

I would urge all our Unions to appoint a Superintendent for this department, so that all may unite in a vigorous effort to have scientific temperance instruction given in all our schools as a *pass* subject.

Napier is still the only district where these lessons are given in all the State Schools.

A. J. SCHNACKENBERG,
Superintendent.

REPORT OF MOTHERS' COTTAGE AND DRAWING-ROOM MEETINGS.

During the year I communicated with the various Unions. Some have not replied: others did, with most encouraging reports. In several local Unions there is a Mothers' Meeting held every week, which is a blessing to many weary mothers. Two local Unions have a Mothers' Prayer Union every month, when especial requests are made at the Throne of Grace on behalf of those of tender years, that they may be early brought to give their hearts to Jesus; for the young men and maidens who have to go out into the world world, that they may be enabled to resist, by the grace of God, the many temptations which lie in their way; and for those out of the way, that they may be brought to the Good Shepherd. I have visited three meetings attended by poor mothers not connected with our W.C.T. Union. Our members are active and helpful in visiting the homes of those women, and inviting them to come to their meetings. The latter bring their little ones with them. A box of toys is provided, and a rug is spread, on which the children lie and play while their mothers sew, making whatever garments they are most in need of for themselves or children, for the material of which they pay a little. While this is going on someone reads, and tells them the story of Jesus and His love. Hymns are sung, and efforts used to influence them for good; then a cup of tea and something good to eat follows. Some of the mothers say such a meeting is the only sunshine they have in their lives.

Go on, then, sowers of sunshine,
Nor question result complete;
In the fulness of time an Autumn
Will ripen the perfect wheat.

Mrs S. L. O.

I am glad to record that this year has been the best for Cottage meetings. Although some of the local Unions have not sent returns, yet the reports to hand shows this department of the Master's work to be receiving more attention than heretofore.

I have personally conducted five Drawing-room Meetings throughout this last year, but I have received no reports from Unions of this department of work.

M. KIRKLAND, Superintendent.

REPORT OF WORK AMONG MAORIS.

ON July 30, 1894, a drawingroom meeting was held at Mrs Balcombe-Brown's, Wellington, to inaugurate, under the auspices of the W.C.T.U., this department of work. The Rev S. H. Sprott presided, and Te Heu Heu, the influential Maori chief, addressed the meeting, advocating temperance, and welcoming me and those associated with me in the work. Mr Hone Heke, M.H.R., also said a few words on behalf of the work; also Mr A. R. Atkinson and other leading temperance people. Miss Kirk's short address was listened to with much interest, and Mrs Plimmer's questions elicited some interesting information. I gave an account of work already done at Levin, and the work proposed and plans for carrying out this mission were discussed. Since then much has been accomplished. My letter to the Maori women on temperance and their enfranchisement was translated in Maori and 500 copies printed and circulated amongst them all over this North Island (and some since to Nelson and Hokitika). I also designed pledge cards, with allegorical picture and appropriate texts in Maori, and had 500 printed. Te Heu Heu's speech was also printed. Bibles, Testaments, prayer books, and hymn books in Maori have been purchased and distributed among the natives, and as they are quite destitute of any literature whatever, these gifts of books and tracts in Maori were received by them with expressions of gratitude and pleasure. Twelve local Unions have been written to and asked to start a work among Maoris, to which appeal only five have as yet responded. To these I have sent parcels of tracts and pledge cards in Maori. Maoris at Petone, Waiwatu, Pororua, Waikanae, Manakau, Levin, Horowhenua, Paroutawha, Whangahu, Putiki, Aramoho, and Pipiriki have been visited. My letter to the Maori women was distributed at all the stopping places up the Whanganui river. Major Kemp and his daughter Victoria signed the pledge cards. The latter promised to form a branch Union, of which she would be president. She has also obtained several signatures to the pledge cards. The number of Maoris who have signed from all the above places is seventy-nine; number of Testaments distributed, seventy; books—"More about Jesus," illustrated—forty; temperance and other tracts, over 800.

I was told by Tamihana Kauwhata that my letter to the Maori women and pledge cards were received by some of the Waikato women at King Tawahoa's funeral with great enthusiasm. I have to record with gratitude the kindness of the Countess of Glasgow in expressing her interest in and sympathy with this work.