

News of the Unions.

PLEASE NOTE!

Every Union should report.
Reports must be short.
Must be in by 8th of month.
Don't report what you are going to do.
Don't send newspaper reports of your meetings.

LOWER HUTT.

Feb. 24th. 20 members present. The afternoon for Mothers, held February 12th at Mrs. Frethey's residence, was well attended considering the wet day; 20 mothers and 14 children being present. A very pleasant afternoon was spent, and the collection was 30/-. As it was Willard Day, Mrs. Aldersley and Mrs. Ballantyne gave us a few outstanding incidents in Frances Willard's life, which were both enlightening and instructing. Decided to hold a Street Day on March 11th, to augment our working funds. A collection was taken up. Afternoon tea was served.

WHANGAREI.

Celebrated Willard Day at residence of Mrs. Lovatt; 20 members and friends present. Mrs. Goodall (Pres.) gave an interesting paper on Life and Death of Frances Willard. Collection 17/-. towards Willard Memorial Fund. Parcel to Mrs. Lee-Cowie for All Nations' Bazaar.

RAETIHI.

Mar. 5th. Mrs. Sandford, President, in the chair; good attendance of members. Brief report from Area Council meeting by the Secretary. An interesting reading on the life of Frances Willard was given by Mrs. Godby. Mrs. Donnelly, the District Organiser of the Alliance, was present, to propound a scheme whereby the ladies of Ohakune and Rangataua might be conferred with, the object of which is to link them up with the Raetihi branch of the W.C.T.U., also the formation of L.T.L. in their District. The plan met with approval. One new member was enrolled. The Secretary (Mrs. Norton) resigned her position on account of removal from the district. Mrs. Godby was elected Secretary (pro. tem.) Afternoon tea served.

TAKAPUNA.

Dec. 5th. The annual meeting. Mrs. Penning presiding. Fair attendance, and the different officers gave their reports on the year's work. Officers elected:—Mrs. Penning, President; Mesdames Mills and Lewis, Vice-Presidents; Mrs. Lewis, Secretary; Miss Mills, Treasurer; Mrs. Winstone, Cradle Roll Superintendent; Mrs. McLeod, W.R. Reporter; Mrs. Morgan, W.R. Agent. Mrs. Fulljames gave an interesting talk on her work among the Maoris, and told how anxious they were to become members of the W.C.T.U.—Very able news.—(Ed. W.R.)

Feb. 11th. The Cradle Roll picnic was held in the grounds of the Baptist Church, Milford. Tea was served in the new Bible Room, and Mrs. Penning addressed the mothers and asked them to be sure and bring their children in the Temperance Cause, and see that they went to a Sunday school. Mrs. Roper sang, and a very happy time was spent by all.

Mar. 4th. A very good meeting; Mrs. Penning presiding. A vote of sympathy was passed to one of our Vice-Presidents, Mrs. Lewis, who has sustained a very sad bereavement in the death of her son. A presentation was made to Miss Rushbrook, our retiring Secretary, who had held that position for six years. Our President gave a fine little address, and afternoon tea was served.

NEW BRIGHTON.

Feb. 18th. A well-attended meeting. Mrs. H. Hall presided. Mrs. Good, Cradle Roll Superintendent, will speak on Cradle Roll work at the Superintendents' of Departments meeting in April. The delegates to Convention, Mesdames H. Hall and M. Moses, Sick Visiting Committee for the year, Mesdames H. McIlroy and Gibson. A donation of 10 dozen cakes was promised for the Convention Garden Party. The Treasurer's Annual Report was read and received. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the retiring Treasurer, also the honorary Auditor. An excellent paper on the life of Frances Willard was written by Miss Harband, M.A., and was read by several of the members. This was most interesting, and a vote of thanks was accorded Miss Harband. Collection, 10/3.

LEIGH.

Jan. 14th. The Cradle Roll Annual Picnic was held on Mr. Gozar's beautiful beach. The weather was perfect. There were a large number of visitors present, who helped to make the function a success by joining in the games and helping with the races. After a sumptuous tea, the prizes were given out, the tiny tots being particularly pleased with theirs. The President, Mrs. Grigg, gave a short summary of the work done by the Union during the past year. The singing of "Auld Lang Syne" concluded a most enjoyable day.

Jan. 28th. Good attendance. Two visitors present. Correspondence read from Major Gordon and Mrs. Bendely. Resolved that members at future meetings should take it in turn to read papers. Next meeting at Mrs. Matheson's to be a Pay-Up Social. Mrs. Grigg read an article re "Women Police," which was afterwards discussed.

GERALDINE.

Feb. 7th. Mrs. Neutze presided at opening meeting for 1926. Suggestions were read for practical work, and decided to hold a Garden Party and Sale of Work at Mrs. Coombe's residence, "The Pines," Geraldine, on March 9th. Most of the proceeds to go to Willard Orphanage, Palmerston North. Miss Patuch, delegate to Convention. Mrs. Cowie sang a solo, and afternoon tea dispensed.

HAWERA.

Feb. 26th. Willard Day was observed by a Garden Party, held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Correy, Glover Road; a large number being present. A short time was given to business, Mrs. Exley, presiding. Mrs. J. S. Young gave a very interesting talk on the life of Frances Willard; all present being impressed by the devotion of her life to the people who were degraded by the evils of strong drink. A very good collection was taken up on behalf of the Willard Home in Palmerston North. One new member was enrolled. A very dainty afternoon tea was served. A very hearty vote of thanks was proposed by Mrs. Curtis to Mrs. Correy and her daughters for their kindness shown to the visitors.

Mar. 6th. A Shop Day, held to provide funds for delegate's expenses to Convention. The shop was in charge of Mesdames Exley, Curtis, Hayward, Hill and Miss Kelly, all of whom were kept busy selling the goods which were kindly brought in by friends during the day. The last article was disposed of about five o'clock.

ELTHAM.

Mar. 5th. Members and friends of the Eltham W.C.T.U. gathered in good numbers in the Methodist Schoolroom, in order to show their appreciation of Mrs. Stanners, who for the past twenty-five years has filled the position of President of this branch. This took the form of a presentation to her of a handsome silver rose-bowl, suitably inscribed, and a Doultton jam-dish. In the absence of Mrs. Morrison, our new President, the above gifts were handed to Mrs. Stanners by Mrs. Birkett, Secretary. In so doing, the speaker paid a high tribute to Mrs. Stanners' untiring zeal in the cause of temperance, and to the esteem in which she is held by all. After Mrs. Stanners had appropriately responded, a pleasant social hour was spent, in the course of which afternoon tea was served, and two songs were contributed by Mrs. Rankin, which were much appreciated.

RICCARTON.

Feb. 19th. Opening meeting for the year; attendance good. Convention matters discussed and arranged. Mrs. Barrell appointed delegate to Convention. Resolved to send a letter of congratulation to Miss Rae Barrell, on gaining second Prize in Essay Competition. Arranged to hold Bring and Buy afternoon at our next meeting. Mrs. T. E. Taylor gave an inspiring address.

INVERCARGILL NORTH.

Feb. 16th. Good attendance; a contingent of visitors arriving from the Central and South Unions.

After the usual business Mrs. Hopkirk addressed a few words from the chair re the new membership campaign. She stressed the fact that the N. Union had lost quite a number of members by removals, illness and other causes and urged those present to do their best to fill up the gaps in the ranks by trying to gain new members. She expressed the hope that every member present would enter upon the Campaign heartily and try and gain, at least, one new member each during the year. Mrs. Homes to represent the Union at Convention. Mrs. Gilmour read a very interesting paper on Frances Willard. Songs rendered by Mrs. Gilmour and Miss Landskail were much appreciated. Afternoon tea was handed round.

OTAHUHU.

March 4th. First meeting took the form of a Social Afternoon. Songs by Mrs. McFarlane and Mrs. Christena, also a Monologue by Miss McFarlane. Miss McLay kindly came from Auckland to speak to us. She gave us the life of Frances Willard, which was most interesting. After Miss McLay had finished our President, Mrs. Greenwood had the pleasure of inviting three new members, then afternoon tea was handed round. This brought a very pleasant afternoon to a close.

GORE.

Feb. 23rd. The first meeting of the year was held at the Baptist Church at which the usual business was attended to. It was decided to send two delegates, Mesdames T. Stevenson and D. Macaskill to Convention. The President read a helpful and interesting paper on "Eugenics" by Mrs. Boyle, M.A., of Wanganui.

TINWALD.

Feb. 10. Mrs. Robinson presided. Fair attendance. Vote of sympathy was passed to the relations of the late Mrs. Bowman and the late Mr. Page who lost his life in the recent fire. A Syllabus was drawn up for the year's work. Mrs. Hight was appointed White Ribbon Agent. Mrs. Watson delegate to Convention. A resolution was passed asking that the old Wall Sheets in the School be revised and simplified.

MARTON.

Mrs. McIvor presided over a good attendance. Miss Bradshaw was introduced, and spoke of the great needs of educating the young people, and getting them along to evening meetings. Decided to hold a Young People's Rally 3rd week in March. Thanks were then given to speaker for her address.

TURAKINA.

March 3rd. At the Turakina Maori Girls' College Miss Benfill presided over an excellent attendance. Miss Bradshaw, organiser, was present and gave an address on the "Need of work amongst the Young People."

AUCKLAND UNION.

March 2nd. Opening meeting of the year. Mrs. Cook presided. Miss Paul gave a cheering New Year message to members based on the promise I will never leave thee nor forsake thee. Delegates were appointed to the Alliance Convention. Miss Fulljames reported that a new Maori Union had been formed at Frankton and news has been received by Radio to her of a large and enthusiastic Union at Nukunua Island. She reported that 200 garments had been sent to Maori children at Xmas time. A further appeal for clothes had come from the far North. A graphic account of the work carried on under the auspices of the Presbyterian Church in the Urewera Dis-