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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.)

NEW PLYMOUTH.

Aug. 25. Attendance was poor. Regret expressed at saying good-bye to Mrs Skitrop, our Secretary, who is leaving New Plymouth. Decided to hold a pay-up social on September 20th. The Band of Hope to be held first Friday in September. A resolution was passed protesting against the heavy sentence passed on Alice Parkinson after the jury brought in guilty of manslaughter, with strong recommendation to mercy on account of the provocation which she had received.

OPOTIKI.

Interesting meeting on August 18th. Resolutions concerning Syphilis, Gaming Laws, Raffles and Art Unions carried. Mrs Cummings gave a beautiful Gospel address, 33 ladies present, the Missionary Union joining with us. Mrs Murray, our President, also Mrs Cummings, spoke on K.K. pledges, and quite a number present signed the pledge. A collection was made, and afternoon tea served.

INVERCARGILL DISTRICT.

Aug. 3, in afternoon. Reported that circulars re prize essays on wall-sheet competitions had been sent to 183 schools in Southland Province. Mrs Moody (late President of the Bluff) present at meeting on her way North, welcomed with sisterly sympathy on account of recent bereavement. Additional resolutions re Public Health Act, sent by Miss Roberts, discussed and passed unanimously; also those against gambling. Mrs Cowie presented petition on behalf of Alice May Parkinson, whose case was mentioned in "White Ribbon"; this was signed by members present. The quarterly open letter to Moderate League was thoroughly endorsed, to be printed in three local papers at our cost. The Secretary asked for a report of Red Cross work done by our members, to be forwarded to National Cor. Sec.

Aug. 17, evening meeting. Letter of sympathy to be sent to Mrs C. W. Brown in indisposition. Mrs Garrett read a paper on "What the War Has Done for Women." Decided to ask for it again at Southland Convention on Labour Day. Resolved to send the Secretary to visit the Bluff W.C.T.U. if desired, to visit and meet the members there. A new member initiated.

NELSON.

Aug. 10. A fair attendance. Letters read from Miss Maunders re prizes for essays on the Temperance Wall Sheets; decided to leave it to the Executive; and from Miss Dewar, advocating home meetings, and three members offered their rooms. Letter from Miss Roberts re increase of gambling for patriotic funds was read, and enclosed resolutions were passed. Resolved to send copies to the secretaries of the various Funds and other organisations. The Convention resolution protesting against compulsory detention in cases of venereal disease was passed, a letter from Miss Roberts on the subject having been read. Letter to the Moderate League, signed by Mrs Lee-Cowie for the N.Z. W.C.T.U., was read. This was afterwards published in both papers. In celebration of T. E. Taylor Day, a collection was made for the Belgian Fund, amounting to £1 10s 0d. A number of garments were also given for the same purpose.

Meeting at Richmond on August 4th was well attended. Extracts were read from Mrs Don's Convention address, and four new members were initiated.

Two Good Citizenship meetings have been held, at which some accounts were given of the relief work carried on by women in some of the European countries.

The monthly prayer meeting on July 26th was well attended.

Members worked hard for the petition for the six o'clock closing of the hotel bars, and secured many signatures.

Monthly prayer meeting on August 30th was conducted by Mrs Commissioner Hodder, of the Salvation Army. A good attendance, and the meeting was full of life and earnestness.

The monthly meeting at Richmond on September 1st was interfered with by the rain. Extracts were read with regard to women patrols and the early closing petition. Miss Roberts's letter re gambling was read, and a resolution passed in favour of restrictive

legislation. Suggested that members make sandbags for the soldiers.

The Good Citizenship meeting on August 27th. Resolved: "That this meeting sympathises with, and as opportunity occurs, will assist in all efforts to secure in the future the settlement of national disputes by peaceful means."

PALMERSTON NORTH.

Meeting on Friday afternoon, a good attendance. Reported that nearly 2000 signatures had been obtained for the closing of the public-house bars at 6 o'clock. The members agreed to take over the Thursday nights supper for the soldiers at the Show Ground. The District Nurse made an appeal for homes for two children during the sickness of their mother. Mrs Whitehead and Mrs Smith volunteered their homes. Resolved: "That this meeting most strongly deprecates the action of Parliament in its continuation of Beldamy's. It considers its selfishness and self-indulgence most unpardonable, unpatriotic, and quite against the best traditions of the nation, and out of keeping with the self-sacrificing spirit of the times."

TAKAPUNA.

Drawing-room meeting held at Mrs Carter's, "Seaforth," Lake Town Road, June 30th, 20 ladies and two gentlemen present. Miss Bisson spoke of her work in the bar rooms, concert halls, and lodging-houses of Manchester. The collection amounted to 17s 6d, which was given to Miss Bisson for her expenses, a portion to be given to the Navy Relief Fund.

August meeting. It was brought before the notice of the Union that the men of the National Reserve, after attending drill, were marched to the hotel, and dismissed from there. Some among them very strongly objected to it. It was proposed that our President write to Mr Harris, member of Parliament for the district, calling his attention to it.

NGARUAWAHIA.

Aug. 3. 18 members present. Mrs Porter chosen delegate for the Auckland Convention. Decided to offer prizes for temperance essays. Mrs McFarlane gave a paper on Temperance, which was afterwards discussed.

A "Y" meeting held at Mrs Paterson's. Mrs Dr. Tait gave a paper on "Nursing," and read some interesting letters from nurses engaged at the front. A pianoforte duet was also