

men has been much improved with the training. The instruction which has been given as to the care of the mouth has yielded most beneficial results. In enumerating the causes of physical degeneration, the Medical Superintendent pillories for special condemnation the cigarette. Among the causes of partial rejection, amongst the physically disabled, caused by accident of a temporary nature and the disorders of the lungs and digestive system, also of a temporary nature, disordered action of the heart still accounts for a great number in practically all cases. This is due to cigarette smoking. Some means should be taken to bring before the youth of the Dominion the dire results caused by the habitual use of cigarettes.

Gambling and cigarette smoking are both strictly prohibited, and the Treasury notes have proved an unsuspected check against indulgence in the former. A record is kept of each note issued, and there was some trepidation among the original owners of five notes which were all presented by a member of the crew. On that ship there has been a sudden end of gambling.

ANNIE WRIGHT.

PRESS REPORT.

Kaiapoi has sent reports of meetings to Christchurch papers, to local papers and also to "White Ribbon."

Timaru has had all meetings reported in local press. The Waimate branch run a Temperance Column in the "Waimate Times."

Nelson has reported regularly all meetings held, both to local paper and "White Ribbon." Two or three letters were also sent to the Nelson paper in reference to the School Committee and General Election.

Warkworth advertises its meetings in local paper, a few days before, and always reports business done at the meetings to local paper and "White Ribbon."

Napier reports all meetings to three local papers. When papers or anything else of general interest is read at meeting the "Hawkes Bay Herald" usually publishes in full. Reports are also sent to "White Ribbon."

Ashburton has had all meetings reported in local papers and "White Ribbon." All resolutions being inserted in full. Regret was expressed that the Ashburton papers have fallen into line with others in the Dominion and refuse during the No License campaign to publish letters sent in bearing on the liquor question, unless inserted as an advertisement and paid for at the same rate; that unjust decision limits our influence and opportunities. Correspondence bearing on other subjects relative to the working of the Union has been inserted in papers, as opportunity offered.

Dunedin reports that all meetings are regularly reported. The work and needs of the Sailors' Rest have been

kept steadily before the public. Also resolutions and protest against some provisions of the Criminal Acts Bill, have been inserted in the reports; also the reduction of the three-fifths handicap has been repeatedly urged in the reports.

Invercargill.—Reports of meetings regularly sent to "White Ribbon," and to the three local papers. Prize essays on Temperance Wall Sheets sent to "Vanguard," "Southern Cross" and "White Ribbon." Columns in two papers weekly, whenever possible, of temperance and uplifting character. Various resolutions for Government fully given in local papers.

Pahiatua.—All meetings reported in "White Ribbon" and local paper. The managers never cut down our reports, which sometimes take up six inches of space, but mostly four and a half inches. The leaflet "What the N.Z. Women have Gained since 1893," was copied in full in the "Pahiatua Herald." Presented Editor with a copy of Convention number and Franchise number of "White Ribbon"; also copies of "White Ribbon Bulletin."

Ngaere.—A member is appointed to take notes and report to "White Ribbon" and local papers.

Rangiora.—Meetings were well reported in the "Press," also "White Ribbon."

Christchurch reports of meetings sent to "White Ribbon," and local papers. The aims of the W.C.T.U. have been kept before the public in letters and articles to the papers, whenever opportunity offered. Particular attention was directed to the proposed amendment of the Criminal Code Act for the protection of women and children, and reactionary ideas suggested by Ministers were condemned. Equal pay for equal work has been dealt with from time to time. Attention has been drawn to the spread of No License and Prohibition legislation in Europe and America. Information has also been given in the women's movement at Home, and the need of taking in one or more of the Suffrage papers in Britain urged, as the only means of understanding the essential facts of woman's life and work in the great world. Copies of "White Ribbon" have been sent to leading feminist organisations at Home.

Auckland reports their fortnightly meetings are always reported in the "Auckland Herald" and "Star," also "White Ribbon."

Wanganui East.—All meetings are reported in "White Ribbon," also Annual Meeting, and any of special importance, to local paper. L.T.L. meetings are reported from time to time, when a good full report of the work among the young is always given.

I regret that more Unions have not sent in their reports. Eighteen received last year and only fourteen this year, out of somewhere about one hundred Unions. Surely a small percentage. However, we are pleased to know that numbers of other Unions, who

have omitted to send in their Annual Press report, do not neglect this important branch of our work each month, as opportunity offers. I would again urge on all Unions the power of the Press. Educate, agitate, through the Press. Much has been accomplished through this means, but much more yet remains to be done. Let us not forget to report, report, report, report, report, report.

ANNIE DUXFIELD,
Dominion "Press" Superintendent.

SABBATH OBSERVANCE.

I am very disappointed with the report I am sending in for the five months I have been in office.

This being a branch of the W.C.T.U. work, which every member has it in her power to do something for, which must tell on the lives of others, especially those of us who are mothers.

Let us sincerely hope in the year upon which we have entered, each Union will appoint a Supt. for "Sabbath Observance" so that a fuller report may be presented, by showing that effective work has been done throughout the Dominion.

In October, a letter was inserted in the "White Ribbon" calling the attention of our Unions to this branch of the work, asking for reports by the end of the year. Two only came to hand in December. Before the close of the year 44 secretaries were written to, out of that number ten replied. 34 sent no answer whatever. Only three have Supts. Five of the ten who replied, reported no work done during the year.

Hamilton reports W.C.T.U. has at different times protested against Sports and picnics being held on the Sabbath, and greatly deplore the amount of desecration on that day.

New Plymouth.—No work done, but excellent sermons have been preached on "Sabbath Observance."

Opotiki.—No Supt., but a few leaflets have been distributed.

Waipawa.—Members of the Union help with Sunday School work, also assisted the ministers in a deputation asking the Council to prohibit games on the public reserves on the Sabbath Day. Waipawa is very orderly on that day.

Wanganui report that a number of the W.C.T.U. members were helping during Carnival Week. The Committee wished to arrange a Concert for the Sunday, but these women protested and the Concert was not held.

Dunedin.—Have written a few letters to the "Times" on "Sabbath Observance." Distributed literature and spoken to children in the street.

Wellington Central.—Supt. of "Sabbath Observance" says, I have been unable to do anything in respect to the distribution of literature, for the simple reason that there appears to be no provision made for the supply of any suitable literature on the subject,