

Rev. Mr Bain gave a recitation, and two sacred solos were sung by Mrs Martin, of Ohoka. Decided that the birthday cake given by Mrs G. Ryde should be sold for the benefit of the Red Cross Fund.

Meeting of the Senior Band of Hope was held on Thursday evening. The Rev. Mr Bain presided, and gave an address on the "Burning Bush." Songs and recitations were contributed by members.

GISBORNE. Franchise Day.

Meeting held September 21st, between 30 and 40 present. Musical items opened the afternoon, then tea, and afterwards a very good talk by Rev. Chatterton on Franchise generally, showing how much women could do if they would only realise their united power. Two extracts were then read by Mrs Malcolm and the Rev. McCutcheon. The following resolution was then passed:—"That this meeting desires to enter a strong protest against the action of the Mayor in electing himself to the vacant seat on the Hospital and Charitable Aid Board by his casting vote, and also against the unique position taken up by those Councillors who rescinded a motion passed at a former meeting appointing the lady ratepayer who came next highest at the poll. The following was also carried:—"That this meeting would like to convey its thanks to, and appreciation of the strong stand taken up by those Councillors who stood for the principle of the democratic vote, in spite of organised opposition."

Sept. 28. 18 present. Discussion on the coming visit of Miss Powell. Temperance Convenor reported having written to headmasters re essay, and hoped to have good results. Mrs Israel read extract from letter re "Lumbermen and Miners." Telegram read from W. D. L. McDonald saying, "Views noted for consideration when legislation being considered," referring to early closing petition. The only reply we had out of three telegrams sent.

TIMARU.

Mrs Paterson read a most interesting paper on "Some of China's Problems," showing great insight into the needs of China. Mrs Trott, one of the delegates to the District Convention, gave a bright account of the work done there, and spoke in very high praise of papers read, especially those by Miss Roberts. Mrs Grant reported a visit to the hospital, and mentioned as of special interest the cases of three men who had returned invalided from the Dardanelles. Mrs Kavanagh suggested that one day a year be set apart for the collection of eggs to give to the hospitals. Mr and Mrs Good were appointed to take up the work at the Sailors' Rest, in place of Mr and Mrs Stead, who have done the work so faithfully and well. Votes of condolence were passed to

three of our members whose sons had given their lives for their country in this dreadful war.

HASTINGS.

A Sewing Guild was formed some time ago in connection with the W.C.T.U., to sew and make new clothing for the Belgians. The workers have now sufficient garments in hand to pack and forward a box. A very successful concert was held in Wesley Hall on September 23rd to raise more funds. The Rev. M. A. Rugby Pratt occupied the chair. There was a splendid programme of songs, recitations, dialogues, etc., which was much appreciated by all present. The Rev. P. Ramsay gave an encouraging patriotic address. The proceeds of the evening realised £4 7s.

PETONE.

Only a fair number were present, some being sick, and others away. Our Treasurer, Mrs Doneghue, has just had a very serious operation. We have sent from Petone upwards of 500 postcards, signed by residents re closing hotel bars at six o'clock, to Mr Wilford, M.P.

An enjoyable "At Home" was held at Mrs Hope's house on Wednesday, 22nd inst. "The Tragedy of Ignorance" was read by Mrs Houlder, and an address was given by the President, Mrs Rowse. Pianoforte duet and recitation were given. Afternoon tea was served by Mrs Hope. Two new members were initiated. Mrs Hope was heartily thanked for a pleasant afternoon.

PUKEKOHE.

A social held on September 9th, Mrs Frost (President) in the chair. Prizes were distributed to the school children for their essays on Temperance. The prizes were awarded in each class from the Third Standard upward, the Rev. G. Frost (Wesleyan minister) being the judge. The prize essays were read by the President, a vote of thanks being accorded to the headmaster for his kindness and co-operation in the matter. An enjoyable musical programme by the school children and friends was followed by afternoon tea. The thanks of the meeting were accorded to the ladies who worked so hard to make the social a success.

NELSON.

Sept. 14. Miss Atkinson presiding. A resolution of sympathy was passed with Mrs Newton, who has lost her son at the Front. Unanimously resolved that the usual Sale of Work should be held this year in the Temperance Hall. Decided that as it was not possible that Franchise Day should be celebrated on the 19th, it should be observed on a later date. A very interesting address was given by Miss Waymouth, now visiting Nelson, in which she spoke of her work in connection with the No-License League and W.C.T.U., and also of

her social work both here and in England. She received a very hearty vote of thanks. Two Good Citizenship meetings have been held, on September 10th and 24th, at which the study of Norman Angell's pamphlet "Shall this War End Prussian Militarism?" Both meetings were well attended, and the reading called forth much interesting discussion. The monthly prayer meeting was held on September 27th; we have many expressions of thankfulness at the institution of these meetings.

GREYTOWN.

Sept. Snowballing has been carried out enthusiastically. A letter was read from the Wairarapa M.P., who heartily sympathised with all who desired 6 o'clock closing of the hotel bars, but was powerless to do anything; said the Government would do nothing. 10,000 knitted eye bandages are required for the soldiers. Many ladies entered heartily into the work, promising to supply as many as possible. Vigorous collecting of old linen is being carried on, also books for the troops on the transport ships. Six were initiated, and all present wore the white badge. The Band of Hope was organised, 39 joining the ranks. A collection of 11s 2d was taken up.

WARKWORTH.

August. The Warkworth W.C.T.U. monthly meeting was held in the Methodist Church on August 26th. The attendance was small, so much time being spent with relief work. Mrs Attwood presided. Delegates were appointed to attend the Auckland District Convention. Usual business dealt with, and the meeting closed with the Benediction.

Sept. 30. Attendance good. Mrs Attwood presided. Mrs Roose, as delegate, gave an interesting report of the Auckland Provincial Convention. Mesdames Hamilton and Morrison also spoke on the Convention, and gave useful hints for next year's work. Mrs Morrison read the paper "Woman, Her Power," that she gave at the Auckland Convention.

HAWERA.

Sept. Franchise anniversary was celebrated. Mrs Mills, a new member from the Old Country, gave an address on local temperance work in the North of England. Mrs Herrick read quotations from the utterances of a number of leading men of the Dominion in warm appreciation of the way women had exercised their political influence. A list of humanitarian Acts passed during the last twenty-two years was also read. The speaker then referred to the eagerness with which women at Home were grasping any opportunity to help the Empire in this crisis, and urged members to use their influence with all women to exercise their vote with a greater sense of responsibility than heretofore. Mrs Blamires, who was