

by with us, who led Devotions and gave an encouraging talk. Mrs. Floor gave report of District Convention. Departmental reports showed a year of progress for the Union; 14 new members having been gained. A "Y" branch had just been formed, and will meet monthly. Miss Christie received 57 seamen's bags, 13 of which were filled, from the members, and 24 from the members of the L.T.L. Mrs. Shute was presented with a "Long Service" Badge. Election of officers as follows: President, Mrs. Day; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames Wyness and Hoare; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Jones; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Robb; Treasurer, Mrs. Ogier.

**Wanganui Central**, December: Extra meeting. Devotions. Small attendance owing to wet weather and sickness, but an active meeting. Election of officers made few changes. £7 collected for Royal Commission expenses. Mrs. Goodey warmly thanked for business-like financial report which showed a sound financial position for the new year after all routine and some unusual calls had been met. Mrs. Mercer reported on the taking up of the liquor selling by grocers. Full discussion on how best to combat this encouragement to home drinking. Resolved to urge Christians to boycott grog groceries.

#### HAWKE'S BAY DISTRICT

**Hastings**: Annual meeting. The president, Mrs. Hickmott, in the chair. Good attendance. Pledge re-affirmed. Greetings and a posy of flowers sent to Mrs. C. Higgs and sympathy to Mrs. Hagerson in the illness of her family. Mrs. Grainger gave a fine report of the District Convention held at Dannevirke. The Secretary, Mrs. Pitt, gave the annual report, which showed a year of steady progress. The Treasurer, Mrs. Murtagh, reported 65 members and a good credit balance. Cradle Roll of 89 names reported on by the superintendent, Miss Cook. The election of officers was as follows, President, Mrs. H. Hickmott; Vice-Presidents, Mrs. C. Higgs and the Ministers' wives (ex officio); Secretary, Mrs. A. Pitt; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Hagerson; Treasurer, Mrs. H. E. Grainger. Departmental Superintendents also appointed. Officers thanked for their faithful year's work. President extended Christmas greetings to all, and close a fine gathering.

#### MANAWATU DISTRICT

**Palmerston North**, Annual Meeting, December 4: Devotions, Mrs. J. H. Willson. Letters sent to elderly members unable to attend. Motions of sympathy with Mrs. Scott and Miss Sutherland in their recent bereavement. All reports were very satisfactory. Mrs. Hodder voiced appreciation of the services of Mrs. Jamieson, retiring president, and Miss Thompson, retiring secretary, presenting each with a book. Mrs. McIver presented each lady with a shoulder spray. Officers elected were: President, Mrs. D. H. Coles; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames T. R. Hodder, E. Carter, J. H. Willson, Misses Thompson and C. Jamieson; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Claridge; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Sexton; Treasurer, Miss C. Jamieson. Departmental superintendents were also appointed. Miss Connolly presented shoulder sprays to several members who had assisted her during the year.

#### WELLINGTON DISTRICT

**Brooklyn**, November 27: Annual meeting. Mrs. Brewer presiding over a representative gathering. Devotions led by Mrs. Greenwood. Pledge re-affirmed. Mrs. Dudley reported visiting Silverstream Hospital, and distributing dainties and flowers to the patients. Annual reports presented. Special thanks to Mrs. Pearson for her "Bring and Buy" stall during the year, which considerably augmented the funds. Departmental reports showed good work, the superintendents being thanked by the president. Mrs. Sawdon took the chair for the election of officers which resulted as follows: Mrs. Brewer, President, to whom very special thanks and a floral bouquet were presented; all other officers being re-elected, except Mrs. Gillings, who for health reasons did not seek re-election, and all were presented with beautiful flowers from Mrs. Pickering's garden. A presentation was made to Mrs. Jordan, of a leather bag, for her long years of service as Recording Secretary, mention also being made of her influence for good on the boys who reside in her home. £1 donation was voted to the Ramabai Mukti Mission. Votes of thanks to the trustees of Brooklyn Methodist Church and the Board of the Presbyterian Church for the use of their premises. Mrs. Brewer made special mention of the loyalty, good fellowship and co-operation of the members during the year.

Special "break-up" tea party served by the Methodist ladies, with an iced cake presented by Mrs. Pearson, who had also made one for the L.T.L. party. Benediction.

#### MARLBOROUGH DISTRICT

**Blenheim**, December 12: Annual meeting. Mrs. N. Forbes presiding. Annual reports presented. Letters of greeting and good wishes sent to old faithful members unable to attend, but still interested. Letters of sympathy to bereaved members. All officers were re-elected as follows: President, Mrs. N. Forbes; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames Girling, Wilson and Rogerson; Secretary, Mrs. P. Stephenson; Treasurer, Miss Tarrant. Departmental superintendents also appointed. Interesting address given by Mrs. H. Robinson on China and Missionary work done there, also her own impressions of Hong Kong, Shanghai, Tientsin. Thanks by acclamation. Tea and Benediction. Devotions at opening taken by Mrs. A. J. Milgrew.

**Springlands**, December 13: Members met at the home of Mrs. Underhill for the final meeting for 1945, this taking the form of a social evening. Greetings were sent to all sick members, and all present presented with a spray made by Mrs. Duncan. Several choice readings were given and Christmas carols sung by all. Competitions and supper completed the evening's entertainment. Thanks were expressed to Mrs. Underhill.

#### NORTH CANTERBURY DISTRICT

**New Brighton**, Annual meeting, December 6: Mrs. Flower presided over a good attendance. Members agreed to sell Health Stamps at the Post Office during December. Reports of officers and superintendents showed good work done during the year. Letters of cheer to be sent to sick members. Election of officers resulted: President, Mrs. Flower; Secretary, Mrs. Ellis; Treasurer, Mrs. Fraser. Mrs. C. R. Mackie gave an interesting and instructive address on "The Howard Penal Reform League."

**Christchurch**, November 12th: Miss Henderson presided. Reports given of sixth birthday of Shirley-Richmond Union, and of visit to mental hospital. President read extracts from "Outlook" of doings of Temperance Committee which was read at the General Assembly; also from letter by Miss McLay of splendid Temperance work among the Maoris.

November 28: Miss C. Henderson presided. New member transferred from Timaru, per Miss Fyfe, welcomed. Mrs. B. James gave interesting talk on the life of Field Marshal Sir Bernard Montgomery.

**Riccarton**, December 12: Annual meeting. Good attendance despite heavy thunderstorm. Devotions led by president. Members handed in cakes of chocolate for mental hospital patients. Invitation received from the W.D.F.U. to attend their Garden Party. Two donations of £1 each received for our funds. Letters and flowers sent to our sick members. Annual balance sheets of general and special funds received and adopted. Annual report, showing good work during 1945, adopted. Arrangements made for helping with the tea at the Women's Reformatory. Prizes purchased for Bible-in-Schools prizes. £1/1/- donated to the Evelyn Cousins Memorial Fund (our late Mayoress). An appeal received from N.C.W. for hospital workers. Congratulations to Mrs. C. Barrell on becoming a Justice of the Peace. "W.R." report showed a subscribers' list of 133. Mrs. McLean's resignation as "W.R." agent received with deep regret. All officers re-elected. Votes of thanks passed and president thanked the members for working so happily during the year. Special thanks proposed by Mrs. Harris to the president for her work and sympathy with all. £2 voted to the Maori Girls' Hostel. Benediction.

**Sydenham**, December 6: Our President, Mrs. J. Filer. Twelve members present. Devotions were conducted by Mrs. Davies, our pledge re-affirmed, a Temperance Fact given, and the usual routine business transacted. Secretary's report was read and adopted. Cradle Roll Superintendent stated that there were 39 names on the Cradle Roll, and the Treasurer's statement showed our finances to be satisfactory. Temperance Examination.—Arrangements were made for the marking of the test papers. Mesdames Filer and Rogers were appointed to purchase the prizes and attend the prize-giving. The sum of 25/- was available to defray the cost of the prizes, being the result of a "Bring and Buy" effort. Election of Officers.—Mrs. E. M. Atkins (District Treasurer) kindly officiated, all the officers, with two exceptions, being re-elected: President, Mrs. J. Filer; Secretary, Mrs. W. E. Drewett; Treasurer, Mrs. Seivers; "W.

Ribbon," Mrs. Julius; C. Roll, Mrs. Garlick. The meeting concluded with the singing of the hymn, "All Round the World," after which Mrs. Cookson closed with prayer.

#### SOUTH CANTERBURY DISTRICT

**Waimate**, November: Meeting well attended. Annual business. All officers re-elected and superintendents appointed, except for Mrs. Dow, C.R. superintendent, who leaves early in the New Year for Dvaedin.

December meeting well attended by mothers and children of the C.R. party. Captain Lamond, of the Salvation Army, gave a helpful talk. Varied programme given by the children for which they were thanked. Afternoon tea and ice-cream provided for each child. Season's greetings to all Unions.

**Timaru**, November 27: Annual meeting. Good attendance presided over by Miss Fyfe. Devotions led by Mrs. Middleton. Review of year's work showed activity in many branches. Cradle Roll numbers 104 and successful party led to the addition of six new members. Sailors' Rest report very interesting. Thanks passed to donors of cash and goods. Officers elected as follows: Patroness, Mrs. Norrie; President, Miss Fyfe; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Cave; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Smith; Treasurer, Mrs. Thompson. Superintendents also appointed.

**Temuka**, November 28: Annual meeting attended by eleven members and presided over by Mrs. W. Newson. Devotions led by Mrs. Woolford. Roll Call, a verse of Christmas carol. Annual reports presented, showing a good position in all ways. Departmental reports given; also on the Ladies' Rest Room, which through flood damage had caused necessary expenditure and work for which willing help was forthcoming. Band of Hope report disclosed a membership of 42, four meetings having been held, wintry conditions preventing more meetings. Donation sent to Methodist Church for use of premises for Band of Hope, and to the Salvation Army for use of hall for ordinary meetings. Members thanked for selling Health Stamps. Temperance doxology and Benediction.

**Christchurch**, December: Annual meeting, Miss Henderson presiding. Mrs. Hawke gave good report of Christmas tea given to some lonely patients at the mental hospital. Resignation of Philanthropic Superintendent, Miss N. Blackwell, received with very great regret. Special thanks for her many years of strenuous, devoted and most outstanding work in this department. In the absence, through illness, of Mrs. Adkins, the annual report was read by the acting secretary, Miss Thomas, and a satisfactory balance sheet and statement was presented by our president in the absence of Miss Lovell-Smith. Decided to send an extra £10 to the N.Z. Alliance towards the Royal Commission expenses. Donations sent to Children's Fresh Air Home and the Sailors' Rest, Timaru. The following officers elected: President, Miss C. Henderson; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames J. Richards, B. James, Gardner-Miller, C. Price and M. J. Miller and Misses Gordon, Blackwell and Bishop. Superintendents also appointed and N.C.W. delegate.

#### OTAGO DISTRICT

**Kaikorai**, November 27: Annual meeting. Mrs. Flett presiding. Devotions led by Mrs. Orr. Election of officers as follows: President, Mrs. Flett; Vice-Presidents, Miss Dobson and Mrs. Adcock; Secretary, Mrs. L. McKenzie; Treasurer, Mrs. Masterson. Departmental superintendents also appointed. Miss Dobson declined nomination for the secretaryship after holding the position for twenty-one years, several members expressing appreciation of her good work. Welcome to new Secretary. Benediction.

**North-East Valley**, November 29: Annual meeting, Mrs. Peart presiding. All officers re-elected. Report of District Convention read by Mrs. Bruce. Donations received from members for work of N.Z. Alliance in connection with the Royal Commission.

#### SOUTHLAND DISTRICT

**Winton**, November 27: Annual meeting. The President, Mrs. T. A. Thomson, presided and also took devotions. Sympathy extended to Mrs. Egerton, and a letter to Mrs. Smith, and flowers to Mrs. Wildev, now of Timaru. Reports presented and received. President congratulated the Women's Institute on good work done during the year. The election of officers followed, and two new members joined. After tea had been served, flowers with suitable verses were gathered in and a wonderful display resulted, the flowers being distributed to the sick and hospital.