

News of the Unions.

PLEASE NOTE!

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

BLenheim.

Mar. 2nd. Mrs R. McCallum presided; fair attendance. Mrs J. Stewart read a very interesting and instructive paper in "Character Building," which was discussed by those present.

Apr. 6th. A well-attended meeting was held; Mrs McCallum presiding. Mrs Goslin, Delegate to Convention, gave her report which was concise, yet full of interest and instruction, which proved that our Delegate had been a keen listener, and was inspired by the work done at Convention.

RAWENE.

Mar. 24th. Mrs Bowden as usual proved an excellent hostess, the ladies thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon. Our Literature Superintendent had sent along by request, various pamphlets on purity and good morals. These were handed out to be duly read, and later dealt with. Mrs Johnson gave us further readings on life of Frances Willard. Decided that each member make a special effort to create interest in Union and bring at least one friend to next meeting. One new member sent in subscription, but not present owing to distance. Question raised as to advisability of forming new Branch at Waimamaku, or combining all with Rawene.

NGAERE.

Mar. 4th. President presided; seven present. Letter of sympathy to be sent to Mrs McShee, on the death of her sister. Secretary to send greetings to Convention in Christchurch. Much discussion took place re our proposed Band of Hope.

Apr. 1st. President in chair, six members present. Decided to hold a social afternoon shortly in aid of the New Plymouth Sailors' rest. Regret was expressed at the loss of one of our members (Mrs Taylor) who has removed to Stratford.

NAPIER.

Feb. 18th. Frances Willard Day commemorated by holding a Garden Party at the Botanical Gardens. Quite a good muster, and a fine address on the Life of Frances Willard read by Mrs Macalister. Our Delegate, appointed finally for Convention, was Mrs Leask who also was appointed Purity Superintendent. Letters of appreciation sent to Mrs Freeman for her term of office; also to Mr Oldham, for kindly services rendered. A donation to be sent from members towards the Napier Women's Rest. Collection taken for World's Missionary Fund.

Mar. 3rd. Business in connection with Convention. Greeting sent. Isaiah 41:10. Arrangements made for sending parcel of warm clothing to children at Willard Home, Palmerston North.

Apr. 7th. Hearty welcome and congratulations to Mrs Leask on her return from Dominion Convention; she having received a star of honour for 40 years faithful service in our Union. Her report as Delegate from Convention was both helpful and full of encouragement. A letter of thanks and acknowledgment received from Willard Home. Decided a wreath from our Union be placed on the Soldiers' Memorial on Anzac Day; also a "Bring and Buy" afternoon be arranged for May 5th, to assist the Orphanising Fund.

MATAURA.

Mar. 18th. Mrs Landels presided at opening meeting for 1926; fair attendance of members. In the course of the President's address, reference was made to a two-issue ballot paper, and all members were urged to stand by it, and not to be discouraged, for right is might and must prevail. Other members spoke words of encouragement for which our President thanked them. A recitation was given by Mrs Park, which was well received. Mrs J. Barclay was appointed Assistant to White Ribbon Agent.

WARKWORTH.

Feb. 25th. The chief subject for discussion was the Plunket Nurse work. Mrs Hamilton read a considerable amount of correspondence concerning this. Mrs Green proposed writing to the Health Department to find out whether the Department took any steps to prevent girls smoking, and whether any literature on the subject is published by the Department.

Mar. 25th. The Plunket Nurse work was discussed further, and it was decided to call a Public Meeting to consider how we could support a Plunket Nurse in Warkworth. Each member is requested to bring a saleable gift to the April meeting, to raise funds for the District Committee.

NEW BRIGHTON.

Mar. 18th. Attendance good; Mrs J. Bellamy presided. Miss B. M. Harband gave ten minutes talk on Scientific and Medical Temperance Instruction, very interesting and helpful. Mrs Good, Cradle Roll Superintendent, reported that arrangements were well in hand for a picnic for Cradle Roll. Mrs F. T. Read, Evangelistic Superintendent, is leaving the district, and on behalf of the members, Mrs H. Hall presented her with a toilet set as a token of appreciation for the work she has done for the Union. Mrs R. Campbell was presented with a handbag. Items by Mesdames Weavers and Campbell and Miss Nelson. One new member.

TIMARU.

Mar. 30th. Annual Pay Up social; good attendance. Apology for absence from Mrs Norrie. Greetings from New Plymouth. Treasurer had busy half-hour. Report of Convention given by Delegates. Decided to send letter of appreciation to Mrs Don and of congratulation to Mrs Taylor. From special collection donations were allotted to District Union, New Plymouth Sailors' Rest, and Willard Home for children. Hospital report received. Mr Woodward reported six overseas ships called at Timaru during March, 112 visitors paying about 300 visits. Two Sunday Teas and services were held, the teas being badly attended, but a good number of men coming in the evening. Musical items and a dainty supper.

TEMUKA.

Mar. 12th. Opening meeting of the year; fair attendance, a wet night. Resolved to start L.T.L. on the 16th April. Miss Myrtle Lawry as Superintendent. Resolved to get a speaker for May meeting. Reading by the President on "Meditation" and its need in the Christian Life. "Malachi 3rd chapter and 16th verse."

LOWER HUTT.

Mar. 24th. 12 members present; letters of apology from four members. Letter of appreciation to be sent to Mrs Thomas for her interest and work while she has been with us. Mrs Ballantyne read us some extracts from a book, entitled Man, Women, and Labour. A slight discussion on the effort to start a L.L. in Schools lay branch to work if possible, with the existing league. Our afternoon effort held on the 11th, was rather disappointing, as only a few members turned up, though notices were sent to all. The effort realised four pounds. Afternoon tea was served.

KAIAPOI.

Feb. 24th. President, Mrs Vickery, in the chair. The resignation of Mrs Moreland was received with regret, and Mrs Blackwell elected Corresponding Secretary. Vote of thanks to the Council for the grant of £30 towards our new Rest Room, which we are proposing to build in the centre of the town, also to Mrs Vickery who gave us a very

interesting paper on the life of Frances Willard.

Mar. 31st. President in the chair; fair attendance. The Cradle Roll afternoon on March 2nd took the form of a Garden Party, held at Mrs Moreland's residence, at which 40 mothers were present with their little ones. Mrs Roberts gave a very interesting address on "The influence of early impressions on the child mind." There were also some musical items, after which afternoon tea was dispensed. The tenders closed on March 5th for our new Building in High Street. The tender of Mr Marriot for £700 was accepted, including £30 for extras. We propose to build a hall large enough for our own and Band of Hope meetings, and also to use it as a rest room. During the month, we joined with our Baptist friends to bid farewell to Mrs Moreland, who is leaving for Auckland district.

OAMARU.

Mar. 8th. President, Mrs Clark in the chair; fair attendance. Decided to send a letter of appreciation to Mrs Don, retiring Dominion President. Miss Ironside was appointed delegate to Annual Convention. A vote of sympathy was passed to Mrs Jackson and Miss Frater in their recent bereavement. A short time was spent in prayer. Mrs McKenzie read the message from Guy Hayler, President World Prohibition Federation, which was very helpful. Extracts were read from a sermon by the Rev. W. McLean, and these were much appreciated. Members expressed the opinion that the publication of these sermons were a channel of blessing and spiritual uplift to the community.

WAIMATE.

March 10th. A suggestion was made that those members who were able to be present at the meetings should visit those who were prevented by any cause from being present, and thus let them share in the work being carried on. Mrs Vigers expressed gratitude for a note of remembrance when ill. Mrs Simpson voiced the gratitude of Hospital patients for visits, flowers and literature, and is willing to carry on as visitor. Miss McCarthy spoke about an effort being made to raise funds for the "No Licence Party," and suggested a Concert to be held later in the year if possible. In the unavoidable absence of Mrs Kippenberger, Mrs Clark read her paper on the "Influence of good Women." A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mrs. Kippenberger for her most interesting paper. Mrs Roy proposed that we should ask Mrs Low, Timaru, to speak on Peace Day. Afternoon tea served.

EDEN.

March 17th. Special Afternoon for Mothers. Mrs. Fenton presiding over a gathering of twenty five. Sympathy was expressed for Mr. Ramsay in her illness. Mrs Fenton and Mrs Cartwright were appointed delegates to the Alliance Area Conference. Musical items were contributed by Miss Bertram and Miss Lomax, also a recitation by Mrs Clark Senior, all being much appreciated by the audience. Afternoon tea was served, after which Major Annie Gordon, Probation Officer for the Salvation Army, and a keen lover of humanity, gave a stirring account of her varied experiences along the lines of her work, emphasizing the fact that W.C.T.U. members might do good work by waging war against the "appalling class of books she found being read by young girls of to-day"—"Wine drinking, Cigarette smoking among women and girls, which to her mind, was so degrading," and "unhappy marriages," making special comment that this year began with 56 Divorce Cases and many a night her own pillow was wet by tears shed over some cases left to her to do the best she could to settle. Major Gordon impressed upon members to wear their White Ribbon bow, which she considered the prettiest badge ever made; she loved it, for to her there was always the gentle womanly influence of purity behind it. One lady re-joined the Union.

MAUNGATUROTO.

Mar. 4th. First meeting of this year. Mrs J. Hames took the chair; only seven members present. Mrs L. E. Gullen's resignation as Secretary was received with much regret. Mrs W. Wallace is now Secretary and Treasurer combined. Mrs J.