

Minister of Railways has been approached upon this matter. Gisborne has done splendid work in this department, Mrs Graham, their Superintendent, who has been in office for 12 years, has posted this year 102 papers to the outlying districts. Two parcels of literature received from Mr Dawson have also been distributed. Nelson has sent out parcels of literature to sawmills, railway stations and country districts wherever possible. Much has been done by enclosing small leaflets in letters, and leaving small parcels at country stores or other places where men congregate.

#### NOTABLE DAYS.

(Superintendent: Mrs X. Jones.)

Although from the "White Ribbon" may be gathered the information that quite a number of our Unions have done work in this department during the year, the only official reports to hand are from Auckland, Oxford, Christchurch, South Dunedin, Greymouth, Pahiataua, Nelson and Hawera—four Secretaries wrote to say that they had nothing to report.

The honour of being the only Branch to arrange for celebrating all the Notable Days rest with Oxford.

Collections have been sent to the different funds, and papers on suitable subjects, such as: "The Life and Work of Frances Willard," "The White Ribbon," "Work Among the Maoris," "The Efficiency Board's Recommendations," "Work for the Franchised," and "Women as Citizens" have been read and discussed.

A paper written by a member of the W.C.T.U. in India, and printed in the "Indian Record," was read at Oxford and at Auckland. Two Maori students and one Samoan sang hymns each in his native tongue.

Christchurch had the pleasure and inspiration of a visit from Mrs Don, Dominion President, when eight new members were initiated.

Pahiataua gained eleven new members on Franchise Day, and Nelson reports five new members as a result of White Ribbon Day appeal.

Ashburton celebrated Franchise and White Ribbon Day: with special meetings.

I have been asked to give a list of Notable Days (with object of collection.)

February 17th—**Frances Willard Day** (Missionary Fund.)

July 15th—**White Ribbon Day** (Maori Fund.)

July 27th—**T. E. Taylor Day** (collection as each Band decides.)

September 19th—**Franchise Day** (New Zealand Fund.)

#### PEACE AND ARBITRATION.

Supt.: Mrs Judson.

I very much regret that so little work has been done in this department, only two reports having been sent in. At the close of last Convention an appeal was made to the delegates to do all that was possible to inculcate peace principles into the minds of the children as the surest way of preventing future wars. Several delegates took circulars for distribution amongst Sunday School teachers.

I have had no report with regard to these, but I may say that copies were sent to the Superintendents of all the principal Sunday Schools in the Wellington and Nelson districts. Later on I sent a copy of the little book, "How the Nations Help One Another" to each of the District Unions, asking them to communicate with the Branch Unions, with the request that they would try to bring it under the notice of the headmasters of the public schools in their districts, together with the resolution passed at last Convention with regard to inculcating a wiser ideal of patriotism in the children's mind. Wellington District, Hamilton, Timaru, Greymouth, and Picton wrote expressing approval of the book, but only one has reported action taken. Wellington District obtained copies, and sent them to all their Branch Unions, appealing to them to take action as requested.

We have once more entered, as we earnestly hope, upon a period of peace. I would appeal to all our Unions to help on the cause of peace in the future, by working in the way that seems best to them towards the cultivation of the spirit of peace in the hearts of the rising generation, which is the surest guarantee of peace in the days to come.

#### PRESS.

(No Superintendent.)

The following Unions reported all meetings both in the local papers and in the "White Ribbon":—Timaru (also reports that Convention meetings were well advertised by the local press); Hastings, South Invercargill, Oxford, Feilding, Pahiataua, Rakaia, Nelson, Wanganui East, Wellington District, Ashburton and Auckland.

Palmerston North supplied the press with suitable paragraphs, which were willingly accepted and published.

South Invercargill reports that members use the correspondence columns of the local papers.

Auckland and Ashburton publish all resolutions passed in full in the local papers.

Nelson inserted a special appeal in connection with the Licensing Committee Election Wanganui East and Auckland published a special appeal for the mine-sweepers in the local papers.

Auckland reports that the lady editor of one of the papers has given them some fine paragraphs.

Ashburton gave a donation towards an illuminated address to be presented to Mr T. D. Taylor, on the occasion of his leaving Ashburton, and placed on record their appreciation of his unflinching courtesy and help.

#### MILITARY CAMPS.

(Superintendent: Mrs Whincop.)

Only two Unions report work in connection with military camps. Auckland District has sent cakes to Featherston Camp every three months, also literature. Nelson Union supplied New Testaments to men, leaving their district for camp.

At Greytown, I have paid 134 visits during the year to the local Hospital, which has been used by the military authorities. I have written 37 letters for the men to wives and mothers, and also when requested have found accommodation for relatives visiting the men. 67 Testaments have been given. These visits were appreciated by the men, as I am frequently meeting men who do not forget to remind me of my visits when they were there.

#### MEDICAL TEMPERANCE.

Supt.: Mrs Clara M. Neal.

The following Unions purchased leaflets for general distribution and Cradle Roll work:—Christchurch, Nelson, Invercargill District, Timaru, Blenheim, Takapuna, Lower Hutt, Pahiataua, Dunedin.

Leaflets specially suitable for Cradle Roll work sent to Cradle Roll Superintendents of the following Unions:—Cambridge, Christchurch, Invercargill District, Feilding, Mataura, Aoroa.

Palmerston North: The Superintendent prepared a paper, entitled, "Some Facts which Every Member of the W.C.T.U. Ought to Know," which was read at the Wellington Provincial Convention and at other meetings. A copy sent to Mrs Young for the Educational Bureau.

Dunedin South circulated literature.

Pahiataua: One Medical Temperance paper read. Leaflets distributed at home meetings and by the Cradle Roll Superintendent. A copy of "Safe Remedies" given to each new member, and, with other leaflets, put into sailors' Christmas comfort bags.

Balance-Sheet Medical Temperance Department, 1918.

#### RECEIPTS.

|                                              | £   | s. | d.    |
|----------------------------------------------|-----|----|-------|
| 1917 Balance                                 | ... | 0  | 8 7½  |
| Sales at Dominion and Provincial Conventions | ... | 1  | 16 4½ |
| Sales by Post                                | ... | 0  | 14 8  |
| Department Grant                             | ... | 0  | 7 6   |
|                                              | £3  | 7  | 1½    |

#### EXPENDITURE.

|                                | £   | s. | d.   |
|--------------------------------|-----|----|------|
| Purchases U.S.A.               | ... | 2  | 18 6 |
| Postage on Parcels and Letters | ... | 0  | 4 1½ |
| Carriage to Convention         | ... | 0  | 3 0  |
| Balance in Hand                | ... | 0  | 1 6  |
|                                | £3  | 7  | 1½   |

#### ASSETS.

|                            | £   | s. | d.  |
|----------------------------|-----|----|-----|
| Cash in Hand               | ... | 0  | 1 6 |
| Value of Leaflets in Stock | ... | 5  | 3 0 |
|                            | £5  | 4  | 6   |

Twenty letters and 10 parcels sent out by this department during the year.

1100 leaflets sold, and 600 leaflets distributed free to temperance workers, Cradle Roll Superintendents, and at meetings.