

her work abroad and gave hints on canvassing for No-License here which were much appreciated.

During the month an At Home was held at Mrs. W. H. Fenwick's to say good-bye to Mrs. Cennington, who is leaving this district.

TIMARU.

At our September meeting arrangements were made for house to house canvassing to enroll all eligible voters. We initiated two new members. Our Cradle Roll Superintendent reported good progress. The ministers have been asked, and have consented, to preach special sermons against gambling.

GISBORNE.

There was a good attendance at our last meeting here, Mrs. J. East took the chair. A letter was read from Mr. Bailey, Superintendent of Leper Mission, Edinburgh, acknowledging the subscription sent from our Union. After a good deal of business had been gone through Miss Sievwright read an article from a Home paper on the Woman Suffrage movement.

On September 2nd Miss Hughes gave an address to women in the Baptist Tabernacle. Mrs. Graham, President of the Union, occupied the chair, and announced that the Union purposed holding weekly prayer meetings on Thursdays until the election. Miss Hughes gave a most interesting address on her work in New Zealand, and rescue, slum, and prison work in Australia. She dwelt on the fact that drink was directly or indirectly responsible for nine-tenths of the misery she met and that it caused the downfall of so many women and young girls. She paid a high tribute to the work of the W.C.T.U. in Australia. She dwelt upon the importance of striking out *ONLY* the top line and thereby helping to carry Reduction wherever No-License failed as it had always proved to be a step in the right direction. She said that Australia was watching New Zealand closely in the matter of this No-License reform, and though false and garbled reports are often circulated in that country the Temperance workers are very watchful and see that true accounts are also circulated. Miss Hughes was listened to with close attention by a large audience and a hearty vote of thanks was proposed and carried. Mrs. Graham, in closing, made a strong appeal to mothers to remember that although their duty began at home it did not end there, and to realise the great responsibility of their vote.

HASTINGS.

Our monthly meeting was held in St. Andrew's schoolroom on August 12th. There was a good attendance and three new members were initiated. Correspondence was read and discussed. A letter from Mrs. Spence re the Cradle Roll was read by the Secretary, and it was decided to get it working in connection with our Union as soon as possible. The Secretary has visited the absentees and others and hopes ere long to have a real good muster at our meetings—"Union is Strength."

WAIHAO DOWNS.

During Mr. and Mrs. Smedley's stay at Waihao Downs four public meetings were held. The first in connection with the Band of Hope, the second on Sunday night in place of the ordinary service, and on Tuesday Mr. Smedley gave his lecture on India. At all of these lantern pictures were shown.

On Wednesday afternoon the W.C.T.U. gave a reception to Mrs. Smedley and Miss Bonham. About twenty ladies were present. Mrs. Smedley gave a brief account of her work in Derby, England, and Miss McCarthy, by reference to

women like Florence Nightingale, Frances Power Cobbe, May Carpenter, and Agnes Weston, showed how women had been led to seek for the franchise and reminded those present of the celebration on September 19th. Miss Bonham and Mr. McKenzie sang during the afternoon, while Miss F. Sides and Mrs. Hurst played the accompaniments. A very pleasant afternoon was spent. Such meetings as these form an excellent opportunity for women residing at a considerable distance to enjoy social intercourse with each other.

This visit of Mr. and Mrs. Smedley resulted in a number of names being added to the roll, to say nothing of literature distributed and good seed sown.

TE AWAMUTU.

A branch of the W.C.T.U. was formed here on 26th August by Mesdames Dewar and Hughes, of the Auckland Union. There was a good attendance in spite of the bad weather, and much enthusiasm was aroused, every person present being enrolled as a member. Mrs. Dewar, in an able speech, stated the object of the meeting and urged those present to use their influence to minimise the evils of the drink traffic. The meetings will be held on the second Wednesday in the Presbyterian Church, when new members will be heartily welcomed. The following officers were elected:—Mrs. Woollass, President; Mrs. Clarke, Vice-President; Mrs. Andrew, Secretary; Mrs. Bridgeman, Treasurer.

MASTERTON.

The usual monthly meeting was held in Knox Hall on the 1st September. There was a fair attendance, the President in the chair. Special efforts have been made during the month to arrange a meeting amongst the Maoris at Te Ore Ore, many promising to help forward the movement. A paper was read by Mrs. Green on "The Effect of Alcohol on the System," which was helpful and instructive. Two members promised, after discussing the paper, to write papers bearing on this subject. The resignation of our Secretary, Mrs. Devenport, through ill-health, was received with regret. All correspondence should be addressed to Mrs. Dewes, 80, South Road, Masterton.

FEILDING.

The usual monthly meeting was held in the Grey Street Hall. There was a good attendance and Mrs. Cossun presided. The temperance meeting to be held on September 18th was discussed, and it was decided that the Drill Hall be engaged; Mrs. Low, M.A., of Wellington, and Rev. E. Walker, of Halcombe, to give addresses; and united choirs musical items. Letters were read from Bible in State Schools League, calling attention to that branch of work. The Union expressed its approval of the system advocated by the League, and instructed the Secretary to write to Wellington for all necessary information.

DUNEDIN.

Three "Drawing-room" meetings were held last month. Sister Annie kindly spoke at two and Rev. C. Dallaston at the other. Eighteen new members' names were handed in.

A very pleasant evening was given at the Sailors' Rest under the auspices of the Union. The Caversham Pres. Bible Class kindly supplied the entertainment, and fully 40 sailors were there and all spent an enjoyable time.

ASHBURTON.

The fortnightly meetings have been held regularly and well attended. An increasing interest in the coming Local Option Poll is manifest amongst our members.

At the business meeting held on July 28th a letter was read regarding the District Convention to be held at Christchurch in September, Mesdames Lill, Kennington, and Missen were elected Delegates. The Treasurer's quarterly report was read and adopted, showing a substantial credit balance in hand. Mrs. Bowman, No-License organiser for the electorate, then addressed the meeting. She offered valuable suggestions regarding the work of enrolment and street visiting. In closing she urged her hearers to do some definite work to help forward the cause of Temperance.

On August 11th, Sister Maisie (Miss Lill), of the New Guinea Mission, addressed our meeting, and a large audience listened with rapt attention while she spoke of the work undertaken and the needs of our dark-skinned sisters in far-away lands. At the close a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Sister Maisie for her interesting and instructive address.

WELLINGTON.

There was a good attendance at our meeting on the 3rd instant, when reports of work done in the several departments were given: During the month 6 meetings for women were addressed by Mrs. Williams and a number of workers enlisted; Mrs. Harrison Lee gave an address to women in St. John's schoolroom on August 12th, and as a result we gained four new members. During the visit of Miss Hughes a number of our Union women joined in a torch-light Temperance procession through Newtown to the hall of meeting, where a splendid address was listened to. Arrangements were made to commemorate Franchise Day by holding a public meeting in the Concert Hall on the evening of the 17th instant. We were glad to welcome two visitors and initiate three new members.

WAIPAWA.

In July we held two meetings, the first to make arrangements for Mrs. Lee's visit. At the second we hoped to have had Mrs. Lee with us, but she did not arrive in time. The meeting was largely attended. The Rev. G. Frost gave us an inspiring address. Mrs. Bibby also read Mrs. Lee's paper on "Why we Work." At the close tea was dispensed in the Vestry by the members.

At our August meeting Mrs. Bibby gave an address on the District Convention held at Napier.

On the 25th August we held a special prayer meeting and although not largely attended was a means of blessing to those present.

WANGANUI.

Our monthly meeting was held in St. Paul's Hall on September 4th. There was a good attendance. A number of important matters were discussed by the members. A letter was read concerning the "New Zealand Citizens' Bible in State Schools' League," and a resolution passed. Two new members joined the Union.

A prayer meeting in connection with the Union is held on the third Thursday in every month, at 3 o'clock, in the T.Y.M.I. club-room.