

News of the Unions.

BRANCH REPORTS.

Please take note:—

1. Reports should reach Editor by 8th of each month.
2. They should be short. Don't report routine business. Do report all new plans and efforts.
3. Use pen and ink, and write only on one side of the paper.

OAMARU.

Dec. Annual Social meeting well-attended. Mrs Clarke in the chair. Mrs Edgar read a very fine paper by Mrs Lee-Cowie, which was instructive and interesting. A vote of sympathy was passed to Mr Cunningham and family in their bereavement. Votes of thanks were passed to Mr R. Hill, as Auditor of our balance sheet; to Mrs Smith for her labour of love in making wreaths; to Miss M. Milligan for arranging room for meetings. Decided to send no delegate to Convention; to go into recess till the 2nd Monday in February, and that the Baptist Hall be still our meeting place. Mrs D. Simpson, the Misses Farr and Genge, were the soloists of the evening, their songs were much appreciated. Election of officers resulted as follows:—President, Mrs J. J. Clarke; Secretary, Miss A. Webb; Cor. Secretary, Mrs W. Scott; Treasurer, Mrs McKenzie; Vice-Presidents, Mrs Hutchinson, Mrs Reid and Hall, Miss Smyth, Miss M. Milligan; Press Reporter, Miss A. Webb; White Ribbon Agent, Mrs A. Corlett; Band of Hope Supt., Miss Hilliker; Sick Visitor, Miss M. Milligan; Evangelistic Supt., Mrs Williamson; Organist, Miss Frater; Cradle Roll Supt., Mrs Twose with Mrs Edgar to assist; Social Convenor, Miss Hilliker, with Mrs Twose, Mrs Omnet, Mrs Edgar, Miss Johnstone to assist. Supper was served. The Silent Campaign was discussed, and cards given out, as was also Bible-in-Schools Slips.

NEW BRIGHTON.

Dec. 9. Annual meeting held in conjunction with a "Bring and Buy" Social; the attendance was good, and the meeting was presided over by Mrs H. Hall. Decided to send letters of Xmas cheer to many members who are on the sick list. A picnic for the children on the Cradle Roll will be held in January. A resume of the year's activities was submitted by the Secretary. The report showed that the membership is 102; there are 41 "White Ribbon" subscribers and 121 babies on the Cradle Roll. The Treasurer reported a good credit balance. The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows:—President, Mrs H. Hall; Vice Presidents, Mesdames J. S. Young, R. Raine, J. Bellamy, F. H. Good, and Miss B. M. Harband; Secretary, Mrs M. Moses; Treasurer, Mrs N. Fraser; "White Ribbon" Agent, Mrs H. Melroy; Press Reporter, Mrs F. M. Mitchell; Notable Days Supt., Mrs R. Campbell; Good Citizenship and Scientific Temperance Instruction, Miss B. M. Harband; Peace and Arbitration, Mrs Duncan; Cradle Roll, Mrs F. H. Good; Legal and Parliamentary, Mrs M. Moses. An excellent programme of character songs, recitations, violin solos and pianoforte solos, was given by Misses Shirley Cook, Gwen Sherlock, and Roma Spedding, and Master Billy Cook. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the performers. Under the supervision of Mrs Fraser, a well-filled table of gifts found ready buyers, and the Union's funds will be augmented to the amount of £2 12s. 6d. by this effort. Supper was served by the members.

HAWERA.

Dec. 7. Members of the Executive met at the residence of Mrs Curtis to say farewell to Mrs Parkinson, one of our members, who is leaving Hawera to care for her brother's motherless children in Christchurch. Mrs Exley presided, and at the conclusion of afternoon tea, said how sorry we were to say good-bye to Mrs Parkinson, who had

been a faithful member, but hoped she would link up with the Union in Christchurch and feel at home there. Mrs Exley then presented the guest of the afternoon with a black purse and autograph book, in which each one present wrote a verse and their name. Mrs Parkinson thanked all for their gifts and kind wishes. Mrs Squire returned thanks to Mrs Curtis for her kind hospitality. Mrs Hayward also added a few words of appreciation. Lawn Croquet was then indulged in.

FENCOURT.

Nov. 11. Mrs Simpson presided, attendance small. President made reference to "Armistice Day." Read literature telling of Women's privilege in New Zealand since 1893. Miss C. Jamieson was appointed to assist Mrs Rickard with Cradle Roll, so as to have all the names in by the 31st December. Mrs Rickard donated an account book for the Cradle Roll work, and was duly thanked. Afternoon tea was served.

Dec. 9. President presided; fair attendance. Decided to hold a "Tennis Day" early in January, to raise money for Organising Fund. Decided to omit January meeting, and commence our "New Year" second Thursday in February. All officers re-elected. Mrs Simpson was appointed delegate to Convention, and Miss Norman as substitute. Collection was taken up for Organising Fund, and afternoon tea served.

PAPANUI.

Dec. Annual meeting, Mrs Simpson presided over a good attendance of members. The Secretary's report was read, and the Treasurer presented the annual balance sheet, which showed a satisfactory credit. Mrs Carr was then asked to take the chair during the election of officers, which resulted:—President, Mrs Simpson; Recording Secretary, Mrs Merrin; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs Wright; Cradle Roll Superintendent of Flower Mission, Mrs Kruse; Evangelistic Superintendent, Mrs Bond; Organist, Mrs Mackie; Press Reporter, Mrs C. Smith; Social Committee, Mesdames Baxter, Marshall, Kruse, and Tillman. Afternoon tea served.

THAMES.

Sept. 21. Rev. W. A. Burley, M.A., presided over a gathering of 15 ladies, when it was unanimously agreed that a Union be formed. Miss C. M. McLay, Dominion Organiser, organised branch, eight members being initiated. The following officers were elected:—President, Mrs E. Miller; Vice-Presidents, Mrs Langford and Mrs Heard; Cor. Secretary, Miss Smith; Rec. Secretary, Mrs Gleeson; Treasurer, Mrs Gleeson. Miss McLay addressed the meeting in a very interesting talk of how the first members worked through much hardships for the cause of Temperance and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Dec. 4. The President, Mrs Miller, presided over an attendance of nine ladies. Miss C. M. McLay welcomed to the meeting. Plans of work for next year were discussed. Agreed that the subjects of Medical Temperance and "Alcohol, a Cell Poison," be studied; that Notable Days be observed and papers thereon obtained; and that efforts be made to form a "Y" branch early in the New Year. Miss McLay gave a brief address on the text, "If ye abide in Me and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will and it shall be done unto you," emphasising prayer-less-ness as one of the greatest hindrances to our work, and the need for complying with the condition laid down by Christ, "If ye abide in Me." On Sunday 5th, a Bible Class Rally was held, addressed by Miss McLay on "The Social Relationships of Life," and setting forth the claims of the Y.P.C.T.U.

RICHMOND.

Oct. 19. Although small attendance, the Pay-Up Social was very enjoyable. Two items, a recitation and a dialogue, were given by L.T.L. members, showing us how well they are being taught. Afternoon tea and general discussion closed the gathering.

Nov. 16. Attendance again small. Reports were read, and one realizes that the work is going on, slowly but surely. The election of officers resulted in same officers

for following year. No meeting to be held in December. Next meeting in January as usual to arrange about Babies' Day.

OPAWA-WOOLSTON.

Oct. 20. A well-attended meeting conducted by the Secretary, Mrs W. T. Kelly, in the unavoidable absence of the President and Vice-Presidents. The Rev. Mr Fee spoke on "Prohibition;" his speech was much appreciated.

Nov. 16. Pleasant social, a large number of members and their friends being present. The President, Mrs Jenkins, presiding, members expressing their delight at having her back again, and glad to see her looking so well after her much-needed holiday. Songs and recitations were given by members and visitors, which were much appreciated. The address was then given by Mrs Richards, of the Christchurch branch, on How to live, not only How to live, but How to live "Well." A wonderful address, although in such a quiet way, it was truly a message from God. She also reminded us of our pledge, For God, Home, and Humanity. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mrs Richards for such an excellent address. Two new members initiated. Sumptuous afternoon tea served.

Dec. 14. Annual meeting, fair attendance, Mrs Jenkins presiding. The balance sheet received and adopted. Mrs Simpson, late President of the Templeton branch was welcomed to the Opawa-Woolston branch. The following officers were then elected:—President, Mrs Jenkins; Vice-Presidents, Mrs G. Scott, Mrs Fee, and Mrs Simpson; (Mrs Tullock retiring); Secretary, Mrs Kelly; Treasurer, Mrs Pedlar; White Ribbon Agent, Mrs Turner; Press Reporter, Miss Atkins. The Retiring Treasurer, Mrs West, kindly offered to continue to be responsible for the preparation of the room and afternoon tea, for which we were all very grateful. A vote of thanks was accorded the retiring officers, also to the re-elected ones for work done during the past year. It was proposed that a letter of thanks be sent to the Trustees of the Church for the use of the premises, etc., for our meetings. Afternoon tea closed a busy but happy meeting.

PETONE.

Dec. 7. Annual meeting, Mrs Cole in the chair. A letter of thanks was read from Mr Armstrong, for the help our Union gave in providing tea for the delegates to the Alliance Convention at the Hutt. The Secretary read a report of this Convention. The report for the year was read, and Mrs Doneghue (Treasurer) reported a small balance in hand. Mrs Griffiths reported 35 on Cradle Roll, 5 of whom were old enough to come off, but we have 5 more to take their place. Mrs Jones (Sick Visitor) has done good work, and during the year had made 200 visits. Mrs Bradbury, White Ribbon Agent, has been able to sell a nice number of papers. Following officers were elected:—Mrs Murgatroyd, President; Mrs Doneghue, Treasurer; Mrs Cole, Secretary; Mrs Libbery, Asst. Secretary; Mrs Woolford, Asst. Treasurer; Mrs Griffiths, Supt of Cradle Roll; Mrs Bradbury, Agent for White Ribbon; Mrs Woolford, Librarian; Mrs Cole, Battersley, Corner, and Collins, Vice-Presidents; Mrs Woolford, Libbery, and Jensen in charge of the afternoon Socials. A hearty clap was given to those who had worked last year.

Dec. 8. Mrs Griffiths gave a nice afternoon Social for the members of the Cradle Roll and their mothers. Mrs McAlpine sung for us, and nice pieces from the pathophone entertained us further. A dainty afternoon tea was served and the birthday cake handed round, and sweets for the children. We thank Mrs Griffiths for the happy time spent by all.

WAIMATE.

Dec. 8. Closing meeting, Mrs Roy presiding. Cradle Roll Rally. A short musical programme in which Rona and Avis Johns, Mrs Excell (song, Fairy Pipers); Miss McCarthy (Piano Solo, Goblin's Parade), took part—followed. The Rev. Nicholl (Presbyterian) gave an address to the mothers present, stressing the responsibility and the privilege of parenthood. Back of the Cradle Roll, lay the Woman's Movement, and back of this the powers of Christianity. A good