

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.)

NAPIER.

No meeting held on third Thursday of October, owing to Agricultural Show being held on that date, all W.C.T.U. sympathisers helping with catering on that occasion.

October 3. Decided to send letter to "White Ribbon" to suggest not holding Convention this coming March, unless the war should be at an end. Announced that Band of Hope social to be held November 12. Members asked to help with Dr. Barnardo's collecting on November 13. President stated she had written to Waipukurau congratulating them on their attitude towards the medical proposals. Reported on hospital work, and gave difficulties arising from being the only woman on Board. Mrs Marindale, Hastings President, visited Union. One new member joined.

CHRISTCHURCH.

October. Special meeting October 6th to make arrangements for the luncheon and tea rooms at the A. and P. Show and the River Bank Carnival. Mrs J. McCombs presided, and several committees were appointed to look after and take charge of the different departments of work in connection with Show. Resolved that owing to the spirit of gambling which is abroad in connection with River Bank Carnival, our Union rescind its former resolution to take part in the proceedings. Protest was made re indecent haste in which the Gaming and Lottery Amendment Bill had been passed. Resolved to send a telegram to Mr L. M. Isitt asking him to ask a question in the House as to the quantity of liquor supplied on second hospital ship. Decided to hold a Jumble Sale on October 23rd, proceeds to get material for the Hospital Ship.

November 3. Miss Roberts presided over a good attendance. Several donations were made towards the luncheon and tea room, and a lot of detail work in connection with this department was arranged. Decided to accede to the request of the Secretary of St. John Ambulance Association to provide afternoon tea free of charge to the nursing sisters on Thursday and Friday at the Show Grounds. Reference was made to the sad disaster of the Marquette, and the following resolution was passed:—"This Union desires to express its profound sympathy with the relatives of the nurses who perished onboard the Marquette

while in discharge of their duty, and records its appreciation of the devotion and self-sacrifice which they and so many noble women are displaying in this time of national stress."

Red Cross Report.

During the month a Jumble Sale has been held to get funds to buy material to make up for the Hospital Ship, and the following articles have been forwarded to the Red Cross Department:—10 pairs socks, 9 flannel vests, 5 pairs pants, 3 sets pyjamas, 3 bottle covers, 2 dozen manitail bandages, 32 operation cloths, 25 tray and a large quantity of medicine cloths; also two parcels have been forwarded to the Lady Liverpool Fund, consisting of 7 nightshirts, 5 pairs mittens, 5 pairs socks, 7 scarves, 2 sets pyjamas, and 2 Balaclava caps.

WINCHMORE-GREENSTREET.

A home meeting was held at Greenstreet in September, when Rev. Mr Burgin gave an address. One new member initiated. The temperance essays have been written by the children attending the two local schools. Three prizes were given from the Union's funds, and one special (donated). A delegate was sent to Timaru Convention.

The annual meeting held in November, when the election of officers resulted in a fair share being chosen from the Greenstreet side of the river.

NGAERE.

Annual meeting held at Mrs Morrison's. Thirteen members present, and three initiated. Reports of the year's work read and discussed. Mrs Kennington was re-elected President, Mrs M. Phillips Cor. Sec., and Mrs H. Tarrant Rec. Sec. During the year 25 parcels of literature have been sent to backblock camps. Parcels of clothing made up and sent to Victoria Home, Invercargill, and Door of Hope, Auckland. Two large parcels of clothing sent to the Belgians, and to Lady Liverpool's Red Cross Fund has been sent 12 flannel shirts, 5 suits pyjamas, 2 shirts, 60 roller bandages, 12 triangular bandages, 4 doz. operation cloths, 3 doz. diet cloths, 266 medicine cloths, 9 tray cloths, 9 face cloths, 26 fomentation cloths, 14 wringers, and 1 pair bed socks given by a non-member. Over 100 sand bags were sent, and £3 has been spent to buy flannel for shirts.

OXFORD.

Oct. 9. Junior Band of Hope meeting, a good attendance. Miss Gainsford gave a very interesting address on "How to take care of our bodies, which are Temples of the Holy Spirit."

Oct. 28. Senior Band of Hope, attendance very good. Miss Bisson gave a splendid address. Saturday night an open-air meeting. Mr Duncombe, Mr Cumming, and Miss Bisson spoke.

Nov. 2. Usual meeting held. A motion of sympathy was passed to Mrs Fenwick on the death of her brother. Decided to tender for the refreshments at the Sports. Several members took K.K. pledge cards to try and get people to sign them. One baby enrolled on Cradle Roll. The Y Branch were thanked for help given during the Band of Hope season. Decided to have a Garden Party. Election of officers next meeting. Members please take notice of this, and try and attend.

DEVONPORT.

Sept. 2. Letters were received from Southern members encouraging us in continuing the work of the old Union. Two members were appointed to visit the headmaster of District School and offer prizes for essays on the Temperance wall sheets. A motion was passed protesting against the severe sentence passed on Alice Parkinson. Decided a letter of sympathy be sent to Mrs Clarke, an old member of our Branch, whose son was killed in action on August 8th; also to Mrs Johnston, who is having a time of illness in her home.

Sept. 23. In consequence of report of deputation to headmaster, it was decided not to press the matter of essays, but to request that Temperance wall sheets be placed in more conspicuous places in the classrooms. Answers received from our M.P. were read, he being strongly in favour of 6 p.m. closing of hotel bars. Mrs Mann read from "White Ribbon" "Strong Drink Germany's Greatest Ally." Two new members were enrolled.

Oct. 28. Mrs Mann reported on camp work. The Islanders from here speak various dialects; then there are some Karotongans and some Maoris, all in camp at Narrow Neck. Decided to continue our Red Cross work through the holiday season, meeting whenever possible. Our Red Cross results are: 2 doz. fomentation cloths, 2 doz. binders, 2 doz. triangular bandages, 2 doz. diet cloths, 4 doz. operation cloths, 90 medicine cloths, 2 draw sheets, 9 bottle covers, 1 cholera belt (knitted), 1 pair hospital socks (knitted), 1000 yards bandages (250 rolls). These goods have been divided, the first case going to St. John Ambulance Association for the Hospital Ship, the next to Mrs W. H. Parkes for hospitals under her husband's care at the base. One member handed in a parcel of copies of the "Vanguard," to be posted to our sons at Gallipoli.

MASTERTON.

October 2. The annual meeting, Mrs Ross presiding. Mrs Flanagan read her report, which showed a steady advance had been made. Vote of sympathy was passed to the relatives of the late Mrs Reeves. Mrs Sutherland's report showed the finances to be in a sound position. The reports of Superintendents of Flower Mission (Mrs Walker) and Home