

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.)

WELLINGTON CENTRAL.

December. Annual meeting. Report of the year's work was read and adopted. Work was still being done for the Railway Boxes, Cradle Roll, Home Meetings, and Back Blocks. The Union sent a delegate to the conference of local bodies, convened by the Catholic Federation, in regard to the censorship of cinematographic films, and joined with the deputation that waited on the Minister for Internal Affairs for same. During the year a deputation waited on the Minister for Education with regard to the instruction of scientific temperance in schools, and had met with a favourable reception. Balance-sheet was highly satisfactory. By aid of two "Jumble Sales" we were able to show a credit balance of £19 6s 11d. The sum of £8 5s was passed for payment. The following resolution was passed:—"That this annual meeting of the Wellington Central W.C.T.U. earnestly protests against the extravagant provision of alcoholic liquor for the hospital ship Marama, as advertised. In view of the published declaration of Sir Victor Horsley and other leading physicians and surgeons, that in the vast majority, both of surgical and medical cases, the use of alcohol is a hindrance rather than an aid to recovery, the Union urges that the money should be spent on comforts and appliances that may ameliorate the sufferings of our men rather than wasted on liquor." The election of officers resulted in the following being elected:—Pres., Mrs A. R. Atkinson; Cor. Sec., Mrs W. Evans; Rec. Sec., Mrs R. Port; Treas., Mrs J. Helyer; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Peryman, Beggs, Hunt, W. Evans, Dawson, McDonald; Supts. Departments, Mesdames J. C. Port ("White Ribbon"), Nimmo (Literature), Poutawera (Cradle Roll), Stevenson (Back Blocks), Remington (Railway Boxes), Miss Austin (Purity).

NORMANBY.

Nov. Good attendance, 2 new members. Election of officers resulted as follows:—Pres., Mrs Scott; Vice-Pres., Mrs Butler and Mrs Clement; Treas., Mrs Linn; Sec., Mrs Saunders; Cradle Roll, Miss Clement; Literary Supt., Mrs Hayward; "White Ribbon," Mrs Dickson. £1 4s voluntarily handed in for Red Cross work.

Dec. 13 members present. This meeting thinks that the Annual Convention should be held. A great quantity of old linen and gun rags have been forwarded. This Union purchased material for sand bags; already between 500 and 600 slag bags have been sent away. An essay was read on advertising, written by Mrs Mercer. £1 was handed in to Red Cross Fund.

TOKOMARU BAY.

Dec. 9. First monthly meeting held at the Mission House, Miss Davis presiding. The meeting was put off in the hope that the Gisborne President, who was expected, might be able to be present, but this she was unable to do. About 14 members were present, and several new members enrolled. The Red Cross Superintendent has already collected quantities of old linen, and has received donations from outside sources for the Red Cross Fund. It was resolved to collect sugar bags to send to the front as sand bags.

WARKWORTH.

Annual meeting held on Thursday, December 9th. The following officers were elected:—Pres., Mrs Hamilton; Sec., Miss F. Miller; Treas., Mrs Cox; "White Ribbon" Agent, Mrs S. Morrison; Cradle Roll Supt., Mrs Cadman. One member reminded the meeting about the time spent by all in working in connection with the war, and hoped that members would not be discouraged by the small attendance at the past few meetings.

STRATFORD.

Dec. Annual meeting was not well attended. Report of the year's work read and adopted. The Treasurer's report showed a satisfactory balance in hand. Several new members have joined during the year. Boxes of clothing have been sent for British and Belgian relief, and patriotic work in connection with local patriotic committees has been undertaken. Our Union worked well in getting signatures for 6 o'clock closing. Our Secretary's resignation was received with much regret. President and Treasurer re-elected.

HASTINGS.

Special meeting held November 26th to welcome Miss Powell, also members and friends of W.C.T.U. Miss Powell gave a much appreciated address on the world-wide work of the Union. 8 members were initiated. Much thanks is due to our Dominion Organiser, who put in such hard work while amongst us, and got many new members.

Dec. 9. Annual meeting, Mrs Martindale presiding. Regret expressed Miss Powell could not attend on account of sickness. Election of officers:—Pres., Mrs Harrison; Hon. Sec., Mrs Griffiths; Treas., Mrs Col-

linge. Superintendents of Departments: Evangelistic, Mrs Stewart; Purity, Mrs Martindale; "W.R." Agent, Mrs Gray; Maori Work, Miss McKeown. Social Convenor, Mr Cameron. Organist, Mrs Bletchford.

MANAIA.

Our beloved President welcomed back after her long illness. Election of officers resulted as follows:—Pres., Mrs J. J. Patterson; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Hunt and Parkinson; Treas., Mrs Robt. Patterson; Sec., Miss Craig; Supt. of Cradle Roll, Mrs Ricketts; "W.R." Agent, Mrs Hunt (all re-elected). Mrs Barnett reported having collected a quantity of old linen. Resolved that each member of W.C.T.U. give either money or an article for the Red Cross box forwarded to St. John Ambulance every month. Referring to a letter in the local paper asking what the W.C.T.U. had done, the President said that all articles donated by Union members should be marked as such, for some people were under the impression that they had done nothing, whereas the Union was the very first to respond to Lady Liverpool's appeal for shirts, belts, socks, housewives, etc., and had consistently done all they could since, and must continue to do so while the necessity lasts. An Otakeho member reported having presented all soldiers leaving the district with a pocket Testament.

NELSON Y's.

Annual meeting held in December. The report showed a membership of 25, an increase of six during the year. During the winter months the meetings were held at Miss Atkinson's residence, and the knitting class working there sent a parcel of garments to the Belgium babies. We had a stall at the Sale of Work in connection with the mother union, so we were able to give a small donation to the Red Cross Fund.

RANGIORA.

Nov. Annual meeting. Fair attendance. Mrs May (President) in the chair. Annual report read and adopted. All members have worked well for patriotic cause. We have a good balance in hand. The election of officers resulted in Mrs Cobden-Cox President, Mrs Patchett Secretary and Treasurer. A hearty vote of thanks was given to Mrs May, our late President, for her good work for the year. Votes of sympathy were passed to several members who were ill.

PETONE.

Dec. Annual meeting held in the Church of Christ. Reports of various departments read, also the annual report, which was adopted. All were satisfactory. The following officers were elected:—Pres., Mrs Rowse (re-elected); Sec., Mrs Burd (re-elected); Ass. Sec., Mrs Cole; Treas., Mrs Donoghue (re-elected); "W.R."