

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.)

KAIAPOL.

The 25th anniversary was celebrated on 27th January. N.Z. officers were nominated. The Secretary's annual report showed that good work had been done in the following departments:—Educational, Literature, Band of Hope, Scientific Temperance Instruction, Purity, Relief Work, and Refreshment Booths. The following officers were elected:—Pres., Mrs Brighting; Sec., Miss Blackwell; Treas., Mrs T. G. Blackwell; Managers W.C.T.U. Rooms, Mrs Jameson and Miss McPherson. Mrs Barnard was elected delegate to Convention. Votes of sympathy were passed with Mrs McDougall and with Mrs G. H. Blackwell and family, Mr Blackwell having been an honorary member of the W.C.T.U. for over twenty years.

WANGANUI EAST.

Special meeting held on December 11th. The President, Mrs Andrew, occupied the chair. Reports of the various departments were read, and balance-sheet presented. The reports showed that steady progress had been made during the year. The Treasurer showed a credit balance of 17s 7d. Election of officers as follows:—Pres., Mrs Andrew; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Scott, Blair, and Duxfield; Cor. Sec., Mrs Hicks; Rec. Sec., Mrs Duxfield; Treas., Mrs McLeod. Proposed that two dozen White Ribbon hymn books be procured for use of members. Mrs Neilson was asked to convey the thanks of the Union to Mr Neilson for his opportune resolution in favour of carrying National Prohibition and No-License at a meeting of the Moderate League. The members were gratified to learn that so many bare majority and fifty-five per cent. members had been returned to Parliament.

SHEFFIELD.

Meeting held on Wednesday, February 3rd, six members present, Mrs McIlraith presiding, whom we are all pleased to have with us again. Received a circular from Miss Henderson, also post-card from Mrs Boxall re Sabbath Observance. Mrs Neutze consented to act as Secretary for the ensuing year. The question of sending a delegate to Convention was discussed, and decided to leave until next meeting. Meeting closed with prayer. Officers elected were: Pres., Mrs McIlraith, Annat; Sec., Mrs Neutze, Annat; Treas., Mrs Kennedy, Annat.

INVERCARGILL.

There was a large attendance of members at our first meeting for 1915, held on February 2nd. We were pleased to have Miss Powell, the Union Organiser, with us, and all enjoyed her very helpful address. It is thought that a branch of our Union may now be formed in South Invercargill, and the arrangements were left with Mrs Cowie and Miss Powell. Miss Brown reported that there were 88 names on Cradle Roll, and she is arranging for a mothers' and children's party, at which an address will be given by Miss Powell. A Financial Committee was appointed, also representatives to Reform Council meetings. Mrs Macalister was appointed as delegate to Convention. The Y. Branch, owing to so many engagements since formation of Y.W.C.A., has decided to dissolve, and sent in their books. Resolved to meet on first Tuesday of each month at 3 o'clock in afternoon, and in addition an educational meeting to be held on third Tuesday evening of each month during winter months, for convenience of young women members. The resolutions to be brought up at Convention were discussed and voted upon. One new member was welcomed, and a letter of introduction given to departing member.

WOODVILLE.

Meeting held on January 26. Attendance good for holiday time. Our President opened, and hoped that the members would work more earnestly than ever in the great fight before us for the next three years, also wished us to remember always to wear the badge. Decided that essay by school children on "Temperance Wall Sheet" should be carried out before too late this year. A very helpful paper was given by one of the members on "Devotion and Self-Sacrifice in Working for God and Humanity." Resolved that £1 should be given to the Belgian Fund. Our Treasurer read the financial report. We have a little in hand for expenses.

GREYMOUTH.

Our first meeting for this year, though not so well attended as usual, was interesting and instructive to us all. Several new superintendents of departments were appointed, and reports given in. Items from the "White Ribbon" were read and commented upon. I was directed to say our members as a whole wear the badges satisfactorily. We are hoping to have a good day and an interesting time on Willard Day. We are looking forward with pleasure to the Convention season, and pray God's blessing may be with you all, and prosper your work.

PETONE.

Meeting on February 2nd, Miss Kirk in the chair. Mrs Corner, our former Secretary, was appointed delegate to Convention. One member

was received by transfer. Resolved to hold a rally in the church on the 17th February, at which a good programme and tea will be provided.

BLLENHEIM.

Dec. 15. A very successful Garden Party and Christmas Tree was given to the mothers and children by the members of the W.C.T.U. at the residence of Mrs D. Sinclair. Each child received something from the Christmas tree. After partaking of a delicious afternoon tea, Mr Nalder gave an interesting address on the Ramabai Mission.

On Thursday, 17th inst., a drawing-room afternoon was held in Wesley Hall. We were all very pleased to have so many present. It gave us all an opportunity to meet Mrs Nalder, who spoke to us on the Rambai Mission and what a wonderful work Rambai was doing. Mrs Jackson, our new President, was in the chair, and in introducing Mrs Nalder, spoke a few words about her work. Mrs Hancock proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs Nalder for her interesting talk, Mrs Sinclair seconded. An enjoyable afternoon tea was given by the members. Collection taken up for the funds of the mission. A great deal of literature was sold.

WANGANUI.

Feb. 5. The first meeting of the year held, attendance good, Mrs Upton presiding. Two delegates were appointed to attend the Annual Convention, to be held in Christchurch this year, Mrs McKenzie (Sec.) and Mrs Totty being the ones chosen. Several members are reported sick, and letters of sympathy were to be sent to Mrs Gaze, Mrs Blamires, and Mrs Blyth, who has recently lost a son. We pray they may all be strengthened, and be with us soon. We were pleased to welcome two lady visitors, Mrs Wells (Wellington) and Miss Pyle (of Invercargill), who gave a short account of the work done in her district.

PAHIATUA.

Annual meeting held in the Methodist Church, December 3rd, Mrs Crabb (District President) in the chair. Reports of Secretary, also Evangelistic, Thrift, Backblocks, Home Meetings and Hygiene, Cradle Roll, and Purity Superintendents were given. Officers for 1915 elected as follows:—Pres., Mrs Neal; Sec., Mrs J. D. Wilson; Treas., Mrs W. McCordle; Vice-Pres., Mrs H. Godfrey. A motion thanking Mrs Paterson (late Treas.) and Mrs Ross (late Sec.) for past services, and expressing regret that they could not accept nomination for office next year, was passed unanimously. Resolved that a letter of sympathy be sent to Mrs Ross, late Secretary, in her illness, trusting that she may soon be restored to health. The following superintendents were appointed:—Evangelistic, Mrs H. Godfrey; Home Meetings and Hygiene, Mrs J. D.