

News of the Unions.

(The Editor cannot promise to insert anything in the next issue that does not reach her by the 8th of the month. Correspondents are requested to write their Reports as concisely as possible, on one side of the paper only. Newspaper cuttings are unsuitable.)

TIMARU.

Aug. 28. Correspondence from Hon. G. W. Russell, Rev. Dawson, and Mrs Lee-Cowie. Mrs Clay appointed delegate to District Convention. Vote of condolence to Mrs Thyne. Vote of appreciation of action of Town Council rescinding resolution allowing sea bathing on Saturdays. Report of hospital visitors received. Seamen's Rest reported 93 visitors had made 193 visits. Votes of appreciation of Efficiency Board's report.

N.E. VALLEY.

August. Rev. Nelson gave a most helpful address, his subject being "Our Name." Attendance large. Retiring collection of £2 for benefit of mine-sweepers.

ASHBURTON.

Aug. 7. Mrs Watson presided, attendance large. In response to an appeal from Mrs Nimmo, decided to assist mine-sweepers. Our member wrote saying he was in favour of appointment of women police, and had brought the subject under notice of Ministers. Decided to thank him for his efforts. Mrs Don, N.Z. President, was warmly welcomed, and expressed her thanks. Mesdames Miller and W. J. Brown elected delegates to Provincial Convention. Arrangements for Convention discussed. Six new members enrolled.

ORMONDVILLE.

Aug. 8. A meeting held in the Methodist Church, Mrs Smaile presiding. Correspondence was received from the New Zealand Secretary of the W.C.T.U., and from Miss Olsen, congratulating the Branch on their re-organisation. Decided to ask Mrs Venables to address the Branch in September.

WHANGAREI.

Aug. Two drawing-room meetings held in connection with the visit of Miss Powell; new members and "White Ribbon" subscribers gained at each. A largely attended meeting held, addressed by Miss Powell; 16 members added to our roll. Miss Powell gave her talk on "Girls and Their Lovers" to a large and appreciative audience. On Sunday Miss Powell gave a talk on "Purity." We were organised by Miss Powell eleven years ago, and were glad to welcome her on her first return visit.

Sept. Mrs Whalley presided, 12

present. Decided to organise an L.T.L. Reported that goods were coming steadily in for the mine-sweepers.

EDENDALE.

Sept. 6. Mrs J. Field presided. Mrs Field and Mrs Findlay reported having collected £23 2s 6d, also some woollen garments, for mine-sweepers. At the request of the Union, the local ministers preached a sermon on the book "Defeat," and Mrs Cowie's poem, "The Cry of the Mothers," was recited at the Methodist Church. Nine new members and two "White Ribbon" subscribers reported for the quarter.

DEVONPORT.

July. Reported that 13 draw sheets, 8 operation cloths, 54 diet cloths, 6 pillow slips, 4 bottle covers, 4 body bandages, 30 triangular bandages, 34 rolls narrow bandages, 1 pair bed sox donated to Red Cross. Miss Weymouth spoke on L.T.L. work, and is to come again and give a demonstration. Lady of 84 joined as honorary member.

Aug. Social afternoon. Mrs Cook gave an inspiring address. Four new members. Resolved to send contributions to mine-sweepers.

OXFORD.

Aug. 29. President in the chair. Resolutions of sympathy to bereaved members. Mrs C. Fritt appointed delegate to Provincial Convention. Decided to invite Provincial Convention for 1918. Decided to forward £1 to Maori Fund. Decided to spend 30s on wool, the Y branch to make it into garments for mine-sweepers. Decided to offer prizes for temperance essays to all local schools. An address on "Education and Religion" was given by Rev. Rankin, and was much appreciated. Reported that £23 had been forwarded to those injured in the late London air raid. Next meeting to be held in the evening, and members to bring husbands and friends.

HAMILTON.

A resolution was passed unanimously urging all Temperance bodies to organise immediately and unite in holding large public meetings in every town throughout New Zealand to protest against the action of the Government in practically ignoring the recommendation of the Efficiency Board re total prohibition of the liquor traffic and the present treatment of our petition for 6 o'clock closing.

INVERCARGILL CENTRAL.

Aug. 7. Mrs Baird presided, attendance 14. Mrs Macalister gave an interesting account of the Initiative and Referendum, and showed how much the United States owed to this Act having formed a part of the Statutes. Decided to ask delegates to the Reform Council to urge that body to set up a committee to make this proposed reform widely known. President reported that St. Helen's

Home was expected to open the first week in September. A letter was read from Mrs Nimmo, Wellington, asking Union members to help the mine-sweepers. The Union voted £5, to be spent in buying heavy undergarments, and members subscribed 25s. Also £5 was donated to the Fighting Fund in the "Outlook."

GREYTOWN.

July 31. Meeting at Mrs Anker's, President in the chair. Members requested to send in names of those going to Convention at Feilding, also if requiring hospitality. All resolutions to be sent in not later than August 28th. One visitor present. Afternoon tea provided by hostess.

Aug. 28. Mrs Whincop presided. Two visitors present. Resolved that letters be sent to the Prime Minister and local member for assistance in procuring 6 o'clock closing of all hotel bars. Three members of sub-centres were chosen to be elected at Wellington, September 5th, indicating vote in writing to Miss Sybil Nathan, Hon. Secretary, Wellington.

NAPIER.

July 12. A drawing-room meeting held at the residence of Mrs Jenkins, attendance good.

July 4. Mrs Venables presided over good attendance. Votes of sympathy passed to Mrs Dodds and Mrs Cobb, Palmerston North. Message of thanks received from the Mayoress for splendid box of clothing collected by our Union for mine-sweepers' children.

July 18. T. E. Taylor celebrated. Mr J. Oldham gave a most inspiring address on the life of the late Mr T. E. Taylor, and Mrs Peach and Miss Cocking gave musical programme.

July 19. Fortnightly meeting, attendance fair. Mr Massey, Premier, wrote acknowledging local Union's request urging the amendment of the law for the protection of women and children. Decided to appeal through the papers and by letters for warm garments for mine-sweepers. Vote of thanks passed to the member for district for his endeavour to have women police appointed. Decided to advertise all meetings in the "Hawke's Bay Observer." A vote of thanks passed to the Editor of that organ for concessions of printing rates to the W.C.T.U. locally. Six new subscribers secured for the "White Ribbon."

HENDERSON.

June 11. Our Union again took charge of Soldiers' Club, and members in charge spent an enjoyable day.

July. Unanimously decided that each member provide a warm woollen garment for the mine-sweepers, to be forwarded on to headquarters. Our meetings are well attended, and interest maintained.

WAIPIKURAU.

Aug. 13. Greetings received from Ngaruawahia Union, and ours sent them in return. Decided to collect