

ASHBURTON.

August 3. Mrs Robinson presided over a fair attendance. Letters of sympathy to be sent to Mesdames J. Moore, Copeland, and Trott, in family sickness. Several apologies for absence were received. Mrs W. Ashton welcomed from Waimate Union. Hon. W. Nosworthy wrote acknowledging letter from the Union, suggesting amended Legislation in the interests of women, and promising assistance. Mrs E. M. Begg was appointed collector for donations of money to A. and P. and Winter Show Prize Fund. Mesdames H. Stone and A. Brown were appointed delegates to District Convention. Mrs Robinson submitted a report of Executive meeting of South Canterbury Union. An interesting report of a visit paid recently to the W.C.T.U. Branches in Sydney, by Mrs T. Young, was much enjoyed by those present. Copies of the White Ribbon, and mementoes of the trip were handed round. Afternoon tea.

TEMPLETON.

July 27. Good attendance. President opened meeting. One new member. Afternoon tea was handed round.

July 8. We held our Band of Hope in the Oddfellow's Hall; big attendance. Mrs Robinson gave a very interesting address to the children. A splendid programme was given by the young people. Supper was provided by the ladies. A very successful evening was brought to a close by singing of National Anthem.

INVERCARGILL CENTRAL.

July 13. A fair attendance. Decided that we should support the Bible-in-Schools Movement, also, that as a Union, we become a Corporate Member of the League of Nations Union. Arrangements were made to hold a Jumble Sale, on Wednesday, 11th August. £2 was donated to the District Union.

OTAHUHU.

August 5. Small meeting, for which we were very sorry, as we had gone to a lot of trouble to get Rev. L. B. Dalley, from Pitt Street Methodist Church to come out to speak; anyway, those that did not hear him missed a treat; his subject was on Drink in the Home Land, which was most interesting.

GERALDINE.

July 3. Mrs Neutze presided, and welcomed Mrs Boag, District President. Social afternoon; Mrs Madill played Pianoforte solo, also solos by Mesdames Bouell, Wallach, Cowie, and Rev. Ford. After tea, Mrs Boag gave an interesting address, and urged the 50 ladies present to help with 'White Ribbon' work in every way. Letters of sympathy to be sent to sick members.

August 3. Mrs Neutze presided; 32 present. Rev. Ford gave an excellent address on "The White Ribbon," and its significance in our wide sphere of work, and its meaning for highest ideals in womanhood and for God, Home and Humanity. Items were given by Miss J. Logan, Hazel Smith, and Mrs Madill. Mrs Madill read an interesting paper on "The White Ribbon." Appeal for Bible-in-Schools and petitions signed. Five members were initiated.

NORTH INVERCARGILL.

July 20. The President, Mrs Holmes, occupied the chair. Mrs Gilmour gave a helpful little address on "Friendship." It being T. E. Taylor Day, Miss Hardie read an interesting paper relating to T. E. Taylor's early life and his great work for Prohibition. Afternoon tea was served.

JOHNSONVILLE.

June 25. White Ribbon Day observed. We were again fortunate in having Mrs Peryman to address us. The importance of increasing the circulation of the White Ribbon was impressed upon us. We appreciated what was said, and received encouragement to work on. On July 21st, we celebrated our second Birthday. We had not such a large gathering as the previous year, but had a goodly number of youths. Miss Bowler gave elocutionary items; also Master Albert Sowerby, Master Ray and Miss Joyce Hurren gave a Pianoforte and Violin duet. Master George Halliday gave a Pianoforte solo. Mr Halliday congratulated the Union on its second Birthday, and spoke of the important work the women were doing, and counselled us not to give up. A short address was given by the President, on the first drink and the first bet. Games; then

supper brought an enjoyable evening to its close.

RANGIORA.

July 30. Mrs Thwaites presided over good attendance. Scientific Temperance reading: "Alcohol a Cell Poison." A letter was received from Hon. D. Buddo, promising his support to the various resolutions sent forward from the previous meeting. The President reported that a "Y" branch had been formed in Rangiora with a membership of 14. Decided to place copies of the "White Ribbon" in the Public Reading Room. One new subscriber to the "White Ribbon" has been gained. Mrs A. Shankland and Mrs McKechnie were appointed delegates to the Provincial Convention, July 27th being "T. E. Taylor Memorial Day," interesting extracts relative to the life and work of that great leader were read.

NEW BRIGHTON.

July 15. Mrs H. Hall presided. A motion of sympathy was passed with the relatives of the late Mrs McKenna, who was the second President of the Brighton Union. Mesdames Hall and Good will represent the branch at the New Zealand Alliance Area Council. Miss B. M. Harband tendered her resignation as delegate to the (N.Z.) National Council of Women. It was decided to hold the Annual Provincial Convention in the Methodist Schoolroom, September 14th, 15th, and 16th. The Treasurer's half-yearly balance sheet was read and adopted.

LEIGH.

June 24. Fair attendance; one visitor present. President in the chair. Correspondence from Miss Henderson. Mrs Matheson read an article on "The Bad Effect of Alcohol on the Mind and Body," which was well appreciated.

July 29. President in the chair. Letter of thanks and appreciation from Major Annie Gordon, for parcel of clothing sent for her poor families. Decided to start a branch of the L.T.L. in this district, to ask Miss M. Wilson to be Superintendent, and to ask Miss Macgregor, of Warkworth, to organize the first meeting. Mrs Wyatt read a report of Mrs Lee-Cowie's Temperance Hall.

WANGANUI CENTRAL.

July. Previous to the business meeting, a short Devotional meeting was led by Mrs Adjutant Huston, her address on Workers for God being very inspiring. Several apologies for absence were made, many of our dear sisters being sick, or nursing the sick. A welcome was given to Miss Johnston from the Y. Branch, Auckland. Peace and Arbitration was discussed, and it was decided to send for Literature on the subject. Decided to help the No-License League by visiting Immigrants as they come to the city. Portions of the Publicity Bulletin discussed, the President speaking on it. Decided that Memorial Day be kept the next meeting.

NAPIER.

July 7. We were sorry to bid goodbye to our President, Mrs Speight, who was leaving Napier for Havelock North. At this meeting, it was proposed that the Union see whether anything could be done for the Sailors coming to port, the Union to help with any such movement. The Band of Hope is now well established. Mrs Brocklehurst has been appointed Superintendent. The Skipping Competition by girls and boys took on immensely.

August 4. Mrs Dodds, veteran Evangelistic Superintendent, opened the meeting with reading and prayer. Mrs Leask was appointed President for the remainder of year. Mrs Wilson, District President, gave a talk on the life of T. E. Taylor, and read a poem written by Mr Williams after the death of T. E. Taylor. The keynote of talk was Faithfulness, not service. Several members spoke on his work and service. Decided to establish a Cradle Roll, suggestions for work to be brought to next meeting. Vote of sympathy to Mrs Hull.

HAWERA.

July 30. Mrs Exley presided. Mrs Ashton acting as Secretary. Miss Ballantine was a welcome visitor, she gave a short address, dealing mainly with Mr Isitt's Bible-in-Schools Bill. All members sincerely hoping it will be supported by the House. Decided to celebrate Cradle Roll Day on last Friday in August, by having a special afternoon for mothers.

TEMUKA.

July 9. Very good attendance, Mrs Brown, Vice-President, presided. Decided to ask Mrs Boag, District President, to address the August meeting. Members were asked to attend the L.T.L., and so encourage the children in their work. Proposed, that a Garden Party be held in September, to help raise money for building fund of Library, Rest Room, and Plunket Rooms. There was a good response to the appeal of the Bible-in-Schools Organisation. A collection was taken up for the Blind Children of the Orient.

WELLINGTON SOUTH.

June 24. White Ribbon Day. Fair attendance. White Ribbon Editor delivered an inspiring address, urging all to increase the circulation of the paper as a means of educating our voters.

August 5. Fair attendance, and Mrs Mowlem, Literature Superintendent for the Dominion presided. A welcome was given to Mrs Bothwell, who has recently come into Newtown from Masterton. An anonymous subscription of £2 sent in since the banquet was gratefully acknowledged, and had been added to the credit balance already in the Bank. Resolved that this fund, hitherto called the Building Fund, should be henceforth known as the South Wellington Union Reserve Fund, and should be operated upon by the Secretary and the Assistant Treasurer until the end of the current year. Correspondence was dealt with relating to the Religious Exercises in Schools Bill and the Police Offences Bill. Decided that for the celebration of Franchise Day, a "Pay Up Social" should be held on September 16th. When afternoon tea had been served, the subject for the meeting was introduced by Mrs Evans. It was Motherhood Endowment, or Family Allowances and the information given was drawn from the Report of Committee prepared for the 1926 Congress of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance. It showed that the present system of providing for the support of the family was unsatisfactory on several grounds. It was wasteful and inefficient because the general level of wages has never been high enough to give every man enough to keep a moderate family in ordinary comfort, and to achieve this, would take more than the re- and would provide for millions of wives sources of even the wealthiest country, and children more than actually exist. It was unfair to the women wage-earners because of the barrier it raises to the achievement of "equal pay for equal work." It was unfair to the mother, because in spite of the admitted importance of her work, the two chief conditions under which she could efficiently perform it were not under her control, namely, the amount of her husband's wages and the proportion he chooses to give her. It was unfair to the children because their chance in life depended so much on the capacity and goodwill of one person, the father. It violated the principle that every human being is an end in himself or herself. The human dignity of mothers and children and their economic value to future generations required that the cost of their maintenance should be a direct charge on the resources of the community. The speaker then briefly explained the methods in use in various countries, pointing out that in almost all European lands except Britain, Russia, Spain and Portugal, some system of family allowance was in vogue, particularly in the public services and in mining. In Belgium and France it is fast becoming an established and universal feature of the industrial order. Here the allowances are kept quite separate from wages, a method that avoids arousing the jealousy of the unmarried men. Payment is mostly made through equalisation funds.

PUKEKOHE.

July 6. Our President presiding over a very fair attendance at our Pay Up social. Mr Johnson gave a short address, after which musical items interspersed with recitations and reading were given. Social intercourse and afternoon tea, closed a very enjoyable afternoon.

BIRKENHEAD.

July 15. Meeting at Mrs Jory's. Mrs Cook, Auckland President, said that the Bible, as a piece of literature ranks as the greatest in the world, and is the basis of