

It seems remarkable that women like Agnes Weston, Florence Nightingale, Elizabeth Fry—not to mention Frances Willard—should be placed in the position of even asking for a vote. It would seem a national calamity for them to be denied any avenue of usefulness. Yet generation after generation we limit the powers of just such women as these.

Mrs. Reaney's work is a fine example of Christian citizenship, and her treatment by the directors of the company, of which she became a shareholder in order that she might plead the drivers' and conductors' cause, reminds one that the treatment meted out to the women of England to-day is not confined to clamorous suffragettes.

It was not a desire to forsake home ties that led women like Elizabeth Fry into publicity. On the contrary, such women perform their home duties with unusual skill and care, and it is the wish to brighten other homes and lighten the burden of other lives that forces them into a position they would not willingly seek.

Miss Cobbe was led to take up the position she did—*i.e.*, advocating the enfranchisement of women—by assisting Mary Carpenter in her work among neglected children.

Florence Nightingale, by her work among soldiers, and Elizabeth Fry, arrived at the same position in yet another sphere of action. Surely one is justified in thinking that they came to a right conclusion.

Shall we let pass this opportunity of honouring the pioneers of the movement that has had such happy results. Let us show to our sisters still struggling to attain what we have obtained that the prize is worth all the effort they are putting forth.

HOW ALCOHOL CLEANS SILVER.—Two Irishmen, rather under the influence of liquor, were discussing the uses of alcohol. Pat: "Alcohol is good for working motor cars." Mike: "Shure, an' faith it is, Pat." Pat: "And it is good for cleaning silver." Mike: "Quite right, Pat, for it cleaned all the silver out of my pocket."

News of the Unions.

Correspondents are requested to make their Reports as concise as possible.

RAVENSBOURNE.

A very pleasant and interesting meeting was held on August 26th, when Mrs. Johnstone, President of the Port Chalmers Union, accompanied by Mesdames Manson, Grant, C. Menzies, and T. J. Thomson, and Miss Menclaws, in answer to a numerous signed request, went to Ravensbourne to institute a branch of the W.C.T.U. there. They were met by the Rev. Dr. Nicolson, who gave them a very hearty welcome. Mrs. Heslop, of the North-east Valley, and Mr. Gain, No-License agent for the Chalmers electorate, were also present. After partaking of afternoon tea the meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Nicolson: the singing of a hymn was followed by suitable portions of Scripture, read by Mrs. Johnstone, who then proceeded to inaugurate the new Union, Mrs. Nicolson was chosen President. Several donned the White Ribbon and the new Union was fairly launched, with many good wishes from the visitors for its success. Interesting addresses were given by Dr. Nicolson, Mr. Gain, and Mrs. Heslop, and the meeting closed with the Benediction.

NELSON.

Our August meeting was well attended. We decided to print some invitation cards for the purpose of securing a better attendance at our special meetings for women, the result fully justifying the expenditure.

The second of our special meetings for women was held in the Port Mission Hall on September 1st, when about 50 ladies were present. Mrs. Crump, our President, took the chair. Helpful and interesting addresses were given by Mesdames Hampson and Peryman and Miss Atkinson, and solos were given by Mesdames Derrick and Knapp.

PALMERSTON NORTH.

A successful social gathering was held on August 6th in St. Andrew's Hall, about 80 people being present. The social opened with singing and prayer. Solos were contributed by Mrs. Geo. Miller, Messrs. Wilby, Sidford, and G. H. Bennett, and recitations by Miss F. George and Master Ray Whitehead. Two interesting addresses were given by Mrs. H. Beggs and Mrs. Low, M.A. Our President, Mrs. Snow, occupied the chair. Twelve new members were initiated. A collection was taken up for our Union funds. We were glad to see the Press take an interest in our work by sending two reporters to the social. After supper a very enjoyable meeting was closed by the Rev. H. Beggs pronouncing the Benediction.

Our monthly meeting was held on September 4th in the Baptist Church, Mrs. MacDonald presiding. A motion of condolence was carried (all members standing) to our President, Mrs. Snow, in the death of her father, Mr. Forlong, who was called to higher service last Sunday. It was resolved to hold a mass meeting for women only, early in November and arrange for Mrs. Williams and another speaker to come up and address the meeting. Also to ask a medical man to address the meeting on a suitable subject. Mrs. Hodder was appointed organist and we

were pleased to welcome Mrs. Fearnley from Auckland, who has come here to reside. Mrs. Culver was appointed agent for the WHITE RIBBON and badges.

A special meeting was held on August 12th, when Mr. Morine, the No-License canvasser, was present, and pointed out work he wished us to do. After sorting some thousands of No-License cards the meeting closed, refreshments were provided by Miss Baker and the Secretary.

LEVIN.

We held a public women's meeting last month, which was addressed by Mr. Polk, the No-License organiser. The meeting was enlivened by musical and other items, unfavourable weather, however, prevented a large attendance.

At our last ordinary meeting letters were read from the Superintendents of Anti-Gambling and Evangelistic Departments suggesting methods of work. The Sabbath Observance Superintendent, Mrs. Ransome, reported having received good literature and had distributed much of it. One new member was initiated.

A Band of Hope meeting was held during the month and addressed by the Rev. J. White.

NAPIER.

We are glad to report that increasing interest is being taken in our work here. A "Drawing-room" meeting was held recently at the house of Mrs. Shirley, our President in the chair. The Rev. J. Asher gave an address and read some extracts from the books of two women whose works had influenced his life for good—Christine Rosseti and Dora Greenwell. One new member joined our ranks.

At our last meeting Mrs. Cobb, Evangelistic Superintendent, gave us a short address which was full of encouragement. Much interest is aroused by the splendid way in which Miss Barton is working amongst the Maoris in the North.

BLLENHEIM.

Since our last report great interest in Temperance has been aroused by the visit of Mrs. Harrison Lee, who spent a week here and gave several very interesting addresses.

On Sunday, 19th July, Mrs. Lee addressed the combined Sunday schools in the Salvation Army Barracks—the largest available hall—which was crowded to excess, as was also the later meeting in the same place after evening service. The address in the evening was most earnest and impressive, the lecturer with her charm of manner having an irresistible influence over her audience. As a result of her work here numbers signed the pledge.

On Tuesday afternoon, the 21st, Mrs. Lee gave her farewell address in Wesley Hall. At the close of the meeting afternoon tea was provided.

During her stay Mrs. Lee also visited Seddon. Meetings were held in the afternoon and evening and were well attended.

At our usual monthly meeting a number of new members were welcomed to the Union.

TARIKI.

Mr. Palmer, Vicar of St. Mary's, Sydney, gave a lantern lecture in the hall on August 12th, in the interests of the New Zealand Alliance. In the afternoon a few friends met Mr. Palmer and Mr. Foston (Taranaki organiser) at Mrs. Jemison's home. Afternoon tea was provided and a pleasant time spent.

On August 21st Miss Hughes paid us a flying visit. The members of the Union met her at Mrs. Coutt's residence. Miss Hughes told us of