

providing electric light for the W.C.T.U. rooms.

Ashburton.—W.C.T.U., assisted by "Y's"; 61 members; addresses given; one social; prizes given for various competitions.

Rakaia.—16 meetings; 65 members; one public meeting, proceeds sent to Y.M.C.A. Coffee Fund for soldiers.

North-East Valley.—Two Bands of Hope; 115 members; 36 new members; W.C.T.U. gives prizes for essays.

Birkenhead and Avondale each have an L.T.L.

Tinwald and Winchmore-Greenstreet each have Bands of Hope, but have sent no particulars.

The following Unions purchased L.T.L. badges: Urenui, Woodville, Feilding, Wanganui East, Wellington Central, Ngaio, Birkenhead.

The following purchased Charts: Invercargill, Auckland, Tātuanui, Greymouth, Rakaia, Wellington District, Dunedin, Ngaio.

L.T.L. Lesson Manuals purchased by the following: Auckland, Tātuanui, Sawyer's Bay, Greenlane, Henderson, Wanganui, Opatiki, Greymouth, Tauranga, Dunedin, Fitzroy, Te Kuiti, Hawera, Tauranga, Whangarei, Avondale, Wanganui, Palmerston North, Lower Hutt.

L.T.L. Pledge Cards purchased by: Feilding, Waipukurau, Woodville, Ngaio, Wellington District, Wellington Central, Avondale, Devonport, Birkenhead, Stratford, Hawera, Tauranga.

L.T.L. Hand-Books supplied to: Wanganui East, Oxford, Auckland, Tātuanui, Blenheim, Dunedin, Sawyer's Bay, Christchurch, Greenland, Henderson, Wanganui, Opatiki, Greymouth, West Oxford, Waipukurau, Ngaio, Lower Waitoa, Hawera, Avondale, Tauranga, New Plymouth, Birkenhead, Te Kuiti, Devonport, Swanson, Whangarei, Palmerston North, Lower Hutt, Koriniti, Ashburton.

Twenty-six subscribers obtained for "The Young Crusader."

Band of Mercy.

The attention of L.T.L. Superintendents has frequently been directed to the advice given in the L.T.L. Hand-book regarding the forming of Bands of Mercy in connection with L.T.L.'s. A number of packets of Mercy leaflets were sold at the Dominion Convention, but no reports have been received.

Balance-Sheet Cradle Roll, L.T.L., and Band of Mercy Dept., 1917.

RECEIPTS

1916 Balance	£3	0	7
Band of Mercy Grant	0	7	6
Sales at Convention	5	9	4
Sales by Post	29	4	10
	£38	2	3

EXPENDITURE.

Purchases U.S.A.	£17	12	7
Duty on Badges	0	9	9
Printing Cradle Roll Birth-day Cards	5	14	6
Printing Cradle Roll Pledge Cards	2	5	6
Printing L.T.L. Pledge Cards	2	10	6
Carriage on Cards and from U.S.A.	1	15	10
Postage on Parcels and Letters	3	8	0
Balance in Hand	4	5	7
	£38	2	3

ASSETS.

Cash in Hand	£4	5	7
Manuals, Charts, Cards, etc., in Stock	18	11	0
Amount of Accounts Owning	3	10	1
	£26	6	8

294 letters written and 170 parcels sent out by this department during the year.

HOME SCIENCE

(Hygiene, Thrift, and Domestic Science).

Supt.: Mrs McDonald.

Four years ago Wellington Central asked the Railway authorities to have separate lavatory accommodation for women and children on all long distance trains. A beginning in this direction has been made this year on the Wellington-Auckland line. The old dining cars have been remodelled into ladies' travelling apartments, with an attendant to supply hot water or milk for mothers travelling with babies.

Timaru reports literature distributed.

The Education Department is giving great prominence to the teaching of Domestic Science in the public schools.

I would urge all Unions to purchase and distribute literature, and to have at least one or two addresses on Home Science throughout the year.

LEGAL AND PARLIAMENTARY.

Supt. Miss Henderson.

Six O'clock Closing.—All the Unions report hearty co-operation with the N.Z. Alliance in promoting the success of the movement for 6 o'clock closing of liquor bars. In some cases the work in the district was organised by the local Union, and in all cases members of the Union undertook house to house canvassing for signatures. This was supplemented by letters and telegrams to members of Cabinet and M.P.'s, and a large share of the success which attended the agitation was undoubtedly due to the enthusiastic efforts of the W.C.T.U. members. Much good work was also done in connection with the campaign for National Prohibition; letters and resolutions were sent to the National Government, and protests were made against the refusal of the Government to adopt the recommendations of the Efficiency Board.

Women Police Patrols.—The demand for the appointment of women police patrols was urged with greater insistence this year than ever before. The Unions were written to and asked to appoint deputations to wait upon the local M.P. and urge his support of this reform. With few exceptions, the Unions complied with the request, and members were either interviewed or written to. The Legal and Parliamentary Department pressed the question upon the attention of the Premier, Sir Joseph Ward, and the Hon. Mr Herdman, and forwarded to every member of Parliament a schedule of the suggested duties of these police patrols, at the same time asking the support of members when the question came before the House. Several members of the W.C.T.U. also formed part of a deputation to the Prime Minister and Sir Joseph Ward, when the appointment of women police was one of the matters dealt with. In spite of the fact that a majority of the members in the House have given their support to this demand, little hope can be expected from the attitude of the members of the National Cabinet.

Social Hygiene Bill.—Late in the session a Social Hygiene Bill was introduced into the House by the Minister of Public Health. While this Bill included provisions of undoubted value, such as those intended for the prevention of the treatment of venereal diseases by quacks, and those requiring that persons suffering from these diseases should submit themselves for treatment, the main provisions of the Bill were entirely objectionable, since they enacted that certain persons could be detained on suspicion that they suffered from venereal disease, and could then be compelled to submit to medical examination. Such measures were entirely at variance with the declared policy of the Union, and a vigorous protest was at once made. As the Bill was introduced late in the session, and there was every indication that it would be "rushed through," time did not permit of all the Unions being communicated with, but telegrams were sent to all District Unions, urging them to take action, and the Premier and Minister for Public Health were requested to delay passage of the Bill until the women's organisations had time to consider its provisions. Of the District Unions, Auckland, Gisborne, Napier, New Plymouth, Wanganui, Palmerston North, Hawera, Nelson, Greymouth, Christchurch, Timaru, Kaipoi, protested against compulsory measures, and asked for delay. Onehunga, Waipukurau, Pahiatua, Wanganui East, Wanganui, Waimate, Port Chalmers, and Mosgiel also report having taken action with regard to the Bill. It is a matter for congratulation that before the Bill reached the third reading, clauses objected to were dropped.

Ebbery Case.—The notorious Ebbery case came under the notice of some of the Unions. Dunedin Union organised a public indignation meeting, and