

election of officers resulted as follows: to her consent); Corresponding Secretary, Mrs Ruth Day; Recording Secretary, Miss W. W. Smith; Treasurer, Mrs Phoebe Seed; Superintendents of departments were also appointed. It was decided to accept a portrait, from her husband, of the late Mrs Henderson, who served for some time on the Charitable Aid Board, and who took an interest in all reform work.

HAMILTON.

The annual meeting was held on December 5th. The members present each voiced the feeling, which no doubt is shared by many other temperance organisations, that the coming year was a year for aggressive work. The officers for the year are: President, Mrs. Jones; Secretary, Mrs Griffin; Treasurer, Mrs Horn; Superintendent Home Meetings, Mrs J. Tidd.

LEVIN.

There was a fair number of visitors at our social and educational meeting, held in November. A resolution was passed re Sabbath observance, in accordance with the suggestions of the N.Z. Superintendent of this department, and replies were read from the Premier and the Minister of Marine, with regard to packet licenses. The reply from the manager of the Union Company was also favourable, though it stated that nothing definite had as yet been done to make total abstinence compulsory amongst the officers. The event of the afternoon was a paper on "Hygiene," by Mrs. Sorensen, dealing chiefly with the necessity for fresh air, cleanliness, exercise, and the freedom of the body from the congesting and weakening influences of corsets and shoulder straps. The paper proved entertaining and interesting, and was freely discussed, some difference of opinion being manifested on minor points, but all apparently convinced of the importance of attention to this great subject. Tea and refreshments, dispensed by the President and Mrs Sorensen, and some musical items interspersed, rendered the meeting pleasantly social.

LOWER HUTT.

There was a better attendance than usual at our annual meeting, which was held on 26th ult. Mrs Strand, senior, was elected as President, and the Secretary and Treasurer were re-elected. We shall not hold another meeting until February.

NEW PLYMOUTH.

Our annual meeting on December 4th was a cheering success. The departmental report showed that much time and thought had been given to accomplish all the work that was put into them. We are now working in nine different directions to help to bring to pass that unto which our Union is sent: Dorcas work, maternity box, prison and rescue work, Parliamentary and legal work, cradle-roll literature, rest-room for women, "White Ribbon" agency and dis-

tribution of "On the Line" amongst the railway men. All the superintendents were re-elected. The officers were re-elected for the coming year. Seven new members joined us throughout the year; on the other hand, there have been five removals, one death, and one retired member.

RANGIORA.

Our annual meeting was held on November 29th. Mrs Pinfold was re-elected President, and Mrs Darling, whom we are hoping to welcome back shortly from her trip to the Old Land, was elected Secretary, and Miss Newton Treasurer.

STRATFORD.

Our Union met on 22nd November, and we were favoured with the presence of Mrs Kirkland, from Dunedin. Mrs Kirkland gave a most interesting account of the noble work being done in many lands by the Union. Most impressive were the speaker's remarks on prayer—more need for earnest, constant prayer. We all feel that our Union would be better for more frequent visits from gifted, capable workers from the larger centres.

The annual meeting was held on 4th instant, and the election of officers resulted as follows:—President, Mrs Kennedy (Toko); Secretary, Mrs Mackay; Treasurer, Mrs Hills.

TARIKI.

Through the kindness of the head master and School Committee, the Union held a garden party in the school grounds on November 11th. Though the weather was not the most favourable, a number of friends gathered from near and far, and a pleasant afternoon was spent. £1 17s 6d was cleared for our Union funds.

The annual meeting was held on November 19th. The Legal and Parliamentary and the Cradle Roll Committees reported good work done, and the Treasurer's sheet showed a good balance in hand. We shall try to send a delegate to Convention. The only change in the list of officers is that Mrs Coutts takes the place of Mrs A. Fenwick as Vice-President.

TIMARU.

The annual meeting was held on the 3rd instant, at the Sailor's Rest. Routine business and correspondence was gone through, and literature was handed round for distribution. Mr Stead's annual report was read, showing how our little rest is appreciated by the sailors. A large number of Bibles in different languages had been received from the British and Foreign Bible Society for use among the men. The election of officers then took place, and the meeting closed.

WAIPAWA.

Our annual meeting was held on December 5th, Mrs Bibby in the chair. The acting officers were re-elected to office, and two new members were added to our roll. After the business, Miss Heira Stirling, who is working among the Maoris in this district, in the

cause of temperance, gave a most interesting address, asking for our co-operation, which we promised to give.

Our Band of Hope is flourishing, and doing good work.

WANGANUI.

The annual meeting was held on December 6th, when there was a good attendance of members. Reports were read by the Treasurer and Secretary and Superintendents of Departments. Since last annual meeting, 18 members have joined, bringing the total membership up to 100. Mrs Smith was re-elected President, and the Treasurer and Secretary were also re-elected. The election of Superintendents of Departments was held over until the next meeting, which will be the first Friday in February. One new member was enrolled.

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

Dear Sisters,—

I see that one or two Unions have, without consulting me, nominated me for the position of N.Z. Recording Secretary. While grateful for your appreciation of my services in the past, I am sorry to be obliged to decline office for 1908, as the work with the Local Option Poll will absorb the whole of my energies. At the first meeting in the new year, it will be necessary to consider the question of sending a delegate to the Annual Convention, to meet in Auckland in the second week in March. Every branch has the right to send one, any Union with a membership of over 100 being entitled to two. I hope every branch will, if possible, avail itself of the inspiration and enthusiasm thus afforded. One country branch has held a social to raise funds for this purpose, an example others might well follow. Branches which cannot, however, send a delegate, may, upon application to me, have a proxy appointed, but they **must** enclose directions as to voting for New Zealand officers, and also as to the following resolutions, of which notice was given at the Convention of 1907:—

1. "That the Convention may appoint a Vice-President-at-large to sit upon the N.Z. Executive." Proposed by M. S. Powell.

2. "That it is desirable that the position of a N.Z. officer should be