

with whom she works. During the Convention meetings in June last, her zeal was unflagging. I was very much struck at the manner in which she and Mrs Ward Poole answered to all the demands that were made on them; nothing came amiss to them, and their courtesy was unfailing. Miss Hood is esteemed and loved by all her fellow-workers.

(To be continued).

White Ribbon Work in the Taranaki District.

A VERY promising branch of the W.C.T.U. was formed in New Plymouth some three months ago by Mr T. E. Taylor, who had the pleasure of finding a band of men and women asking to be formed into a society, and eager to set to work. Acting on his recommendation, the new Union decided to invite our Recording Secretary to come to Taranaki, and address meetings in the interests of White Ribbon work.

Our campaign accordingly opened with an afternoon meeting at Waitara on Saturday, January 4th, twelve miles from New Plymouth; and, in spite of a terrible downpour of rain, about thirty ladies and a few gentlemen assembled in the Town Hall to listen to a hopeful address by Miss L. M. Kirk on the origin and aims of the Union. Mrs Allen Douglas, V.P. New Plymouth Union, presided, and the meeting was very bright and pleasant.

On Sunday night, in spite of the pouring rain, between 700 and 800 people gathered in the Alexandra Hall, New Plymouth, after church service, when an interesting address on the Union motto was given. The Rev W. Potter presided, and gave an earnest, helpful address.

We had arranged for a meeting at Inglewood on Monday, and in spite of a severe thunderstorm, about eighty people turned out; and the chair was admirably taken by Mrs E. Howell. The address on pledge-signing and prohibition was earnestly argumentative, and about a dozen pledges were taken at the end, several of the signers being fine young men.

On Tuesday evening we held another meeting in the Alexandra Hall, which was charmingly decorated with blue and white chains, baskets of white flowers, and wreaths.

Mrs Drew, the President (of whom her co-workers are justly proud), took the chair, and the proceedings began with very good singing from a specially-formed choir of young ladies. The President then introduced Miss Kirk, who spoke at some length on the inception and growth of the W.C.T.U. Then came an interval, pleasantly filled with music from the choir, one or two action songs, with waving bouquets and bands of ribbon

white, being especially charming. Then followed a second speech from Miss Kirk, entitled "Prohibition: Does it Pay?" This proved most interesting, and was "freely irradiated by flashes of humour," as the newspaper man says.

On Wednesday evening, St. Mary's Hall was full to hear a homely talk on possibilities of work for our own Union. That meeting will, we hope, give us many new members.

At Hawera, on Thursday afternoon, a meeting of ladies was held to discuss the possibility of forming a Union; about fifty were present. It was felt that here as in New Plymouth, it is strongly incumbent on the temperance people to have a temperance booth at the A. and P. Show, that it may be made possible for visitors to avoid a possible temptation: the matter will probably be attended to in both towns this year. The evening meeting in the Wesleyan Church was a large and enthusiastic one; several ladies and gentlemen were good enough to fill the interval with songs, which helped the success of the meeting greatly. Mr Robbins, the energetic president of the Prohibition League, took the chair; and resolutions dealing with a proposed club charter were passed. Several clergymen were present, and three or four took part. The sympathy and kindness of nearly all the ministers in the district was most helpful and encouraging.

With such a band of workers, and such helpers as we have in Taranaki district, there can be no doubt as to the ultimate triumph of the W.C.T.U. in its warfare for the cause of God and Home and Humanity.

RURU.

A GAMES CLUB.

WHEN people come actually to live in a poor street they soon perceive ways, and get incentives, that hitherto escaped them, for doing helpful work. This fact has been, I believe, more than once affirmed by Mr W. T. Stead, and has probably led many to make homes for themselves in the poorer quarters of a city. In our case, however, we were led by other considerations than philanthropy, and had it not been for a happy epicureanism—adapting ourselves to our circumstances—that infects us, we might easily have dropped into the common habit of looking for comfort in useless lamentations at our unenviable surroundings.

One thing has of late impressed itself upon us, and that is the need of making mere neighbourship a ground for sociability and friendliness. It seems to us that the residents of a street should be united, both socially and for effecting improvements in the street; and, with this end in view, we are considering how to form a neighbours' Guild in our street, and how to get a healthy spirit among the boys and girls and young people. With