

Invercargill Victoria Home still continues to aid and help any woman or girl who needs assistance. They are trained for domestic duties, and this year have done sewing and knitting for patriotic societies.

Invercargill Union is well represented by its President and other members, who are working a Ladies' Auxiliary of the Prisoners' and Patients' Aid and City Missionary Society, which undertakes Sunday services and Bible Classes at Lorne Farm Home, the Hospital, and the Victoria Home, through its excellent agent, Mr McLean. He visits the sick, aged and infirm, attends the Police and Juvenile Courts, assists by advice and financially where desirable our prisoners on release, and many others.

One of our Invercargill W.C.T.U. members is the only woman on the Southland Hospital and Charitable Aid Board, and takes an active part in relief work, and is altogether a most useful member.

SCIENTIFIC TEMPERANCE INSTRUCTION.

Superintendent: Miss Maunder.

I am sorry to say that there are fewer reports this year than formerly. The Minister of Education has given instructions to inspectors and teachers that the effects of alcohol on the health and well-being of the community should be taught in our schools, but it is not a compulsory subject. I am daily expecting a parcel of leaflets, which I hope to send to Training Colleges. The following schools gave prizes for temperance essays:—Waipawa, Invercargill, South Invercargill, Edendale, Matakana (distributed the prizes at an afternoon tea, to which friends were invited), New Brighton, Palmerston North (College Street and Campbell Street Schools sent large numbers of essays done in school hours; West End (voluntary, essays fewer in number), also Maori Girls' School at Turakina competed), Oxford (four schools competed), Hawera, Sawyer's Bay (prize given in each standard, and 87 essays sent in), and Waipawa. Wellington Central offered prizes, but Education Board refused, as headmasters objected.

Waipawa and Port Chalmers report Scientific Temperance addresses given at the Band of Hope. Hastings reports assisting at the Band of Hope.

NOTABLE DAYS.

Superintendent: Mrs Harrison.

Willard Day.—The following Unions held meetings:—Auckland (collection), Hastings (address on "Frances Willard"), Timaru (paper read), Christchurch (reference to Frances Willard at usual meeting), Pahiatua (address by Miss Powell, collection of 26s), Invercargill (address on "Frances Willard"), Waipawa (commemoration readings given), Hastings (attended Napier Union's picnic).

T. E. Taylor Day.—The following report meetings held and addresses given on the life of our great leader:—Hawera, Oxford, Christchurch, Pahiatua (combined with White Ribbon Day), Waipawa, and Timaru.

Franchise Day.

New Brighton observed Franchise Day, when Mrs T. E. Taylor gave an address, and collection amounted to 8s 6d for Organising Fund.

Waipawa: Mrs McLean gave a reading on "The History of Women's Suffrage in New Zealand." Other members also spoke.

Pahiatua: Home meeting held. Mrs Houlder (Wellington) gave address. Collection, 17s.

South Invercargill: Paper on "Woman's Suffrage in New Zealand" by Mrs Garrett.

Bluff: Address by Mrs Pasley (Invercargill), "Lest We Forget."

Christchurch: Mrs McCombs (President) read interesting paper.

Oxford: Address by Miss Gainsford (missionary from India).

Hawera: Mrs Sloan read paper "Has the Enfranchisement of Women Made Any Material Difference on New Zealand Politics." Mrs Blamires also spoke. Okaiawa ladies present.

Auckland: Observed day, and took collection.

Gisborne: Rev. Wills gave an address on "Franchise." Collection, £1 10s 6d. Union also convened a special meeting, at which Lady Stout spoke. Resolutions forwarded to House regarding women police and War Regulation Act. Good attendance, and splendid address.

Nelson reports special mention called to all Notable Day topics at ordinary meetings.

White Ribbon Day.

Palmerston North had social afternoon. Gained 12 new subscribers for year, and sold £1 5s worth of bows.

Gisborne: Special meeting. Mrs Walker spoke on "Maori Work." Rev. Chatterton on "Purity and No-License Work." Collection, £1 17s for Maori Fund.

Christchurch: Combined W.R. Day and pay-up social.

MEDICAL TEMPERANCE DEPARTMENT.

Superintendent: Mrs Clara Neal.

The following Unions purchased leaflets for general distribution: Auckland, 300; Hamilton, 100; Hawera, 288; Invercargill, 300; Wanganui, 100; Blenheim, 288.

Pahiatua, 60 "Safe Remedies" for sailors' comfort bags, and to present to each new member.

Blenheim read several papers on the subject at Mothers' Meetings.

Palmerston North Superintendent sent to W.C.T.U. Educational Bureau a copy of paper entitled "The Effects of Alcohol on the Brain." also gave a chart lesson to the elder boys and girls of the Sunday School on "The Injury done to the Brain by Alcohol."

Blenheim and Pahiatua distributed leaflets at Home Meetings.

Leaflets purchased for Cradle Roll work by the following Unions: Henderson, Eltham, Marton, Urenui, Palmerston North, Pahiatua, and Christchurch.

Sample packets purchased by Ponsonby, Waihi, Tauranga, Kati Kati, New Plymouth, Ngaruawahia, Wanganui, Kaiawaka, Patea, Woodville, Wellington, Greymouth, Wellington South, and Ashburton.

The Dominion Superintendent sent three free sample leaflets to Cradle Roll Superintendents of following Unions: Devonport, Greymouth, Whangarei, Invercargill, Wellington South, Eltham, Urenui, Palmerston North, Lower Hutt, Okaiawa, Marton, Patea, Kakarama, Te Kuiti, Henderson, Gisborne, Pukekohe, Kati Kati, Tauranga, Waihi, Birkenhead.

Balance-Sheet Medical Temperance Department, 1916.

RECEIPTS.

	£	s.	d.
1915 Balance	2	14	1
Sales at Convention	0	16	10
Sales by Post	2	14	3
Department Grant	0	7	6
...	£6	12	8

EXPENDITURE.

	£	s.	d.
Purchases U.S.A.	5	3	8
Postage Parcels, Etc.	0	9	1
Balance in Hand	0	19	11
...	£6	12	8

ASSETS.

	£	s.	d.
Cash in Hand	0	19	11
Value of Leaflets in Stock ...	4	12	3
Amount of Accounts Owing ...	0	5	0
...	£5	17	2

36 Letters and Parcels sent out by this Department during the year.

800 Leaflets distributed Free to Temperance Workers, Cradle Roll Superintendents and at Meetings.

GOOD CITIZENSHIP.

Superintendent: Mrs Judson.

Twelve Unions have reported. This may not mean indifference, but only that Unions have been engaged in patriotic work, and in the early months of the year with the six o'clock closing petition. All Unions worked well with the petition, but only these report work in this direction:—Palmerston North, New Brighton, and Auckland (secured 16,140 signatures). Palmerston North reports a weekly sewing meeting in aid of Belgian and Servian relief funds, as well as the needs nearer home.

For School Committees, Palmerston North reports one woman elected (for the first time); Wellington District, two (re-elected); New Brighton, two; South Invercargill, three; Wanganui East, one (majority of these are W.C.T.U. members). Christchurch Union nominated 24 women, 17 of whom were elected, one being made Chairman, one Treasurer, and three