

forms of alcohol burned in the air, and how all had a deadly effect on animal and vegetable life.

### Ashurst.

The inaugural meeting of the Ashurst branch of the W.C.T.U. was held in the Wesleyan Church on the afternoon of July 14, when Miss Powell, ex-President, and Miss Barry, Secretary of the Palmerston branch, conducted the meeting. Eleven members were elected, and the following officers were appointed:—President, Mrs Crichton; Vice-Presidents, Mrs Hutchings and Captain Law, S.A.; Secretary, Mrs Clarke; Treasurer, Miss Scott. In the evening a public meeting was held in the S.A. Barracks, when addresses were given by Miss Powell, Captain Law, and Mr George Grant. Solos were sung by Mrs Clarke and Mrs Hutchings. Mr Nutsey occupied the chair. At the close of the meeting another seven members handed in their names, so that in our little corner we have a branch of eighteen members. It was decided to hold the meetings on the second Wednesday in the month.

### Colyton.

On Tuesday evening, August 4, we were fortunate enough to have a visit from the N.Z. Corresponding Secretary. The meeting was fairly well attended. Miss Powell gave a graphic account of the rise and growth of the W.C.T.U., and explained its objects. On the following afternoon seven ladies met to form a branch of the W.C.T.U., many were prevented from attending by the inclement weather. Our visitor, after reading the Crusade Psalm, in a few well chosen words explained the different departments of work. Miss Powell admitted all present as members of the Union, using part of the Initiatory service. The officers were then elected:—President, Mrs Robert Pudney; Secretary, Miss Carter. We have decided to hold meetings on the first Thursday in each month, and trust that the membership will soon increase.

### Lyttelton.

The members of our Union decided to have an evening meeting for young people who could not come in the afternoon. There were about fifty present and a very enjoyable evening was passed. Mrs Whitby read Mrs Venables' interesting paper on Narcotics, and a lively discussion followed. The rest of the evening was filled by songs by Mrs Hiskens, Misses Clark, Hough, Meeke, and Bradley, Messrs Webb, and MacGregor, and recitations by Mr Ames Webb, and Mr A. Erickson.

The young people enjoyed the meeting very much, and we hope to gain new members by this departure.

About twenty of our members and friends walked to Raupaki last month and had an evening meeting with the Maories. The church was well filled, and some of the Maories told us how they enjoyed those meetings and wished we could go oftener. Mrs Webb read a piece about our Queen, and Mrs Whitby spoke on the bad effects of alcohol. Several of our friends sang songs which were highly appreciated. The meeting was brought to a close by singing "Some Glad Day."

### Rangiora.

The ordinary meeting was held on Friday, July 31st, the two previous ones having lapsed. The Account for Convention numbers of WHITE RIBBON was passed for payment. Correspondence was received from the Superintendent of Narcotics and Superintendent of Mission Work, and were considered. A circular was also received from Mrs Cole, *re* influencing the Press, and it was resolved to do all in our power in this direction. A W.C.T.U. letter to absent members, urging their attendance, was brought forward by the President, and heartily approved by members. Resolved that we make enquiries about obtaining some. A letter from Rev. T. J. Wills was read, soliciting an order for his book in reply to Bishop Neville. Decided to obtain a copy for the Union.

### Palmerston North.

A meeting of more than usual interest was held in connection with our Union on July 30th, at Mrs Caleb Whitehead's residence. The members responded heartily to Mrs Whitehead's invitation, about twenty-eight ladies being present. After a short address on "Hygienic Clothing" had been given by Miss Powell, Mrs Astbury, on behalf of the members, presented her with a writing desk as a token of appreciation of her work amongst us while President. Miss Powell goes from us carrying with her the good wishes of every member and followed by their prayers for her welfare and success.

The ordinary business meeting was held on August 6th, Mrs Wrigley, our newly-elected President, presiding.

### Pahiatua.

Our indefatigable Secretary, Miss Powell, was here on the 24th of last month, and gave a stirring address on the evils of the drink traffic. At the close of the address several of those

present signed the pledge. Miss Powell was also successful in forming a branch of the W.C.T.U. here. A well-attended meeting was held in the Foresters' Hall. New members were proposed, and a committee formed for starting a Juvenile Loyal Temperance Lodge. The following are the officers appointed:—President, Mrs Burrows; vice-president, Mrs W. Vile; secretary and treasurer, *pro tem.*, Mrs Keen; corresponding secretary and reporter, Mrs Knight.

### Greymouth.

The usual monthly meeting of the W.C.T.U. was held in the vestry of the Wesleyan Church on Thursday, 5th inst., twelve members being present. We again performed the pleasing ceremony of initiating another member. We also went through a good deal of routine work. Reports were handed in by the ladies who have charge of the Loyal Temperance Legion. Good progress is reported, and an increase, both in numbers and enthusiasm, among the young. The usual Missionary Prayer Meeting was held during the month in connection with the Union, at which a fair number of ladies were present.

### Wellington.

On Thursday, 5 inst., our usual monthly meeting was held, and although the day was wet and cold a goodly number attended. In the unavoidable absence of our President Mrs Ostler took the chair, and gave a very practical, wise address, which was much appreciated. Several new members were received and the Initiatory Service was read. We have several other candidates who will be received at our next meeting. All arrangements were made for a meeting at Petone, which will take place on Wednesday, 11th inst. If we are favoured with a fine night we feel success is assured. Doubtless a branch of our Union will be formed there in a few days; Miss Kirk, New Zealand's organising officer, has promised her services to this end. It was decided to order two copies of Mr Wills' new work, "Bishop Neville's Mistake." Greetings from Miss Powell were received and appreciated. Two photographs of Mrs Barney were ordered. The visitors to Mothers' meetings were re-appointed, and messages of appreciation of former visits were received. A few friends were invited by one of our members to meet Mrs Isitt, who gave an interesting account of her work between Levin and New Plymouth. She has now gone to Plenheim to help our Union there.