

News of the Unions.

WANGANUI CENTRAL.

Feb. 1. Attendance good. Mrs Goodey presided. Two of our very old members have passed to higher service. Votes of sympathy with the bereaved families. Letters of sympathy were also sent to sick members. Mrs Morrison, from Waverley, was welcomed. Mrs Duxfield, District President, was present, and spoke on the "Two-issue ballot." Resolutions to be submitted to Convention were discussed. Mrs Stewart, of Gonville, was appointed delegate to Convention. A resolution moved by Mrs Emmett and seconded by Mrs Bathgate was unanimously carried, "That if the Dominion Executive have a building in view for use as Dominion Headquarters, and Convention decide to buy, the Wanganui Central will do what it can to help in raising funds." A few afternoons' were promised in aid of the fund. Mrs Duxfield promised to speak at any of these afternoons, either on "Dominion Headquarters," or W.C.T.U. work.

MAUNGATUROTO.

Feb. 18. First meeting in 1927; seven members present. Correspondence re a petition asking for a two-issue ballot paper. Decided to leave the matter in the hands of our delegate, all present being in favour of two-issue ballot. Letter received from Editor White Ribbon, asking us to try and increase the circulation. Mrs Hames appointed delegate to Convention. Mrs Bycroft read an interesting paper entitled "Blessed be Drudgery." Secretary was asked to write letter of sympathy to Mrs Nazer in her sad bereavement. Afternoon tea was partaken of.

ONEHUNGA.

Dec. 9. 16 present. President reported: (1) The L.T.L. Concert a great success, and congratulated Mrs Hunter (L.T.L. Superintendent) on the splendid items and the able manner in which they were rendered by the children; (2) Street collection in Onehunga, for the Play Association, resulted in £11 17s. 4d. Mesdames Gilbert and Ross appointed Cradle Roll Superintendents. Reading was given by Mrs Stacey, and Mrs Mushet gave a paper on "Home Sweet Home," which was much enjoyed by members. Afternoon tea.

Feb. 10. A very wet day, only few members present. Syllabus for the year brought forward, and amended and adopted. A Bring and Buy Sale in April. Cradle Roll Picnic to be held March 10th, at our President's home. Social Committee work undertaken by Mesdames Gillon and Lamond. Mrs Olliver visiting from Manurewa, asked for homes for delegates. Cars also asked for the drive. Mrs Stacey, President, elected delegate to Convention. Instructions given to delegate how to vote on certain matters. The Pledge was repeated at the close of devotions; afternoon tea handed round. All present glad to hear our Treasurer, Mrs Mushet, recovering from her operation.

RANGIORA.

Feb. 25. Mrs Thwaites presided over good attendance. A motion of sympathy with the relatives of the late Mrs Horton was passed. Mrs Ralph Smith was appointed Assistant W.R. Agent. Decided not to send a delegate to the Convention at Auckland next month. Mrs Williams, in an interesting address, enumerated the various acts of Parliament that have been passed mainly through the instrumentality of the W.C.T.U., and it was a source of encouragement to members to learn that so many of the recent improvements brought about in social legislation, have been due to the efforts of women.

TINWALD.

Nov. Cradle Roll Afternoon, the Superintendent, Mrs Gill, arranged a very nice little programme with items from the children, and each child received a present and sweets. Rev. Matthews gave a splendid address on "Mothers' Responsibilities," and congratulated the Superintendent on the large number of little children for the small place of Tinwald, and urged her to take care of the young children, they are the greatest asset to the Organisation. Members, mothers and children joined in afternoon tea. Much thanks is due to Mrs Gill for the work she put in to make the afternoon so interesting to all. At the October meeting, Rev. Enticott presented

Dorothy May Wakelin to God, the Church, and a member of the Cradle Roll, and afterwards addressed the mothers present on the lives of great women in the past, and "How a little child shall lead them."

Feb. 9. A large attendance present, Mrs Robinson presided. Mrs Lill was present after an absence of twelve months, and heartily welcomed. Mrs Robinson read a paper on Motherhood, written by Mrs Lill during her illness. Mrs Amos, of Ashburton, to represent us at Convention. Notice was given of the Executive meeting in Timaru on February 14th; no delegate was able to attend owing to shortage of funds.

BIRKENHEAD.

Jan. 26. Cradle Roll Picnic on Church grounds. Mrs Mackay gave interesting talks, both to the children and the mothers.

Feb. 17. Rev. J. H. Allen presided over a good attendance. Letter from Miss Henderson was read. The "Two-Issues" was discussed. Mrs Mackay was appointed our delegate to Convention. Mesdames Jory and Mackay were elected to represent us on the Advisory Council of the Prohibition League. We welcomed Mrs Olliver, who visited us on hospitality business for Convention. Mr Allen gave a very profitable talk on Optimism, taking for his text John xvi: 33. His speech was much appreciated. Afternoon tea was kindly given by Mrs Todd.

PETONE.

Feb. 1. Mrs Murgatroyd presiding. It was proposed that an Honour Badge be procured for our dear Treasurer for service rendered. Mrs Collins spoke of how wearing the White Ribbon Bow, draws attention to the cause for which we work. It was thought fitting that congratulations be sent to Miss Kirk and Mrs Taylor, on their being appointed J.P.s. Mrs Cole was appointed delegate for the Annual Convention. The Pledge was repeated.

Feb. 16. A most delightful afternoon at Mrs Corner's, Mrs Murgatroyd presiding. Ensign Mrs Pratt, spoke very feelingly on the Abolishing of 'Drink.' Mrs Battersby gave a very interesting reading. Rev. Lochore held the company very intensely by his speech. He said "Prohibition" could only be won by Christian spirit, and not only on lines of efficiency. Mrs M'Alpine and Mrs Franklin both sang very nicely for us, and Mrs Holroyd recited. Mrs Donaghue, our faithful Treasurer, presented with Honour Badge.

WAIPIKURAU.

Feb. 17. Mrs Smales presided over a good attendance. Several friends from Waipawa were present. Mrs Bibby contributing an interesting address on Frances Willard, for which she was accorded a hearty vote of thanks. Mrs Smales was appointed delegate to Convention. Decided to hold a W.C.T.U. Shop on Tuesday, March 1st. Afternoon tea was handed round.

CANVASTOWN.

Feb. 17. Frances Willard Day; nine members were present. Mrs Murray presided. The Secretary's report was passed. A two-issue ballot paper was discussed, all agreed to assist in securing signatures to a petition regarding same. After discussion it was decided to send no delegate to Convention this year. Greetings from Whangarei much appreciated. A collection in aid of Mission Fund resulted in the sum of 18s. One more subscriber to White Ribbon. Afternoon tea.

WANGANUI EAST.

Feb. Fair attendance of members; Mrs Duxfield occupied the chair. Miss Sanson, Evangelistic Superintendent, gave a spirited address on the words, "Go Forward." Mrs Duxfield gave a full report of her visit as District President to Raetihi Union, referring to the work done, and to the great enthusiasm of the workers. Decided to support a "Women's Petition," and of furthering a scheme for obtaining "National Headquarters." A letter was read from Mrs Pervman, dealing with White Ribbon matters, and it was decided to extend the work in the interests of the paper. Mrs Hopkirk was appointed delegate to the Auckland Convention. As the branch was celebrating "Frances Willard" Day, Mrs F. Brown read a paper on the life and work of Frances Willard, that was much appreciated. The collection for the day was devoted to the World's Mission Fund. Four new members joined the branch, making a total of one hundred and nine.

MIRAMAR.

Feb. "At Home," at the home of Mrs Evans, Nevay Road. The attendance was fair. The question of a petition being promoted, was discussed at length, and it was decided to leave the matter over to next meeting for further discussion and resolutions; also the appointment of a delegate to Convention. Musical items were given by Miss Bradshaw and much enjoyed. Plans for holding a Sale of Produce, cakes, etc., were discussed, and a Committee appointed to arrange matter in connection with it, date to be decided upon. After partaking of afternoon tea, a hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mrs Evans for the very pleasant time spent, and two new names were added to the roll; also a new subscriber to the "White Ribbon."

OXFORD.

Feb. 16. Frances Willard Day. Mrs Jones, Notable Days Superintendent, read an excellent paper on the character and life work of Miss Willard, and was heartily thanked. A letter was received from Miss Henderson, dealing with matters to be brought forward at the Convention. Mrs C. W. Tritt and Miss H. Waterman were appointed Evangelistic Superintendents. The members of the Band of Hope Committee were all re-elected. Decided to hold a Cradle Roll Rally shortly. A collection was taken up in aid of the World's Missionary Fund.

BLLENHEIM.

Mar. 1. Mrs Smith presided, eleven members present. Decided to support the petition re Two-Issue ballot paper to be considered at Convention. Mrs Wilson, our delegate to Convention, was asked to convey the Union's greetings to Mrs Miller. All resolutions sent forward for discussion at Convention were read, and it was decided to support all but No. 2, relating to Dominion Compulsory Superannuation. New syllabus compiled. Decided to hold a Cradle Afternoon, 22nd April, members to try and enroll new babies.

NORMANBY.

Feb. 9. Home meeting held at the residence of Mrs Menli. Good attendance of members; Mrs Bevan presided. Vote of sympathy passed to Mr Edwards and to Mrs Aim in their sad bereavement. Correspondence re more subscribers to the White Ribbon dealt with. A discussion took place on how to raise funds towards delegate's expenses to Dominion Convention, it being finally decided to take up subscription at next meeting. Mrs Beaton elected delegate to the Dominion Convention. A hearty vote of thanks accorded to Mrs Menli for the pleasant afternoon spent by members.

A NEW BRANCH FORMED.

On February 8th, Mrs Campbell, of South Brighton, invited the ladies of that district to meet Mrs Hall, President of the Central Brighton Union, and Miss Beatrice Harband, Secretary of the North Canterbury District Union, with the object of forming a branch of the Women's Christian Temperance Union in South Brighton. Mrs Hall explained the growth of the Parent Union in Central Brighton, and the desire of its members for self-expansion. Already an off shoot Branch had been formed at North Brighton, and she considered the time was ripe for South Brighton, with its increasing population to have its own Union. Miss Harband spoke on the threefold motto, the threefold platform, and the Badge of the World's W.C.T.U., and made an appeal for all present to join forces with the thousands of women in the Dominion, already pledged to the ideals of the Movement. After some discussion, it was unanimously decided to form a Union to be called the South Brighton Union. The following officers were elected:—President, Mrs Weavers; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames Gale and Scarr; Secretary, Mrs Campbell; Treasurer, Mrs Hewitt; Cradle Roll Superintendent, Mrs Good; White Ribbon Agent, Mrs Armstrong. Meetings to be held in the South Brighton Hall, the first Tuesday of each month. Ten members were transferred from the Central Brighton roll, and five new members were initiated by Mrs Hall. Afternoon tea, musical and elocutionary items, with votes of thanks to the hostess, and the speakers brought a successful function to a close.