

moral efficiency of the soldiers are seriously impaired by the use of alcohol, the Minister of Defence should be urged to restrict the opportunities afforded to soldiers of obtaining intoxicating liquor, and that he should be especially urged to prohibit the practice of shouting." In this connection, it was decided that a deputation from the Union should wait upon the Hon. Jas. Allen, Minister of Defence. Mrs. D. McKee and Miss Roberts were appointed delegates to the National Convention, and it was resolved that the delegates should be instructed to support the proposal that the N.Z. Women's Christian Temperance Unions should present a motor field kitchen or some similar gift to the Defence authorities for the use of our soldiers at the Front. Mrs. Pedler reported that arrangements had been made to give a tea and concert to the inmates of the Jubilee Home. Members were asked to bring "baskets," as usual. Miss Henderson was appointed General Superintendent for Red Cross work.

#### TINWALD.

Feb. 9. The monthly meeting of the Tinwald Branch was held in the Presbyterian Church. The President (Mrs. Stevenson) presided over a good attendance. The members were strongly in favour of Mrs. Scanlon's motion re proxies having the same privileges as delegates at Convention. A letter from Miss Henderson was read, and after discussion, the following resolution was carried:—"That this meeting of W.C.T.U. heartily supports any measure brought forward to prevent 'shouting' for soldiers." Miss Hickman was elected Evangelistic Superintendent, with Mrs. Smith to assist. Two new members were initiated. It was decided to order a dozen copies of "White Ribbon" with Convention report in, and distribute among the members, with a view to getting more subscribers. The meeting closed with prayer.

#### WELLINGTON CENTRAL.

On Thursday, 2nd March, Mrs. Huffam, of Oriental Bay, gave an "At Home" on behalf of the Wellington Central W.C.T.U. After a song by Miss Chapman, Mrs. Adjutant Green, wife of the Salvation Army chaplain in Egypt, gave an interesting address, touching on various phases of social questions. Mrs. Green spoke of effect of home training and the need of more prayer in the family. The good effect of this training had been seen among our soldiers when called upon to face the last foe—death. In their extremity men had repeated texts of Scripture and verses of hymns learnt years before. In respect to the drink question, Mrs. Green urged women to adopt the motto, "New Zealand, Christian and sober." The war had shown that the motto should be applied to the world, which ought to be Christian and sober. It

was wrong to blame God for the awful war that was deluging Europe in blood. The nations had been plunged into war, not by God, but by the ambition of the War-Lord. When Mrs. Green had been thanked for her address, afternoon tea was handed round.

#### TIMARU.

Feb. 29. Mrs. Rule (President) presided, attendance fair. Annual Cradle Roll picnic held at Caroline Bay on the 24th, about 40 mothers and their little ones present. The members provided refreshments and fruit. Plunket nurse gave a most interesting talk to the mothers. Mrs. Howard, Mrs. Trott, and Mrs. Rule also spoke a few words of advice. Mrs. Wallace sent in her report re visits to the hospital. Mrs. Jennings and Mrs. Brooker appointed hospital visitors for March. Mrs. Rule read some extracts on the work of Miss Willard. Mrs. Brooker read a paper on the twofold nature of Christ. Mr and Mrs. Good sent in a good report on the work of the Rest for the month. A resolution was passed and sent to Mr. Allen, Minister of Defence, urging him to bring in a measure immediately prohibiting the practice of "shouting" for soldiers.

#### WANGANUI.

There was a good attendance at the monthly meeting. Business was all in connection with coming Convention. Conveners of different committees have their work well in hand. Sixty names of visiting delegates are in to date, but others coming in each day. The intention is to have the public welcome on Wednesday, 15th, at 7.30 p.m., and a picnic up the river on the Saturday. One visitor from Napier was welcomed. Three new members joined.

#### OXFORD.

Feb. 29. President in the chair. Motions of sympathy were passed with Mrs. Osborne in the death of her mother, and with Mrs. Lyons in the death of her son at Gallipoli. Decided to send a delegate to Convention. A letter was received from the A. and P. Association asking the Union to cater for the Show on April 6th. It was agreed to do so on the usual terms. Decided to accept Mrs. Caverhill's offer of a juvenile concert party in aid of the proposed field kitchen for New Zealand soldiers at the Front. The Secretary to telegraph to the Minister of Defence drawing his attention to the resolution lately forwarded to him condemning the "shouting" of alcoholic drinks to soldiers. The President, on behalf of the Union, welcomed Mrs. Long, the newly-appointed Vice-President. It being Willard Day, Mrs. Gainsford read an interesting account of the life of Frances Willard. A meeting of willing workers to be held at Mrs. T. Gainsford's, March 7th, to make ar-

rangements for the Show. Miss Caverhill (Treasurer) handed in £30 to the local Red Cross, the profits from the afternoon tea on Boxing Day.

#### MATAURA.

Attendance good at February meeting. Mrs. Reid opened the meeting. Plunket Nurse Every delivered an address on the care of the little ones, which was much appreciated. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded her. A telegram was sent to the Minister for Defence calling upon him to use his power to prohibit "shouting" for intoxicants for men wearing the King's uniform. One new member joined at close of meeting.

#### BLUFF.

Meeting on Friday afternoon, when there was a good attendance of members. Several matters of business were discussed, including petitioning Parliament for the early closing of liquor bars.

#### NGAERE.

Meeting held at Mrs. McMillom's residence. There was a large attendance of members and several visitors from other Unions were present. Mrs. Morison, Flower Mission Superintendent, reported that during a recent visit to Wellington she had interviewed Mrs. Luke, Mayoress, with the idea of gaining a better idea of Red Cross work. The members of our Union have for many months past been constantly at work for the cause. Convention business was discussed, and instructions given to our delegate. It is regrettable that so few of our members are able to attend Convention.

#### MATAKANA.

Jan. 6. Cradle Roll and Band of Hope picnic held in a small bay on the Matakana River. The picnickers were taken over in launches, and the children played upon the sands and paddled in the salt water. Races were held till each one had won a prize. After tea, the launches took their passengers home, after spending a pleasant afternoon.

Jan. 27. We welcomed Mrs. E. Morrison, a member of the Warkworth W.C.T.U., who kindly came to read her paper on "Woman; Her Power," which was followed by a short address, and both were thoroughly appreciated by all present. Our President returned thanks to our visitor, and afternoon tea was handed round.

#### GISBORNE.

First meeting of the year held February 29th, 18 present. Vice-Presidents appointed, also several heads of departments. Mrs. Goffe appointed delegate to Convention. Decided to hold a "Treasurer's Day" in conjunc-