

Upon arrival, I found the District Union rather discouraged and almost bankrupt. However, things soon began to improve, the attendance at the meetings being very good, and the sum of nearly £3 being donated in one meeting to cover organising expenses in connection with Tokomaru Bay. Upon arrival at that extremely picturesque locality, like St. Paul, I was "let down in a basket" on to the deck of the tender, and deposited on the wharf in a slashing shower of rain. Good weather followed, however. I had heard from several quarters that the field was very unpromising, though the need was very great. Somewhat to my surprise, therefore, my mission met with a decidedly warm welcome from the womanhood, and a good Union was organised, which, however, labours under a geographical disadvantage, owing to the fact that the population is located at the extreme ends of the Bay. Sundry other schemes for work in Gisborne district were found impracticable.

Hastings had been for some time sending urgent requests for organising work, so thither I next repaired, and worked in semi-tropical heat for about ten days, at the end of which time we had a fine social gathering. Short visits to Masterton and Greytown concluded the year's work.

After the holidays those two Unions were each given one meeting on the way to Pahiataua. This branch is bravely holding the fort in face of many difficulties. A glance at the balance-sheet will show how nobly they have met all their obligations.

Feilding was my last sphere of work, and here the Union seconded my efforts in every possible way, with the natural result that they benefited considerably.

During the year I have travelled 5475 miles by public conveyances on land or sea, 182 new members have been secured, but only 24 subscribers to the paper, while the sales of purity literature are very much below the average. There is little sale for books or papers while so many war funds are clamouring for contributions.

Only four new branches have been organised during the year, and two of them I was obliged to leave almost immediately, viz., Tokomaru Bay and Rakaia. The latter is, of course, well within reach of the District Union, but Tokomaru Bay is so isolated that it has, practically, to depend upon itself. Greytown I have been able to nurse thoroughly, the repeated visits involving only short railway journeys.

To attempt to form new branches while the war is monopolising attention as at present, is to court failure unless in exceptional cases, where a leader is waiting, all ready-made. But there is scope for the energies of several organisers, as well as the District Unions, in conserving the work where the White Ribbon flag has already been raised. Our Dominion President has done a vast amount of work in that way in her own neighbourhood, while Wellington District and Palmerston North are worthy of all praise for the way in which they have visited and helped their auxiliaries.

It is not of much use for the Organiser to work up new branches which are then left to live or die—frequently the latter. And in this connection I want to say that those Unions get the benefit from the visit of the Organiser, who will make a special effort to work with her. She may visit around, calling upon sixty or eighty persons in a week, doing her best to explain and interest them in the White Ribbon work, but her efforts have much more effect if backed up by personal invitations by the members.

Then many officers do not understand how long it takes to make an impression upon a locality. I find the best work is done where I am asked to "stay as long as I can," and it is much better to give a month to one struggling Union than to rush around to five or six during the same period.

May I here express my hearty thanks to the many friends who have so kindly entertained me during the past year, some of them nursing me for a day or two when necessary. One of the compensations of this homeless life is the many real friendships that are formed—friendships not bounded by time. I often wish I could make some little return for all this kind hospitality. One thing I can do—remember them in my prayers, and crave God's richest blessings upon them and theirs.

Trusting that our work in the coming year may be greatly blessed.

Yours in the Master's service,

M. S. POWELL,

Dominion Organiser.

## POUTO.

Ka tu te hui ate roopu wahine o Pouto Maehe 13th, Masefield Kena i karakia. Perehitini kua puare te whare kia ora e te roopu. Kei te whakamihia ahau kite roopu ite mea katahi ano ka tu tatatou roopu ite whewhe onga mema o te roopu i enei marama kataha nei. Kati taku take mote kōhi tau tea whaka haerea tautoko tia ana kia ora.

Ema. Kia ora te roopu. Taku take mote take ate Perehitini mote kōhi tau me nuku tenei take mote tahi wa kia ora Whiwhiu: Kia ora te roopu me whakahaere te kōhi tau nga mea whai moni me kōhi kia ora. Te O: taku take he whaka kaha itatou roopu kia u kia kaha tautoko hoki i te kōhi tau. Ka kōhi ahau mote kōhi tau 2s 6d, kia ora Perehitini, Ka kōhi mana kotaku kotira Perehitini 2s 6d, Te Ata 2s 6d, Pomi Kōhi tau 2s 6d, moni awhina 6d, Ngaro Manukau Honore mema keite te tautoko itakoutou roopu kia kaha kia u. Kia maia taku moni awhina 2s 6d, kia ora koutou. Maro Kewa taku moni, kohitau 2s 6d, Hori Manukau Honore mema moni awhina 2s. Ronu me whaka hoki atu te peeke kia koutou pooti tia ana te peeke hou ko matekino. Monga moni katoa keite ringa o te Peeks 17s 7d, no konei ka hiki te mitini. Ka invitia e Masefield Kena no konei ka puta nga mihi anga mema o te roopu kinga mema o te roopu. Kua ngaro kua mate e nga tuahine aroha i roto e ate karaiti tena koutou i raro itenei

karanga tanga roopu koutou kite wahi kotahi kite wahi kei reira nei to tatou kai whakaora ate karaiti kia kaha te inoi kia tatou tamariki ite pakanganui e whawhai mai nei itera pito o to tatou ao oira kotahi tonu te wahi hei okioki ariki o te karaiti. E nga tuahine kia kaha te turaki kite hoa riri nei ite waipiro e patu nei i nga iwi maha o te ao kia kaha te tuaki kia kaha te whawhai kitenei kia kino kite waipiro. God bless us all.

## WORLD'S W.C.T.U.

(Organised 1883.)

Membership, 479,113.

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