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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.)

WANGANUI.

June. Two new members joined the Union. Mrs McKenzie, M.A., spoke on the war and its relationship to women. Women were urged to unity—service of all kinds, and to sacrifice. Resolved that a series of social afternoon meetings be held, and hope thereby to add to our numbers.

HIKURANGI.

June. Lecture by Miss Bisson, of Manchester, England; excellent audience and an inspiring and instructive lecture. Mr Cross, an hon. member of the W.C.T.U., expressed the feeling of the meeting when he said the lecture made one feel that we must be up and doing. Two new members were gained.

GISBORNE.

June. Seventeen present. Communication from Miss Roberts re "Public Health Amendment Act" brought up, and a resolution passed on the lines of Convention's. Miss Powell to be asked to come in October and try to form Branch Unions. Service read for two new members, and bows pinned on. Mrs Graham undertook to send pamphlet, dealing with unfermented wine, to all Anglican clergy in the district.

AUCKLAND.

June 10. Arrangements were made for Miss Bisson's meetings. Miss Evans read a report from Branch Unions. Decided to have a special meeting at Birkenhead, Miss Bisson to speak.

June 14. Collection in aid of the Auckland Women's Navy Relief Fund was taken up; Miss Bisson gave a short address, then afternoon tea was served. Miss Butler, headmistress of the Auckland Girls' Grammar School, delivered a patriotic address. At our meeting, June 16th, Miss Bisson gave a recital entitled, "Bars and Concert Rooms of Manchester," and

four new members joined. Drawing room meeting addressed by Miss Bisson, and several new members was the result.

June 30. "Pay up" social. Recitations and songs were given. Reports from members who have taken part in the Kitchener pledge signing campaign.

DEVONPORT.

February. Regret expressed at resignation of Mrs Veats, who is removing to Takapuna. Resolved to urge closing of hotel bars at 6 p.m.

March. Resolved to purchase two dozen copies of Convention number of "White Ribbon." Resolved to ask Auckland District Union to organise a Branch at Stanley Bay.

April. Delegates appointed to No License Council. Miss Le Roy appointed "White Ribbon" Agent. Miss Dewar gave report of Dominion Convention.

May. Deep regret expressed at the loss of Mr and Mrs Mackay in the Lusitania. Mrs Mackay was an old member of our Union, and was always ready and willing to give practical help. Vote of sympathy with her relatives passed. K.K. pledges were circulated.

TIMARU.

Mr Stead's report was read showing a quiet month at the Rest, not many home steamers had been coming into port; 55 men had made 103 visits. A vote of condolence was passed to Mr and Mrs Radcliffe on the death of their son. Mrs Radcliffe is a member of the Union. Miss K. Evans, who has just returned from a two year's visit to India, then read a most interesting paper on mission's schools in South India. Miss Evans showed specimens of needle-work done by the girls—lace and embroidery—which is sold to defray the expenses of their education. Miss Evans was most heartily thanked. Many members reported encouraging work with the K.K. pledges. Miss Roberts wrote in reference to the proposed Bill dealing with the question, syphilis. Decided to leave the matter in the hands of the President and Secretary to act as occasion requires, when the Bill is before Parliament. A paper was read by Mrs Harris on Florence Nightingale.

KAIAPOI.

June. Miss Powell gave an address dealing with the different branches of work of the W.C.T.U. The W.C.T.U.

cleared over £60 by Refreshment Booth at Belgian Festival, the total proceeds to be forwarded to the Patriotic Committee. The President announced that the W.C.T.U. rooms had been offered as headquarters to the Red Cross Society, and that the Union members would amalgamate with the Red Cross workers and assist them in every way. Decided to co-operate with the Band of Hope Committee, and to work up an evening's programme. Decided also to again offer prizes to children of the three highest standards for best essays dealing with the Temperance Wall Sheet, also prizes to be offered for best Temperance recitations. Resolved to join "Win One" campaign. Circulars were received from Miss Roberts relating to the compulsory clauses in connection with the Public Health Amendment Act. A resolution was passed protesting against compulsion in any shape or form, and the Secretary was instructed to watch the papers and to forward this resolution at the right time.

Miss Powell spoke about the K.K. pledge, and supplied members with the pledge cards for canvassing purposes. Deputation was arranged to wait on the Mayor, and ask him to bring this pledge before the Borough Council, and ask them to give the public a lead in the matter, and also to arrange for a public meeting. A letter of thanks was received from the British Distress Women's Suffrage Union for subscriptions forwarded by members of the W.C.T.U. Resolved: "It is the opinion of this meeting that hotels (as far as the bars are concerned) should be brought under the Shops and Offices Act, and thus compelled to close early in the evenings and on half-holidays. We urge the Government to grant this request in the best interests of the people."

BLENHEIM.

On April 9 a Home meeting was held in Wesley Hall. Sister Marion spoke on the signs of the times and the coming of Christ. Afternoon tea was served.

On April 15th the monthly meeting was held in Wesley Hall. The different ministers had been written to on the subject of Sabbath desecration, and some replied that they were quite willing to fall in with what was thought the best way of combating the evil. Mrs Sinclair, our delegate to Convention, read her report. Afternoon tea was served.