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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.)

#### CHRISTCHURCH.

July. Votes of sympathy passed with Mrs A. W. Bain on the loss of her husband, and with Mesdames Yeomans and Glen on the loss of their sons, killed at the front. Resolved: "That in view of the large increase in the amount invested on the totalisator during the last year, and also in view of the urgent need for national economy and self-sacrifice, this Union expresses its surprise and regret that the Prime Minister has stated that the Government has no intention of restricting racing or withholding permits, and earnestly urges the Government to reconsider its decision."

July 28. Celebrated T. E. Taylor Memorial Day. Miss Roberts presided. A vote of sympathy was passed with Mrs K. W. Sheppard on the loss of her husband. Miss Roberts reported on her interview with the Ministers' Association re Gaming and Lottery Act, and the following resolution was carried:—"This Union desires to draw the attention of the Government to the flagrant manner in which the law relating to raffles and art unions is being broken in many parts of the Dominion, in connection with efforts to raise funds for various patriotic purposes. We hold that no object, however worthy or good, justifies gambling, and in view of the alarming increase of this vice amongst our young people, we call upon the Government to rigidly enforce the law, and not only to refuse to extend the facilities for raffles and art unions, but also to restrict and limit them to the utmost. As this Dominion has generously and unselfishly responded to the various calls for financial help, we emphatically protest against the manner in which our patriotism is being disgraced and degraded by the methods which are now being used, and against the slur which is being cast upon our country by the imputation that to raise patriotic funds it is necessary to resort to the encouragement of a mean and despicable vice."

Miss Roberts and Mrs Day were appointed as delegates to Provincial Convention in September. Miss Roberts reported on the work done by the committee re venereal diseases, appointed some months ago. Resolutions framed by this Committee were approved and passed by the Union, and power given to the Committee to act promptly if necessary. Miss Henderson then gave a short address on "The Progress of Prohibition in Other Lands." This was lucid and to the point, and showed the great progress of Prohibition in nearly every country except Britain, which sadly lags behind. Congratulatory letters are to be sent to the women of Denmark on the granting of full political franchise to the women of that country; to the temperance people of Ontario; and also to the four women of South Australia who have been made Justices of the Peace. A collection was made for Red Cross work.

#### PALMERSTON NORTH.

Relief work in connection with our Union is flourishing. Clothing has been supplied to many deserving people. Garments have been sold at a very low price. We have also been working for the Hospital Ship. We would be glad if more members would give us their personal help, also help with funds, cast-off clothing, or new material to make up.

#### NGAERE.

July. Met at Mrs Wickham's residence. Attendance good. A number of Union pledge cards and K.K. cards were distributed among the members. Decided to go in heartily for the One-Win-One campaign. Several members promised to make sailors' comfort bags. Resolved to support protest against clauses of the Medical Bill proposed to be introduced into the House, and to ask members for the district to oppose the proposals objected to. A stirring paper by Mrs Jamison on "Drink in Connection with the War." Resolved: "That in view of the efforts made in Great Britain and in other countries in this time of war and national strain to secure the greater efficiency and physical fitness of the troops, also the example set by King George and Lord Kitchener, and the early closing of bars in Melbourne, we urge the early closing of the bars in New Zealand." Two new members joined the Union, one of whom, a lady of 76, is now our oldest member, an honour hitherto enjoyed by our President.

August. Held at Mrs K. Tarant's. A record attendance of members. I connection with circular received from Miss Roberts, copies of resolutions framed by her are to be forwarded to the Premier and other gentlemen mentioned. Two short articles on "Red Cross Work" in July "White Ribbon" were read by Miss Saunders. Some of the suggestions are to be carried out. The petitions for early closing of hotel bars were largely signed. Prizes are being given again this year to local school children for best temperance essays. Three new members for Wine One campaign.

#### NELSON.

July. "White Ribbon Day" celebrated, and a collection taken up for the Maori Fund of 15s 6d. Resolved: "That T. E. Taylor Day be celebrated at the August meeting, and a collection made for the Belgian Fund." Resolution of sympathy passed with Mrs Maclaren in the loss of her husband. Resolved: "That the Nelson Branch of the W.C.T.U. has much pleasure in congratulating Mrs Nicholls, President of the Adelaide W.C.T.U., on her appointment as Justice of the Peace, and hopes that she and Mrs Rice may not long be the only women J.P.'s in Australasia," a copy of the resolution to be sent to Mrs Nicholls. Miss Roberts's letter re clauses in the Public Health Amendment Act, concerning venereal diseases, was read and discussed, full consideration being deferred pending the obtaining of further information.

Successful meeting held at Richmond on July 7th, 17 being present. Five new members joined the Union. Reports of Convention were given, and arrangements made for a series of lectures to girls in connection with the Purity Department, Nurse Field having very kindly undertaken to give them at her own house.

Two Good Citizenship meetings have been held on June 25th and July 9th. At the first the following resolution was passed:—"That this meeting of women desires to express its sympathy with all those women organisations who are striving to work for the establishment of a permanent world peace when this war shall be over, and its desire to work in any possible way for the same end."

#### N.E. VALLEY.

June. Mrs Don gave an address, and remarked on the abnormal amount of liquor being taken on board the hospital ship. An invitation was re-