

and three Social Evenings were all well-attended. Secretary stated that a deputation had awaited on the member for the district, and had been very well received.

ARATAPU-TE KOPURU.

May 10. Mrs Webb presided. The Petition forms re Two-Issue Ballot Paper were distributed. A vote of congratulation was passed to Mrs Stallworthy, Senr., on the occasion of her son (Mr Arthur Stallworthy's) election on the Auckland City Council. The President proposed that each member should make a garment each month for the poor children in the North and on the gum-fields—Carried. The Secretary then read the remainder of her report as delegate to Convention, and the President proposed a vote of thanks upon the way in which she had carried out her duties—Carried.

May 16. Peace Day. A pleasant afternoon was held at the residence of Mrs Morgan, Aratapu. Miss Cullen presided in the absence of the President. After the reading and prayer for "World" Harmony, a splendid paper on "Peace" was read by Miss Cullen, who said: "We do not realize the power of prayer, our desires should be expressed simply and in faith in order to bring results." The Secretary also read an extract from an address delivered by Dr. F. W. Norwood, on "War," appearing in the February number of the "White Ribbon." A vote of thanks was passed to Mrs Morgan for her kind invitation and hospitality.

N.E. VALLEY.

Apr. 28. The President, Mrs Peart, gave a short Anzac address, after which Miss Benfell gave a recitation. The delegate to the Auckland Convention gave her report, then Mrs Hiett, from the Dunedin Union, spoke more fully on the Petition to be presented to our M.P.s. It was agreed to go on with the Petition. Motions of sympathy with the members who had lost relatives during the last month were passed. Mrs Peart and Mrs G. B. Elliott were congratulated on their re-election to the School Committee. A letter of congratulation was sent to Mrs Ross on her election to the Hospital Board, and satisfaction was also expressed that Miss Runciman too, had secured a seat on the Hospital Board.

May 26. The meeting was presided over by Mrs Peart. After the opening exercises and the reading of the minutes, correspondence was read from Mrs Ross, thanking the Union for its congratulations, from Mr Gain, asking for volunteers to join the Temperance Choir, which is being started under the leadership of Mr Davidson, from Mrs Peryman, re White Ribbon. Then the matter of the new beverage on the menu of some restaurants, "Coffee flavoured with Rum" was discussed, and of course condemned. The President stated that a small Committee had been set up to investigate the matter, and see if anything could be done. The rest of the meeting took the form of a memorial to the late Mrs Ogg. Mrs Peart gave an impressive address from Heb. 9:27, speaking of the different aspects of death, and referring to the work Mrs Ogg had always been so willing to do. Mrs Ogg died while performing her duty in getting signatures for the Petition.

STRATFORD.

May. In spite of the downpour of rain a good number was present. Vice-President, Mrs McCallum, in the chair. Petition forms were handed in, and arrangements were made for several members to take the usual monthly afternoon tea to the patients in the Public Hospital. Arrangements were made for a Bring and Buy Social, to be held on White Ribbon Day. Delegate was chosen to represent Union at the District Convention, to be held at Hawera, next month. Meeting closed with the Benediction. On May 16th, we held the special Prayer meeting for Peace, the hour from 3 to 4 being spent in prayer, and a short, inspiring address, was given by the Rev. G. Cook, Methodist Minister.

HAWERA.

May 15. Peace Day. A large number present. Mrs Exley presided and welcomed visitors from Manahā and Normanby. Revs. Curran and Fletcher took part in the meeting, and Adjutant Brown, of the Salvation Army, gave an address on "Peace," saying the only lasting peace was the Christianity of Jesus Christ. Mrs Exley thanked the

speaker for his encouraging address. Musical items were given by the following:—Songs, Mrs L. Curtis and Mrs Hartman and Mr Jones; Piano Solo, Miss Hawken, and a Violin Solo by her Sister; Recitation by Miss Gunderson. A collection was taken up, and the meeting closed with prayer by Rev. Fletcher. All present stayed for a cup of tea, provided by Union members.

May 27. A good number present, although a very wet day. Mrs Exley presided, all repeating the pledge. A vote of sympathy passed to our Sister, Mrs Curtis, who has just lost her father, all standing for a moment in silence. Letter read from the Editor of White Ribbon, hoping for an increase of 1000 new subscribers for the Union paper during the present year. Arrangements were discussed re the forthcoming District Convention, to be held at Hawera, on 21st and 22nd of June. All looking forward to a most successful time during those two days. Report read from Superintendent of the L.T.L., showing a good number on the roll. Several members brought in their well-filled Two-Issue Ballot Paper Petitions.

WELLINGTON.

June. Mrs Mowlem presided. Decided to observe White Ribbon Day, when it was expected that one of the Dominion Officers would be with us. To augment the funds of the Union, it was resolved to hold a Bring and Buy Social at the August meeting, when it was hoped that all members would assist. All those who had done such good work in canvassing for names for the Petition were heartily thanked, and asked to continue for another fortnight, as the time was extended. Mrs Keen then spoke on Nehemiah rebuilding the Walls of Jerusalem, and compared the work with building up a sober people. Enemies, conspiracies, difficulties and opposition, both from within and without, being applicable to the reformer of to-day.

CANVASTOWN.

May 16. Peace Day; Mrs Murray presided over a fair attendance. After the usual preliminaries hymns were sung, and prayer, both audible and silent were observed. After the prayer meeting, an earnest discussion took place on Sabbath Observance. On the previous day (the Sabbath) the 8th N.Z. Mounted Rifles Regiment were called to parade into camp, a matter of some 30 or 40 miles. The following motion was brought forward by Mrs Flower, seconded by Mrs Murray, and passed unanimously "That this Union places on record its sincere regret that the Military Authorities who were responsible for the parading of the 8th N.Z.M.R. Regiment, should have found it necessary to parade on the Sabbath Day, May 15th, 1927." Mrs Pike and Miss Lily Bown paid tribute to their President and Secretary for their efforts in connection with the Anniversary Rally. Doxology and afternoon tea.

KUMEU.

May 11. Five members present and three Auckland visitors. Mrs Davis was elected President. Mrs Benfell, Auckland District President, gave a splendid address on Peace, Purity and Prohibition. We decided to form a Cradle Roll with Miss Hodson as Superintendent. Mrs Kasper, of Auckland, sang a solo. Three new members were enrolled, and a bright meeting closed with the Benediction. Afternoon tea was served and enjoyed by all.

MANAIA.

Mrs Phillips, the District President, took the chair. The Secretary gave a report of a Mothers' Social Afternoon, a successful meeting held during the month. The President gave a brief report of the quarter's work, which had resulted in 12 new members, making the membership roll stand at 53, as did the Cradle Roll. Sick visiting had been carried on, literature taken to two local Hospitals, and a Pa, and sent to the New Plymouth Gaol. The Union's financial standing had risen from a credit balance of £2 9s. 11d. to £7 15s. 4d. The whole report was considered very satisfactory. Mrs Phillips urged the need of solitary communion with God, individual gain of strength from that, as distinguished from the social power resulting from prayer in fellowship. The Hawera Union having sent an invitation

to join them in their Prayer meeting on Peace Day, it was decided that such members as could would do that, instead of holding a meeting at Manaia. Mrs Phillips then gave a vivid account of the Auckland Convention, at which she had acted as delegate for Manaia. Vote of thanks was passed to her, also to Mrs McCallum and Mrs Clarke, who had accompanied her. Two new members were initiated. The papers for signatures for the Women's Petition for a Two-Issue Ballot were given out to be filled in, but unfortunately only three had arrived.

NORTH INVERCARGILL.

May 17. An audience of fifty members and friends listened with much interest to a debate, the subject of which was: "Is environment a more potent factor in the moulding of character than heredity?" The affirmative was taken by the President, Mrs Gilmour, supported by Miss Dewar, and the negative by Mrs R. R. Macgregor, supported by Mrs Reidy and members of the South Union. The Rev. Wm. Tanner acted as judge, and complimented the speakers on the telling arguments brought forward for their respective sides, and at the same time, in a candid way, indicated the defects and technical errors in the conduct of the debate. For the best arrangement of matter, the most points were awarded to the North Union. A vote of condolence with Mrs Kennedy in her recent bereavement was passed. A Sale of goods, cakes and produce, was announced to take place on Wednesday, June 1st. A pleasant and profitable afternoon was spent.

ARAMOHO.

May 24. Miss Sanson gave a very helpful address. Mrs Gilmour in the chair. A letter was read from Mrs Upton asking that a special appeal might be made for District Funds. Mrs Good reported that the Band of Hope had made a good beginning, and it is hoped that a good number will attend at the next meeting. Delegates were appointed to attend the Conference at Hawera next month. Miss Sanson then read her report on the Convention, held in Auckland last March, and it was much appreciated. Mrs Duxfield then gave a short address, dealing with the Two-Issue Ballot question. Afternoon tea was served.

HASTINGS.

May 26. Mrs Banks in the chair; 19 present. Progress of Petition work reported; further work urged. Peace Day Prayer meeting reported, also organising of Temperance Rally in connection with "Y.s" Sunday, May 29th. District Executive report and letter received. Headquarters Fund Committee elected, also Committee to work upon meeting in Havelock. Pledge and Scientific Temperance fact repeated. Apologies for absence received from 11 members. Devotional paper entitled "God's Meddlers," read by Mrs Hickmott. Hostesses for the afternoon, Mrs Darby and Miss McKeown.

KAIAPOI.

Apr. 27. Good attendance to hear Convention reports. Mrs Vickery had secured the report of Miss Lovell-Smith, of the Christchurch Union, and the Secretary had asked Mrs Cole, of the Petone Union for hers, so between the two we had a most interesting report of the doings at Convention. Decided to hold a Bring and Buy Afternoon next meeting.

May 25. An extra good attendance; special invitations being sent out for the Bring and Buy Afternoon, which resulted in a substantial sum, which was handed over to the Hall Treasurer. Mrs White gave a very interesting paper on China and the League of Nations. One new member received. The Petition papers for the Two-Issue Ballot were handed in, almost all being full.

RANGIORA.

May 27. Mrs Thwaites presided over a good attendance. The Scientific Temperance reading was "Disuse of Alcohol in Hospitals and in Surgery." Two new members were initiated. As "Peace Day" is celebrated in May, the Secretary read a paper on the League of Nations, written by one of the Kaiapoi members, and published in a recent issue of the local paper.