

# 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.

### WANGANUI CENTRAL.

June 2. Mrs Stewart presided. Miss Sanson gave a talk on A Call to Service. Report of the Two-Issue Ballot Petition was very satisfactory. Decided we send a delegate to District Convention. A letter was received from Mrs Peryman. After a talk, it was decided that Wanganui East Branch and Wanganui Central visit Aramohe Branch, 4th Tuesday in July, and hold a "White Ribbon Day." Mrs Christie, one of our valued and esteemed workers, has been called to higher service. A vote of sympathy was passed with the bereaved family. A letter was received from Mrs Goody, saying that owing to sickness, she was obliged to hand in her resignation as President; the resignation was accepted with very deep regret. Mrs Stewart, of Gonville, was unanimously elected to that office. July meeting is to be a Gift Afternoon. Decided that the afternoon in aid of Headquarters Fund be held on Thursday, June 9th, at Mrs Emmett's, 17 Spier Street.

### ONEHUNGA.

May 12. A most successful "Bring and Buy" Social was held from 1 to 5 p.m. During the afternoon, the Rev. Jackson gave an encouraging address, offering suggestions for obtaining signatures for the Petition.

### NGAERE.

May 5. Eleven members present; President, Mrs Gilliver, presided. Correspondence read re Petition forms, etc., asking members of Parliament to support Two-Issue Ballot. Decided that members of our Union canvas district and help in any way possible in this great work. Special meeting arranged for the 12th, when our District President, Mrs Phillips, will be present, and give us an account of Dominion Convention, etc., also decided that donation be sent to Willard Home.

June 2. Ten members present and one visitor; President in chair. Correspondence was read from Mrs Phillips, stating that she was trying to arrange an afternoon, when combined Unions could present Petitions to our M.P., Mr Walter. As District Convention is this month, Union will not hold meeting on White Ribbon Day, but papers be read at next meeting. Delegates were elected for Convention. One new member initiated.

### INVERCARGILL CENTRAL.

May 10. A very satisfactory attendance. Miss McLay, the Y. Organiser, gave a very inspiring address, which was followed by a comprehensive and instructive report on the Dominion Convention, by Mrs Gilmour. Much interest was taken in the work that had been accomplished, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the speakers.

### PLEASANT POINT.

May 31. Miss Neilson presiding over small attendance. Vote of sympathy with President, Miss Bishop, in the loss of her father carried in silence, members standing. Resignation of Miss Bishop, owing to leaving the district received with regret. Report of Executive meeting read by acting Secretary, Mrs Felton. Paper on White Ribbon Day read. Decided to write Christchurch Union re establishment of "Temperance Column" in a daily paper of that city.

### NORTH BRIGHTON.

May 17. Celebrated its first Birthday as a Union. The Secretary's report showed an increase of twenty members for the year, the establishment of a "Y." Branch with 32 members, and a Cradle Roll of 40. The following Officers were elected:—Pres., Miss

B. M. Harband; Vice-Pres., Mrs A. M. Leaver; Sec., Mrs Parker; Treas., Mrs Eames; Cradle Roll Supt., Mrs McGillivray; W.R. Agent, Mrs Henry and Evangelistic Supt., Mrs C. Dixon. Progress reports received from canvassers re Two-Issue Ballot Paper. Two members of Union elected on Local School Committee, and help given in obtaining Parents' Plebiscite for Religious Exercises Bill. Congratulatory greetings received from Mrs T. E. Taylor and Mrs Peryman, while Christchurch, Sydenham, Riccarton, Spreydon, Central Brighton and South Brighton Unions all sent specially-appointed delegates to offer their cordial good wishes to their little one-year-old Sister. Two special features of the afternoon were the cutting of the Birthday Cake, which had been made by the Secretary of the Union, and most artistically iced and decorated by Miss Isabel Thompson, Secretary of the "Y." Branch, and the dedication to White Ribbon service of the infant daughter of Mrs Eames, and the baby boy of Mrs Cresswell. The babies were placed in the White Ribbon Cot, by their young mothers, and the dedication service was read by the President.

A special feature at the annual meeting and first Birthday Anniversary, was the dedication of two new members of the Cradle Roll, Frances Isabel Eames and Douglas Cresswell, aged respectively 2½ months and 6 months. They were placed side-by-side in the snow-white Plunket cot, with its beautiful coverlet lined in pale blue and large white satin bow at foot. Our President, Miss Harband, in well-chosen words, with Biblical References and Prayer, dedicated these two young lives to the service of God, Home and Humanity of Peace, Purity and Prohibition. During the service, wee Douglas touched Frances' face, and she, in her baby way, said: "Ah." It seemed they knew it was an important occasion for them. Seeing those two innocent babes lying amidst snow-white draperies, caused one to long that their lives might be surrounded in such Purity, but we realise that as they grow older, they must come into contact with temptations, but we pray that God will give their mothers the wisdom to train them to fight always for the Right, that they may grow up to be His faithful servants and ardent workers for our great Temperance Cause. Nine months ago, we started our Cradle Roll with eleven members; it now numbers 32.

June 2. Officers of the Union and a few members visited the home of one of the members to initiate her mother as a White Ribboner. Mrs Warnock has passed her four score years, and because of her daughters' interest in Union work, greatly desired to don the White Bow also.

### CARTERTON.

May 25. Mrs Every presided over a good attendance of members. A letter was read thanking the Carterton Branch for the money which had been sent for the Headquarters Fund. A letter was also read from the Secretary of the Blind in Heathen Lands, re the annual donation. There was also read an "In Memoriam" to Mr Byers, the Founder, who has passed away. A collection was taken up for the blind, which amounted to 14s. Decided to hold a Special Day on June 17th, and to make it "White Ribbon Day." Miss Kirk is being asked to be the speaker for that day. The Rev. W. Raine, who was the speaker for the afternoon, was then called upon. He spoke upon "Bible-in-Schools," and was heartily thanked.

### HAVELOCK SOUTH.

April 11. All members present. Owing to indisposition of Mrs Brown (President), Mrs Mitchell presided and led devotions. The Two-Issue-Ballot was fully discussed, and it was unanimously decided to canvas district for supporters. It was resolved to personally invite mothers in the district to attend a Social to celebrate Mothers' Day, to be held on the 10th May. Mrs Mitchell, delegate to Convention, gave an account of the good work done there.

May 10. Mothers' meeting was held to celebrate "Mothers' Day." Mrs Brown presiding, and Mrs Mitchell led devotions. Mrs D. Reader read a beautiful paper on "Motherhood," which was greatly appreciated and applauded. Mrs Mitchell gave a brief talk on the origin of "Mother's Day." A competition was held and supper served.

A successful meeting was closed with a hymn and prayer.

### EPSOM.

July 26. President, Officers, and 8 members present. Decided to hold next meeting as "White Ribbon Day," each trying to find a new subscriber, and to bring at least one friend to the meeting, which would take the form of a Social Afternoon. Much encouraging discussion followed re the Petition, all agreeing to do their utmost to secure more signatures. Good reports were handed in from the workers.

### MAUNGATUROTO.

May 18. Pay-Up meetings held; fair attendance. Decided to make annual appeal for left-off clothing for Maoris in North. Effort to be made to revive Band of Hope, first meeting to be held June 10th. Petitions for the Two-Issue Ballot in circulation, canvassers report great success so far. Secretary read short paper. Mrs H. Flower to read paper next meeting.

### TAKAPUNA.

June 2. Mrs Richards was in the chair. Arrangements were made for a Bring and Buy Social, to be held the next meeting day, in aid of the Willard Home, and the Secretary was instructed to invite a lady who knew about the Willard Home to come and address the meeting. One new member. A letter from Mrs Peryman was read, asking the Union to get new subscribers to the White Ribbon. It being White Ribbon Day, a paper was read by Mrs Winstone. Mrs McLeod, the delegate to Convention, read her report which was well received; a very interesting meeting concluded with prayer.

### GERALDINE.

May 10. Mrs Neutze presiding. Rev. H. Ford conducted devotions, and Mrs Doig, of Ashburton, gave an interesting address on the work accomplished by the Union, and spoke also of its contemplated work. During the afternoon songs were contributed by Mrs Madill and Mrs Cowie, and a piano-forte solo by Miss H. Smith. Afternoon tea was served, and hearty thanks accorded all who helped.

### DUNEDIN.

May 11. Peace Prayer meeting. Although the day was rough and stormy, several members met in an upper room to pray. Mrs Didham, Evangelistic Superintendent, took charge, and after a Scripture reading and some very earnest words on Prayer, a hallowed time was spent around the Mercy Seat. Prayer was made for the League of Nations, for all Missionaries proclaiming the Gospel of peace, for rulers, and parliaments, and for White Ribboners everywhere to be ever Peace makers. Workers weary with petition work were refreshed and strengthened to go forth and do more for God, for home and for humanity.

### TAUMARUNUI.

This Branch has recently lost its President, Mrs Wainwright, through her removal to Auckland. Captain Smith, Vice-President, occupied the chair at last meeting. Rev. L. A. Brooks addressed the members on "The value of the Trivial," emphasising the diversity of work undertaken by the Union, the scope of its enterprise, and the accomplishment of great results. Convention handbooks were distributed, and arrangements made to meet the Area Organiser of the New Zealand Alliance.

### HENDERSON.

May 18. Peace Day. Mrs Platt presided over a good number of members and friends. A scientific fact on the drinking of beer, to quench thirst and the effect on the body was read. Our President then introduced Rev. Wrigley, who based some of his talk on the first two verses, James 4th, pointing out the spirit of greed, which in nearly every case prompts War, and urged very strongly a more loving and tolerant spirit towards each other and our neighbour, whoever he may be. Some of his remarks were taken up and questions led to a very "live" discussion, several ladies taking part and expressing their views. It was a most interesting afternoon, and at the close a vote of thanks was passed to Mr Wrigley for his address, and the kind way he answered questions,