

ASHBURTON.

February 6. Mrs Watson presided over a large attendance of members. Letters of sympathy to be sent to Mr and Mrs Brown on the death of their daughter, an active member of our Union; also to Mrs Munson in her illness. Mrs Jameson was cordially welcomed, and brought a greeting from Kaipoi Union. Mrs W. H. Robinson elected delegate to Convention, and Mrs S. Trevurza substitute. Instructions issued to delegate upon the notices of motion to come before Convention. Mrs Jameson appointed Superintendent for Moral Instruction.

March. Social afternoon to say "Good-bye" to Rev. and Mrs J. D. McArthur. Attendance good. Vocal and instrumental items were rendered, and an address given by Mr McArthur on "Some Notable Women." Mrs Watson thanked Mr and Mrs McArthur for help and sympathy during the last two years, and wished them success and happiness in their new home. Two new members received. Collection of £1 for World's Missionary Fund. Votes of thanks to speaker and performers and a cup of tea closed a pleasant afternoon.

MANAIA.

Monthly meeting held. Membership 82, a slight increase. £5 sent to Y.M.C.A. Fund. Map of U.S.A. showing dry territory was inspected with interest. Resolution of appreciation for the life-work of the late Mr F. W. Isitt was passed, members standing. Mrs Craig gave a fine reading. Convention delegate chosen. Reported that a hon. member, Mr Parry, had given his life for his country; another, Lieut. Williams, has won "his wings." Miss Hughes has left for war work at Home, and Miss Ballantyne is a nursing sister in France. Four members, Mesdames Bennett and Hunt, and the Misses Patterson had charge of Red Cross stall in Hawera, and took £24.

TIMARU.

February. Decided not to take part in six o'clock closing petition arranged by Alliance. Convention matters discussed, and instructions given to delegate. Decided to invite 1918 Convention to meet in Timaru. Decided to hold Cradle Roll picnic on March 15. Mrs Rule elected delegate. Reports received from Hospital visitors and from Sailors' Rest. Two socials for seamen were held at Rest.

LYTTELTON.

Feb. 7. There was an attendance of 13 members. Our President read an article from the "Outlook," entitled "Canada Pleads with Britain for the Prohibition of the Liquor Traffic." The article describes fully the terrible way in which alcohol is hindering the termination of the war. After a short discussion, the members decided to make every effort to obtain signatures for the 6 o'clock petition.

GREYTOWN.

February 21. Special meeting. Decided to alter the day of meeting to the last Tuesday at 2.30 p.m. Districts were allotted members to canvass with six o'clock petition.

February 27. Mrs Whincop in the chair. An "At Home" was held at Mrs Banks' on February 8, and Mrs Whincop held a social on February 15. Both were well attended, and funds raised towards the delegates' expenses. Resolved to hold a social on March 13.

INVERCARGILL DISTRICT.

Feb. 6. Mrs Baird presided. Mrs John McKenzie moved a resolution expressing sorrow at the death of the Hon. Dr. McNab. The resolution was carried, all standing. Miss Powell, Travelling Organiser, addressed the meeting. Mrs Baird voiced the Union's appreciation of the work of Mrs Peter Cruickshank as a member of the Southland Hospital and Charitable Aid Board, and announced that Miss Helen Birss would be a candidate for election to the Board at next election, and it was hoped that both ladies would be returned. Mrs Cowie gave a most eloquent address on the life of Frances Willard.

At a special meeting of the Executive the following resolutions were carried:—"Resolved to urge the Department of Justice to appoint women police and profit by the experience of other places where the experiment has been tried and proved to be of great value." Also, "That in the opinion of this meeting it is most important that women protectors should be appointed without delay to serve the interests of women and children, and with the powers of Justices of the Peace, who would also attend the Courts; and for these reasons that women Justices could the better be appealed to by women who need help; also having the authority of Justices of the Peace would enable them to enforce necessary reforms."

Feb. 9. Special meeting. A letter was received from the Rev. J. Dawson asking the co-operation of the Union in the matter of a third campaign in re six o'clock closing. In connection, Mrs Cowie moved, "While cordially approving of every effort to minimise the power of the liquor traffic by six o'clock closing, anti-shouting, etc., we believe the day has come for a much greater movement, that is Total Prohibition for the Dominion for the period of the war and six months thereafter." Mrs Baird brought forward the following suggestion, to be put before the Convention by our delegate (Mrs Cowie)—That before an election for members of Parliament, committees from Unions wait on candidates and submit the following questions:—(1) Are you in favour of total prohibition? (2) Will you advocate for it? (3) Will you vote for it?

March 6. Mrs Cowie read the manifesto that the Reform Council

and W.C.T.U. have prepared in favour of National Prohibition and to be presented at the Convention. Several ladies of the W.C.T.U. waited on the Hon. Russell re a St. Helen's Maternity Hospital for Southland, and it is gratifying to report that the Government have now purchased the residence of Mr J. E. Watson, a building in every way suitable. A condition was that the ladies of Invercargill and surrounding district were to obtain the money to furnish same.

PALMERSTON NORTH.

March. Good meeting. Mrs Crabb presided. Satisfactory report read by Treasurer on result of proceeds from Paddy's Market. Notices of motion for Convention were read and discussed, and delegates appointed. Decided to invite Convention for 1918 or 1919. Letter received from Mrs Outram congratulating our Union for its stand taken against gambling at the recent Paddy's Market. Notice was also taken of the efforts being made by the University girls in Christchurch and Wellington to assist in the cause of purity; their efforts were commended as being highly practical.

HAWERA.

February 22. Sister Nellie presided, and thirteen ladies were present. Decided that we should help to work the six o'clock closing petition. Frances Willard Day was commemorated, and a history of the life and character of Miss Willard was read by Sister Nellie. Collection of 8s 9d taken up.

WANGANUI Y's.

Feb. 26. President in the chair; 16 present. An interesting address was given by the Rev. F. H. Radford, who concluded his remarks by an appeal for workers to take the 6 o'clock petition forms around. Quite a number responded. Mrs Smith closed the meeting.

AUCKLAND.

Feb. 14. Mrs Cook presided. Letters of sympathy to Mrs Don, Mrs Ogilvie, and Miss Bagnall on account of illness. Decided to ask the Mayor of Auckland to extend a civic welcome to the Convention. Notices of motion were discussed and delegates instructed. Resolved that the District Union ask the help of other Temperance organisations to make a special effort to secure the abolition of licenses for wine shops. One new member received.

A social afternoon was held to welcome our new Organiser, Miss Weymouth. Mrs Cook extended a hearty welcome, and Miss Weymouth replied in a bright speech. Recitation and musical items were given.

Feb. 28. Arrangements for programme and entertainment of delegates was discussed. Miss Dewar urged members to pray that Union work be extended, and that our Convention be a great success in every