

News of the Unions.

(The Editor cannot promise to insert anything in the next issue that does not reach her by the 8th of the month. Correspondents are requested to write their Reports as concisely as possible, on one side of the paper only. Newspaper cuttings are unsuitable.)

NORMANBY.

Sept. Meeting held in Social Hall, 15 present, four new members joining. Resolved: "That each member look after their neighbours, that we may gain all votes." Reading by Miss Gilling. Vote of thanks was passed to Mrs Patterson for gift of Bibles and hymn books. Refreshments handed round.

Oct. Meeting held in Social Hall, 13 being present. One new member joined. Mrs Scott presided. Mrs Butler proposed, as we had enjoyed the franchise for 21 years, we use all the power we undoubtedly possess to wipe the Liquor Traffic out of our fair land. Mrs Hayward was elected Superintendent of Literature. Decided to provide refreshments on polling day. Each member promised to put in as much time as possible on that day to help. A very enthusiastic meeting was brought to a close. Afternoon tea was then handed round.

WANGANUI.

Meeting held in Trinity Parlour on October 30th, Mrs J. Smith presiding for the last time. A vote of condolence was passed to the family of the late Mrs Basil Taylor. Two new members were initiated. Mrs Upton received a warm welcome, and gave an interesting account of her recent trip to England. The Agricultural Association wrote granting the use of one of the outside grandstands for the use of mothers and children on Show days. At Paul and Co.'s tearooms the members made a presentation to Mrs Smith of a pair of copper vases and a silver cake stand. A delicious afternoon tea was served. In spite of the heavy rain, there was a large attendance.

Our Bazaar, which was held on the afternoon and evening of October 8th, realised the sum of £96, which was very satisfactory.

A meeting was held on October 13th for the purpose of allocating the money and to pass accounts for payment. £74 was voted to the No-License League, £10 to the Maori Organiser, and £10 to our own Organiser.

TAURANGA.

The meeting began with prayer. Reports were read by the various office-holders. Miss Norrie was initiated into our membership, and heartily welcomed.

NORTH-EAST VALLEY.

Usual monthly meeting held on Thursday afternoon. Mrs Eliot presided over good attendance. A solo was sung during the afternoon, and one new member was welcomed. Pastor McCallum gave an evangelistic address. Decided to forego the usual tea at the annual meeting next month, and to devote the money thus saved to the No-License Fighting Fund.

DUNEDIN.

November meeting in No-License rooms, President in the chair. Memorial service to the late Mrs R. Booth, who died very suddenly while in the North Island. Mrs Booth, formerly of the Nelson Union, was a sweet, gracious woman. Mesdames Driver and Porteous spoke feelingly of the inspiring influence and faithful services of our late member. A motion was passed expressing deep sorrow with the bereaved family. The following resolutions were carried:—"That the members of the W.C.T.U. express their horror at the atrocities committed by German soldiers in the march through Belgium, and express the belief that these were largely due to the drinking customs of the German army, and furnish the strongest possible argument for the abolition of all intoxicating liquors. The action of the Belgians in destroying every bottle of intoxicants before leaving Antwerp proves their conviction that the frightful barbarities of the Germans were due to drunkenness." "That there is much cause for thankfulness that some naval and military authorities are prohibiting the use of intoxicating liquor by soldiers and sailors. Russia has sacrificed £90,000,000 annually by the abolition of the spirit monopoly. This direful war has achieved a victory elsewhere than on the battlefield." Regret was expressed that the measure to give women seats on the Legislative Council had been defeated. Mrs Jarvie was appointed Superintendent of Home and Suburban Meetings.

KAIKORAI.

Meeting held in Church Hall October 30th. Mrs Driver presided. There was a small attendance. Rolls and enrolment forms were given out for the district canvass, members to begin at once. After prayer by Mrs Driver, meeting adjourned to Mr Stewart's meeting for ladies, a candidate who is in favour of the Bare Majority.

SHEFFIELD.

October meeting. Ten members present, Mrs McIlraith presiding. Miss Roberts' letter in current number "White Ribbon" read and discussed, and decided to follow Miss Roberts' advice. Secretary to write Minister of Public Health re same. Mrs McIlraith, our delegate, gave an instructive report of the Provincial Convention.

Special meeting held at Annat October 29th. Mrs Lee-Cowie was expected to address, but was planned at Lincoln, and could not come. Seven members present, and one visitor. Mrs McIlraith presided. A letter received from Mrs Day re the Hon. Mr Allen's refusal to listen to the demands of the women teachers; held over until next meeting. A book on the "Women's Franchise Movement in New Zealand" was received from Mr Sydney Smith, to be dealt with at next meeting.

Meeting held at Sheffield November 4th, present 5 members, Mrs McMillan presiding. Mrs Day's letter was then read and discussed, and decided that we send a protest to the Minister of Education re his refusal to listen to the teachers' demands. Mr Sydney Smith's book on "Women's Franchise Movement in New Zealand" was received with thanks. Members to take it in turn to read. Secretary to write a letter of thanks to Mr Smith. Letter received from Mrs Lee-Cowie, also booklets and papers for distribution among members; also a letter from Miss Henderson re annual report for year ending December 31st.

BLLENHEIM.

Monthly meeting held October 6th, in Wesley Hall, Mrs Jackson presiding. Attendance good. Decided to donate £5 to relief of poor in Britain and Belgium, also a box of clothing each member donating one garment. One new member. Afternoon tea handed round.

MANAIA.

Oct. Usual monthly meeting held in Methodist Church, 12 members present and two visitors. Mrs Don wrote returning money donated to N.Z. Fund, and suggesting that it be donated to the Organising Fund. Resolved to send £5 to Maori Organising Fund. Mrs Membry appointed Superintendent of Maori Work, and spoke of the interest the Maoris take in the Maori Notes in "White Ribbon." It was noted that the Bill giving 31 days more gambling had been passed by Parliament. One new member, two for Cradle Roll.

ASHBURTON.

Meeting held on October 6th. Mrs Mowlem (Dominion Organiser) present, and addressed the meeting on the "Aims and Objects" of the W.C.T.U. The speaker emphasised the need for united prayer in seeking to accomplish the overthrow of the liquor traffic. She spoke of work for the coming poll, and distributed literature. Vote of thanks to Mrs Mowlem. Afternoon tea handed round.

Meeting held on October 13th. Mrs W. K. Watson presided over a fair attendance of members. Resolved that a collection be taken next meeting in aid of the Organising Funds.