

mother was able to influence the child for good, even if the father were profligate, while a good father was helpless if the mother lacked moral stamina. We had to face the fact that Prohibition was not attained, and that for lack of education and knowledge. We must seek to capture the child for the Kingdom of Christ, for only by implanting the germ of that Kingdom in the mind and heart of the child, can the ideals and principles of the Kingdom of Christ be realised.

BLENHEIM.

Dec. 7. Annual meeting. Mrs R. McCallum presiding. A motion of sympathy passed for Mrs James Hay, in the loss of her husband. Mrs Hay has been a member of the Union for many years, and attends every meeting. Motion passed expressing regret at Miss Burl's resignation from Dominion Union, her work in Blenheim appreciated. Mrs R. McCallum's resignation from Presidency accepted with regret. Election of officers resulted: President, Mrs W. M. Smith; Secretary, Mrs V. Underhill; Treasurer, Mrs T. Pike; White Ribbon Agent, Mrs W. Pike; Evangelistic Steward, Mrs Stewart; Cradle Roll Supt., Mrs Lacey; Libraries, Mesdames Lane and McCallum. Decided to hold meetings for ensuing half-year in Presbyterian Hall.

HENDERSON.

Dec. 8. Last meeting for the year. Mothers' Afternoon; good attendance. Mrs Platt presided. Mrs Cook, Auckland President, gave an address on Bible-in-Schools. Mrs Cook was so earnest and full of her subject, that she made us all feel how very essential it is for children to know their Bibles, and urged members to do all they could by work and prayer to get the Bible into the schools again. A few questions were asked, and answered. Mrs Cook told of more than one instance in our own city of children who did not know the Name of Jesus, and we all felt how wrong it is that we send missionaries to our Back-Blocks and to Foreign lands, yet children on our own streets have not learned of Jesus and His love for them. It is not mentioned in day school or some homes, and children are not sent to Sunday School. Afternoon tea was served. Next meeting in Presbyterian Church, 3rd Wednesday in March.

PAFAROA.

Dec. 10. Mrs Hames presided, very good attendance. An interesting paper was read by Miss Blackwell, written by her brother, Mr Downs, whilst travelling in America, stating his personal experiences on the effects of Prohibition in America, dealing with the social aspect, also, from a business man's point of view. The writer contended that the effect of Prohibition in America was a success, very much improving the conditions in the social and business life, also not so much poverty and distress. Many eating houses and shelter homes that were formerly necessary, were now closed. A duet was rendered by Mrs Kings and Mrs Evans. A "hearty welcome" was given to Miss Iris Hames, Missionary Teacher of "Fiji" (who is home on furlough). Miss Hames gave a very interesting address on "The effects of Alcohol on the Fijian Native." Reference was made to the disastrous effect of the liquor on the natives, who are able to procure the drink, owing to the laxness of the liquor laws in Fiji. Many people in Fiji would like to see total prohibition of alcoholic liquor in Fiji. They feel that the Fijian natives should be prohibited, as the Government of Samoa has protected the natives there. A Prohibition League has been formed in Fiji, with a European, Fijian, and Indian membership. One Mission Station has a branch of this league, with a Fijian membership of over a hundred. It is interesting that the young Fijian Society, formed by Fijians, for the promotion of the interests of the Fijians economically, politically, and educationally, has recently declared itself unanimously in favour of total Prohibition in Fiji. Miss Hames spoke of Samoa under New Zealand laws, having more effective measures of checking the Drink evil amongst natives. These laws did New Zealand great credit. A hearty vote of thanks was extended to Miss Hames and Miss Blackwell, also Mrs Kings and Mrs Evans. Mrs Hames appointed delegate to Convention. Resolved to close down until February.

CHRISTCHURCH.

Dec. 8. Annual meeting; Miss Henderson presided over a good attendance of members. The annual report was read by the Secretary. It showed good work done in many departments, Back-Blocks and Philanthropic being the most active. The Secretary had collected over £30 by donations in answers to letters, and by personal interviews with business men and friends. The Treasurer gave a short financial statement, the balance sheet to be presented at the first meeting of the year. The election of officers was taken, and the following were unanimously returned:—Miss Henderson, President; Mrs R. Day, Cor. Sec.; Miss Thomas, Rec. Sec.; and Mrs Richards, Treasurer. Vice-Presidents were appointed, Mesdames A. S. Adams, T. E. Taylor, Whetter, Adkins, Richards, Price and Wicks. Superintendents were elected for the following departments:—Mrs Richards, Evangelistic, and Peace and Arbitration; Mrs Suckling and Pedlar, Philanthropic; Miss Henderson, Legal and Parliamentary, and Anti-Gambling; Mrs Wicks, Medical Temperance; Miss W. W. Lovell-Smith and Mrs Lishman, Back-Blocks; Mrs Simcox, Cradle Roll; Miss Mackay, Press; Miss Stephens, Literature; Mrs Rowntree, Librarian. A Social and Visiting Committee were also appointed. Afternoon tea was dispensed, and a successful Bring and Buy Sale was held at the close of the business sessions.

OPOTIKI.

Dec. 9. Annual meeting. Mrs Thompson presided over a fine muster of members and friends. Captain Grice assisted in the Devotional Exercises. Mrs and Miss Steele sang vocal duet. The President gave an animated address, after which all the retiring officers were re-elected with acclamation. Afternoon tea was served by the officers. Doxology closed a fine spiritual meeting.

STYX.

Dec. 8. Annual meeting, fair attendance. The election of officers:—President, Mrs Donald; Secretary, Mrs Marwick; Treasurer, Mrs Blain; Vice-President, Mesdames Hill Johnstone and Tennet; Band of Hope Supt., Mrs Johnstone; L.T.L. Supt., Mrs Titheridge; Cradle Roll Supt., Miss Dobby; Organist, Mesdames Verran and Hill; White Ribbon Agent, Mrs Harris; Social Committee, Mesdames Marwick, Johnstone, Titheridge, Leadbetter, Munro, Craighead, and Evans.

WANGANUI EAST.

Dec. Annual meeting. Vote of sympathy with Mrs Rockel, who is now in hospital, the result of an accident, was passed, also motions of condolence with Mrs Cox, and the relatives of Mrs Scott, by the members standing in silence. The Sale held on November 20th, realised £7 14s., and this with the one pound donated, will greatly assist in the work. The Secretary's report was very satisfactory, showing a membership of 105, an increase of 20. Mrs Ellis reported a Cradle Roll of 30, an increase of 9, five being over eight years of age. Mrs Melvin reported 25 White Ribbon subscribers. Mrs Eccersall stated that a bale of clothing had been sent to Willard Home, and another was ready to go. The Treasurer's report and balance sheet, showing a credit balance, were read and adopted. The sum of £2 10s. was donated to the Sailors' Rest, New Plymouth; £2 to Memorial Headquarters; £2 to the New Zealand Alliance Fighting Fund; and £1 to the Trustees of the St. Alban's Hall. Votes of thanks were passed to the Secretary and the Treasurer for their work during the year. The election of officers:—President, Mrs Duxfield; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames Cox, Eccersall, Hopkirk, McLeod, and Miss Wilton; Cor. Secretary, Mrs Andrew; Rec. Secretary, Miss Sanson; Treasurer, Mrs F. Brown; White Ribbon Agent, Mrs Melvin; Cradle Roll, Miss Sutton; Home Meetings, Mrs Ellis; Narcotics, Mrs Duxfield; Press, White Ribbon Reporter, Mrs Andrew; Evangelistic, Miss Sanson; Notable Days, Mrs Brown; Philanthropic, Mrs Eccersall. It was decided to hold the next meeting on February 12th, when a paper on Miss Frances Willard will be read.

MAUNGATUROTO.

Dec. 8. Annual Mothers' Day in connection with Cradle Roll. Disappointing attendance of Mothers, owing to measles being prevalent. All present had an enjoyable afternoon. Solos were rendered by Mrs

Knightbridge and Miss Edna Cullen, recitations by Mrs Ridling, who also read paper on the Education of Children, sent Mother's Thought Guild. Papers "Motherhood" were distributed. Four names added to our Cradle Roll.

RAKAIA.

Dec. 9. Mrs Boag presided over good attendance. Meeting took form of "Pay-Sozial." Election of officers resulted in the following:—President, Mrs Boag; Vice-President, Mrs Morrison; Secretary, Mrs H. Wood; Treasurer, Mrs Evison; Cor. Secretary, Miss Saunders; Maori Supt., Mrs Palmer; Literature Supt., Mrs Hunt; White Ribbon Agent, Miss A. Oakley; Cradle Roll Supt., Mrs R. Boag, and Miss G. Boag; White Ribbon Reporter, Miss G. Boag. Recitations were given by Mesdames Cooke, Mead, Palmer, and gramophone items were enjoyed by those present. Our Cradle Roll Garden Party was postponed until March.

EPSOM.

Nov. 25. Annual meeting, held in Baptist Schoolroom. Mrs Lee-Cowie gave an account of her work in beautiful Honolulu. Mrs Benfell, District President, made mention of the plans made for the Dominion Convention, to be held in Auckland in March. The ballot for officers resulted in the following being elected:—President, Mrs Neill; Secretary, Mrs Carr; Treasurer, Mrs Pirrie; "White Ribbon" Agent, Mrs Hood.

MOSGIEL.

Oct. 19. Pay-Up Social; an evening meeting. A very large gathering despite inclement weather. A party from Dunedin, under the management of Mrs Hutton, gave a very fine programme. Mrs Don gave a most instructive address on "The Inauguration of the W.C.T.U." All were deeply impressed, and very grateful to Mrs Don. Sumptuous supper provided.

Nov. 23. Annual meeting. Balance sheet which showed a membership of 90 and credit balance of £12 16s. 10d., was read and adopted. Secretary's report adopted. Great credit due to Cradle Roll Superintendent, Miss McLeod, who has 146 babies in the roll. Band of Hope has met fortnightly, average attendance from 70 to 80; great praise was given to the Leader, Mr Prentice. Gratitude expressed that our President was restored to health. Officers elected: President, Mrs Bedford; Vice-President, Mesdames Prentice and Logan; Secretary, Mrs M. H. Wilson; Treasurer, Mrs A. Lennox; W.R. Agent, Mrs Morton; Cradle Roll, Mrs McLeod; Evangelistic, Mrs S. Johnston. Decided to have Cradle Roll Day at March meeting. President spoke words of cheer and encouragement for the New Year. Three new members initiated.

Build thee more stately mansions,
my soul,
As the swift seasons roll!
Leave thy low-vaulted past!
Let each new temple, nobler than the last,
Shut thee from heaven with dome more vast,
Till thou at length art free,
Leaving thine outgrown shell by life's
unresting sea!

An English minister went to preach in an old remote parish one Sunday. The sexton, in taking him to the place deprecatingly said: "I hope your riv'ence won't mind preachin' from the chancel. Ye see, this is a quiet place, and I've got a duck sittin' on the eggs in the pulpit."