

with the Maori children; I had indeed to attend the English Government school, Mrs Brown having promised prizes to the two Maori girls whose sewing was the best. At the end of January we had a splendid meeting at Papawai, Greytown, and were most hospitably entertained by the Chief Kumeroa, who is one of my Committee, and is a really magnificent man. He called together all the Maoris—about 300—into the large meeting-house. I spoke on Temperance and our Saviour's commandment, "Love one another." Twenty-eight signed the pledge, and the Maoris were delighted with Mrs Medley's short address to them in Maori; at the close of which they simultaneously shouted "Kia Ora," and cheered us both. At the close of the meeting books, Testaments, and Temperance tracts were distributed. About 2000 in all have been distributed, and one wild young Maori girl was converted by reading the New Testament. She said, when speaking to me about it, "Before I read my Testament the Maori boys say to me, 'Come and dance' (the Maori dance not good). But now I say 'No.' I like best to please God, and every day three times I read my Testament and have Church," by which she meant prayers. I regret my inability to attend this Convention, as there are many interesting incidents I could have told you. I sent a balance-sheet of money received and expended, and the report from Lyttelton, which should be read. I am waiting in this Waikato district—where I could have a large and interested gathering of Maoris, but I am now short of funds for books and more pledge cards. I am keeping the few I have for Tokanui, where I have promised to go, and am now waiting to be driven there by my son. I am hoping to persuade the Maoris to get up a Temperance Club, where they can stay when in Wellington. Letters have been received from Lady Henry Somerset and Miss Agnes Slack, the hon. sec. of the World's W.C.T.U., saying that a notice of our W.C.T.U. work among Maoris has been sent all over the world, and a notice published in the *Union Signal*, Chicago, November 14, 1895, so that the work is becoming well known.

Mrs Brittan, who is one of my committee, and who now lives at Tauranga, has decided to become a member of the N.Z. W.C.T.U., and to start a branch Union at Tauranga. I sent a large package of Maori pledge cards and tracts to her, and I believe she has obtained about twenty signatures, which should be added to the number mentioned in my report. Mrs Brittan is the daughter of Mr Grace, one of the early missionaries to the Maoris, and Mrs Brittan is deeply interested in the Maoris, and is willing, if I have to go to England, to take my place as superintendent.

Reports of Local Unions.

(Abridged from those presented to the Convention.)

AUCKLAND.

The past year has been quiet and uneventful. The membership roll shows 66 ordinary and four honorary members. The Union has been favoured with visits from Mrs Courtenay Smith, President of the Sydney W.C.T.U.; Mr T. E. Taylor, of Christchurch, who gave us a stirring account of the Temperance work in that city; and Mrs Ardell, Australian Superintendent of Legislation. Besides addressing the Union, Mrs Ardell gave a most thrilling public address on the Rescue work carried on in Sydney. She also took an active part in forming a Rescue Society in Auckland. Ways and means are now being discussed for establishing a home for the fallen and other social purity work. Under the guidance of our President, measures are being taken for dealing with the C. D. Acts. The circular from Mrs Kirkland, N. Z. Evangelistic Superintendent, was received and adopted, and copies sent to 46 ministers of

this city, many of whom preached sermons on the subject. Literature, consisting of leaflets and pamphlets bearing on Social Purity, Communion Wine, and other subjects, have been, circulated. "THE WHITE RIBBON" has been appreciated and we cannot but rejoice that we have now a paper of our own, and trust that it will prosper.

NAPIER.

We have 40 ordinary members and 8 honorary members on our roll. To increase the number of the latter we have reduced the fee from 5s to 2s 6d. We have held 26 ordinary and one special meeting during the year. The latter took the form of a social to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Union in Napier. The Dean of Waiapu presided, and our own President gave a resumé of the work accomplished since the inauguration of the Union in this town. We have obtained a number of subscribers to the WHITE RIBBON, and the Union subscribes regularly to the *Union Signal*, *Woman's Signal*, *Prohibitionist*, and the *Medical Pioneer*. The latter is sent to the local doctors in town. At Mrs Kirkland's suggestion we asked all ministers in the district to preach temperance sermons at stated times, and a number acceded to our request. The Superintendent of Mission work forwarded a quantity of clothing to the Zenana Mission. A petition from the Union to the Anglican Synod, asking that unfermented wine be used for Communion purposes, was presented by Canon Webb, and favourably received. It was also decided to send a petition against the C. D. Acts to the Medical Congress. The Napier School Committee were communicated with on the subject of Temperance reading books. N.Z. Alliance leaflets have been distributed in railway trains and steamships.

NEW PLYMOUTH.

On the occasion of the visit of Mr Thos. E. Taylor of Christchurch, a women's meeting was held, and it was then decided to organize a branch of the W.C.T.U.; officers were elected and 17 members enrolled, which number has since increased to 50, with 8 honorary members. The Home Meetings department under Mrs Douglas has been very successful. Meetings have been held in different parts of the town, and have blessed and helped many. Literature.—This department is doing good work, over 1000 leaflets and pamphlets are distributed every month in the town, and the superintendent receives cheerful help from many members in this work. Visiting Absent Members.—Good service is done in this department, many members unable to attend meetings are kept in touch with the Union. Electoral Roll department.—Mrs Isaacs and a Committee of five members have added many names to the Roll. Mrs Collis has done good service as Organizing Secretary in the country districts, establishing branches and Somerset Unions. Her offices as Secretary and Treasurer, have been taken by Miss M. R. Abier and Mrs Runciman respectively. We have had the pleasure of a visit from Miss Kirk, and at the time of writing Mrs Schnackenberg is with us, and we have been greatly helped by these visits.

MARTON.

This Union has a membership of 29 ordinary and six honorary members. Seven meetings have been held during the year. The meetings from various causes have not been well attended, but many of the members who have been unable to attend regularly are still interested in the work of the Union. We continue to distribute the *Prohibitionist* and other temperance literature.

FEILDING.

No formal report is to hand from Feilding, and from a letter received from Mrs A. J. Thompson we gather that, owing to the removal of officers and other causes, the local