

tion with our May meeting, so that members will find it easier to remember their subscriptions. Annual balance-sheet read and adopted, showing a balance of over £5, with a membership of 66. In regard to Miss Henderson's letter, asking Unions to pass resolutions at February meeting, finding we were too late to help in that way, we arranged to send the following wire to Mr Allen at once:—"Gisborne and Tokomaru W.C.T.U. congratulate you on opinions expressed re 'shouting,' and hope you will be able to entirely end the practice."

STRATFORD.

Feb. 10. Attendance fair. Sent following letter to Hon. J. Allen, Minister for Defence:—"We the members of the W.C.T.U., Stratford, most earnestly appeal to you to prohibit the practice of 'shouting' for our soldiers by the public. This mistaken kindness is the cause of much trouble and disgrace to those whom we should hold in honour for the sacrifices they are making. We also respectfully urge that the sale of intoxicating drink to men wearing the King's uniform be prohibited, and the order strictly enforced." Also inserted in local paper. Letter of thanks from War Refugees Committee for box of clothing sent by Stratford Union. Mrs Lee-Cowie's scheme re ambulance work heartily taken up. All N.Z. officers were nominated for re-election. Mrs Reeve was chosen as delegate at Convention in March. An additional 10s was voted to Organising Fund. Arrangements made for Garden Party to be held on February 24th to commemorate Frances Willard Day. Two new members joined. Decided to order one dozen "White Ribbon" Convention numbers for distribution.

On February 24th a Garden Party was held at the residence of Mrs Cameron, Regan Street, to commemorate Frances Willard Day. Owing to various counter-attractions, the attendance was not as large as was anticipated. The President read Mrs Lee-Cowie's letter re matter of raising funds for ambulance work, and Miss Maunder, of Hawera, gave a short address on this subject, suggesting that a regimental kitchen would be a very useful gift to the men in the trenches. One member enrolled. Good collection in aid of the World's Missionary Fund, 16s.

KAIKORAI.

Monthly meeting on Friday, 25th February, the President (Mrs Martin) presiding. A visit was paid by Mrs Don, the Dominion President, who spoke on W.C.T.U. work as at present, also business in connection with coming Convention to be held during March at Wanganui.

WARKWORTH.

Feb. 24. Ten members present. Mrs Hamilton presided, and began by reading 1 Corinthians, chap. 13, fol-

lowing it with a short reading from the beginning of James Drummond's book, "The Greatest Thing in the World." The meeting decided to forward a letter of sympathy to Mrs McKinney, who, three weeks previous, met with an unpleasant accident while waiting to meet her soldier son returning from the Front. The following is a copy of a telegram sent that day to the Minister for Defence:—"The Warkworth Branch of the W.C.T.U. passed a strong resolution that the Minister for Defence be urged to pass a stringent measure absolutely preventing the practice of 'shouting' for soldiers." It was also decided to try to find suitable people to take up Flower Mission and Cradle Roll work. The meeting closed with the Benediction.

WAIPUKURAU.

Dec. Annual meeting. Election of officers. Reports from the different officers and a review of our year's work. A resolution dealing with "shouting" for soldiers was forwarded to the Minister for Defence. In our township, at the present time, temperance workers are much concerned over the moving of the local hotel from its present rather secluded position into the very centre of the town, and directly opposite what all consider a very dangerous crossing. A strong appeal was made against this, and was sent to the local paper. The result was a newspaper correspondence, in which we came in for a little abuse; we were even called "names." Mrs White was appointed delegate to Convention. Mrs Nicholson is also going as a visitor to gain knowledge for us from the "shining lights" of our Union.

GREYMOUTH.

February. Willard Day. A specially good attendance. Our President (Mrs Gaskin) gave a good opening address, and introduced our speakers. The Ven. Archdeacon York (who with Mrs York has just returned from England) gave us good information on women's work at present in the Home Land. Ensign Calcott gave a temperance address. Miss Parkinson gave us the training of children. Miss G. White and Miss C. Hopkins sang solos. Afternoon tea was served. We have the promise of several new members as the result of our afternoon.

SOUTH INVERCARGILL.

Feb. 8. Annual meeting held in Amethyst Hall, attendance good. The President (Mrs Paisley) spoke very encouragingly to the members of the good work done during the year, also thanked all those who had helped at the rest tent and tea rooms on Show Day. Judging by the financial success, the public must have appreciated the W.C.T.U.'s effort to provide a good cup of tea. The following officers were elected:—Pres., Mrs Paisley; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames Mor-

rison, Myers and Stobo; Sec., Mrs Parkins; Treas., Miss Pyle; "W.R.," Mrs Sullivan; Press, Mrs James Smart. Decided to celebrate Frances Willard Day by a picnic. Mrs Hunter and Mrs McAlister spoke on the effort to help our boys at the Front by providing a motor ambulance, Mrs Cowie starting the list by giving a house in Mary street valued at £500. Mr Todd, auctioneer, offered to auction same free of charge.

STRATFORD.

March. The following suggestions were submitted for the coming Convention:—(1st) That all Branches in the Dominion send a deputation to the A. and P. Committee requesting the abolition of the drinking booth at the Shows, and that the Convention recommend a substitute for this hideous evil; (2nd) that very drastic means be employed by Government to do away with the shouting system; (3rd) that the laws made for women and children be more just.

PAHIATUA.

March 2. Frances Willard Day. Drawing-room meeting held, Mrs Neal (President) in the chair. Miss Powell gave an interesting address on the work of Frances Willard, and the progress of the W.C.T.U. in many lands, and made an earnest appeal for new members. Two members were initiated, and it was announced that two others had joined during Miss Powell's house to house visitation. The following resolution was carried, with one dissenter:—"That in view of the fact that the repeated appeals of the Minister for Defence have been utterly disregarded by a section of the public, who still persist in treating soldiers, to the injury of their health and the disgrace of their uniforms, this meeting, held under the auspices of the W.C.T.U., Pahiatua, urgently requests the Minister for Defence to immediately take steps to render the practice of 'shouting' for soldiers a penal offence." Collection for World's W.C.T.U. Missionary Fund, 26s.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

"Willard Day" was celebrated on February 17 in the Constable Street Rooms, when the Rev. Knowles Smith was in the chair. The address was given by Rev. Mr Poole (Fiji), and was much appreciated. The following resolution was unanimously passed at this meeting:—"That the Minister for Defence be asked that legislation be introduced immediately forbidding, under heavy penalties, the practice of 'shouting' for soldiers. Many parts of the Empire have passed 'anti-shouting' legislation, and have found, as a consequence, that the evil of drunkenness is much lessened."

The monthly meeting was held on Thursday, March 2nd, when Mrs Houlder (President) was in the chair. There was a good attendance of members and friends. Mrs Boxall pro-