

given. We have commenced knitting for our soldiers. Decided that our next meeting should take the form of a Red Cross evening.

April 25, 8 p.m. An after-church rally held in the Town Hall in connection with the K.K. campaign. In spite of bad weather, there was a good attendance, over 50 pledges being taken. Both the Methodist and Presbyterian ministers co-operated.

#### RANGIORA.

Aug. Mrs May in the chair. Attendance small on account of sickness. Mrs H. Taylor's resignation as Treasurer accepted with regret. Mrs Patchett was appointed delegate to Convention at Timaru. Decided to purchase one dozen K.K. badges, to get our Temperance young men to wear them, and to sign the K.K. pledge. A successful house to house canvass for old linen for our wounded soldiers. The petition for closing liquor bars at 6 o'clock throughout the Dominion was largely signed.

#### N.E. VALLEY.

Aug. Attendance good. Mrs H. B. Gray presided. Miss Cliff sang a solo. Miss Jean Begg, of the London Missionary Society, gave a short talk on her 4½ years among the girls of Samoa. The girls come to the missionary school from ten to thirteen years of age, and were taught, among other things, the care of their bodies and homes. Some of them had become very successful missionaries at New Guinea. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Miss Begg. A collection was taken on behalf of our Maori work.

#### KAIKORAI.

Aug. 27. Mrs Somerville presided. A letter was read re temperance essays for the young. Decided to assist with same if taken up. A vote of sympathy was passed to a member whose son has died for King and country. Signatures for Alice Parkinson petition were put down, and meeting closed with the Benediction.

#### WANGANUI EAST.

July 30. Resolutions forwarded by Miss Roberts were put to the meeting and carried unanimously. Mrs Upton gave a very excellent paper on "The Glorified Life," which was much appreciated.

Aug. 10. Special meeting. Miss Weymouth gave an address on "Social Questions, or Dangers to Women and Girls as the Result of the Drink Traffic."

#### AUCKLAND.

Aug. 11. Mrs Cook gave an address on "Thought and its Influence Upon Our Lives." Decided to make the first meeting of the year the day for paying the members' fees. Miss Evans reported on the petition for 6 o'clock closing. 880 signatures secured. Further arrangements were

made for the Provincial Convention, to be held next month. Resolved to send on to the Premier resolutions passed at our meeting on July 28th, expressing regret and surprise that the Government do not intend to introduce legislation to restrict racing nor to withhold racing permits; also 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 to raise funds for various patriotic purposes. Miss Roberts's resolutions on venereal diseases were passed.

Aug. 24. Welcome to Mrs Moody. Mrs Von Sturmer gave a short address on "Navy Relief Work," and asked for helpers. Resolved: "That this meeting learns with much regret that the National Cabinet has declined to legislate for the curtailment of the hours for the sale of intoxicating liquors. We wish to emphasise that the legislation we desire is strictly non-partisan and entirely national and patriotic, and is much needed in the best interests of all matters associated with the present national war crisis. We therefore trust that the National Cabinet will reconsider its decision and at once place greater restrictions upon a commodity which so materially assisting our nation's foes

#### PETONE.

At Home was held at the President's house. Mrs Wright, senr., gave a very good paper on "Women's Work," which caused discussion and a challenge of a debate on a future occasion. Afternoon tea followed a recitation by Mrs Usmar.

Monthly meeting held; good attendance. Address given by Ensign Seamen (Salvation Army), showing that if we keep Christ's commandments we may expect answer to prayer.

Aug. Birthday reception in honour of our President, who celebrated her eighty-second birthday. Mrs Johnson Wright gave a stirring address. Mrs Adjutant Green, whose husband is Chaplain of the Forces in Egypt, gave a most interesting address on her husband's work amongst our brave boys, and showed us some beautiful specimens of work done by the Egyptian women. Mrs McPherson offered congratulations, and musical items were rendered. A beautiful birthday cake was made and presented by Mrs Burd. Mrs Rowse, in a happy speech, returned thanks for all the good wishes.

#### NAPIER.

July 15. A paper was read by Mrs Freeman, written by the Rev. J. K. Archer, on "White Slave Traffic." It was a very instructive paper, and highly appreciated.

July 27. T. E. Taylor and White Ribbon Days were celebrated, when Rev. Eric Evan spoke on Temperance work and the great impetus it was given by the life of Mr T. E. Taylor.

Mrs Dearlove spoke of the birth of the "White Ribbon," and read a portion out of the first number. Afternoon tea was dispensed by the members.

August 4. Discussion on the medical proposals was resumed, and the following resolution was passed, with two dissentients:—"That the Napier Branch of the W.C.T.U. resolves that the proposals from the Medical Conference, if enforced, would be for the lessening of the evil effects of wrongdoing, as it would enforce all syphilis diseases being treated as other infectious diseases, and so protect innocent victims from the contagion." The Union also passed the following resolutions sent from the Christchurch Union re racing and gambling, and the resolutions sent:—(1) "That free treatment should be provided for all persons suffering from venereal diseases who shall present themselves for such treatment." (2) As it stands. (3) on the ground that it might be a loophole for men who wish to get a separation. (4) As it stands. (5) "That amendments to the Criminal Law should be passed giving greater protection to women and girls, excepting the one of raising the age of consent to 21 years" (on the ground that it is very hard to get a jury to convict now, and would be impossible if raised to 25 years, as most girls are practically women at 18 years).

August 10. Mrs Dearlove read the booklet entitled "Talks on Purity," price 1d, and pointed out the great advantage this and similar books are to mothers in teaching the subject of purity to their children, and urged that they be widely read.

Sept. 1. Samples were shown of Red Cross requisites, and canvassers reported progress in getting material. Decided to purchase a bolt of jute hessian for sandbags. Decided not to publish letter to Moderate League at cost of £1. Decided that no action be taken re Miss Parkinson's case.

#### LOWER HUTT.

The August meeting was held in the Church of Christ, Mrs Routley (President) in the chair. Mrs Knight reported that the sandbags for the soldiers had been well taken up, almost all the number purchased by the Union (120) being ready for shipment. Arrangements were made for a canvass for soft calico for the wounded soldiers, Mrs Routley being superintendent. Two new members were initiated. Mrs Baumber was elected "White Ribbon" correspondent. Mesdames Frethey and Collins were appointed delegates to the Provincial Convention.

#### NGAIO.

Monthly meeting held in Methodist Church. Mrs Peryman presided, and introduced Miss Powell, Dominion Organiser, who then gave a short address. One new member gained.