

## 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.)

### WANGANUI.

March 1. President presided. Greeting given to Mrs Bycroft. Votes of sympathy to Mrs J. Grant and the family of Professor Bedford. Nurse Ballantyne (England) wrote thanking the Union for parcels of warm comfort received. Mention was made of the son of a member (Mrs Hallam) who had gained military distinction in France. Mrs Upton, our delegate, instructed how to vote. Agreed to have a stall on the street for Red Triangle.

### OXFORD.

Jan. 9. Special meeting. Votes of sympathy to Mrs Fenwick and Mrs Gundry. At the request of A. and P. Society, the Union undertook the catering at the Show. The Union thanked the A. and P. Society for offering to provide a kitchen, and expressed their willingness to pay £5 rental each year they used it.

Feb. 27. Willard Day. Resolutions of sympathy with Mrs Whyte and Mrs Lowe. Mrs Hill appointed to represent the Union on the Band of Hope Union. Mrs Kippenberger read a paper on the life and work of Frances Willard, and was warmly thanked for it.

### N.E. VALLEY.

Feb. Mrs Peart presided. Feeling reference made to the death of Dr. Bedford, and a vote of sympathy passed with his sorrowing family. The President urged members to subscribe to the "White Ribbon." Superintendents of Departments were elected. Mrs Peart chosen delegate to Convention. Mrs Napier gave an instructive address.

### GREYMOUTH.

Jan. 29. Attendance good. Mrs Gaskin presided. Business of Convention discussed. Marble bar closed for Sunday trade.

Feb. 12. Frances Willard Day commemorated. Successful gathering. Addresses given by Rev. Patches and Ensign Hemford.

Feb. 26. Weather bad, attendance only fair. Mrs Taylor, of Auckland, was welcomed, and gave a short address. One new member.

### HAMILTON EAST.

Feb. 19. President (Mrs Snow) in the chair. There was a very good attendance. One new member enrolled. The annual report was read by the Secretary, showing very good work done during past year. As has

been the practice for some time past, we divide our meetings into three parts, Devotional, Business, and Social. Three new subscribers to "White Ribbon" received.

### BLUFF.

Feb. 15. Special meeting to meet Miss Powell, who gave an excellent and encouraging address. Decided to vote a small sum of money as a beginning of a "Purity" Library. Afternoon tea was served.

March 1. Large attendance. Miss Mitchell (Secretary) gave a brief outline of the efforts made to buy the section and build the hall which we now possess. This Branch was formed in 1901; the following year the first instalment was paid on the section, then the hall was built, and the work has gone on steadily, till now we possess, with the hall and furnishings, property to the value of £800, with a debt of £375. Arrangements were made for the reopening of the Band of Hope. Resolution of sympathy on the death of Dr. Bedford was passed and sent to his widow.

### EDEN.

March 4. Miss Wilson presided. The need for National Prohibition was discussed, also the injurious effects of cigarette smoking. Two resolutions were drafted to be brought before Convention. A resolution of sympathy was passed, all members standing, as a token of respect to the memory of the late Professor Bedford. Arrangements were made regarding a representative at Convention. Three new members.

### LOWER HUTT.

March 5. Mrs Ballantine presided. Decided to ask Mrs Neal to speak on Y work. Cradle Roll meeting at Mrs Frethey's reported. Decided to distribute literature. Three new members received. Special meeting was held at Mrs Jenness', when resolutions for Convention were considered.

### PETONE.

Feb. 5. Large attendance. Officers were elected. Mrs Ashby presided. Mrs Rowse was made a life member in appreciation of her long and faithful services.

Feb. 20. Mrs Ashby presided at a Home meeting at Mrs Corner's. Mr P. Marshall gave an interesting address. Three new members. Afternoon tea served.

### NELSON.

Feb. 12. Mrs Field presided. Misses Hayes and Sutherland appointed assistants for L.T.L. work. Resolved to co-operate with other temperance societies for election of Licensing Committee. £12 10s voted for delegate's expenses. Greetings sent to Melbourne Union by Mrs Knapp. Attention called to School Committee elections, and nominations of women invited.

March 5. Mrs Watson presided. Deputation received from Temperance candidates for Licensing Committee. Members undertook to give all assistance possible.

### INVERCARGILL.

March 5. Decided to hold annual social in Victoria Hall, and arrangements made. Reported that Miss Powell had organised at Ryal Bush, with a membership of 12. Mrs Macalister to visit their next meeting. Resolved to register the Union. Mrs Parsonson appointed delegate. £50 donated to mine-sweepers. Superintendents were elected: Band of Hope, Mrs Hunter; Notable Days, Mrs Kennedy; Reform Work, Mrs Baird and Mrs Harper; Literature, Mrs Macalister; Legal and Parliamentary, Mrs J. McKenzie; Good Citizenship, Mrs Cruickshank and Miss Birss; Military Camps, Mrs Walker; "White Ribbon," Mrs Lillicrap.

### ASHBURTON.

March. Mrs Frost, V.P., presided over a good attendance. The following motion was carried in silence:—"That this meeting of the Ashburton W.C.T.U. desires to place on record their profound sorrow at the untimely death of the late Professor H. D. Bedford, also their deep and sincere appreciation of his untiring energy and loyal devotion to duty, as proved in the splendid work accomplished by him in the cause of humanity throughout the Dominion during his brief span of life. They would extend, too, their loving sympathy to Mrs Bedford and family in their sad and irreparable loss, and pray that the Divine consolation afforded the bereaved by the Triune God may be theirs in the hour of sorrow and bereavement." The N.Z. Superintendent of Narcotics wrote referring to the cigarette habit, and enclosing an appeal to be forwarded to the Y.M.B.C. Resolved to send a copy to each class in the Borough. The sum of £1 10s 1d was handed in to Mine-Sweepers' Fund from the children camping at Hakatere during the summer holidays—received with many thanks. Mrs Frost extended to Sister Jessie a cordial welcome to Ashburton. "Y" Superintendent reported that arrangements were made to hold a meeting after Convention. Pastor Matthews delivered a stirring appeal on behalf of the Y.M.C.A. Fund. Decided that the members donate a sum to the work. Mrs Constable sang.

### NORSEWOOD.

Dec. 20. Small attendance. A few matters of business dealt with. Appointment of a delegate was left over until next meeting. Decided not to hold a meeting until February.

Feb. 21. Attendance fair. Mrs Speight presided. Letter of cheer was read from Mrs Venables. Decided not to send a delegate this year. Votes of sympathy passed with Mrs Anderson, also Miss Caughey, in their sad losses. The Presi-