

Rangiora.—We have Purity literature in circulation, also medicinal leaflets we are distributing free. In regard to election work, our women have been helping the local League to distribute papers and leaflets.

Mcgiel.—Our branch is quite a new thing, and it takes some time to get things into working order. However, we bought several Purity books, and our Superintendent, Mrs Coollee, Gordon Road, has loaned these books out during the year, and has worked in a quiet way. One meeting we read a paper on the subject, which caused a good deal of discussion, several members joining in. I am answering your letter, as the Superintendent feels that she is not able to; they are all so new at the work, and it is a job to get them to do much.

Opatiki.—We have no Superintendent for the Purity Department as yet, but during the past year a little Purity literature has been distributed, and several subscribers to the "Purity Advocate" obtained. This is a subject that people do want educating in, as so many seem to think that the least said about such matters the better. We have thought that it might be a good plan for this Union to procure Stall's "Self and Sex" series, and to lend them out like a library, or any other good books. Hoping that this work will grow.

Invercargill.—A large number of books and papers have been given or lent by Mrs H. Lee-Cowie, Mrs Hunter, and Sister Moody Bell. An address on "White Slave Traffic" by Rev. T. K. Archer at District Convention. Sister Moody Bell delivered 19 Talks with Young Men and Women on "Sweethearts" in various parts of the Dominion, also a large number of addresses on "The White Slave Traffic." An address was given by H. W. Bligh at W.C.T.U. meeting. A book with very unsuitable picture cover at railway bookstall was objected to without avail. The matter was put into the hands of the police, with the result that prosecution followed, and a fine was imposed. (N.B.—The bookstall is now in other hands.) The Executive in reality acts as a Vigilance Committee, and have been the means of removing many suggestive postcards from shop windows, etc.

Nelson.—The work of this department has been confined almost entirely to the circulation of literature. We subscribe for four copies of "American Motherhood," and these are circulated amongst our members. Many of our young mothers say, "It is just what I wanted." Our depot has been maintained during the year, and our assortment of books increased. We hope to extend this work still further during the coming year. A library has been started, with at present 13 books, and others to be added shortly; also "American Motherhood" after it has been round is repaired and placed in the cupboard for further use. During the year we distributed 1100 copies of "An Appeal

to Men" and 26 copies of "The Great Scourge"; 20 copies were given by a friend for circulation amongst the clergy of our district, and six were given by our Union to the Chaplain in charge of the Nelson Contingent of the Expeditionary Force, for circulation amongst the men in his charge, and also 500 copies of "An Appeal to Men." At one Good Citizenship meeting the Purity Superintendent opened the discussion on "The Teaching of Sex Hygiene," and read Dr. Hardwick Smith's Report on Venereal Diseases. A resolution was carried unanimously in favour of instructing the young in sex biology and sex hygiene.

Napier.—The work that can be done in this important department is difficult to record. Preventive measures are especially needed, to in every way possible give moral education to the young of both sexes, so as to reduce the many sad cases that are to be found in Rescue Homes. Very helpful literature can be obtained from our own Dominion Superintendent, and if each member of our Union took a greater interest in this work much good would result. I have supplied suitable pamphlets for boys from 12 to 15, at the request of a Junior Bible Class leader, who was glad to use these aids to bring the matter before his boys. Knowledge can be carefully imparted that may save many from future ruin. To-day we condemn the old statement that "ignorance is innocence," and we seek to educate ourselves, and then our children, in the best way to combat social evils. We would again emphasise the fact that it is far better to prevent our young people from falling than to provide Homes to rescue those who, by knowledge properly given, might have been prevented from going astray.

Kaiapoi reports: We ordered 100 leaflets, "An Appeal to Men of N.Z.," and posted them to men in our district; later we ordered another 100 copies, and had them distributed at the camp of the Expeditionary Force in Christchurch. In the early part of the year we organised an evening meeting of young women to hear and discuss a paper on "The White Slave Traffic." In November a very large meeting of young women was held to hear an address by Mr Bligh, lecturer for "The White Cross League." This coming year we hope to purchase books from Mrs Dearlove for distribution amongst the different girls' Bible Classes in Kaiapoi.

Wellington.—I write from the District W.C.T.U., Wellington, not as Superintendent of the Purity Department, for I do not know if there was one appointed for our Union this year. As I have done work, I thought you would be glad to hear what has been done. The leaflet which was printed, "An Appeal to Men of New Zealand from the W.C.T.U.—Our Union purchased about 1000, of which 500 were distri-

buted among the men of the Expeditionary Forces; the others were given to men at meetings held in our city. I have just finished my rounds to the factories and laundries in the Wellington South district, where hundreds of women and girls are employed, and to these Purity literature has been distributed. There are only a few men and boys employed in these establishments, yet I had some for them also. I should like to say that I was much pleased with the assortment received from Mrs Dearlove this year, and my sincere prayer is that the seed sown may find a lodging place in many a heart, and bring forth fruit in the life.

Christchurch reports: This subject has been discussed at one of our educational meetings; also the desirability of introducing the teaching of sex physiology into the primary and secondary schools.

Pahiatua reports: This department has been worked in conjunction with the Cradle Roll. 132 Purity books and leaflets have been loaned to mothers; 110 leaflets against White Slave Traffic have been given away by the Superintendent; 400 copies of the leaflet, "An Appeal to Men of N.Z.," by the W.C.T.U., have been distributed by other members of the Union; six copies of the "Purity Advocate" circulated each quarter, and several new subscribers obtained. Mrs Field's paper on the "White Slave Traffic" was read at two meetings; also Mrs Muriel Lovell-Smith's paper, "Girls of To-day and Their Greatness," was read at two meetings. Miss Lily Wilton was our Superintendent. I regret that we are losing her services, owing to the fact that she is leaving Pahiatua to enter the Seventh Day Adventist College.

Eltham reports: Have distributed Purity leaflets, and had some talks with mothers, and gave advice when and where have been able to do so.

Palmerston North reports: Four young girls whose need of help has been brought under our notice have been assisted, and so far have turned out satisfactorily. A number of Purity books have been sold, and private conversations have not been neglected. A fresh supply of books has been obtained, and are available for sale or lending.

Kaiapoi reports further: We organised a public meeting of women to hear and discuss a paper on "The White Slave Traffic." Have also distributed 100 copies of the "Appeal to the Men of N.Z."; also obtained another 100 copies for distribution amongst our soldiers. In November we organised a large meeting of young women, when Mr Bligh, lecturer for the White Cross League, gave a splendid address on Social Purity lines.

Ponsonby.—The year that is now passed has been one of much thought and consideration on this question. The United Women's