

TWENTY-FIRST BIRTHDAY, FENCOURT UNION

A very successful afternoon was held on November 15th, when the Fencourt Union (South Auckland District), celebrated its twenty-first birthday. The President, Miss Rickard, occupied the chair. Miss C. M. McLay led Devotions. Miss Rickard warmly welcomed all present, among whom were the members of the Cambridge Union and ex-members. Apologies and greetings were received from Miss A. McLay and the Hamilton Union. Mrs. Rickard then gave an interesting outline of the history of the Union during its twenty-one years. Three of the first Cradle Roll members, the Misses L. O. and G. Clark, who now hold office, were presented with shoulder sprays; these also being presented to Miss McLay and Mesdames Tyer, Turner, Rickard, Clark and Feisst. Miss McLay presented these ladies with Long Service Badges and then, expressing her pleasure at being present, mentioned the fact that she was the organiser of the Union in the first place. She gave a brief outline of the circumstances leading to and surrounding the formation of the Union. During the afternoon, five new members were welcomed to the Union. Some very enjoyable items were presented by Misses Yvonne and Mavis Hilary (pianoforte duet), Mrs. Turnbull (recitation) and Misses Louisa and Olwyn Clark (vocal solos). These were much appreciated by all present. Miss Rickard thanked Miss McLay and all helpers. The singing of the Temperance Doxology and the Benediction brought this part of the afternoon to a close. The birthday cake was then cut by the youngest member, Miss Gwyneth Clark, and a dainty afternoon tea was served. On behalf of those who had received the Long Service Badges, Mrs. Tyer thanked the Committee members for a delightful afternoon and Mrs. Kemsley expressed thanks on behalf of the Cambridge members present.

PRIZE PRESENTATION FUNCTION, HENDERSON

The presentation of prizes for the writing of Temperance essays was held at the Public School, Henderson, on November 28th. Mrs. Chadwick presided, opening with prayer which was repeated by the children. Mrs. Long gave the address on the word "Watch," taking each letter separately: W, for Watch; A, for Actions; T, for Thoughts; C, for Character; H, for Habits; and making a most helpful talk, to which interested attention was given. Six prizes were presented, and each entrant was given a special Temperance blotted.

Bulletin of Union News

AUCKLAND DISTRICT

Onehunga, Nov. 13: Annual meeting. Satisfactory reports on year's working given by officers and superintendents. Special congratulations to Mrs. Moore on her successful work with the Kurahuna L.T.L. Owing to infantile paralysis epidemic, children's functions had been cancelled. Election of officers resulted as follows:—President, Mrs. Mountjoy; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames Leadley, Ashby, Stacey, Mushet and Miss Caughley; Rec. Sec., Miss Hobden; Assistant Sec., Mrs. Cullen; Cor. Sec., Mrs. Perrett; Treasurer, Mrs. Fordyce; C.R., Miss Caughley; W.R., Mrs. Ashby. Other superintendents were also appointed.

Nov. 27: Sale of Work in Hall arranged by Mrs. Breeze, instead of usual monthly Home meeting. Well organised, but attendance not so good as hoped for. Paper on W.C.T.U. work and history given by Mrs. Mountjoy, and items of music and elocution with pleasant social intercourse passed a happy afternoon.

Kohi-St. Heliers, Nov. 20: Meeting held at the home of Mrs. Kasper. Mrs. Pearson led Devotions. Mrs. Kasper read a very interesting report (Dominion). Sympathy expressed on the death of a member, Mrs. Legge. Officers elected were: President (acting), Mrs. Kasper; Secretary, Mrs. Biddle; Treasurer, Mrs. Phillips Snr.; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames Pearson, Reid and Phillips; Superintendents of Departments also appointed. Thanks to Mrs. Kasper for hospitality.

Warkworth, Nov. 13: Mrs. Baker presided over a good attendance at annual meeting. Detailed reports given by Officers and superintendents showing much good work for the year. Mrs. Baker did not seek re-election, and Mrs. Pole was elected; other officers being re-elected.

Ponsonby: Annual meeting held November 20th, Mrs. R. Joiner presiding and Miss Appleby leading Devotions. In absence of Mrs. Christopher, Miss Appleby did secretarial duty, reading the report of the Union. Superintendents' and officers' reports read. Election of officers resulted:—President, Mrs. R. A. Joiner; Vice-Presidents, Sister Jessie and Mrs. E. T. Olds Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs. Christopher; Departmental Superintendents also appointed. Mrs. Joiner appointed delegate for Dominion Convention. Union in recess until March. Pledge and prayer by Miss Appleby closed the meeting.

SOUTH AUCKLAND DISTRICT

Executive Meeting, Nov. 26: Held at Hamilton, in London Street Methodist Church Parlour, Miss A. McLay, District President, in the chair. Five Unions were represented. Devotions were led by the President. Business arising from the recent District Convention was dealt with. Mrs. A. C. Lewis, District Secretary, was appointed delegate for Dominion Convention.

Mrs. Christian gave an interesting report on her recent visit to the new Maori Union at Te Kuiti, at which she had received a traditional Maori welcome. Excellent progress is being made by the Union, and plans for Youth work were considered. Miss C. M. McLay reported on Maori work in the district, and openings being made for Youth work in Kotorua. The President stressed the value of the local Union, making practical suggestions for strengthening the work. A helpful discussion followed.

Otorohanga: Cradle Roll gathering. Members of Te Kuiti Maori and Pakeha Unions accepted the invitation, and a very happy afternoon was spent with the children and grown-ups. A Christmas tree with balloons and toys was much appreciated. Devotions were led by Mrs. Rogers, and a most enjoyable programme was presented. Mrs. Christensen, of Te Kuiti, told of her association with Mrs. Lee Cowie, and gave her experiences of life in the backblocks. Mrs. Benney spoke on the work to be faced in the future. Mrs. Joseph, of Te Kuiti, thanked the Union for the lovely day they spent. A rush for the train, and hurried Christmas greetings all round, after the pronunciation of the Benediction in Maori and English by Mrs. Benney, brought the function to a close. Sister Nicholls, District Cradle Roll Superintendent, attended the party, which was a very suc-

cessful effort. Seamen's ditty bags were displayed by Mrs. Wharanui.

Te Kuiti (Pakeha): Six meetings held since being organised. Special "Bring and Buy" held for Delegate's Convention expenses. Letter sent to local M.P. re Masterton Licensing Bill. "Y.P." supplements ordered for 1948. Reports sent to local paper. Parcel sent to Seamen's Rest. Committee formed to organise Band of Hope made up from all churches, W.C.T.U. and Bible Classes. Assistance by moral support to Maori Union, who returned visit paid. Devotional address at each meeting.

TARANAKI DISTRICT

Hawera: Annual meeting. President, Mrs. Page, in the chair, and led Devotions. Secretary's and Treasurer's reports showed good work done for the year. Mrs. Page presented a Long Service Badge (30 years) to Mrs. Hansen, late President of the Inglewood Union and now President of Hawera Union. Another 22 lb. parcel of food packed for Britain. "Bring and Buy" stall. Election of Officers as follows: President, Mrs. Hansen; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames Thayer and Page; Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Barron. All superintendents re-elected with the exception of Mrs. Hurrell, Mrs. Tozer taking her place as Superintendent of the Sailors' Rest, New Plymouth. Tea hostesses, Mesdames Page and Burton. Mrs. Page closed with prayer and Benediction.

New Plymouth, Nov. 26: Annual meeting. No change of officers. Annual report showed outstanding interest in the Sailors' Rest, £182 having been raised by a street, and house-to-house collection, and many donations and gifts having been received during the year. A small presentation made to the tea hostesses, Mesdames Loveridge, Oliver and Bailey.

HAWKE'S BAY DISTRICT

Hastings: Annual meeting well attended. Great thankfulness for 16 new members, and new subscribers to the "White Ribbon," and added interest at the meetings. Election of officers was as follows: President, Mrs. M. A. Smith; Vice-President, Mrs. G. Martin; Secretary, Mrs. A. G. Pitt; Cor. Secretary, Mrs. C. Hagerson; Treasurer, Mrs. H. E. Grainger. Superintendents were also appointed. The President expressed warm thanks to all officers and members who had assisted at meetings through the year. Mrs. Warren and helpers served afternoon tea. Letters of cheer and sympathy to be sent to sick and elderly members for Christmas. Meeting closed with prayer for the work of the New Year, and the Benediction.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT:

Wellington Central: Annual meeting held in the N.Z.E.I. room on November 19th. All departments showed a good year's work. Cradle Roll, Temperance, Literature in Sunday Schools, Seamen's Rest, Maori Girls' Hostel (Auckland), Bible in Schools, "Bring and Buy" table, and socks knitted for the Hospital Auxiliary. Used stamps also collected. Officers elected were: President, Mrs. Sired; Secretary, Mrs. Andrew; Treasurer, Mrs. Reed.

Special Note: Wellington Central draws attention to the fact that it will in future meet in the Board Room of the Y.M.C.A., Willis Street, and not in the N.Z.E.I. rooms.

Brooklyn, Nov. 25: Mrs. Gillings in the chair. Annual election of officers resulted as follows: President, Mrs. Brewer; all other officers also re-elected. Mrs. Toomer's letter and other readings were listened to with interest. Temperance Fact. Reports presented. President wished all members a Happy Christmas. Benediction. Good business done at Sales table in charge of Mrs. Pearson.

MARLBOROUGH DISTRICT

District Executive Meeting, Nov. 11: Mrs. V. Underhill presiding. During opening Devotions (reading from St. John's Gospel, chap. 6) several members offered prayers. Sympathy was extended to Mrs. Rodgers in the death of her sister, and to the family of Mrs. Hale Snr., reference being made to her work in the early days of the Union of which she was a foundation member. A very favourable report given of the Picton Union, and of a visit paid by several members to the Annual meeting held during the quarter. A delegate arranged for the Dominion Convention. Decided to invite the Dominion Organiser, Miss