

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.)

BLLENHEIM.

Dec. Annual meeting. Satisfactory reports of the year's work read and adopted. Work has been taken up by our Union, and parcels of garments made and sent away for our soldiers.

Dec. 15. A pleasant and profitable gathering and Christmas Tree was held at Mrs Sinclair's in connection with the mothers' meetings. Prizes for best temperance essays won by Borough school children were presented by our President. Election of officers for year:—Pres., Mrs Jackson; Sec., Mrs Sinclair; Treas., Mrs Hay; Mothers' Meetings, Mrs Brewer; Cradle Roll, Mrs Hancock; "White Ribbon" Agent, Mrs W. Parker. Mrs Rose was appointed delegate to Convention, Mrs Sinclair substitute.

TIMARU.

Feb. 1. At Sailors' Rest. Arranged to hold Cradle Roll picnic at Caroline Bay on February 24th. Plunket nurse to give address. Mesdames Jennings, Brooker, Liddle, and Butcher gave interesting accounts of visits paid to the Hospital. Sailors' Rest has been painted. Mr Good, our new caretaker, gave a most enthusiastic report of work done at the Rest. Mr and Mrs Good provided tea for about 20 sailors on Christmas Day. Literature and comfort bags were given to the men. Thanks were given to Mr and Mrs Good. Several ladies had sent books to the Rest, Mrs T. Smith sent a stereoscope, Mr Rendall fruit and cordials. Mrs Rule appointed delegate to Convention.

LOWER HUTT.

Feb. 1. A meeting, at which some good work was arranged for the coming year. Superintendents for most departments were appointed, Mrs Frethy taking over the Treasurership. Mrs Houlder gave a short address, and some valuable advice. A delegate is to be sent to the Convention in March. Owing to many of our members not having returned from holidays, only eight were present.

KAIAPOI.

At a meeting held in December all the officers were re-elected.

The 26th anniversary was celebrated on 26th January. The Secretary's annual report showed that

good work had been done in the following departments:—Scientific Temperance, Refreshment Booth, Legal and Parliamentary, K. of K. Pledge, and especially in the direction of Patriotic and Red Cross work. Months ago our rooms became the headquarters of the Red Cross Society, and our W.C.T.U. women amalgamated with this Society, and has assisted it in every possible way. All the N.Z. officers were nominated for re-election. Prize essays, entitled "Temperance and the War," written by school children, were read aloud. Mrs Jamieson was elected delegate to Convention. Miss Evans contributed a musical item.

NGAERE.

Monthly meeting was held at Mrs Kennington's residence, "Hillside," Stuart Road. After usual business was over, Mrs M. T. Phillips read a paper on "How to Train Your Boy."

CHRISTCHURCH.

January. First meeting of the year, Mrs McCombs presiding. The following superintendents of departments were elected:—Evangelistic Mrs D. McKee; Legal and Parliamentary and Anti-Gambling, Misses Roberts and Henderson; Educational Meetings, Miss W. S. Smith; Press, Miss Mackay; Hygiene, Mrs Lovell-Smith and Miss McCullough; Purity, Mrs McCombs; Scientific and Medical Temperance, Mrs Patterson; Good Citizenship and Refreshment Rooms, Miss Bishop; Cradle Roll, Mrs Martin; Home Meetings, Mrs T. E. Taylor and Mrs De Kenzi Newton; "White Ribbon," Mrs Williams; Assistant, Mrs Glen; Jubilee Home, Mrs Peeller; Flower Mission, Sick and Wounded Soldiers, Mrs Clement. Visiting Committee was formed. Decided to hold a Garden Party in the Domain Gardens on February 10th, proceeds to go to the sick and wounded soldiers. Members were asked to bring jam, sweets, and other small luxuries, to be sent to the men at the Front. Frances Willard Day to be celebrated on the fourth Wednesday, and delegates to Convention to be elected then.

WOODVILLE.

Owing to the holidays, attendance small. Mrs Perkins spoke upon the great amount of drunkenness she saw during a recent holiday, and how great the need for the 6 o'clock closing.

On February 2nd Cradle Roll picnic at the Gorge. We were favoured with glorious picnic weather. There was a large attendance of mothers and children, and with plenty of good things to eat and drink and rambling through the lovely bush, one and all said they had spent a happy time. During the afternoon a christening service was held for three of the children, the Rev. Mr Abernethy officiating. The hymn, "See Israel"

Gentle Shepherd Stand," was sung, and prayer was offered. Mr Abernethy also spoke a few words to the mothers on their responsibility. Miss Abernethy very kindly took a snapshot of the happy group.

WANGANUI.

First meeting of the year held in Trinity Parlour on Friday afternoon, February 4th; attendance good. Mrs Blamires (President) presided. Mrs James Grant reported several homes secured for delegates. Mrs Knuckey and Mrs W. Grant to be our delegates to Convention. Mrs Heatley elected Press Reporter. Matters in connection with the forthcoming Annual Convention were discussed, and arranged satisfactorily.

INVERCARGILL.

Opening meeting February 1st, Mrs. C. H. Macalister in the chair. South Invercargill Branch congratulated on splendid work done in connection with tea room at Summer Show. Mrs Baird reported re picture show films that a public censor had been appointed. Mrs Cowie explained the movement to raise a substantial sum for motor ambulance to assist Defence Department. Cards for collecting were to be printed; the members heartily took up the scheme, with a view to our National W.C.T.U. being identified in the same.

Garden Party on 15th February to celebrate Frances Willard Day. The meeting thankful to know that all liquor advertisements were removed from municipal tram cars in Invercargill. Sister Moody Bell appointed second delegate to Convention. Inspector of Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals addressed the members.

GREYTOWN.

Feb. 2. The President (Mrs Whincop) presided, 15 present. Letters of thanks read from the Secretary of the Military Hospital Guild acknowledging one case of old linen and 600 eye bandages; also from Secretary of N.Z. Alliance, acknowledging the receipt of two cases of books for the troopship. Mrs Whincop was elected as delegate to Convention. Decided to start making roller bandages as soon as funds were available, a box to be placed on the table for voluntary contributions for this object. The Superintendent of the Band of Hope sent in her resignation, which was accepted with regret. Arrangements were made for the next two months. Miss Powell gave a very instructive address. Tea was then handed round.

OXFORD.

Jan. 25. President in the chair. Rev. Holloway wrote expressing his thanks to the Union for their good wishes, and he thought the lines we were working on in teaching the young were the best we could use,