

to the *Anglo-Russian Review*, has a world-wide circulation, and her trenchant, suggestive articles in the *Westminster Review*, *East and West*, *The Race Builder*, and other publications have brought her views on the supreme position of woman before a large circle of readers. The book mentioned above, "The Awakening of Women," has been translated into both Dutch and French.

Mrs Swiney has been engaged for some years on another comprehensive work, entitled "The Philosophy of Sex." It is intended to publish this in four parts—"The Analysis of Sex," "Difference of Sex," "Natural Law of Sex," "Spiritualisation of Sex." "It is a labour of love for the womanhood of the world, and will testify to the truth of woman's rightful position in the sublime scheme of human development, and will demonstrate the unity and oneness of cause and effect in manifestation as at present disclosed to the understanding, reason and logic of mankind." An important article, written by Mrs Swiney, on "Woman and Natural Law," was, in March last, published in *Occasional Papers* (edited by a group of Oxford men). In addition to carrying on her literary work, Mrs Swiney, though far from robust in health, is lecturer at the Higher Thought Centre, Cheniston Gardens, London, and at the South Place Ethical Institute, Finsbury. A series of lectures delivered lately to women was on the recent researches in biology, embryology and pathology in relation to woman.

Though keenly interested in politics, Mrs Swiney now belongs to no political party, her experience being that both parties are "equally dishonest and unfaithful when in office to the best interests of the country."

A few sentences, culled here and there from Mrs Swiney's writings, will serve to make manifest the spirit in which her labours are undertaken and carried on:—

"Surely if we want to make the race better, it would be well first to know how it has been brought into existence in the past, and why there is race degeneracy and racial pathology."

"It is only as women realise the true nobility of their pre-ordained mission, and live worthy of themselves and their high destiny, that the chains will fall off their hands and they will stand free
of the sight of God and man."

"Woman, to play her true part in the cosmic scheme, must know the basic facts of her existence; she must realise that there is only one divinely-inspired Law, the Law regulating, controlling and directing all the manifold activities of the universe, nowhere contradictory, uncertain or variable. . . . No soul can advance on the road of true progress unless this knowledge becomes the invincible weapon, the Sword of Truth, by which old fallacies, pernicious customs and worn-out creeds can be overthrown and demolished. . . . The old is passing away. All things are becoming new. 'I overturn, overturn, overturn, saith the Lord.'"

NEWS OF THE UNIONS.

[We rely on our local Unions to send us news for this column. We cannot evolve it out of our inner consciousness.]

Auckland.

Our meetings have been full of interest this month. The Inspector of Police informed us that special instructions had now (in response to our resolution) been issued to the police staff, to enforce the regulations against cigarette smoking by boys. We also hear that another resolution is bearing fruit, in that the police are dealing with objectionable post-cards exposed for sale. The anti-totalisator petition is being pushed, and a large number and variety of exceedingly good "comfort" bags are coming in. We are sending out about 600 invitations for a reception to Mr Bligh; this will advertise the mass meeting for women. Saturday night concerts, as a counter attraction to the hotels, are under consideration.

Bluff.

Since April the Band of Hope managed by our Union has held its monthly meetings alternately in the Presbyterian and Methodist churches. Good and varied programmes have been contributed by the young members and older friends; and temperance addresses have been given by the resident ministers and other gentlemen, and also by Sister Jean, of Invercargill. In place of the roll call, each member has been supplied with a card, upon which the attendance is stamped. Many fresh pledges have been taken. The ladies of the Union have arranged a series of Silver Medal Contests. The Reading Room Fund is being augmented by a collection taken at the Contests. It has also been benefited through a service of song, "Lost in London," successfully rendered by Band of Hope members, under the careful direction of Mrs Hunt. A member of the Union has given a large number of money boxes, and 27 volunteers have taken up the work of collecting for the fund. The ground for the Reading Room is

now entirely paid for, but contributions towards the Building Fund will lighten the burden of the workers, and will be gratefully acknowledged.

Dunedin.

At the meeting held September 5th, Mrs Don reported on the "Home" meeting held during the month. Other ladies present offered their homes for similar meetings. It was agreed that a deputation from the Union meet the City workers (evangelistic work), and endeavour to secure their co-operation in enlisting the very young members of the community on the side of temperance by means of the Cradle Roll. Mrs Hislop, after a six months' holiday in Australia, received a hearty welcome back. She spoke of her trip, and it was seen that her holiday had been largely spent in visiting and studying the various temperance organisations of Melbourne. Mrs Hislop also spoke forcibly on the terrible hold the gambling evil had of the people of Australia.

Feilding.

At our meeting this month, a circular was received from Miss McCarthy *re* influencing the press, and the Secretary was asked to interview Mrs Snow on the subject. It was decided to allow the matter of organising in Palmerston North to stand over at present. The Secretary was instructed to apply for the educational papers mentioned by Miss Powell.

Napier.

Our conversazione, held on August 6th, was a great success. The financial result, with one or two donations, will allow us to send £8 for our Exhibition bay. A drawing-room meeting at the house of Mrs King, Cameron road, was conducted by Mrs Sandilands, and resulted in one member joining our ranks. At a recent meeting of our Union we had the pleasure of welcoming two of our Willard workers, on their marriage, to our older organisation. Our last meeting was held on August 30th, when Mrs Evans was appointed local superintendent of medal contest work. The forthcoming visit of Mr Bligh was discussed, mention being made of the success attending his work in Wellington. A good report was given of the free reading-room, the promoters' hearts being cheered by men having expressed their gratitude for such a room being made available for their use without the temptation of the bar. This room is open from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., and all expenses have been met thus far by private donations. The Union voted £4 for the Committee's use.

Nelson.

At the August meeting it was decided to inaugurate a Cradle Roll in connection with our Union. Miss Gascoigne kindly undertook to endeavour to have important items of temperance news inserted in the local daily papers. One member reported two signatures to the total abstinence pledge. In place of ordinary meeting next month, we are holding a public social gathering, and are asking ministers in the district to give short addresses. We hope by this means, to enlist the sympathy of many women not connected with our Union.

New Plymouth.

At our meeting, held August 29th, a great deal of correspondence was dealt with. A