirable, the matter of members' interests should be also taken into consideration.

Publications

It was mentioned that copies of the Society's "Bulletin" cost about 6d. each. It was felt that the little magazine's circulation was too small to be suitable for advertisements.

It was agreed that Branches should pay for copies of the "Bulletin," brochures and annual reports, at cost.

Branches would decide about the selection of public bodies and other organisations to which copies of the "Bulletin" could be sent.

The Society's full name should be in the title heading of the "Bulletin" in conjunction with the crest, "Founders Pledge" and the New Zealand flag.

Each Branch should appoint a Publicity Officer, whose duties would include the sending of reports of all social functions and other matters of interest to the Dominion Secretary.

Widening Scope of Publicity

It was thought that members of the Society could help importantly to get good publicity for its national objects as guest speakers at assemblies of other organisations.

The conference was in favour of arranging annual essay competitions for school pupils on subjects suitable for the Society's objects.

Founders Pledge

One of the Society's main objects, slightly amended, was adopted for designation as the Founders Pledge, thus:—"We pledge ourselves to foster, promote and inculcate in rising generations that hardy will and spirit of enterprise, responsibility, work and faith so abundantly possessed by the actual founders."

Branches would have framed copies of the pledge on walls of their meeting places, and recite that creed at each function.

Branches would also do their best to bring the pledge impressively under the notice of youth organisations.

Each Branch would watch the trend of youth in its district and report to the appropriate authorities or try to rectify any noticeable social decline.

Other Matters

The annual Founders Ball will be held on 12 July. Branches will receive invitations.

It was suggested that each Branch start a Younger Founders Section, with emphasis on a Christmas party for children.

It was agreed that Branches could deal direct with any matters relating to their own territories without reference to the Dominion Council. The Council should be informed as to the action taken by the Branches.

Mention of New Zealand Day is linked with other matter on another page.

Waitangi Night at Wakefield House

Convenient weekend timing for the Dominion Conference shifted the Founders Society's Waitangi night from 6 to 9 February at Wakefield House.

Mayor on Side with Society

Words of warm welcome from the Dominion President, Mr. Max Wall, for Mr. F. J. Kitts, Mayor of Wellington, and the Mayoress drew hearty applause from the large audience.

In his reply, Mr. Kitts indicated that he was fully in accord with the Society's national objects, and he wished it best of success.

He mentioned that as a fourth-generation New Zealander he was naturally keenly interested in the accurate writing of properly co-ordinated history in this country. Here a new nation had taken shape, and it must of necessity build its own history. That was one of the reasons why he saw good scope for the national activities of the Founders

Society and Early Settlers' Associations. It was regrettable that pioneer museums were not more numerous.

He was pleased that the Wellington City Council appointed its own historian about three years ago. Already the good work done by the historian showed that the appointment should have been made long ago. His activities included arrangements for the very important photographing of new municipal buildings in all stages of constructions.

In reference to the heavy immigration of persons from non-British countries Mr. Kitts remarked that many of them seemed to think that they were entering a country which was without history. The Founders Society and other bodies with high standards of culture could have an important influence in impressing on such persons the need of adapting themselves properly to the New Zealand respectable way of living.



Portrait of Edward Gibbon Wakefield

Left to right: Miss Irma O'Connor (honorary secretary of Auckland Branch), Mr. Max Wall (Dominion President), Mr. C. E. Mountfort (past President of Wairarapa Branch), Mr. Jeff Andrew (Dominion Treasurer), Miss S. Helliwell (Dominion Secretary) and Mr. J. W. Carr (a Dominion past president).

Block kindly given by "The Dominion."

Wakefield Portrait Unveiled

Before unveiling the new portrait (an oil painting, of Edward Gibbon Wakefield) Miss Irma O'Connor, a great-granddaughter of New Zealand's chief founder, gave a bright insight into his historic greatness as the "founder of founders."

She recalled how he had been the indomitable organiser of well-planned settlement of all the provinces of New Zealand and how his powerful will had prevailed against formidable obstacles. Others came out as founders of provinces, but these ventures were the result of his brilliant work.

When the Union Jack was drawn aside and Wakefield's head came into view, all stood while Mr. Wall recited the Founders Pledge (included in the report of the Conference).

"We do," was the hearty response.

Hand in Hand for Progress

The guest speaker, Mr. Cheviot Bell, who was the Society's first president, gave breezy comment on its formation by Mr. D. Hope Johnston and its early development. Mr. Bell had stipulated that he would be against any snobbery or arrogance in the Society's make-up. His associates had the same feeling, which was shared by incoming members.

He stated emphatically that credit for early progress was mainly due to zealous women members, and women had continued to be very helpful in the Society's activities.

In reference to the Society's aims and objects Mr. Bell said that many of these were felt rather than easily expressible in words. As well might one say to two young lovers strolling side by side: "Neither of you would appear in danger of stumbling or falling down. Why then do you hold hands?"

"Members of the Society," he added, "hold hands in happy association to preserve the ideals and spirit of the early pioneers and to enable the Society to speak with united voice on such matters as the preservation of St. Paul's Church and observance of 6 February as New Zealand's National Day. The celebration of that event is at present confined to Waitangi, whereas it should be nation-wide."

Mr. Bell, who is a member of the Waitangi National Trust Board, gave a dramatic expression of his impressions of the celebration of 6 February at Waitangi, where the Governor-General gave an inspiring address (briefly reported in another article).

On behalf of all delegates of Branches Mr. H. Duder (Auckland) thanked the Wellington folk for friendly kindness and hospitality.

A very pleasant finish was supper, a gift of the Women's Committee, whose members had been specially thanked at the Conference.

National Action to Save St. Paul's

Widespread hope for preservation of the beautiful historic Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Wellington, has been strengthened by vigorous action of the National Historic Places Trust. In a full review of the case the Trust's chairman, the Hon. C. M. Bowden, has stated the reasons, clearly and convincingly, why the famous building should be saved for posterity. Here is the conclusion of the national plea:—

"Preservation will entail the expenditure of money. The replacing of defective piles by concrete ones will cost an estimated £3000; the cost of painting is estimated at £1000 every six years. If the Wellington City Council exercises its right under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1953, it may have to take over the building and its grounds. There is no doubt that under the reserves department the grounds would be increased in beauty.. The necessary expenditure, both on immediate repairs and on caretaking, insurance, lighting, and other forms of maintenance could be amply met, it is suggested, from an endowment fund to be raised by public subscription, perhaps organised by the Society for the Preservation of St. Paul's in conjunction with the City Council. To an appeal for such a purpose the National Historic Places Trust could have no hesitation in giving its support."

Spirit of Help

The following sonnet, which indicates the friendly helpful spirit of the New Zealand Founders Society, shown impressively at the Dominion Conference, was written by Leo Fanning in 1944, in memory of Frank Campbell, a well-known business man of Wellington, a real humanitarian. It appeared in "The Evening Post."

He took the way shown by the Nazarene,
Who strove for others—counted not the cost—
Refreshed the weary—lifted up the lost.
Frank Campbell's glowing kindness shamed the mean;
He warmed the folk who felt life's chilling frost,
He lit a beacon for the tempest-tossed,
He put strong hope where dark despair had been.
"New Orders," "Deals," we hear them, night and day;

Ten thousand prophets tell us how to go;
The way is clear—the simple Christian way—
The helping way which must make all creeds one.
Humanity, thus linked, will come to know
Good-fellowship which gets the world's work done.

Strong Move For New Zealand Day

Progress for recognition of 6 February (anniversary of the signing of Waitangi Treaty) as New Zealand Day was reported by Mr. Jeff Andrew at the Dominion Conference. He said that Mr. D. Ward was drafting the petition for submission to Parliament, and Mr. D. Riddiford was getting information about other countries' fixing of dates for national days and their commemorative procedure.

Copies of the draft petition would be sent to Branches and to Historical Societies with a request for helpful support. Mr. Duncan Rae, M.P., would present the petition.

It was firmly believed that the establishment of New Zealand Day would bring the Founders Society into prominence in the schools throughout the country.

Governor-General at Waitangi

An inspiring speech came from the Governor-General, Sir Willoughby Norrie, at Waitangi on 6 February. "Let this be my final message to the Maori people, a folk ever loyal to the Queen in these days of drifting loyalties, a people so beloved by their Sovereign," he said.

"While preserving all that is precious culturally in your heritage, justify the faith shown in you by your ancestors who signed the Treaty of Waitangi. This can be accomplished only by providing your children with every educational opportunity New Zealand has to offer, so as best to equip them to become loyal, capable, and efficient citizens, taking a full measure of responsibility in the affairs of the country."

His Excellency remarked that the signing of the Treaty 117 years ago was "a milestone

in the history of racial relations," and an influence that had repercussions elsewhere in the Pacific. "In this fair land there is no racial discrimination," he added. "We are all New Zealanders, and should live—as we do live—in an atmosphere of mutual respect and friendliness. There is no reason why a Maori should not occupy any post within the community or within the Government.

"The equality which was guaranteed by the Treaty is something which cannot be gained indiscriminately, or for nothing. It has to be earned the hard way—by accomplishment and effort. This splendid heritage of Maori youth is something that New Zealand should guard and cherish. What better citizens can we have than these descendants of a fine, virile race, sons and daughters of the soil, the true tangata whenua."

Today's ceremony was the last that he would attend as Governor-General. "But I can assure you that wherever I may be on any 6 February my thoughts and prayers will be with you at Waitangi," he declared.

Sir Willoughby also said that on his return to England he would call on Lord Bledisloe, now in his 90th year, and "still thinking and dreaming of New Zealand," and inform him of the commemoration ceremony. "I will tell him, too," said the Governor-General, "that he will never be forgotten in New Zealand."

Altogether the Governor-General's speech gave an impression to many discerning folk that his personal opinion would favour 6 February as New Zealand Day.

Mr. T. A. Bishop, deputy-chairman of the Auckland Branch, was the Society's representative at the Treaty celebrations in Waitangi.

Branch Secretaries' Addresses

Auckland.—Miss I. M. O'Connor, C.P.O. Box 387, Auckland, C.I. Business telephone (Automobile Association, 45-950); home, 585-985.

Taranaki.—Pending the appointment of a new secretary, the President (Mr. R. G. Jamieson) is acting. His home is at Oakura, with telephone 632.

Wanganui.—Mr. George Walker, Maori Affairs Department, Campbell Place, Wanganui. Telephone 4073.

Wairarapa.—Mrs. I. Ball, 5 Johnston Street, Masterton. Telephone 6924.

Manawatu.—Mr. M. H. Lovelock, P.O. Box 130, Palmerston North. Telephone, day 8010, night 8624.

Canterbury.—Mrs. M. Jones, 41 Flockton Street, Shirley, Christchurch. Telephone 50-564.

New Heading for "Bulletin"

A new title heading for the "Bulletin" is being designed by a good artist. It will be ready for the next issue.

Subscriptions Requested for Wakefield Portrait

The total cost of acquiring the portrait of Edward Gibbon Wakefield, painted by Mr. J. Oakley, of Christchurch, was £45.

The opinion of the Dominion Council that the cost should not be a charge on the Society's funds, but should be met by voluntary contributions, found favour at the Dominion Conference. When this article was being written, several members had subscribed. It is confidently believed that others will follow that example soon, and thus have a personal interest in the picture.

Such gifts can be sent to Mr. Jeff Andrew, Dominion Treasurer, P.O. Box 1775, Wellington.

I would give nothing for that man's religion whose very dog and cat are not better for it.—Rowland Hill.

Comic Aspersion of Founders Society

Press reports of the Wellington Early Settlers' Association's annual meeting included an astounding assertion of the chairman, Mr. C. J. S. Harcourt. He alleged that "one of the bigger differences between the Founders Society and his association was that the Founders Society drank liquor at its gatherings and the Early Settlers drank tea at theirs."

A prompt reply by Mr. Max Wall showed that Mr. Harcourt had spoken in complete ignorance of the Founders Society's functions.

"It is quite contrary to fact," he said, "to suggest that our members—whether old or young, and they are both—are addicted to strong drink. The Founders Society last year held one cocktail party at Christmas time. At other functions we drank tea only, like the Early Settlers' Association. One swallow does not make a summer; one cocktail party a year does not make us alcoholics."

"The Founders Society in the past has always had harmonious and friendly relations with the Early Settlers' Association in the pursuit of many worthy objects common to them both. I devoutly hope that these will continue, and that Mr. Harcourt's remarks will not create a rift which was not there before."

Briskness of Manawatu

That name Manawatu has a rousing sound, a stimulus for people of that prosperous district. Certainly the spirit of progress is shown by the Society's Manawatu Branch since its formation in August last year has greatly impressed Headquarters. So much warm praise has been given to the Branch that its members must feel an urge to keep up their pace of success.

The "Manawatu Times" of 19 December had a three-column wide block illustrating the report of the Branch's Christmas luncheon. Here is the pleasant chronicle:—

Every age group from infants to octogenarians was represented among the 70 persons present. The luncheon was informal. All were able to mix freely and exchange stories of their ancestors of three or four generations ago.

Mr. L. M. Buick-Constable, president of the Branch, said that the attendance was a real "eye-opener" to him. The executive committee had expected that 20 people at the most would be present, but it was indeed very satisfying that more than 70 came. What satisfied him most of all was the complete lack of pretension in the society. "We are all New Zealanders, on the same footing," he remarked. "Let us keep it that way."

Mr. M. Wall, the Dominion President of the Society, said it astounded him to see such a large gathering when it was realised that the Manawatu Branch dated only from August. "Your progress is such," he added, "that I suggest that you form a younger founders' group. It is not difficult and it takes little to get the young people interested in such an organisation."

He declared that the Manawatu Branch, although the youngest, was one of the most active.

In recognition of Mrs. Buick-Constable's work for the executive committee during the year, the women members of the committee presented her with a bouquet.

"In this connection I cannot do better than quote the words on the memorial plaque outside Wakefield House: 'This house was the home of Edward Gibbon Wakefield (1796-1862), who, by his faith and perseverance, was mainly responsible for the colonisation of New Zealand by British people.'"

"Below this inscription are the words: 'This property has been acquired by the New Zealand Founders Society to honour and commemorate all pioneers throughout New Zealand.' A few years' difference from that of the ancestors of my society's members in the time of landing in New Zealand does not rob those later pioneer ancestors of the reverence with which my society is proud to honour them."

Here is the opening paragraph of the N.Z. Founders Society's hand-book:—

"Long ago the formation of early settlers' associations in the provinces helped to impress the pioneers' nation-building spirit on their descendants. Those associations have their important functions in their districts, but, as their interests have geographical limitations, the need of a Dominion-wide organisation has been recognised, not to replace the existing associations but to provide means of linking founders' descendants throughout the Dominion in strong national friendship."

Christmas Picnic of Canterbury Branch

Appropriately, the Canterbury Branch of the Society chose Deans Bush for its picnic on the Sunday afternoon before Christmas. This beautiful area of native forest, the only notable one on the Canterbury Plain, was part of the estate occupied by William and John Deans, first settlers of Canterbury, who arrived there in 1843, seven years before the "First Four Ships" brought immigrants to Lyttelton. It is expected that Deans Bush, now under control of the Christchurch City Council, will come under worthy notice of the National Historic Places Trust.

About forty folk, including children, had a very pleasant time with games, competitions, friendly chats and seasonal feasting.

The Christmas cake was cut by Mrs. J. Genn, one of the Branch's oldest life members. Now in her 87th year, she has attended all the social functions and has helped the Branch with gifts of money ever since it was established. With her active spirit of good cheer, she carries on with the founders' best principles, and so sets an inspiring example for young members and for others as well.

A short, bright talk on "How I Found My Grandfather" was given by Mr. A. H. Oakes.

A hearty vote of thanks went to Mr. and Mrs. Jones, who had organised the picnic. Altogether, the afternoon was so delightful for all that it raised a widespread hope for similar outings in the near future.

Taranaki's Big Move for Members

The Taranaki Branch is moving the right way to build up a big membership. It has a list of hundreds of eligible folk, and is sending a leaflet to each.

A search is being made to get a secretary to replace Mr. David Brown, who has been transferred to Wellington. He had proved himself an efficient worker.

New Members Of Founders Society

Name.	Address.	Ship.	Date.	Ancestor.
Mrs. M. P. Tattersfield	Auckland	"Triton"	1840	Buddle
Mr. A. C. Galpin	Northland	"Adelaide"	1840	Galpin
Mrs. B. V. White	Auckland	"Slains Castle"	1841	Richards
Mrs. I. McMillan	Auckland	"Arab"	1841	Richardson
Mr. R. M. Galpin	Bay of Islands	"Adelaide"	1840	Galpin
Mrs. R. G. Shackleton	South Canterbury	"Strathallan"	1858	Darling
Miss E. P. Johannes	Masterton	"Arab"	1841	Hooper
Mr. A. R. Wall	Masterton	"Lord William Bentinck"	1841	Wall
Miss B. M. Ball	Masterton	"Arab"	1841	Hooper
Mrs. E. M. Griffiths	Wanganui	"Bolton"	1840	Harrison
Dr. M. Christie	Wanganui	"Hope"	1846	Dorset
Miss F. S. Fraser	Paraparaumu	"Blenheim"	1841	Fraser
Miss J. C. Cartmer	Wellington	"William Bryan"		Tucker
Miss F. A. d'Ath	Wellington	"Duke of Roxburgh"	1840	Poad
Mrs. H. M. Staples	Blenheim	"Will Watch"	1841	Neal

Risky Voyage for Canterbury's Gold

The stories of how Charles Ring made his sensational discoveries at Coromandel in 1852, or of the fabulous wealth unearthed by Gabriel Reid at Tuapeka, Otago, in 1861, are too well known to need repeating here (writes Mr. A. H. Oakes, a member of the Society's Canterbury Branch). Little seems to have been recorded about Canterbury, which, in the early days included Westland, then known as West Canterbury. By whom and when was the yellow metal first discovered in West Canterbury?

December, 1956-January, 1957, marks the centenary of the first recorded find by white men in that area, and the persons concerned were Captain John Peter Oakes and his brothers Thomas and Joseph, who had arrived at Coromandel in June, 1840.

John had built for himself a schooner of 32 tons which he named the "Emerald Isle," and in this little craft the three brothers set out from Auckland in December, 1856, with the intention of seeking grazing land on the west coast of the Middle Island.

Unaided by reliable charts they battled their way to Milford Sound. Of course, they saw quickly that the steep country was not suitable for grazing; so they soon headed north.

After being cramped up in such a small vessel, they took the earliest opportunity of going ashore for exercise, to obtain fresh water and to examine the hinterland. Especially, they wished to do a little prospecting with the most primitive of tools such as shovel, crowbar and dish.

They searched in most of the bays, crossed the Hokitika Bar, and also sailed up the Grey River.

While exploring the Grey area they came across coal. They believed they were the first to find it, as they did not know that Thomas Brunner had been there some years before when he made his epic journey of 550 days on foot.

They collected three sacks of the coal for use in the ship's galley, and so might have laid claim to being the first to use it in a commercial sense.

At Jackson's Bay they collected about two and one-half ounces of gold, and at Hokitika about six ounces, areas which were later proved as carrying the metal in good quantities.

They continued their journey northward, and reached Auckland at the end of January, 1857.

The many events which took place between this time and 5 March, 1865, when the area between the Grey River and Big Bay, the southern boundary of Canterbury, was declared a goldfield, would fill a volume, but the first discoveries by the three brothers in 1856 seem to have been completely overlooked.

Turnbull Library's Comment

The article of Mr. Oakes was referred by the "Bulletin's" editor to the Turnbull Library for checking of dates.

The reply mentions that E. Iveagh Lord's "Old Westland," p. 63, contains an account of the Oakes brothers expedition, stating that they "set out in March, 1857, from Port Cooper (Lyttelton) . . . [and] . . . sailed down the east coast and round the southern end of the South Island. Then beating up the west coast, they reach Martin's Bay, where they landed. . . . Coming further north they put into Jackson's Bay. . . . They carried out prospecting operations in various parts of the district, obtaining some good gold. Later they returned to Port Cooper, where they reported their discovery. In 1895 the leader of the party, Thomas Oakes, petitioned Parliament for some recognition for being the first to discover the metal royal in Westland, but without avail."

The researcher looked through the "Southern Cross" (Auckland) and "Lyttelton Times" for 1857, but could find no reference to the expedition.

Wellington Carries On

The past quarter has brought a varied round of entertainment for senior and younger members of the Founders Society in Wellington. The list includes Christmas parties for adults and for children, luncheon meetings, evening rallies and a picnic.

"Tides of Hokianga"

Those well-known writers and broadcasters, Cecil and Celia Manson, will add to their popularity with their book, "Tides of Hokianga," which makes a strong appeal to folk who have proper interest in their country's history. Much of the old-time colourful dramatic interest was made in and about Hokianga.

The book is obtainable for 17/6 from booksellers or the publishers, the Wingfield Press, P.O. Box 481, Wellington. Sixpence must be added if mailing is required.

Obituary

The Dominion Council regretfully announces the deaths of Mrs. L. M. Underwood (Wellington) and Miss L. M. Hunter-Brown (Nelson).

Quaint Topical Names For Maori Babies

Probably not many Maori parents today follow the examples of predecessors in bestowing peculiar topical names on their children. The old-time widespread practice is shown in the following article written by the editor of the "Bulletin" when he was on the staff of "The Evening Post," Wellington, in 1906. Readers must keep that date in mind.

Though the importation of liquor into the King Council is forbidden, the district is teeming with "rum" and "brandy." These lively beverages stalk around the landscape in broad daylight, and are not confiscated. Yet this statement need not alarm good people who want the Maoris to be a sober race. "Rum" (Rama) and "Brandy" (Parani) are merely "tots" of humanity, the names of children, "reincarnations" of bottles perhaps held in high esteem by the parents.

In visiting various Maori districts, says the inspector of native schools, any one with a knowledge of the meaning of Maori words is very often struck with the quaint names given by Maoris to children. The Maoris love to commemorate crises in their family history by inflicting a perpetual reminder on their offspring. Things that have delighted them, frightened them, thrilled them, chilled them, are honoured for ever in the titles bestowed on the rising generation.

If a man is ill and sends a "wire" to friends for medical assistance, this constitutes an event that must not be forgotten. Therefore the next child to arrive has to rejoice or sorrow in the appellation of Ngawaea ("Wire"). Perhaps a man is so afflicted that he has to be removed to a hospital, and in that case the institution is immortalised in Hohipera (hospital) inflicted on a son or daughter. A leading Maori of the Hawke's Bay district lately underwent an operation for appendicitis. Soon afterwards he became the proud father of a child termed Operaitione (Operation).

One of the natives who took a prominent part in the so-called rebellion at Waima in 1896 was apparently greatly impressed by the sentence of "two years' hard labour" that was given to cool his ardour. Some time afterwards a son was born to him, and the boy was made to face life with the

very forceful name of Hari Rewa (Hard Labour). There was once a disaster at Motu; sixteen children were drowned. Lest the sad tally should be forgotten, the brother of one of the victims was called Tekau Ma Ono (Sixteen).

Various odd happenings are chronicled in a name. A child born late one night has to make his way in the cold world under the handicap of Tureti (Too Late). Another's designation proclaims the hour of his birth, Tuakaraka (Two o'Clock). The praenomen of another little fellow, Tutuane (Two-to-One) opens up a wide field of speculation. Premiers (Pirimia) are plentiful, and there is a Duke of York (Tuika) at Tauranga. A youngster who, it is alleged, "fingered" a packet of cigarettes in a store, has to go down to posterity as Hikareti (Cigarettes), a confirmed devotee to tobacco, whether he smokes or not.

One of the most amusing names came under the inspector's notice in the Urewera Country. The little natives had mustered in brave array for an examination, and among the proudest was a little chap half buried in his father's trousers. Strangely this hero's name was Tarau (brief for Tarautati, Trousers), suggesting that his first swaddling clothes were furnished by a pair of his father's nether garments.

Even food is glorified by the transfer of its name to fresh morsels of human-kind. Braving the rain there are Hukas (Sugars), there are sweet girls dubbed Winika (Vinegar), there is Ti (Tea), Miraki (Milk), Paraoa (Flour), Arani (Orange). One of the weirdest names in this category is Te O Waina (practically Provisions for a Journey). Of course, medicine is not neglected, as Penekiri (Painkiller) shows.

Though these names are mostly Maori pronunciations of English words, their form is sufficiently modified to deceive the unwary pakeha. A fond mother, if she is not careful, may christen a gentle-tempered baby girl with the pretty name of Winika (Vinegar). A tiny dot, destined to preach temperance to the natives, may be weighted with Rama (Rum.)

The Maoris are still fond of giving Biblical names to their children. Jeremiah (Heremaia) and David (Rawiti) are popular.

A Blurt About Wakefield

Mr. C. J. Harcourt stated that descendants of Edward Wakefield would not be eligible for membership of the Founders Society because he did not arrive in Wellington until 1853 (13 years after the foundational year). It is true that his body was not here in 1840, but his spirit certainly was, because he was the originator of the whole plan of colonisation.

Apart from that fact Wakefield's descendants would be eligible for enrolment under section, "Special Classes of Membership," in the Society's Rules, thus:—

"The Dominion Council may from time to time, in its discretion, elect as an associate member any person not otherwise eligible for membership who, in the opinion of the Council, should have the privilege of associate membership by reason of the special association of that person's ancestors or family with the history and development of New Zealand, or of personal services rendered by that person to the Society, or of other special circumstances consistent with the Society's objects."

Gentle Cat's Founder Spirit

When Mr. Kitts, Mayor of Wellington, was speaking at Wakefield House on Waitangi night, a cat softly strolled in through a side door.

While a lady was taking pussy out, Mr. Kitts paused. "Even our feline friends wish to be here," he said. "After all, they did come here with the founders." Later on, he remarked that six kittens were put ashore from a ship at Hokianga in 1794.

Early Rising

I like the lad who, when his father thought To clip his morning nap by hackneyed phrase Of vagrant worm by early songster caught, Cried, 'Serve him right! It's not at all surprising. "The worm was punished, sir, for early rising."

—John Godfrey Saxe.

Life isn't so much what each individual makes it, but rather more what we make it for each other.—Helen Keller.