

we sent letters to each local paper, urging women to see that their names had not been struck off the roll. We also set forth the advantages of "no license," and upon the very eve of the March election fired parting shots all round.

We have endeavoured to influence public opinion upon the following subjects:—

The Desirability of Public Baths.

The Connection between Diseased Meat and Cancer, and the importance of all meat being inspected by an officer appointed by Government.

Dress Reform.

The Duty of Supporting the Members of the Licensing Committee who were Suffering in their Business through their noble Adherence to their Principles.

The Report of our Year's Work, which was read at our recent Annual Meeting, has also appeared in all the local papers.

In Christchurch full reports of discussions engaged in, papers read, and resolutions passed at the various meetings, have been published in the daily papers. Efforts have also been made to further the cause of Social Purity by letters bearing on the subject addressed to the local press.

JANET PLIMMER.

LITERATURE REPORT.

Only five Unions report their work in this department this year. Invercargill has worked vigorously. Tracts have been supplied for district distribution, and for filling railway and hotel boxes; also Purity Leaflets for cottage meetings.

The members themselves are instructed in temperance and in politics by the circulation of the "Union Signal," "The Church and the Liquor Traffic," "Medical Pioneer," and "Hansard."

Timaru has also worked well; thousands of Leaflets distributed, and the "Woman's Signal" taken for members.

Dunedin has distributed 100 "Prohibitionists" fortnightly, and sent parcels of temperance literature all over Otago, for which expressions of gratitude have come from many quarters.

Christchurch has added several new books to its library, notably—"Badger's Statute Books." Mrs. May has kindly sent many valuable books on dress reform, Hygiene, &c., from England. A careful selection of pamphlets, &c., was made for distribution at the Temperance Tent on the Show Grounds.

The page in the "Prohibitionist" is still continued, also the distribution of that paper by members. Copies of the "Union Signal" and "Woman's Signal" are circulated among the

members. June numbers of the "Medical Pioneer" are also subscribed for by the Union each month. One copy is sent to one of the local medical doctors.

Napier distributes Social Purity leaflets and the "Medical Pioneer." Educational meetings are held monthly, and papers read from the "Woman's Signal," "Union Signal," and the "Nineteenth Century" magazine. At one of these meetings the subject taken was, "A Living Wage," the practical outcome of which was a resolve on the part of members to be prepared to pay a liberal price for needlework, rather than be the means of driving some underpaid girls to resort to an impure life to eke out their living. This report closes with a quotation from an American writer, who says: "To do effective work, the rank and file must do it intelligently. Our organisation will never attain to the height we are striving to gain until intelligent, systematic, persistent work in our local Unions is the rule. We all need more education of heart and mind to grapple successfully with the difficulties in our path."

We heartily endorse these sentiments, and wish it were possible to have a free distribution of literature to those Unions which are perishing for lack of knowledge.

For years past it has been felt that a paper of our own would meet a much-felt want. We have objects and aims that need ventilating in an independent organ that will educate women up to their privileges socially and politically; aid woman's work in all departments, and especially serve as a means of higher education in Temperance and Social Purity.

And now our hopes are in part realised, and we send our little "White Ribbon" abroad with the prayer that it may be owned of God and blest to "Home and Humanity."

C. VENABLES.

The Polyglot petition, when presented in Washington, was over two thousand yards long.

A Bill authorising county judges to commit persons to "drink cures" at the county's expense, where the person is unable to pay for it, has been favoured by the Wisconsin Legislature's Committee on Charitable and Penal Institutions.

Women Suffrage Bills have recently been before the Legislatures of six American States—viz, in North Dakota, Montana, Washington, Arizona, and California. Early in the year two other States, Idaho and Oregon, passed Bills through both Houses calling for a popular vote on woman suffrage.