

Bulletin of Union News

NORTHLAND DISTRICT

Dargaville, Annual Meeting, November 11: Mrs. Jolly presiding. Devotions led by Mrs. Green. Subject, "The mother of Samson." Good attendance. Election of officers resulted: President, Mrs. Jolly; Secretary, Mrs. Moorhead; Treasurer, Mrs. S. Phillips. Superintendents also appointed. "Bring and Buy," 13/-, collection, 2/6.

AUCKLAND DISTRICT

Auckland, March 9, Opening Meeting: In the absence of Mrs. Long at Dominion Convention, Mrs. Holmes, V.P., presided. A tribute was paid to the late Mr. T. E. Falkner, whose passing is such a loss to the Temperance Cause. Letter of thanks from Bible in Schools League for a donation to their funds. Mrs. Swan read from the "W.R." an article by Miss Henderson on State Control, also extracts from the "Vanguard" on Trust Control in Invercargill, by Mr. George Dash. This led to a very interesting discussion. Frances Willard Day observed, collection for World Missionary Fund. Sympathy with Mrs. Douglas in the death of her sister.

Remuera, February 23: Mrs. H. Kasper presiding. Several members took part in prayer, and Scripture reading followed. Frances Willard Day observed by a talk on her life and work. Benediction.

Wellsford, February 24, first meeting for the year: President, Mrs. Singleton, in the chair. Devotions led by Mrs. G. R. Thompson. Pledge and Temperance Fact. Interesting discussion on plans of work and programme of meetings for the year. Collection for Missionary Fund. Tea Hostesses, Methodist ladies.

Onehunga, February 12: Much business arranged. Sick members had been visited or written to. Reports of various meetings. Dr. Craig, who is expected back in Onehunga after a prolonged visit to Australia, is to speak at the next meeting. Decided to hold a combined meeting for the discussion of the necessity of helping needy persons in Europe. Mrs. Mushet read a paper on the life of Frances Willard, and Mrs. Mountjoy one from the "Vanguard." Mrs. Ashton accepted the position of "W.R." agent so long held by Mrs. Ashby, sincere grief being expressed on account of the latter's serious illness.

TARANAKI DISTRICT

New Plymouth, District Annual Convention: Mrs. Hurrell presiding. Miss Kirk, Dominion President, welcomed by Mrs. Stewart. Special features of delegates' reports were overseas parcels sent by New Plymouth and Hawera, while Inglewood sent literature to back districts. Eltham featured a worth-while Home Meeting. The Seamen's Rest Committee reported improvements to the building. Social evenings held and food parcels given. Decided next Convention to be held at Hawera. Inglewood complimented on winning the banner. The midday Communion Service was conducted by the Rev. Mr. Allen. Miss Kirk as magnet drew a large crowd to the afternoon meeting. She impressed her audience by her account of important reforms due to the work and influence of the W.C.T.U. "Long Service" badges for 30 years' service were presented to Mesdames Taillery and Loveridge and Miss Drew, and shoulder sprays to Miss Kirk and the Presidents. Two new members were gained. Mrs. Rugby Hawkins contributed solos.

WANGANUI DISTRICT

Wanganui Central, February 5, first meeting of the year: Mrs. Duxfield presiding and Mrs. R. Wilson leading Devotions. Mrs. Mercer spoke on Frances Willard and Mrs. Wesley. Nine members present. March 4, Mrs. Duxfield in the chair, Mrs. McGregor leading Devotions. Eleven present. Food for Britain was a special feature of the meeting, and a good number of contributions were brought to be included in a parcel.

MANAWATU DISTRICT

Palmerston North, March: Mrs. F. Shearman, of the Salvation Army, in the Chair. Devotions, Miss M. Hill. Speaker, Mr. Ormond Wilson, M.P. Vote of thanks proposed by Miss L. C. Thompson. (Fuller report among "Specials.")

Feilding, March 3: Mrs. Tremaine presided and Mrs. Cummin led Devotions, subject being "Making the best of things in the worst of times." A hearty welcome back to Mrs. Stewart, who brought greetings from Whangarei Union. Donations given by members for another food parcel to Dr. Gilbey. Letter of thanks from Seamen's Rest for knitted socks. Sick member in hospital had been visited. Several newspaper items read relative to drinking habits of people. Mrs. Stewart closed meeting with prayer.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT

Wellington District Executive Meeting: Mrs. Watt presided. Good attendance, all Unions being represented. Devotions led by the president. Letters of sympathy to be sent to two members. Mrs. Grigg urged the need for more subscribers to the "White Ribbon." A delegate gave a short report on the results of restoration in Masterton, and stated that the reinstatement of hotels was progressing slowly. Reports of arrangements for the coming Dominion Convention were received, and Committees were formed to finalise the various details still to be arranged. Noontide Devotions were observed. A rota of Executive Meetings for the year was compiled, after which the Remits to Convention were dealt with. A vote of thanks was passed to the entertaining Union—Wellington Central—and the meeting closed with the Benediction.

Brooklyn, February 24: Mrs. Brewer in chair. Prayer led by Mrs. Greenwood. Sympathy expressed with Mrs. Bogren in hospital. Temperance Fact, Mrs. Gillings. Convention arrangements made. As this was the occasion of the Silver Wedding of Mrs. Gittings, who has been our valued Treasurer since the formation of the Union, 19½ years ago, she was presented with a cup, saucer, and plate, accompanied by flowers with loving good wishes. Sigil prayer and Benediction.

NELSON DISTRICT

Nelson, February 10: Mrs. Knapp welcomed the new president, Mrs. Sheppard, who presided over a fair attendance. Decided to hold Youth Meetings on the fourth Sunday of each month. Arrangements made for Social Afternoon to raise funds for Convention expenses. One new member initiated. Discussion re Maori Youth work. Tea Hostesses were the Executive Members.

MARLBOROUGH DISTRICT

District Executive Meeting, March 19: The quarterly meeting of the Marlborough District Executive of the W.C.T.U. was held in Wesley Hall, Blenheim. There was a good attendance of Officers, Superintendents, and Representatives from the Blenheim and Springlands Unions. Apologies for absence were received from Picton Union, Mrs. W. J. Cirling and Mrs. L. Rodgeron. The chair was taken by the President, Mrs. V. Underhill.

In the course of the opening devotions several members offered prayer for the sufferers in the poliomyelitis epidemic and for those in need.

A report from the last Dominion Officers' meeting was read and discussed. The President intimated that the visit of the Organiser was uncertain owing to illness, and that arrangements were held up in the meantime.

Mrs. S. Harris was appointed the District Representative to the Dominion Convention to be held in Wellington early next month. The Remits were dealt with and directions given in regard to voting.

Concern was expressed regarding the sale of liquor to youths under 21 years of age; it was evident that liquor was obtainable by some young people, and it was regretted that the law in this respect was not kept.

The proposal to grow tobacco and to build a tobacco factory in Blenheim was also under discussion, the members expressed opinion formed the following resolution: "That Marlborough's fertile fields could be used for better purposes than that of growing tobacco, especially in view of the present world shortage of vital foods." It was decided to forward the resolution to the Federated Farmers soliciting their help.

Springlands, March 17: First meeting for the year. President in the chair. Good attendance. Devotions led by Mrs. A. K. Gascoigne; subject, Corinthians II, Chapter 6. Roll call helpful quotations. Messages of cheer to sick members. Letter of appeal from CORSO

resulted in arrangements for a parcel to be sent after next meeting, to which contributions were to be brought. Mrs. Gascoigne appointed Dominion Convention Delegate. Paper on the Pan-Pacific Association read and found interesting. Syllabus for the year prepared.

Blenheim, March 3: Good attendance. Devotions led by Mrs. P. Kirkham, subject being "He hath wrought a mighty work in men." CORSO appeal to be supported (Help for Children and Aid to Britain.) Sales table to be held at each meeting. Mrs. E. A. Blick gave a wonderful talk on Psalm 145, in the absence of Mrs. Adjutant Kears, and closed the meeting with prayer.

NORTH CANTERBURY DISTRICT

Oxford, February 18: Mrs. Comyns presided at first meeting for the year. Helpful New Year messages were given by the members. Mrs. Trounce appointed Dominion Convention Delegate. Election of officers resulted in Mrs. Comyns being appointed President, Mrs. Trounce Secretary, and the re-election of Treasurer and Superintendents. Pleasure was expressed at the fact that two Oxford girls had won prizes in the painting competition. Collection in aid of World Missionary Fund.

Christchurch, February 24: Miss Henderson presided. Letter sent to Miss Davis in hospital. Correspondence read from Dr. Mary Harris Armour (America), expressing sympathy for the loss of citizens in Ballantyne's tragic fire. Greetings to our Union and from CORSO Branch, Wellington, requests for help for China. Donated £2/5/- towards cost of spinning-wheel—gift afternoon to be held in April. Mrs. Neutze elected delegate to Convention Satisfactory balance sheet statement read by our Treasurer, Miss Lovell-Smith.

March 10: Letter of sympathy sent to Miss Eldridge. Extracts from World "Bulletin." News of successful temperance work in India and other countries.

Sydenham, March 4: Mrs. J. Filer presided over attendance of 11. Devotions led by Mrs. Davies. CORSO appeal read, and each member agreed to donate soap and/or notepaper. Mesdames Filer and Weatherhead rendered a sacred duet, after which Mrs. Morrison read a few poems from Miss Elsie Andrews's little book. Mrs. Filer kindly offered the use of her home for a "Coin" afternoon.

Riccarton, March 11: Nineteen members present. In the absence of the president, Mrs. G. Smith took the chair. Devotions were led by Mrs. Fazackerley. Letter of thanks received from CORSO for donation of £2/5/-. Mental Hospital and Treasurer's Reports were received. Collection 10/-, copper trail 6/-, sales table 8/-. Mrs. G. Smith, Convention Delegate, gave a very comprehensive and interesting report. Vote of thanks to delegate carried by acclamation. Meeting closed with hymn and prayer. Gifts of pencils, notepaper, soap, and garden seeds brought along for CORSO.

SOUTH CANTERBURY DISTRICT

Waitemate, February 11: Fair attendance. Mrs. Duckett led Devotions. "White Ribbon" afternoon, all members taking part.

March 10: Excellent attendance. Mrs. Tooley, C.R. Superintendent, led Devotions. Mrs. Duckett read Temperance Fact. Mr. George Dash, our speaker, gave us a most enlightening address for which he was heartily thanked. One new member enrolled. Closed with Temperance Doxology.

OTAGO DISTRICT

Dunedin Central, February 20: First meeting for the year, chaired by the President, Mrs. Hiatt, was attended by approximately 60 members and visitors, who showed much interest and enthusiasm. After the preliminary Devotions, Mrs. Hiatt extended a special welcome to Mrs. Garden, a valued member, who had been in hospital for some time, Miss Cook (late of China), and Mrs. Hazelwood, District President. Miss Farquhar and Mrs. Miller were appointed Dominion Convention Delegates. After a brief business session an excellent programme of music, songs, and recitations was presented, arranged by our pianist, Mrs. Clark. The afternoon tea interval provided an opportunity for social chat.

Oamaru, March: Mrs. Rawson presided. Mrs. Daniels led Devotions. Duet by Mesdames McWhirter and Simpson. Address by Captain Rix, subject, "Christian homes and their influence on the community."