

NAPIER.

April 7. Mrs Fossey presided. Report of the Christchurch Conference by Mrs Walker. Address by President, pointing out the different causes for the decreased temperance vote, but saying the W.C.T.U. was not disheartened, but all at the Conference made up their minds to work harder than ever. It was shown, however, that though we mean to work, we unfortunately must have funds for every branch of our work, and suggested the 100 per cent. increase of membership campaign, and taking the cheque books when they are available to get Temperance sympathisers to subscribe. Members were also asked to stand for the election of School Committees. Decided to start the sewing meeting on Tuesday evening at 7.30 for making new clothes for the Belgians; also members were asked to take home work if unable to come to meetings. Afternoon tea was dispensed. Three new members were initiated. Collection in aid of Missionary Fund.

April 15. Report was given of the money collected by Mrs Ingram from friends to make clothes for the Belgium poor, £33 5s. Arranged that the L.T.L. start on Friday, 23rd. A letter to be sent to Hon Allen, Minister of Defence, re stopping Chaplains being sent on troopships. Resolution passed that "The Hon the Minister of Defence be respectfully asked to ensure that a Chaplain is sent with all future contingents to the front, it being felt by the members of the W.C.T.U. that it is equally necessary for the men to be morally as well as physically fit for the arduous work they are undertaking."

May 5. Letter to be sent to Dr Florence Keller congratulating her on topping poll at the Hospital Board Election; congratulations to be sent to three new members on the Borough Council who are temperance workers. Arrangements made to attend District Convention at Waipukurau. Arranged to have one meeting a month at the Baptist Sunday School at Napier South, when an educational paper would be read. Next Thursday meeting on "The Tragedy of Ignorance." Resolved that a letter should be written to Miss Roberts asking her if possible to send a cablegram to Mr Lloyd George re his Drink Crusade, from our Dominion W.C.T.U., and the Napier Union would be quite willing to pay its share towards it.

DUNEDIN.

The following resolution was passed at the ordinary meeting of the Dunedin Union:—"That this W.C.T.U. desire to express its deep appreciation of the action of His Majesty the King in banishing intoxicating liquors from his household during the continuance of the war, and its earnest hope that His Royal example will be followed throughout the wide dominions of his Empire. They rejoice that already so many who hold offices of influence and

authority have copied their Sovereign's example and adopted the principle of abstinence as an inducement to sobriety on the part of the worker, on whose industry and fidelity so much depends. It avers its earnest conviction that nothing could more certainly ensure the safety and prosperity of the Empire as the total prohibition of the liquor traffic, which Mr Lloyd George has declared to be a greater enemy to the nation than even Germany itself, and indulges the hope that the temporary abstinence to which so many in high stations have pledged themselves will become permanent, and that their splendid example will influence for good the whole Empire." Mrs Jarvie then gave a report on the recent Conference in Christchurch. Members were urged to vote for women as members of the Hospital and Charitable Aid Board. Mr Robertson's (seamen's missionary, report was read and adopted.

May. Monthly meeting in No License Rooms, Moray Place. Mrs Driver, president, in the chair. A motion of sympathy was passed with Mrs Edmonds and Miss Nicol in their sudden bereavements. Sympathetic reference was made to those who had been bereaved by the casualties at the Dardanelles. Miss Powell, organiser, sent report of her visit to our auxiliaries. Received letter from Minister of Defence re wet canteens. The meeting expressed gratification at three ladies being placed at the top of the poll at the recent Hospital and Charitable Aid Board Election. Decided to arrange for a conference of all temperance societies and workers to inaugurate the K.K. pledge campaign. Regret was expressed that the Dunedin Union would lose the active help and interest of Mrs Jarvis, who is leaving shortly for Wellington. The following motion was brought forward for discussion, and the attention of other Unions is directed to this matter. "That this branch of the W.C.T.U. deplore the evil effects arising from the increasing use and consequent influence of motor cars at popular elections, combined with the large extension in the direction of paid canvassing, respectfully directs the attention of the Legislature to the dangers arising from these evils, and urges the Government to immediately consider legislation to combat or control these abuses."

OPOTIKI.

March 11. Usual meeting held. Mrs Murray presided; 11 members and 2 visitors present. Decided to send for a dozen copies of Convention number for distribution. Mrs Murray intimated that she would hold an "At Home" at her residence to raise funds to meet expenses of delegate, etc. Mrs Murray then read an excellent article on the life of Frances Willard in commemoration of "Frances Willard Day," which was much appreciated. Decided to hold our next meeting as a social afternoon,

when Mrs Thompson would give her report on Convention.

April 15th. Social held; 24 present. Mrs Murray presiding. Mrs Thompson gave a most interesting and comprehensive report of the proceedings of Convention, and spoke in eulogistic terms of the high character and efficiency of the leaders, and of the methodical and business-like way everything was carried out. A vote of thanks was passed to Mrs Thompson. Mrs Goodall reported that a successful Band of Hope meeting had been held. Collection 17s, and afternoon tea handed round.

April 30. The President held an "At Home" at her residence; attendance good. Each member bringing an article towards a Sale of Work, to be held later on, in aid of the funds of the Union. A prize was given by the hostess for the most original article, and one for the most saleable article. Mrs Thompson gave a short address on the origin and objects of the W.C.T.U., and spoke of the "One win One" movement, and inviting the visitors to join our Union. Several copies of the "White Ribbon" were distributed.

HAMILTON.

Home, Evangelistic, and Missionary meeting held March 23rd at the residence of Mrs Auld. Mrs Snow occupied the chair. A very helpful address given by Mrs Sorlie on "Excuses," after which several ladies spoke a few words on the subject. Afternoon tea was served, and a vote of thanks passed to Mrs Auld.

NEW PLYMOUTH.

April 30th. An executive meeting was held at the house of the President, when a fairly full scheme of work was outlined for the coming winter. Miss Bissen has been invited to assist to inaugurate Band of Hope Work. Empire day is to be observed with prayer on May 26th, the usual monthly meeting day. Provincial Convention and Sale of Work were planned for.

May 5th. A Social Afternoon was given to the returned delegates. Mrs Bruce gave an excellent report of Convention. Mrs Douglas also gave a short report of some of the suggested methods for Temperance education, which she had heard discussed at the Alliance Congress. Miss Ambury's name was added to the list of Vice-Presidents.

SAWYER'S BAY.

Meeting held March 12th to organise a branch of the W.C.T.U. Mrs Johnstone (Port Chalmers) occupied the chair. Twelve members were initiated. The following officers were elected:—President, Mrs W. M. Allan; Vice-Presidents, Mrs Findlay and Mrs Falconer; Sec., Miss Edith Robertson; Treas., Mrs Forbes; Cradle Roll Supt., Mrs W. A. Tiffany; Literature, Mrs J. Perry; Correspondence, Mrs J. Farquharson.