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Some Indirect Methods of Temperance Reform.

[Paper read by Mrs. Allen, M.A., LL.B., before Convention.]

In choosing the subject of my paper, I was actuated, not so much by the desire to say something new, because in these days, when the Prohibition question is so much discussed by the public, one despairs of finding anything new to say upon it, but rather by the desire to find some new phase, some aspect not so much discussed, some direction not yet fully explored, in which the energies of the bulk of the Prohibition and Temperance advocates in the colony might be steadily employed to the ultimate furtherance of the cause. We cannot all be platform speakers; we cannot all be house-tohouse canvassers. And to some minds -to my own mind-platform speaking and house-to-house canvassing are not productive of the most permanent and enduring results: Effective they certainly are at election times, but that is because the attention of the people is roused, and their minds receptive and impressionable. But an impression readily made is readily lost, and during the interval between poll and poll we know it is difficult, and increasingly difficult, to stir up any enthusiasm, any feeling, by either public speeches or private

canvassing. And in any case, at any time, the bulk of our Temperance advocates are inactive, they are not workers except in so far as by their example and by their quiet expression of opinion they are making an impression upon those immediately around them. Many of them are unwilling to assert them-



MRS A. R. ATKINSON,
PRESIDENT N. Z. W.C.T.U.

selves, feeling, as indeed we all feel at times, that the assumption of an aggressive attitude makes enemies as well as friends for our cause, and that the intemperate methods to which our enthusiasm and zeal sometimes make us prone are somewhat inconsistent with our claim to be "temperance" reformers.

At any rate, we know that we lie under that accusation.

So I have felt that, if I could indicate some direction in which quiet, unostentatious work might be done for the cause of Temperance reform, I should be assisting the cause in a really valuable way, besides offering some welcome suggestions to many who would be glad to assist in any way that lay within their powers and circumstances.

All of us who have read anything about the efforts of Temperance reformers know that one fact which is always insisted upon is the necessity for providing some other means of amusement, pastime, recreation, occupation, if we propose to deprive the frequenters of public-houses of that means of forgetting the worries and cares of every-day life, or if we hope to induce them voluntarily to forego their present method of enjoyment. recognise the truth of the argument, but I am afraid that most of us have not, so far, regarded it as a basis for practical work. What I want to urge now is that it shall be taken as a basis for practical work.

I cannot claim for what I have to say that it is in any sense new. Probably, when I have finished, you will say to one another that you "knew all that before." But, however many times you may have heard it or read it, I feel that it is so important a feature of our move-

ment that I want to repeat it, and insist upon it, and to ask you if you do not think it worth while to embody it in the scheme of practical work of the Society.

First of all, then, in order to ensure the provision of counter attractions to publichouses, I think that we Temperance reformers ought to be active citizens. It cannot now be claimed for our women that they have no voice in municipal affairs, because the recent extension of the franchise is wide enough to take in most, if not all, of us. We can make our influence felt, if we will, at every local election in the colony; and in this way we can ensure that the management of our cities and towns will materially help in our work of Temperance reform. Let me try to indicate how it can be made to help. We want to make the homes of our people attractive enough to rival the public-house. We need, then, in the first place, as much open space about all the houses as can be procured. That is physiologically necessary for the strengthening of both mind and body of the dwellers in the towns. And, besides, we want room for gardens everywhere, for they afford not only pleasure to the sight, and so add to the comfort of home, but they serve to occupy the leisure time of the fathers and sons, who might be tempted, if unoccupied, to stroll to the nearest street corner to meet companions and friends, and so on, perhaps, to have a drink together. Therefore, we Temperance reformers must be warm supporters of all "Greater Wellington," "Greater Christchurch" schemes. We must endeavour to extend the benefits of city life as far as possible outside, in order that the surplus folk from the crowded city streets may be induced to move a little further out, where they may live in cottages with gardens, and grow their own fruit and vegetables and flowers, and have homes that look cheerful as they come back to them from work, and welcome them with a bright and smiling exterior. The smokegrimed, close packed houses of some of our streets are, I am inclined to think, a direct incentive to intemperance. So we must induce as many as possible of our working people to live out in the suburbs. For this we shall want ready means of access to our ideal cottages. Not everyone can possess a bicycle, and if they could we should still want trams for the women with babies, and the halt and weak and old. So we shall have to advocate most earnestly every practicable and sound scheme for the extension of the tramway service in all directions to our suburban homes. And, of course, we want the cottages well lit, and supplied with water. So we shall have to advocate the establishment or extension and proper maintenance of a water supply, and apply our minds to the solution of the difficult problem whether the city can supply electric light better and more cheaply than private companies. For all these things add materially to the comfort and pleasure of home, and we want to make the suburban homes the pleasantest places in the world for their occupants. If I could I would lay on steam drying apparatus in winter time to every home, too, and compel the owners of houses, by municipal regulation, to build-in washing tubs and coppers and fit up wringing machines.

Seriously, however, the relation of the municipality to the home is so close that we can only ensure really comfortable homes for our housewives,

people by active participation in municipal work.

Then we want healthy, educative occupation for the leisure hours and holidays of our people. In this colony the bulk of the working population have sixteen hours a day for eating, sleeping, and recreation. At the least that should allow of four hours for recreation. And besides this, there are Sundays and the weekly half-holidays, and the innumerable stray holidays throughout the year. We must help to provide for them. For this purpose we want public halls, with occasional entertainments of a bright and attractive kind -music, and dancing, and recitals, and dramatic performances: anything that is bright and healthy. And these entertainments must be cheap. They need not necessarily be free, for people will gladly pay a small price for entertainment. I remember that the sixpenny popular concerts in Christchurch used to be thronged, until they degenerated, and the quality of the music was no longer an attraction. But the quality of our municipal entertainments will never be allowed to deteriorate. And they will not be so frequent or so wanting in variety as to lose their power to attract. And they will be given chiefly in the winter time, when the evenings cannot be spent in the garden or in the parks. And the hall in which they are given must be bright and warm and beautiful, for the people we want to help are as fond of warmth and beauty as any of us. Then there should be reading rooms equally bright and attractive, with magazines and papers and books; and gymnasiums where the chief condition of instruction is regular attendance.

In the summer time we shall need plenty of parks and open spaces, and on fine holidays music will be provided in these places. Then we shall do all we can to promote horticulture. For the latter purpose it will be desirable for temperance reformers to stimulate the beautifying societies and horticultural societies, and promote their work in every possible way; for gardening is one of the best of occupations for the temperance reformer to encourage. is absorbing, both of time and interest, and it is reproductive in every sense. Every garden, well kept, helps to make the city more beautiful, and pleasanter to live in, and every plant or flower, well grown, stimulates the gardener to grow another. And then, too. emulation plays a great part in the gardener's success. Who does not know the effect, when one owns a garden, of seeing a peculiarly beautiful flower in someone else's garden? We want one like it forthwith. And most of us have noticed, I expect, how, when one garden in a short street is particularly well kept and bright, all the other gardens smarten up almost insensibly. No gardener likes to see his next door neighbour making a better show than he. So we must endeavour to stimulate the gardening fever by promoting flower and vegetable shows, for children as well as their elders, and cottage garden competitions. What an effect it would have upon the digestions of our people if they all grew their own vegetables And, as I suspect indigestion to be a not unfruitful source of intemperance, what an effect it would have upon the cause of temperance reform! The idea of indigestion, and the part it plays in the creation of drunkards, brings me to another, and almost more important phase of my subject, the necessity for training

Every girl child is a possible housewife; and amongst the people who are not rich, that almost invariably means that she must, at some time or other, become the cook of the family. Judging by our performances so far, one would imagine that we belived that the art of cooking was a gift that came by nature, or else that indigestion was a thing unknown to us. Unfortunately, one does not know by instinct how to cook, and indigestion is rife amongst us. Now I feel persuaded, and the more I think of it, the more assured I feel, that almost always when a man begins to feel, without having it suggested to him, that he wants a "drink," a stimulant or reviver of some kind, it is because be feels an uncomfortable, oppressed, or unsatisfied feeling inside. We all know the kind of feeling - incipient indigestion. There should be no such feelings for active workers in between meals if the food taken then is sufficient in quantity and of good quality and well cooked, I am not imputing any blame to the housewives. Cooking is an art that does not come by nature. And very few of them are properly taught. We must endeavour to find a way to teach them, and it should not be hard to do. In most of our towns it has been begun, and we Temperance advocates should do our best to help the work. I believe that in one year, taking two or three hours a week, a girl could be taught enough to prevent her ruining her own or anyone else's digestion thereafter by her cooking. If possible, I should keep this work separate from school work, because it will be entered into by the girls with more enthusiasm and zest if it is put before them as a recreation rather than as a regular school subject.

But cooking is not the only accomplishment a housewife needs. She wants some small training in ordinary housework and laundry work. I am almost inclined to think that if you teach her cleanliness and order, that is enough. But very few of the women in our poorer homes seem to know how much quicker work can be done if it is done regularly and in a proper orderly manner. Disorder is the prime cause of trouble in a mis-managed home. I know how scornfully many women would answer me if I said so to them. But if they tried it persistently, and made their children practise it from the beginning, they would find that some degree of orderly method made the work twice as light. I know the children do cry, and the chimney sometimes does smoke, and so the dinner has to be got with a rush, and is spoiled thereby. But if the children are properly tended, washed and fed regularly, they cry much less: and the chimney doesn't smoke so much if the flues are regularly cleaned, and father isn't half so cross if the dinner is a little worse on one day in the week, provided he has it nicely served the other six. So we want to train our children, boys as well as girls, to a sense of order. The ordinary school work should help in this, and the cooking lesson would be an even greater help. But we can all of us assist, too, by training our own children, for by this example they will undoubtedly stimulate all the children they come in contact with. And wherever there are not cooking classes, we should help in establishing them, and with them we should try to establish classes for other household work. Manual classes of all other kinds will help, too, for they will all assist in the material improve ment of the home, in additions to its comfort and beauty. The boy who can do a little carpentering, and is encouraged to indulge his

hobby, the girl who has a taste for fine needle work, should be assisting in no small degree to make the home brighter, prettier, and happier. And yet, in the poor homes, nay, even in the homes that are not really poor, the encouragement given to tastes like these is of the smallest. The children are not kept about the homes. They are allowed to go out, and seek their friends outside. To me it seems, I earnestly hope I may be wrong, that home life is less and less fostered in this colony. Amongst the poorer people that you know, how many homes are there where the children, just growing up, are encouraged to have their friends occasionally, to work together and amuse one another, under the eye of father and mother? How much interchange of small hospitality is there in this way? What efforts are made to keep the young folks in in the evenings, to enjoy themselves at home? Companionship they will have; if not at home, then outside: if not freely and openly, then surreptitiously. And the years when they are growing up are just the years when they learn to do mischief, just the years when they most need the restraint of home, the watchful eye of father and mother. In some way or other we must try to stimulate a sense of the value of quiet pleasant home life, of the necessity for keep ng the children within its influence A walk through Wellington in the evening will afford plenty of proof of the need of this. And I think the need will in part be met by the means I have already mentioned. And no question that I know of is more important to us who wish to see the use of alcoholic liquors discontinued. We must, in the children growing up, substitute healthy tastes for unhealthy ones, healthy interests and occupations for unhealthy ones in their leisure hours. I believe that Prohibition would be impossible in our cities with the present conditions of home life obtaining. In America, Prohibition has been a suc-

cess chiefly in the sparsely populated dis-The system of State Prohibition has been abandoned in the States with the greatest density of population amongst those which have tried it. That is a fact which should teach us a lesson worth learning. We must make our city life different from what it is in America if we want to make Prohibition a possibility. We can do it if we begin now. If we do not begin now, we shall find the same results ensue as in America. The main tendencies of city life are the same all the world over. There is, therefore, a plain duty cast upon us, if we wish to aid in this work of temperance reform, we must become earnest advocates of, and, so far as lies in our power, earnest workers for municipal reform and education reform. I do not mean that we are to support any and every glowing scheme that may be propounded. We are to discriminate between sound and unsound, for otherwise the work of progress would ulti-mately be retarded. We must be citizens in the fullest sense of the word, realizing that in this direction, perhaps even more than in legislation, lies the best solution of our problem. The schools, the local boards and councils, are all means to our end. Nor do I mean that we should endeavour to create a temperance party in local politics. That must be very clearly understood; for anything approaching such a result might possibly be fatal to our desires. More often than not an ulterior motive tends to defeat the immediate object. It is enough for us to know that the end we seek is not alone the immediate reform

we advocate, though that in itself is good. If we obtrude the ultimate aim we introduce an element of discord that cannot possibly serve any good purpose. If we go into these things we must go simply as citizens, working heartily with those who are opposed to our views on temperance questions as well as with those who support us. Paul, if you remember, found it expedient to be "all things to all men." Our cause would not suffer if some of us borrowed a little of his worldly wisdom. Some of you, perhaps, will think my suggestions far-fetched and a little strained. I am growing more and more convinced that the kind of life I have endeavoured just to hint at for our people is what we shall have to aim at if we want to achieve our end-a life full of bright, healthy, interesting occupation and I have not tried to exhaust the recreation possible means by which to attain the end: I have simply put the idea forth as it has occurred to me more than once, and I know that if it seems worth acting upon, each of you will find your own experience suggesting innumerable similar ways in which your activity can be employed towards the same end.

I would not have it thought that I am ignorant of, or that I place insufficient value upon the work which the Society, in its many branches, is doing at present. Many of the ideas which I have tried to express are the outcome of suggestions which I have received from the work which the Society already does. And none of the methods I have mentioned need, so far as I can see, interfere with its present usefulness. Before I close, however, I want to suggest an extension of some of the society's present undertakings. Amongst the best work of the Christchurch branch, almost the most valuable is, I think, the Temperance Booth at the annual Agricultural Show. am not aware whether other branches of the Society have adopted the same idea, but I do think it is an idea which ought to be put into operation at every large Show in the colony. It serves the double purpose of providing a temperance luncheon and refreshment room, and of furnishing the Society with funds, and it is a conspicuous success in both directions.

any time of the day, business men might drop in and enjoy comparative privacy for a conversation over a cup of tea or coffee. The establishment should also provide a plain luncheon of grills and fish and sweets, and a light afternoon tea. But the main points should be that it should be appropriated to the use of men only, and that they should be able to use it at any time during the day, and procure their cup of coffee when they wanted it. I would suggest, also, the addition of a smoking room, because I believe that that would greatly add to its attractiveness. And I feel assured that an establishment of the kind would work wonders in accustoming men to do without the public-houses, which are now the only resorts for the purpose. It might be made available, too, for meetings of socie-

ties and clubs, of which so many are now held at hotels. Then there is another institution which need not wait the slower process of municipal development. That is, the social club for working men,—a place where men might gather, as they do in the University Settlement Clubs in London, and spend their evenings together, over their game of billiards, or chess, or cards, and enjoy their pipe or cup of coffee in comfortable and friendly surroundings. A place of that kind is badly needed in the winter evenings in our New Zealand towns, and would materially assist in counteracting the influence of the public house, which is the only place of social resort available now.

Many of you, no doubt, know the story which Rowntree and Sherwell tell of the conversation between the Bishop of Stepney and a publican whom he happened to come across in hospital. The publican, on learning who the Bishop was, enquired after several members of a men's club, established by the Oxford House Settlement, with which the Bishop was connected. The Bishop asked how he knew them. "Oh," he said, "they were regular customers of mine before they joined your club. I had a public house close by." "Are you still there?" the Bishop asked. "No, sir; I've moved a little farther off."

Nor have I any doubt that if the Society decided to start such an institution it would meet with warm support and monetary assistance from many public and business men in this and other towns. Actual practical work of this kind does undoubtedly far more in the direction of influencing men than any amount of persuasive talk or argument. And it is men chiefly whom we want to influence. we can do it by ministering to their comfort it is surely a better way than by "boreing" them with our arguments. In the long run I think we shall find that it is our practical work which is productive of the best results. and I believe that if we systematicall extend that, we shall be strengthening our position and weakening the enemy's defences every

REPORT

Of the Sixteenth Annual Convention of the New Zealand Women's Christian Temperance Union,

HELD IN WELLINGTON, MARCH 20, 1901

MEMBERS OF CONVENTION.

Presid nt, Mrs Schnackenberg; Corresponding Secretary, Miss Barnett; Recording Secretary, Mrs A. R. Atkinson; Treasurer, Mrs Hill. Vice Presidents: Auckland, Mrs Thorne; New Plymouth, Mrs Douglass; Hawera, Miss Maunder; Palmerston, Mrs Plimmer; Gisborne, Mrs Webb: Wellington, Mrs Kirk; Nelson, Mrs Smallev; Christchurch, Mrs Malcolm; Kaiapoi, Mrs Blackwell; Greymouth, Mrs Gaskin, District Officers—Secretaries: Napier, Mrs Houlder Palmerston, Miss Barry; Wellington, Miss Kirk, Mrs Taylor (Corresponding); Kaiapoi, Mrs Soulby; Blenheim, Mrs Griffin; Invercargill, Mrs E. B. Jones, District Treasurer; Wellington, Miss Wilkinson; Delegates

Tariki, Mrs Jemison; Okaiawa, Miss Gillings; Wanganui, Mrs Cocker; Ormondville; Miss Patterson; Feilding, Mrs Thompson; Masterton, Mrs Burton; Sanson Mrs Crichton; Wellington, Mrs Wright; Petone, Mrs Huggins; Christchurch, Miss Roberts; Dune-din, Miss Powell; White Ribbon Editor, Mrs Sheppard; Manager, Mrs Smith.

MINUTES OF WELLINGTON CONVENTION.

MARCH 21-MORNING SESSION.

The Convention was opened by singing "Blest be the tie," and a prayer meeting led by Mrs Schnackenberg.

Roll was called, 25 members answering to

their names.

Minutes of concluding session of Auckland Convention were read and confirmed.

Mrs Boxall and Mrs Fulton were appointed

a Committee on Courtesies.

Reporters were appointed as follows:—
"Press Agency," Miss Powell.
"Evening Post" and "N. Z. Times," Miss Maunder.

"The Outlook," Mrs Malcolm.
"The Baptist," Mrs Crichton.

" Primitive Methodist," Mrs Jones.

The President's address was read and re-

ceived with applause.

The adoption of the address was moved by Mrs Douglass, seconded by Mrs Plimmer, spoken to by Mrs Soulby, and carried by ac-

Greetings from Queensland President, Auckland Union, and Miss Anna Gordon were

A message of greeting from the Dean of Waiapu was delivered by Mrs Hill, who read the Treasurer's Report and Balance Sheet; Miss Powell moved and Mrs Plimmer seconded the adoption of the Balance Sheet, coupled with a hearty vote of thanks to Mrs Hill. Carried unanimously. A letter was received from Miss Henderson asking for suggestions as to subjects to be discussed by the National Council of Women in 1902.

Resolved: That the Council be requested to include in its programme a paper on Scientific Temperance Instruction in Public Schools.

The noon-tide hour was observed by a chain

Miss Roberts read her report as delegate to the National Council of Women and received a vote of thanks.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The opening hymn was, "Oh, for a faith," followed with prayer by Mrs Blackwell.

Roll was called, 28 members answering to their names.

Minutes of morning session were read and confirmed.

Greetings from Greymouth Union were received

The Corresponding Secretary's Report was read and adopted.

Mrs Smalley, President of Nelson, was welcomed to Convention.

Reports of Dunedin Sailors' Rest, and Relief and Juvenile Work Departments were read.

Miss Powell gave a long and interesting account of her trip to England and the meetings of the London and Elinburgh Conventions, and received the hearty thanks of the meeting.

MARCH 22, MORNING SESSION.

9.30. a.m. The prayer meeting was led by Miss Maunder.

Roll was called, 26 members answering to by taking up a collection in aid on Monday their names.

Minutes of previous session were read and confirmed.

The Report of Evangelistic work was read, and it was resolved that a footnote be added mentioning the work done by Invercargill and Ocean Beach Unions, reported by the Invercargill delegate.

Greetings from Miss Minchin and Mrs

Kirkland were received.

Reports of Hawera and Pungarehu Home Meetings, Sabbath Observance, Maori Work were read.

Resolved: That the Rev Robert Hadden be invited by the Unions to visit them and stir up interest in work among the Maori people, the Superintendent of Maori work to organise the work.

Report from Press Superintendent was read. The Business Manager of the WHITE RIBBON and the Editor laid the matter of the paper before Convention and it was fully discussed and adjourned at noon till Monday

Miss Powell led the noon-tide prayer.

At 12.15 Rev F. W. Isitt was introduced and requested the Convention's help in the proposed visit of Miss Florence Balgarnie; he desired that the N. Z. Unions should endeavour to collect £50 towards the expenses.

Resolved: That the Convention heartily thank Rev F. W. Isitt for his explanation, and assure him of our hearty sympathy and earnest

practical help.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

After prayer by Mrs Burton, roll was called, 30 members answering to their names.

Minutes of previous session were read and

Report of Literature Department was read. Resolved: That congratulations on her admirable conduct of the Literature Department be sent to the Superintendent.

Resolved: That the Legal and Parliamentary Superintendent be requested to take steps to secure legislation forbidding the sale of tobacco and cigarettes to children.

afternoon.

Resolved that :-

A. This Convention strongly protests against the proposal:

To legalise the sale of liquor, under any system, in the King Country, and urges that section 33 of the "Alcoholic Liquors Sale Control Act Amendment Act, 1895," be made applicable to the District, and that

> (a) It believes it to be the duty of 11 civilized governments to protect aboriginal races from self-destruction by drink.

the prohibitory laws be stringently en-

- (b) It regards the proposal to with draw this protection from the King Country Maoris as an inconsistent and wholly unjustifiable abandonment, in this particular, of the general policy of protection that the Government of New Zealand has hitherto adopted towards them in this and other matters.
- (c) It holds that to grant any form of licenses in the district would be a direct and dishonourable breach of the agreement made in April, 1885, between the then Premier and the Maoris, when permission was given for Europeans to enter the King Country and construct a railway therein.
- B. It urges Parliament to reject the undermentioned proposals made in the "Licensing Acts Amendment Bill, 1900," viz. : -
- To deprive the electors of the power they now possess to determine for themselves IN EACH ELECTORATE whether licenses shall, or shall not continue.
- To empower the Colonial Secretary to grant licenses for the convenience of tourists, regardless of the Option vote.
- To take a special vote by which a bare majority of the electors of the Colony can determine on an extension to six years of the term between the submission of Local Option issues to the voters
 - (a) It regards this proposal as wholly opposed to the principle of the Referendum, inasmuch as it would enable whatever party might be for the time being in a majority to disfranchise themselves and their opponents.
 - (b) It urges that the result might be to confer on the liquor monopolists of the Colony an extension of the unique privilege they already enjoy in holding a three years' tenure of licenses, instead of the annual tenure which rules in all other parts of the English-speaking world.
 - (c) It recognises that such an extension of the term could only result in strengthening the vested interests of the liquor traffic, and in enabling it to still further defy public control.
- To take from the people the Reduction Vote without again conferring on Licensing Committees the discretionary power to reduce.

Kesoiveu : | 1 mat the Convention express its hearty appreciation of the action of her Majesty Queen Alexandra in omitting alcoholic beverages for the men at the banquet provided by her for the returning troops.

Resolved : That this Convention tenders to Lord Roberts its hearty thanks for the impetus given to temperance work throughout the world by the noble stand he has taken again t the

use of alcohol by the troops.

Resolved: That this Convention deeply regrets the action of the Government in supplying drink to the Imperial troops at Wellington and Auckland after the local Committees had decided against doing so.

Resolved: That as this Convention heartily approves of the proposal to establish a School for Maori Girls at Auckland in memory of our late beloved Queen it should show its sympathy

- C. It urges that such drastic changes as are referred to in Clauses B1 and B2 above should not be even submitted to Parliament until the people have considered and pronounced upon them at the next General Election.
 - (a) It reminds the Representatives of the people that 280,000 voters availed themselves in December, 1899, of the powers they possess to vote in the Local Option issues in the Electorates, and that no public request has been made by any of them for the substitution of Provincial Option Districts.
 - (b) It urges that the proposals objected to in these resolutions are all distinctly retrogressive, and un worthy of the Parliament and people of a Colony that claims to be in the van of Liberal legisla-

The resolutions submitted previously to the National Council of Women were reaffirmed.

Resolved: That in view of the increase of drunkenness we make an earnest effort to celebrate the dawn of the new Century by securing 1000 new pleges; and that Convention urges the Unions to make a house to house canvass for pledges, and to take such other means as commend themselves to attain this end and to report the result to the next Con-

Mrs Sheppard read a paper on "The Public Health Acts," and after some discussion of the subject a vote of thanks to her was passed.

At 4 o'clock Mrs Allen, M.A., LL.B., read a paper on "Some Indirect Methods of Tem-perance Reform." A most interesting discussion ensued and a hearty vote of thanks was carried by acclamation.

The Report of the Newtown's Girl's Room was read and also that of Scientific Temperance

Instruction.

Convention closed with the benediction.

MARCH 25-MORNING SESSION.

Prayer meeting was led by Mrs Webb.

Roll was called, 27 members answering to their names.

Minutes of previous session were read and confirmed.

Adjourned discussion of the White Rib-BON was resumed.

Promises of money towards the debit balance were made, and also promises to obtain new subscribers.

Resolved: That the Editor, Sub-editor, and Business Manager be re-elected with hearty thanks for past services.

Resolution proposed: That Convention appoint an organising agent to work in the in-

terests of the Union.

After full discussion it was resolved that Convention gratefully receives the scheme suggested by Mr Isitt, and assures the Alliance Executive of its hearty co-operation in making the work of Miss Roberts and Miss Powell successful. Mrs Cocker laid before the Convention specimen copies of the Good Templar "Watchword," which were received with

Noon-tide hour was led by Miss Barnett. Miss Powell laid plans for collecting sub-

scriptions by accepting fractional subscription for part of a year.

MARCH 25-AFTERNOON SESSION.

After singing and prayer by Mrs Cocker roll was called, 32 members answering to their names.

The Report of the Legal and Parliamentary Department was read, and by request Mr A. R. Atkinson addressed the Convention on the subject of Party Government, and replied to questions on the new Municipal Franchise. After a full discussion a hearty vote of thanks to him was passed.

Resolved : That the Rev R. Wood, of Masterton, be assured of the earnest sympathy of the Convention in his sad bereavement, and that the Secretary write to Masterton Union conveying the condolences of the Convention.

Resoived: That women be appointed as

Visiting Justices to our prisons.

Resolved: That this Convention respectfully urges upon the Government the desir-ability of placing the camp of any future con-tingents at a much greater distance from the

Resolved: That this Convention views with distress the alarming increase of criminal ast saults upon children and respectfully urges that such severe sentences may be passed as will act as a deterrent.

Resolved: That the members of this Convention, realizing that ponest administration of all law is of the very arst importance, pledge themselves to vote only for candidates of in-dependence and of sterling character, irrespective of party.

Resolved: That the members of this Convention pledge themselves to vote only for those candidates who may be trusted to resist, any attempt to restrict the right of the people to deal by direct vote ith the Liquor Traffic in all its branches and to phold the pledge given

to the Maoris of the King Country.

Resolved: That the members of the W.C.T.U. of New Zealand in Convention assembled desire to convey through your Excellency to the Royal Family their heartfelt grief and regret at the great loss they have sustained through the passing away of our beloved Queen Victoria of blessed and glorious memory, and pray that her illustrious son, His Majesty King Edward VII, may have God's blessings showered upon

him throughout a long and prosperous reign.

Proposed resolution: That this Convention, having regard to the sacred character of human life, is of opinion that capital punishment should be abolished.

After some discussion it was decided by a large majority not to put this resolution to the vote.

Convention closed by singing the doxology.

MARCH 26TH-MORNING SESSION.

After a prayer meeting, led by Mrs Wright, roll was called, 27 members answering to their

Minutes of previous meeting were read, amended, and confirmed.

Amendment to Art. III of Constitution, of which notice of motion was given by L. M. Kirk, at Auckland Convention, was carried :-

That no proxy shall be appointed for any local Union that should not have sent beside the authority for such appointment, voting directions on any proposed amendment to the Constitution and on the election of New Zealand Officers.

Mrs Webb read the report of the Social Purity Department, which was fully discussed.

Resolved: That this Department be called in future the Purity Department.

All the reports of Departments read were adopted.

Motion ordered to lie on the table at Auck-

land was brought forward :-To amend Constituiton to provide that no member of Convention shall have more than

one vote. Postponed for another year's consideration. The election of New Zealand Officers then took place.

> L. M. ATKINSON, Recording Secretary.

Resolved: That Miss Powell may nominate an assistant whose privilege it shall be to at-

Miss Barnett was then appointed Assistant

Corresponding Secretary.

At the request of Miss Ware, Superintendent World's Department of Anti-Gambling, this department was included.

Mrs Webb read report of Gisborne Coffee and Free Reading rooms, which was satisfactory.

It was decided that Mrs A. R. Atkinson and Mrs Cocker should represent New Zealand Union at Women's National Council at Wanganui Mrs Plimmer and Mrs Wright at Prohibition League Convention in Palmerston North in May, and Mrs A. R. Atkinson on New Zealand Atliance Executive Committee.

The subject of grants was then dealt with :-Legal and Parliament ry, £1; WHITE RIB. BON (extra printing) £10; Maori work, 10s; Press work, 10s; and other departments 5s.

It was resolved to give a grant of 5s to each of the Organising agents, also that a hearty vote of thanks and a grant of £1 be conveyed to the Auditor of the New Zealand Balance Sheet.

Additional grant of 10s was made to Department of Maori work, such moneys to be taken from fund collected, amounting to 30s, for purchase of literature for distribution at Paris Exhibition.

Invitations were received from Unions at Invercargill, Greymouth and Palmerston North for 1902 Convention, all gratefully received, and that of Palmerston North accepted with thanks.

Votes of thanks were passed to the-

(1) Kind hostesses of delegates and Hospitality Committee.

(2) The Press.

- (3) The Managers of Trinity Wesleyan Church.
- (4) The Pastor and Deacons of Vivian St. Baptist Church.

Convention was closed by singing "God be with you till we meet again."

C. E. BARRY.

Recording Secretary

The President's Address.

DEAR WHITE RIBBON SISTERS,-

Each year as we meet at our Convention we are persuaded that it is the most eventful year of our history, whether as British subjects or Temperance workers. Surely we shall not be questioned if we claim for the past year that it carried with it the most stirring events of our times, and that this has been the most momentous we have experienced since our organisation as a branch of the W.C.T.U.

"The South African War," has necessitated the gathering together from all parts of the Colony several contingents of young men who volunteered for active s rvice for the Empire, causing desolation in many homes, and sad bereavement; some survive to tell of heroic deeds, and some have returned for further service. The homes of many of our sisters have thus been broken into, though "the boys" have not been held back, yet mother-love has sorrowfully bid them Godspeed. Our sympathies are with those mothers, and we pray that God will spare useful lives and restore the loved ones to their homes.

" The World's Biennial Convention" has been held in Edinburgh since our last meeting, but as Miss Powell attended as our delegate. I need not enlarge, as she will tell us of its doings. I should like to say here that I am sure the addresses of Miss Clara Parrish, after four years' sojourn in Japan, travelling and organising among our Eastern sisters, would be an inspiration and encouragement to anyone who could try to do likewise. Then "our own " Mrs Barney, loved and honoured for her efforts of reform among prisoners and outcasts-we all remember her Bible-readings, a source of instruction, and means of grace, for days to come. But I must pause, or Miss Powell will think I am trespassing. She will also tell us of the Temperance Congress, invited by the Archbishop of Canterbury, and including representatives from Temperance organisations from all parts of the world. We have been reminded that a former gath ring of Temperance workers was held in the year 1846, not one woman was present and very few clergymen of any denomination, you will be told of the progress of the cause as shown in the large audiences at these meetings.

"The New Century" has dawned, the time looked forward to, as bringing in so many possibilities in all kinds of reform. Scarcely had we started on its new-born days when the news reached us of the serious illness of our beloved Queen, and tho' many prayers were offered for her recovery, and hopes were indulged that she might be spared, all had a sad ending on the 22nd January, when flags.

half-mast, muffled bells, and booming guns told us "The Queen is dead." Never shall we forget the sense of loss which these tokens indicated, and now we pray from our hearts, "God save the King." So much has been said and written of the excellences, and sterling good qualities of our late much revered Queen, that we feel at a loss to add one word to what has already gone forth. We shall ever love and revere the memory of "Victoria the Good," and pray that the mantle of her goodness may fall on her successors, and that religious freedom may ever be the heritage of the British Nation.

This Colony has been visited by those of the Imperial troops and Indian Contingent, who came out to Australia to take part in the

be the result of the resolutions passed at this Convention. May the Lord bless and strengthen us all for the work He has designed for each to do, while we give Him all the praise for any success in the past.

Yours in White Ribbon bonds,

A. J. SCHNACKENBERG.

Corresponding Secretary's Report,

tne less effectual, for we are convinced that all work done in God's name will bear good good fruit. From some of our smaller Unions, we gain encouragement, by their strong faith and persistency in spite of many drawbacks.

During the year God has called home Mrs Robjohns, of Gisborne, at the ripe age of ninety-three, the oldest member in New Zealand. We rejoice for her, but tender our sympathy to those of her family who miss their loved one. During the past twelve months four Unions have disbanded. Thames through Mining depre-sion, some members leaving the district for the uncertain prospects of others. Miss Stone has worked hard and done her best to keep things together and will still work for Temperance principles. Turakina, on account of two of their members leaving the district, and others who find it impossible to attend meetings, have thought it advisable to disband Amberley disbanded as a Union, but all members joined and work

with another Temperance Society. Wallacetown ceased to hold meetings, but take the White Ribbon and pay their subscriptions to Invercargill. Two new Unions have been formed; one at Ponsonby, Auckland, and one at Okato, New Plymouth.

Wellington heads the list with 92 paid members, Rongotea with 15 honorary. Kaiapoi, Napier, New Plymouth, Auckland have each held twenty-four ordinary meetings. Petone six public ones. Greymouth carries the palm for new pledges, eighteen for the year.

Many of our Unions took an active part in the Licensing Committee Elections. Wanganui, Auckland, and Leeston were successful in placing their Candidates at the head of the

poll.

Many of our Unions feel that it is more blessed to give than to receive, and in helping others we ourselves are blessed. Waianiwa raised £40 towards Indian Relief Fund. Several other Unions assisted this deserving object. Palmerston North, assisted by Rongotea and other Unions, held Sewing meetings and filled boxes with clothing and useful articles, to be sent to our soldiers in South Africa.

It is pleasing to note that our Unions do all they can to relieve poverty and sickness, and many have visiting members to Hospitals and other Charitable Institutions.

The New Zealand Alliance has been assisted by some Unions, but it is in the form of petitions and resolutions that the work of our Unions show most this year With very few exceptions, each Union has sent resolutions to the Premier and their member re Liquor in the King Country, Scientific Temperance Instruction in Schools, Liquor Control Amendment Bill, and Removal of Women's Disabilities. Dunedin did good work with regard to the first, and obtained over 8000 names to a petition protesting against liquor being sold. Many of our small Unions worked with a will to obtain signatures to the petition for Scientific Temperance Instruction. New Plymouth obtained over 1000 names.

Auckland approached the Council re Juvenile Depravity, and asked that the curfew ordinance should be brought into force, with the hope that this would protect the young of both sexes from many temptations. They also asked that a by-law be framed prohibiting boys under fourteen smoking in public places. One of our Unions sent a resolution to our House of Representatives re expectorating on footpaths or public places.

Gisborne has succeeded with their Refreshment and Reading Rooms. The latter is free, and much appreciated. Kaiapoi also has improved and enlarged their Coffee Rooms. Cheering notes come from our Sailors' Rests, and all Unions near a seaport distribute literature and do what they can to brighten the lives of our brave sailors.

Auckland, New Plymouth, and Christchurch Unions do a grand work in the form of providing refreshments without alcohol at the Agricultural Shows.

Literature is distributed by all our Unions, and we reach in this way many who would or could not come to Temperance meetings.

Band of Hope work has not been forgotten, and many Unions make the work amongst children their chief branch. Some are conducted on L.T.L. lines. New Plymouth and Midhust give Scientific Temperance Lessons. Tapanui arranged a concert to raise funds for the purchase of an organ, which would tend

to make meetings more attractive. Invercargill, Wellington, and Wanganui send encouraging reports of their work amongst

young girls.

Whilst we praise God with thankful hearts for what we have been enabled to do in the past, we realise the great need of earnest, practical, prayerful work in the future, especially amongst mothers, who have the training of our boys and girls, and who, on account of various home duties, cannot often attend public meetings, and who would be helped and encouraged in their work by visits from our White Ribbon sisters. Let us not be discouraged, but press on with the full assurance that God is on our side, and with Him we can overcome all difficulties.

> Yours in the work, LYDIA BARNETT.

REPORTS OF DEPARTMENTS.

LITERATURE.

It is with pleasure that I have to report that good work is being done in this department. Although only three Unions have sent me a report, the fact that twenty-eight Unions have been supplied with literature during the year in smaller or larger quantities is an indication that good and faithful work is being done.

Auckland reports that leaflets have been supplied for a box in the Kailway Station and waiting rooms; also distributed at various meetings, at the Agricultural Show, and at the reception of the Imperial troops in the

Lyttelton reports that tracts have been distributed among the seamen attending the "Rest," and parcels of tracts and leaflets have also been supplied to vessels leaving port for the use of the seamen. The Union Signal is taken regularly by this Union.

Wanganui has a box in the Railway Station, which has been regularly supplied with leaf-

lets and periodicals.

When this department was given to me last year a grant of £5 was made for working expenses, but the department was in debt £10 1s to Mrs Harrison Lee for literature. As that lady was just leaving Australia for a lengthy stay in England, she wrote to me asking for a settlement of her account. The £5 grant was devoted to this purpose, and an effort was made to pay off Mrs Lee's account; £9 was sent as soon as it was obtained, and the remaining £1 1s forwarded to her in London. five months later. We were then out of debt, also quite out of funds, and in need of saleable stock, it having been reduced in order to raise the amount required. This department cannot be worked without money, so, with the assistance of my daughter, we collected among friends of our work sufficient of the "needful to replenish the stock of leaflets, etc.

The various Unions were notified of literature on hand, and the response on their part has been most encouraging. Fresh supplies have been obtained from America, from Eng-

land, and by printing in Auckland.

Several friends not connected with any Union have written to me and obtained literature to help them in their personal efforts in the Temperance cause. This is to me a source of gladness, that we can assist other workers, even if it is in a small way. Having a large quantity of literature on the C.D. Act in my care, I have been able to supply this to some nice supply of literature on hand-not a large stock, but nicely assorted,—amounting to £14 9s 8d; also a balance in hand for working expenses of £4 8s 8d. It is very necessary that a more liberal allowance for correspondence should be granted to this department than to others, because the correspondence is much larger. Within the year 120 letters were written in connection with the work; 6 Post Office orders and 45 parcels were sent out by post or parcel delivery, costing £2 15s 5 d for postage.

I would also remind friends (who have not done so) that by sending money with their

order the expense in postage is less.

In the years which follow the Local Option poll, as well as that which precedes it, we need to educate and influence individual and public opinion on this subject. In no way can this be done better than by the distribution of suitable literature. Just before the election last year a gentleman in one of our suburbs, speaking to a friend who was discussing the Prohibition question, said, "It was through reading that leaflet. 'The Great Experiment.' that I was converted to the Prohibition views." Facts like this encourage us to "sow beside all waters," believing that God will bless our efforts, and that many may be reached by these silent messengers who could not be influenced in other ways.

A new list of the literature on hand will be sent to the White Ribbon, and I trust that every one will assist heartily in making this very useful department a great success.

The balance-sheet for the past year is as

Receipts -From Mrs May, March 2, 1900, £2 3s 6 d: Mrs Hill, N. Z Treasurer, £5 0s; collected, £5 5s; by sale of literature, £13 17s 7s; total, £26 6s 1½d. Expenditure.—Mrs Harrison Lee, £10 1s; type-writing, 8s; printing, £5; ditto, Constitutions, £1 8s 6d; imported literature, England, 5s, America, £1 16s: postage and P.O. orders, £2 15s 51d; carrier, 2s; pledge books, 1s 6d; total expenses, £21 17s 54d. Balance in hand £4 8s 8d.

H. J. HUGHES, Superintendent.

EVANGELISTIC.

Your Superintendent visited Timaru Sailors' Rest. A good work is carried on there by the members of the W.C.T. Unions, Rev Mr Gillies and others interested taking part. I am a frequent visitor at the Sailors' Rest, Dunedin, and happy to report that the soul-saving work still continues with blessed results. Lyttelton Branch still visits the Sailors' Rest there on Sunday evenings, from 8 to 9 o'clock, and sing Sankey's hymns. I am sorry it is all they are allowed to do, the building not being their own. I hear of no good work at the Bluff Sailors' Rest. The delegate for Invercargill reported that this Rest is constantly visited by members of Invercargill and Ocean Beach Unions with encouraging results.

The usual Temperance sermons were preached again in most of the churches throughout New

The reports from the newly-formed branches are very meagre, but promise better work in the future. Some of our younger members are working in conjunction with Christian Endeavours, which is a good move. The reports from the Unions which are doing work

who required it free of charge. I have now a in this department are very much the same as your Superintendent reported last year. In some there has been a spiritual uplifting. Special meetings for prayer have been held for missionaries in China and other parts of the benighted world, also for our soldiers on the battle field. This has been a record year indeed in our history as a people, and God's children have much need to plead in earnest with God the Lord, who is mightier than the waves of the sea. For there has been, and is still, sore trouble over the world-plague, famine, wars, and much sorrow and bereavements. The "Lord reigneth," and as sure as 'the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it," so surely shall the Lord bless our instrumentality in hastening on the day when the kingdoms of this world shall become the Kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ.

M. H. KIRKLAND, Superintendent.

SOCIAL PURITY AND RESCUE WORK.

I have to report returns from eight Unions: -Auckland, Dunedin, Greymouth, Invercargill, Kaiapoi, Napier, Nelson and Wanganui.

Only two (Auckland and Invercargil!), report any Social Purity work, and one (Wanganui) Rescue work. I do not, however, think that this entirely represents the amount of work done during the year. It is, of course, mainly in the large centres that there is much opportunity for this kind of work, but I think something might be done, and ought to be done, in all our Unions in the way of rousing mothers to a sense of their responsibility in

AUCKLAND has been active in many ways, chiefly in trying to arouse public opinion on many important subjects connected with Social Parity, and this Union seems thoroughly alive to the importance of the work.

INVERCARGILL is doing excellent work with its Victoria Home for Friendless girls, which seems to combine Preventive and Rescue work. 15 girls were admitted during the year, and these seem to have received lasting good in

Wanganui reports two cases undertaken to rescue girls from lives of sin.

GISBORNE has undertaken no special Purity or Rescue work as a Union, but several of the members have assisted cases that came under their notice and have been cheered and encouraged by the success of their efforts. I have no doubt that there is a good deal of earnest work of this kind taken up by members of our Unions, though done privately.

NELSON has purchased literature and intends to commence work shortly. A good deal has been done outside the Union by other agencies, the Rev F. Chatterton having held meetings for men and given addresses on Social Purity, while Mrs Chatterton has had meetings

for women and girls.

I wish more of our Unions would distribute literature. I have plenty of well-written booklets and leaflets for girls, which any mother would give with advantage to her own daughters or to young friends. I bave also a great many booklets intended to educate and help mothers. I do not think the time has yet come when we can relax our efforts to make our people pure in mind and body, nor do I think such a time will come until mothers understand and realize more fully their individual responsibility to God in the matter.

MARIA WEBB.

Superintendent.

INFLUENCING THE PRESS.

No grant having been sent to me for last year I could not communicate by letter with the Unions, and an appeal through the WHITE REBBON resulted in two reports being sent to me, one from Wellington, and one from Wanganui. Little therefore has been accomplished through the department this year. Christchurch Union advertises several matters connected with our work in the daily papers, and reports of our meetings are always sent to the dailies and publishers. Correspon ence also has been sent by the members on subjects in which the Union is interested. Miss Roberts, our Christchurch delegate, has a scheme in hand for influencing the Press which I strongly endorse. I trust she will explain it to Convention, and that the various delegates may see their way to adopt it in their own districts. Ill-heaith prevents me from attending Convention, which I much regret. God's richest blessing rest upon our Unions everywhere.

FANNY COLE,

Superintendent.

JUVENILE WORK.

The Report I have pleasure in presenting

to you for 1900 is as follows :-

The Marton L.T.L. has held eight meetings during the year, which have increased in interest and membership each month. In August the plan was adopted of throwing all meetings open to all comers, old and young, and visitors were invited from neighbouring towns to speak, the children being the chief performers. There is a highly satisfactory roll of 108 members, 22 having joined this year.

The Wanganui Girls' class has considerably fallen off through various causes, but after a recess of three months, it is hoped that fresh interest will be manifested. Garments have been made and given to the children, who have contributed pence for purchasing material. Others have bought and made up their own stuff, temperance instruction meanwhile being given.

GREYMOUTH.—The Young People's Willard Society (senior grade) has done good work, and held successful meetings during the year. The L.T.L. has been dropped for the year, lacking helpers, but hopes are entertained of restarting during 1901.

Sanson L.T.L. has held very satisfactory meetings under the direction of Mrs Crichton. and a slight increase of membership has been reported.

During the year past I have had printed and received orders for upwards of a thousand handsome pledge cards for young people.

Also I sent to America for a large parcel of books for Juvenile work, and have received orders from New Plymouth, Waverley, Turakina, Marton, Halcombe, Mangaweka, Nelson, and Rangiora, which were supplied.

JESSIE SPENCE, Superintendent.

RELIEF WORK.

Our Unions have done much good work unostentatiously, and that upon lines recommended, which are adapted to the wants of different localities and persons. Some Unions have not established this department, knowing that the Churches and other Christian organisations are quite willing and able to cope with the wants of the needy in their districts. To many of my letter cards I have received prompt

and courteous replies, others reply more tardily, and some forget to do so. Wanganui sends a good report. One Maternity-bag is so much in use, that a second is about to be purchased. Several families were helped with food and clothing during the year. One family was especially carel for while the father was undergoing imprisonment. One of the W.C.T.U members is the president of the Dorcas Society. Kaiapoi sends no formal report, but cards and help of other kinds have been given, and several visits were made to those in need. New Plymouth reports really execl-lent work. A Maternity-bag is in good use. Chests containing cast-off clothing are kept by members at the two extreme ends of the town and, clothes, with other necessaries, are distributed to many families.

Let me add a few words by way of suggestion. I found, while conducting this department locally in Christchurch and Wellington, that two Mother and Infant-loan bags lent for six weeks, containing three of each garment necessary for a baby's day wear and three of each necessary for night wear, as well as clothing for the mother, did good service, and were much appreciated. Temperance literature as well as Gospel tickets were enclosed for the parents and illuminated cards for the little ones. These we found disposed the parents towards W.C.T.U. workers and their views, and a good influence was set up.

A "Needy Children's Saturday Afternoon Sewing Class," at which all garments made are considered the property of the little workers, is an admirable adjunct to the W.C.T. Union.

AGNES CORLETT, Superintendent.

LEGAL AND PARLIAMENTARY.

A Petition relating to Scientific Temperance teaching in Public Schools was circulated early in the year among the Unions, and numerously signed by the members.

The reply of the Premier in June last to the deputation from the various Temperance Organisations that "Parliament would no longer forbid the sale of alcohol in the King Country," roused the Unions to action, many of them sending resolutions of protest against this attempt to play into the hands of the liquor sellers and to violate the promise made by the Government some years ago to the Maoris that no liquor would be allowed in their Country.

The Licensing Acts Amendment Bill was introduced in Parliament and passed its first reading amid strong protests. The atrocious proposals contained in this Bill, viz.: To greatly enlarge the Licensing Districts: to empower the Colonial Secretary to grant licenses for the convenience of tourists regardless of the local option vote; to take a special vote by which a bare majority of the electors of the Colony can increase the present licensing term of three years to six years; to legalise the sale of liquor in the King Country, were indignantly protested against by Temperance workers.

The Bill for the removal of Women's Disabilities passed its second reading early in last session, but was rejected in Committee. The discussion on the Bill in the House was anything but creditable to some of the members.

A circular letter was printed and sent by your Superintendents to every Union in New Zealand urging (1) that they should protest against the unworthy and illogical manner in which the Disabilities Bill was discussed in the House, (2) that they should affirm that the

artificial limitations placed on women are an tiquated and absurd, and ought not to be olerated in a young and free country, (3) that they should urge the Government to pass a measure for the Removal of the Civil and Political Disabilities of Women, (4) that they should forward the foregoing resolutions to the M.H. As of their respective districts.

A number of the branches cordially responded to this appeal. In reply to questions the Government announced that it did not intend introducing legislation with a view to removing the civil and political disabilities of women, feeling that the women did not want, and indeed, had not asked for such a measure. In face of the fact that nct only the New Zealand W.C.T.U., but most of the Women's Socreties in the Colony had been asking for this legislation for years past, the statement of the Government was curious, to say the least of it, The statement had the effect, however, of rousing the Women's Nati nal Council to issuing petition forms for signature by women, which were addressed to both Houses of our Legislature, and which asked that equality of opportun ty should be granted to all citizens irrepective of sex, capacity alone being the test.

In this action your Superintendents cooperated, and a letter was written to every W.C.T.U. branch throughout the Colony asking the memb rs to obtain signatures to the petition, copies of which were forwarded at the same time. Over twenty branches replied sympathetically and sent for petition forms. It is to be hoped that other branches may now fall into line an? take up this very important work. At the Canter ury District Convention, held this month, an address was given on the" Disabilities" question, and at Naseby the W.C.T.U. gave a Garden Party for the special purpose of collecting signitures. Letters and articles were published recently in the WAITE KIBBON, dealing with different aspects of the "Disabilities" question. During last session provision was made by Government for establishing two Inebriate Institutions, one for paying, and one for non-paying patients, but so far as we have seen, no steps have been taken towards making use of this provision.

The Stoke Orphanage enquiry excited much comment, and fresh legislation was introduced by the Government with a view to preventing similar scandalous occurrences. It is a question however, whether anything short of State control will protect the best interests of the children. The Christchurch W.C.T.U. organised a public meeting in October to discuss the whole question of Industrial Schools, at which it was contended that Industrial Schools and Reformatories should be made separate Institu-

Among the Bills dropped last session which interest us escially are:—The Young Persons Protection Bill, to which Auckland, Invercargill, Wanganui, Christchurch, Naseby, and other Unions have given a great deal of earnest consideration; the Totalisator Abolition, which, if passed, would help to minimise the gambling evil; the Elective Executive, which many believe would be at least a partial remedy against the present system of Government by Cabinet, and give us a purer administration; the Absolute Majority Vote, which would insure the representation of a majority in a district, and not merely a minority, which the present law allows.

In conclusion your Superintendents urge that the Union members should be alive to their responsibilities under the provisions of the Municipal Act passed last session. Practically every married woman has now a vote in the Municipality or Borough in which she lives, the qualifications for voting are either that of a freeholder to the value of £25, or a rate payer, or a tenant at a rental of not less than £10 a year. Husbands and wives have votes by virtue of property possessed by either, or by one of them being a ratepayer, or paying a rental of £10 a year. We should get our own as well as our neighbours' names on the municipal roli before April 9th, and then look about for the best and most rustworthy individuals who will serve the Cities and Boroughs faithfully, and for whom it should be a pleasure as well as a duty to cast our votes.

K. W. Sheppako,

L. M. ATKINSON, Superintendents.

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" For God, and Home, and Humanity."

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Miss Barnett, Leeston, Canterbury.

Recording Secretary:

Mrs A. R. Atkinson, Arbury, Wadestown, Wellington.

Treasurer:

MRS HILL, Bluff Hill, Napier

THE WHITE RIBBON -:0:

EDITOR-MRS SHEPPARD ... BOX 209 CH.CH ASSOCIATE EDITOR ... Miss L. M. SMITH

TREASURER AND BUSINESS MANAGER:

MRS W. S. SMITH, 201, Hereford Street, Christchurch.

DISTRIBUTING DEPARTMENT MRS VENABLES

Welcome to MISS RO

METAPHYSICAL CLUB ROOMS,

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 2.30 P.M.

MEMBERS and Friends of the Christchurch W.C.T.U. are invited to take Afternoon Tea with Miss Roberts, who will give an account of Convention.

The Telbide Ribbon:

FOR GOD AND HOME AND HUMANITY

TUISDAY, APRIL 16, 1901.

Our Illustration.

We have pleasure in giving to our readers the picture of Mrs A. R. Atkinson, our newly-appointed President.

Mrs Atkinson has ably served the N.Z. Union as Recording Secretary for fourteen years, so that the warmth of greeting which she received on taking the Presidential chair arose from a faith in her ability to guide the affairs of the W.C.T.U. which was based on a knowledge of her powers. Mrs Atkinson has also done a fair share of organising and educative work in the North Island. Her experience in this direction alone should prove useful to her in her new office, and the N. Z. Union will, happily, reap the benefit.

Greetings From Australia.

Our sisters over the sea sent loving greetings and all good wishes to our Convention through Mrs Rook, of Tasmania, Australasian W.C.T.U. Secre-Unfortunately the letter did not arrive until after Convention had dis-The kind thought will, howbanded. ever, be fully appreciated by those for whom it was intended.

CONVENTION NOTES.

CHANGE OF PRESIDENT.—Although the appointment of officers did not take place until the second last day of Convention, we feel constrained to note

this important event first.

Mrs Schnackenberg intimated that it was her wish not to be nominated again this year for the Presidency. Had it been in order, she would have had pleasure in nominating the new President herself. She had already acted as President for ten successive years, and whether in office or not, she would always feel a deep interest in the work. She warmly thanked the Unions for their uniform loyalty and kindness to Deep feelings of regret were expressed at this decision, and Mrs that signed by women of twenty-one

Schnackenberg could not but realise, after hearing their words of appreciation, that she held a warm place in the hearts of the members. Before Convention separated she was the recipient of a pretty silver-plated hot-water jug, which bore a suitable inscription. Mrs Schnackenberg has been made Vice-President-at-Large, so that she will still keep a motherly eye over our affairs.

THE BALANCE-SHEET. - Again has Mrs Hill's balance-sheet been declared a model of clearness and efficiency. The members were also loud in their expressions of satisfaction at the receipt books and printed balance-sheets which Mrs Hill had prepared for the use of local branches. The vote of thanks accorded her was by no means a matter of form but an expression of honest feeling;

Notices of Motion.—Two special notices of motion, brought forward last year, were discussed this year. first was to the effect that no local Union can appoint a proxy delegate without giving her, as well as her credentials, voting instructions on any proposed amendment to the Constitution, and on the election of New Zealand officers. This was carried unanimously, after a brief discussion. The discussion on the second motion, "To amend Constitution to provide that no member of Convention shall have more than one vote," showed clearly that the Unions generally had not considered the matter sufficiently, and so, on the vote of Convention, it was left over until next year. It is to be hoped that each Union will make a point of giving this motion due consideration, so that all delegates may be prepared to vote upon it when Convention next meets.

DISABILITIES PETITION.—The Legal Parliamentary Superintendents brought forward the question as to the earliest age at which women's signatures should be accepted to the petition. It was urged that girls from sixteen and upwards who were wage-earners suffered from the unequal wage which was paid to them, as well as from other disabilities, and therefore should be given an opportunity to sign. It was ascertained, however, that the House will not accept the signatures of minors, and therefore only women of twentyone should be asked to sign. But it was decided, also, that girls and women from sixteen to twenty-one should be asked to sign another petition form, bearing exactly the same heading, only that the persons who collect these names must witness the signatures, and keep the form entirely distinct from

of petition forms please make a special note of this.

THE "WHITE RIBBON."-During the discussion on our official organ, the Business Manager asked that 600 new subscribers might be gained, which, she said, would put the paper on a sound financial footing. Many present guaranteed new subscribers, but nothing approaching the number asked for. Convention recommended that the larger Unions should advertise their days and hours of meeting, also the names of their officers, in the WHITE RIBBON, at the rate of £1 per annum (the advertisement to appear each month), the smaller Unions to advertise more briefly at 10s. per annum. It was suggested, also, that steps should be taken by members to get the proprietors of Temperance Hotels and Coffee Palaces to advertise in the WHITE RIBBON. This would not only help financially, but would be useful to Temperance workers when travelling. It will, of cour e, be understood that only those hotels and boarding-houses which can be recom mended for cleanliness and comfort should be asked to advertise. It is sincerely to be hoped that all members will do their very best to adopt these suggestions, and so assist in making their paper a success in every way.

A NOTE OF SADNESS .- While Convention was sitting the sad tidings reached us that Mrs. Wood, wife of the Rev. Mr. Wood, and President of the Masterton W.C.T.U., had passed away. A resolution that a letter of sympathy should be sent to Mr. Wood by the Secretary was carried by a silent vote, the members standing. An "In Memoriam" paragraph is to be found below.

In Memoriam.

It is with feelings of the greatest sorrow that we have to record the tidings of the death of Mrs Wood, of Masterton. Mrs Wood was the wife of the Rev. R. Wood of that town, and President of the local Union.

Our dear friend and co-worker was connected with the Union as an active member from its initiation, and by that "ornament of a meek and quiet spirit" which was ever manifested in her life, endeared herself to all. The gap made in the Masterton Union cannot be easily filled, and the members will miss her counsel for a long time to come. At the last monthly meeting, held on April and, the business was suspended, and the time devoted to expressing sorrow at the loss of the President, and sym-

Will those members who have charge pathy with Mr Wood in his great bereave-A number of our departed ment. sister's admirers attended the meeting, thus by their presence testifying to their appreciation of her good and faithful

Welcome to Convention.

The Vivian Street Baptist Sunday Schoolroom, Wellington, presented a bright and festive appearance on the afternoon of March 20, when a welcome was given to the officers and deleates who had come from various parts of the Colony to attend Convention. All that thoughtful, loving, and artistic fingers could do to beautify the Schoolroom was done; the floral decorations being really beautiful, and a gladsome sight to both Convention members and visitors. The New Zealand W.C.T U. flag was in evidence, which, with festoons of "The Ribbon White" proclaimed the nature of the

The day was not one of the most sunny, yet in spite of the threatening clouds, a goodly number assembled to greet the W.C.T.U.

Mrs Kirk, President of the inviting Union, took the chair, and among others, Mrs Schnackenberg, our New Zealand President, and Mrs Barnett, Vice-President of the Wellington Union, took their seats on the platform. Mrs Kirk, in a graceful and telling speech, welcomed those present, expressing a hope that the coming week would be both pleasant and useful. She thought that our membership should be trebled, and if each member did her part that result would be easily accomplished. Like Lord Kitchener, the Union wanted Contingents in New Zealand, not wearers of khaki, but of the White Ribbon. Every woman should feel her responsibility. She welcomed among them that day a number of the ' lords of creation," including the Mayor of Wellington, who was a life-long abstainer, and a living proof that total abstinence was no disadvantage to a man in the way of physical as well as mental

The Mayor (Mr J. G. W. Aitken), in expressing plea ure at being present, said his life-long abstinence was due to his mother's teaching, which had carried him safely through many temptations. He hoped that the Convention would impart to the temperance cause an impetus that would be felt from Russell to the Bluff. He referred feelingly to the death of the Queen and considered that her successful reign was proot to the world that woman was capable of taking any position offered her. In connection with the war, he deplored the fact that the development of Militarism had been a companied by an outburst of drinking, and derided the courage that had to be sustained by beer.

Mr A. R. atkinson, M. H. R., said that in a democracy, the temperance cause, to be sugcessful, must not only have merit, but also votes behind it. Their object should be moral suasion, and votes duly registered at the bal-

Dr Newman, in an interesting address, said that he had noted several proofs of the decline of the drinking habit, and this was due to temperance organisation. Reformers should never be discouraged by checks. The temperance party should unite more closely than ever before if it expected to win.

The Rev C. Dallaston quoted Professor Drummond in saying that every atom could act upon every other atom in the universe, but it could only do so by acting upon the atom next it. That was a text for temperance workers.

The Rev F. W. Isitt said that at the beginning of the new Century, Prohibition was in a better position than it had ever been. The chief danger was the mistaken idea of State control. There was nothing in the reproach that Prohibition had failed in the King Country, because any spirit merchant could send his whole stock into the King Country whenever he liked. If men and women would only think he would be confident of success, and he rejoiced that English statesmen had become alarmed at the extent of the drink evil confronting them.

Mrs Schnackenberg paid a loving tribute to Frances Willard, and said that the New Zealand Unions, numbering 2000 members, were trying to bring in the Kingdom of Christ.

Miss Barnett, Corresponding Secretary, felt sure that their meetings would realise their expectations of profit and enjoyment, and thanked the Wellington friends for their warm and courteous reception.

ABSTRACTS

Of the Annual Reports of District and Local Unions.

PRESENTED TO CONVENTION, MARCH, 1901.

AUCKLAND.

The membership shows a decrease owing to the transference of many members to the newly formed Ponsonby Union. In co-operation with the Prohibition League the Union successfully worked for the election of temperance members of the Licensing committee, and to combat the proposal to keep public houses open till a later hour. It was resolved to canvass for sig-natures to the petition for the removal of Women's Disabilities. Resolutions were forwarded to the Premier and the Auckland M.H.Rs re the Disabilities Bill, the Licensing in the King Country, Provincial Option, and extension of hours for closing public houses. A petition for the repeal of the C.D. Act was sent to both Houses of Parliament. Social purity literature was sent to the Clergy, to Grand Jurors, and the City Council. The Charitable Aid and Hospital Boards were written to re special wards for the treatment of women in certain diseases, and in conjunction with two other Women's Societies a deputation was appointed to wait on those bodies and the Hospital Medical Staff. The staff was opposed to the plan. The attention of the City Council was called to the prevalence of juvenile depravity and the Council was asked to frame a by-law on the lines of a Curfew regulation. The suggestion was favourably received and the matter is now being dealt with by the Councils' By-Law Committee.

The attention of the Proprietors of the "Herald" was called to improper portions of a story appearing in that paper. A courteous reply was received to the effect that the impropriety had not been noticed, and an assurance was given that more care would be taken in the future.

Papers on Social Purity, written by Mesdames Hughes and Daldy, were read before the

A box at the Railway Station has been supplied with literature. A large amount of literature has also been distributed at the Agricultural Show and at open air and other public meetings. Regular weekly Bible classes are held in two of the public schools. In conjunction with the Ponsonby, Devonport, and Onehunga Unions, a Kiosk was opened at the Agricultural Show and was very successful.

Ponsonby.-The Union, in addition to its monthly meetings, holds Mothers' meetings

in alternate weeks.

ONEHUNGA has had a house to house distribution of literature. The vessels in Port and the Railway Station were regularly visited and literature supplied. Resolutions were sent to the Premier and M.H.Rs re Licenses in the King Country. Petitions for the introduction of Scientific Temperance Instruction in public schools have been canvassed for.

DEVONPORT.-Literature has been distributed on vessels and at houses in the district.

Hamilton-Signatures to the petition for Scientific Temperance Instruction in schools have been canvassed for and also a petition asking the Government to bring into force Clause 33 of the Licensing Act which forbids the importation of liquor into the King Country. The Hospital is regularly visited and supplied with flowers.

GISBORNE.

The Coffee and Reading Rooms have taxed the energy of members during the year. A sale of work was held in April, and in September a garden party and supplementary sale was held. The Reading room, which is free, is largely used. Petitions against liquor in the King Country have been canvassed for. The Union records the death of probably the oldest member of the W.C.T.U. in the Colony, Mrs Robjohns, aged 93.

NAPIER

Has had several meetings of a social character. A concert was given in July on behalf of the funds of the New Zealand Alliance. Literature has been distributed. An English circular re C.D. Acts was posted to each M.H.R. during the last session. Mrs Miller's fortnightly visits to the Ohira Home have been much appreciated by the inmates.

Ormondville has distributed literature.

BLENHEIM

Has had a hard but successful struggle with the debt of its late Reading and Dining rooms. Several At Homes have been held, at which useful papers were read. Under the department of Mothers meetings splendid work has been done. A Luncheon and Refreshment booth was provided at the Agricultural Show.

CHRISTCHURCH.

Besides general meetings, three public meetings have been held, in which the Social evil and the Inspection of Industrial Schools was dealt with. The Union secured the services of Miss Roberts for several months for a systematic house to house visitation on behalf of our work. Resolutions were forwarded to Government and M.H.Rs re Women's Disabilities, King Country, Young Persons Protection and C.D. Act. The Jubilee Home for aged people is visited regularly, and on the Queen's Birthday a tea and entertainment was given to the in nates. The Union stills pays for the W.C.T.U. page in the "Prchibitionist." A sale of work was held on behalf of the Coffee rooms fund. The Luncheon Tent at the Agricultural Show was highly successful.

Woolston.-The members engage actively

in Band of Hope work.

LYTTELTON takes a great interest in Maori

work at Kaupaki. Fortnightly meetings are held there. On Sunday evenings Sankey's hymns are sung for an hour at the Sailors' Rest. Literature is supplied to the sailors and parcels are supplied to outward bound vessels. Resolutions re Women's Disabilities, Young Persons Protection, C.D. Acts, and King Country, have been forwarded to the Government.

LEESTON has passed and forwarded resolutions. Members worked successfully for the election of temperance candidates for the

Licensing Committee.

ASHBURTON has had addresses from various Clergymen. Benevolent aid has been given, and a Maternity bag is kept for the use of the

TIMARU has had one public meeting. The Sailors' Rest has been enlarged and improved, and a concert was held to raise the necessary

DUNEDIN.

Four public meetings have been held. conversazione held in the Choral Hall in May was highly successful. A deputation waited on the Mayor urging him to ask the brewers and publicans to close on the day set apart to celebrate peace, and a resolution was also sent to the Premier to the same effect. Protests against the proposed alterations to the Liquor Control Act and against the proposed issue of licenses in the King Country were also forwarded. In con nection with the latter meetings were held and a petition with 8000 signatures was forwarded. Action was also taken re Women's Disabilities and Sabbath desecration. The work in connection with the Sailors' Rest still prospers. Services are held twice a week and the building has been

NASEBY. - Besides the ordinary meetings one of a social nature and two home meetings have been held. An active canvass has been made for signatures to the petition for Scientific temperance instruction in public schools. Subscriptions for the New Zealand Alliance were also procured. Resolutions were forwarded to the Premier and the M.H.Rs for the district re the King Country, etc.; also in connection with the Women's Disabilities. The "Disabilities" petition has been vigorously circu-

PORT CHALMERS has held eight public meetings and had a very successful tea meeting in the Rest.

GREYMOUTH.

The vessels are visited and supplied with literature and the boxes at the Railway Station are kept supplied. The School Committee, the Education Board, and the Minister of Education were applied to, urging that drinking and gambling in the State School during the holding of the Oriental Bazaar should be forbidden.

REEFTON.-Resolutions were passed and forwarded re Women's Disabilities. Hygiene, Food Reform and Narcotics have been discussed. Chinese Bibles have been procured and given to the Chinese. A district meeting was held in November, when a number of addresses were given.

BRUNNERTON has just been re-organised, with eleven members.

INVERCARGILL.

Resolutions were passed and fo. warded re Women's Disabilities, King Country, and proposed alteration in the Licensing Act. A box of literature has been placed at the Railway Station. For the last five months temperance matter has been inserted in the local papers

fund of the Bluff Sailors' Rest. The Mayor and Council were urged to ask hotel-keepers to close on Peace Celebration day. The working of the Tapanui Union has Leen undertaken. Petitions for Scientific Temperance Instruction in schools and re King Country were canvassed for. The Victoria Home has done good work. Correspondence is kept up with girls who have passed through the home and are now doing well. Lessons in plain cookery have been given by the matron.

The Building and now amounts to £90. A sum of money was donated to the New Zealand

TAPANUI holds its meetings at friends' houses, and has the advantage of afternoon tea. A successful Band of Hope has been organised. A concert has been held for the purpose of purchasing an organ.

OCEAN BEACH.—Literature has been distributed and relief has been given to needy families. Eight adults have been induced to

sign the pledge.

Winton has held three drawing-room meetings. Literature has been distributed and books have been lent. Relief work has been undertaken and the Union has succeeded in obtaining the use of unfermented wine in the Presbyterian Church. Letters were sent to the Premier and the local M.H.Rs re the King

Waianiwa has he'd one public meeting. Forty pounds was collected for the Indian Famine Fund. The Union has a good Band of Hope. Signatures were procured to the petition for Scientific Temperance Instruction in

Schools.

KAIAPO1.

Prayer and Bible meetings were held alternate Wednesdays. Educational papers have been read from various periodicals and the President gave a paper on the Bible in Day Schools. Reports have been sent to the news-papers. Resolutions have been sent to the Premier and the M.H R. for the district re Women's Disabilities and Liquor in the King Country. The Disabilities petition has been distributed for signature. Relief work has been done. A bazaar was held in August, and a sale of work and public meeting in October. Proceeds were for improving the Coffee rooms, which has been done at a cost of £175, the result being highly satisfactory. The rooms are paying their way

WOODEND reports fortnightly meetings. Instructive papers have been read. There is a Mutual Improvement class in connection with the Union which has been successful. The Anniversary of the Union was ce'ebrated by an "At Home." Literature has been distributed and Temperance papers have been lent to a

Young Men's Club.

RANGIORA has had an increase of membership. A large No-License tea and public meeting was held on May 24th. Literature is distributed and assistance given to the Band of Hope and Juvenile Templar Lodge.

WAIKARI held monthly meetings and a weekly prayer meeting. Temperance literature was distributed and read at meetings. Copies of White Ribbon were taken by members. There is a Band of Hope in connection with the Union. Members have made a box of garments to send to New Hebrides.

WELLINGTON.

This Union has a Singing Band which regularly sings at the Hospital and the Home for the aged needy. There are also visitors to and paid for. £6 was collected for the piano | the Convalescent Home and the Home for the

aged needy. The work in connection with the Newtown Girls' Association has been successfully carried on, and a piano and articles of furniture have been added during the year. Meetings are held in the room three times a week and the girls are visited in their homes. Three visits have been made to the Petone Union.

Masterron.—The Union organised a monster tea meeting for the Temperance Convention and provided for another which was held on the day of the Local Option Poll. Literature has been distributed. Action has been taken re King Country, and canvassing for signatures to petitions has been undertaken.

NEW PLYMOUTH.

The Union acknowledges the courtesy of the Mayor and Councillors, who have granted the use of a room in the Borough Chambers for its meetings. Besides twenty-four ordinary meetings four quarterly meetings for study of principle and methods of work have been held. The President has arranged with the Bands of Hope in the district for a course of short lectures on Scientific Temperance Physiology. Two Auxiliaries have been started during the year. Correspondence was opened with the local M.H.R. on the subject of Women's Disabilities and the King Country licenses. 1100 signatures were obtained to the petition for Scientific Temperance Instruction in Schools, A Refreshment Booth was successfully under-taken at the Agricultural Show. The Union is working the departments of Railways, Evangelistic, Relief, Pledge-taking, Legal and Parliamentary and Scientific Temperance Instruction. It has also boxes of literature at the Railway Station and a Maternity Bag. At the September quarterly meeting, at which the Rev Mr Bennett, Anglican Maori Missioner, was present with three natives, a collection amounting to £3 5s. was taken in aid of the Mission.

STRATFORD has distributed literature, has done Press, Legal, and Parliamentary work, including collecting signatures to the Disabilities petition.

WAITARA.—The Union has worked for Scientific Temperance Instruction and for Foreign

MIDHURST.—Drawing-room meetings have been held. An entertainment was given in aid of Maori Mission funds. Scientific Temp rance Instruction has been given at the Band of Hope, and Legal and Parliamentary work done.

NGAIRE.--The Union has combined with outside friends in the maintenance of a Reading room and has taken up L.T.L. work.

OKATO is a new Union.

Tariki purposes taking up Scientific Temperance instruction and L.T.L. work.

Pungarehu has opened a new branch at Okato. The work has been Evangelistic, Influencing the Press, etc.

HAWERA.

Besides the ordinary meetings, six Home meetings have been held under the Superintendent. Among the subjects considered were, "Is Alcohola Food?" "Hygiene" and "Scientific Instruction in Schools." A Band of Hope is conducted by the President on L.T.L. lines. Signatures were obtained for the petition for Scientific Instruction. A box at the Railway Station is kept supplied with literature.

OKAIAWA has striven to make its meetings educational. Influence has been used for the use of unfermented wine. Signatures were procured to the petition for the Bible in State

Schools. A public meeting was held re Women's Disabilities. Literature is circulated.

ELTHAM sends no report.

WANGANUI.

A garlen party was held at which prizes were given to girls who attend the sewing class. The Evangelistic Department has secured a day for visiting Hospital patients. Good work has been done among Juveniles. Relief work is undertaken. Rescue work has been done with encouraging results. Much interest has been taken in the question of Women's Disabilities, and protests were sent to the Premier and the M.H.R. of the district re alteration of the Licensing Act and Liquor in the King Country. The Union worked hard and successfully for the election of suitable members of the Licensing Committee.

Turakina.—has distributed literature and procured signatures for Bible reading in Schools.

NELSON.

Addresses have been given by Ministers and friends at the Union meetings. Literature has been distributed both in the neighbourhood and to cab drivers, conductors, and volunteers at the Easter Encampment. The local M.H.R. has been communicated with on various matters. Attempts have been made in the direction of Band of Hope work.

PALMERSTON NORTH.

Resolutions were forwarded to the M.H.R. re King Country and Young Persons' Protection. Signatures to the petition for Scientific Temperance Instruction in Schools were obtained. Parcels of literature were sent to various outlying districts. In conjunction with Rongotea a box of clothing was sent to South Africa for sick and needy soldiers and refugees. A successful Conference of Temperance workers was held in August. Pledge cards were printed for public meetings and the Hospital has been regularly visited.

FEILDING—Band of Hope work has been the most satisfactory part of the Union's labour. A handsome banner has been provided, and a picnic was given to the children. The Education Board has been approached to sanction the placing of temperance wall sheets in the public schools. A deputation waited on the local M.H.R. rs the proposed alterations in the Licensing Act and Liquor in the King Country.

COLYTON.—Sewing meetings have been held and a large parcel of clothing was sent to South Africa for the sick and needy. A garden party was given. Interesting addresses have been given by Miss Minchin

been given by Miss Minchin.

RONGOTEA.—Literature has been distributed in the back country. A public meeting was held to protest against the Liquor proposals of the Government. Sewing meetings were held to provide clothing for sick soldiers and refugees in South Africa. Pledge cards have been distributed.

Sanson.—In addition to ordinary meetings nine public meetings have been held. Good work is done in the L.T.L. Large quantities of literature have been distributed. Four drawing room meetings were held. Several petitions and resolutions have been sent to the House of Representatives.

Marton.—The L.T.L. has been carried on. In July the Union invited the Temperance workers to a Conference, and as a result monthly Temperance meetings were held to the end of the year and were very successful.

Signatures have been obtained to the pentuon for the removal of Women's Disabilities.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S WILLARD SOCIETY.

COBDEN, GREYMOUTH.

There are thirty-six members on the roll. The officers consist of Lady Superintendent, President, Vice-President, Secretary, Assistant-Secretary and Treasurer, Sergeant at Arms, and Steward. Meetings are held fortnightly.

Object. To help on the cause of Temperance and lessen the evils of the Liquor Traffic. The Society bought an organ, which will help to make our meetings attractive. Several public meetings and Concerts have been held. One Social Evening was arranged, and members of the W. C. T. U. invited.

Meetings.

Two evening meetings were organised while Convention was in session. The first was under the auspices of Convention, and was held at the Baptist Church, Vivian Street, being presided over by Mrs Schnackenberg. Addresses were given by Mesdames Atkinson and Sheppard, and the Misses Powell and Roberts. A Temperance dialogue entitled "The Congress of Nations, 'was cleverly given by fifteen girls, each representing a different nationality, and the performance was much applauded. The second meeting was held in Trinity Wesleyan Church (Mrs Schnackenberg presiding), when the report and balance-sheet of the Giris' Association in connection with the W. C. T. U. were presented by Mrs Wright. These reports were most encouraging, and showed active and earnest work on the part of the promoters. Addresses were given by Miss Powell, Mesdames A kinson and Sheppard, and the "Congress of Nations" was given. Musical items were also rendered, and were much appreciated. An afternoon me ting was held at the camp of the Seventh Contingent on Sunday afternoon, when some of our Convention members took part.

Entertainments.

The hosp tality Committee accepted an invitation on behalf of Convention from Mrs W. H. George, Clairmont. Hanson Street, to a garden party on March 23rd, and a very delightful afternoon was spent.

The large lawn at the side of the hous was the scene of the gathering. Croquet was played by some of the members, whilst others made acquaintance with Temperance workers whom they had not met with before. A cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Mrs George for having planned such an enjoyable time for the visitors.

Mrs Denton, of Ghuznee Street invited Convention to afternoon tea on March 26th, and many of the members enjoyed rambling through the lovely garden which surrounded the house and which is part of the original bush. The tree and other ferns still grow in their native luxur ance, and form a beautiful back ground to the hou e. The balcony commands a fine view of the harbour and surrounding hills. Before leaving the members expressed their thanks to Mrs Denton for her kind hospi ality.

A drive round the city and suburbs had been arranged by the hospitality Committee for Tuesday afternoon, but as the sessions occupied a longer time than was supposed, the idea had to be abandoned

to be abandoned.

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-Auckland	***				1	10	6		0	5	1			
-Naseby			,,		0	4	6		0	0				
-Midhurst						12	0		0	2	0			
-Ormondvill			,,	***	0	3	0		U	0				
Woodend	***		,		0	8	6		0	1	5			
-Greymouth			,,	***	1	6	6		0	3				
	***		,,		0		6		0		11			
			"		1	9	0		0	4	10			
6.9			"	***	0	0	0		0	-		EMILY HILL,		
-Christchure		***	**	***	0	4	6		0	4	0 3			
-Lyttelton -Ashburton			. **	***	0	7	6	***	0	1	2	Hon, Treas, for N. Z		
TTT 11					0	4	0		0	0		Audited and found comest		
- Waitara - Masterton			"	***		12	6		0	2	1	Audited and found correct.		
T31/1			"	***	0	4	0		0	0		J. B. Feilder,		
-			,,				-		_			Napier, 16th March, 1901. Auditor		
					43		0		6	19	1			
alance from last ; iv'd from Pres. at l	year	n. for f	Constitu	tion			11							
Secretar	y (Miss P	oweil)		0	6	7							
tion from Turaki	na Union	after	disband	ing,	0	10	0							
Vorld's Capitation	1			***	6	19								

£101 3

£101 3 7

THE WHITE RIBBON.

Balance Sheet of Local Unions

asleri.

WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION OF NEW ZEALAND.

FOR THE YEAR 1300.

Name	Receipt (includir Balance last year			ng ce	Expenditure.			e. Ba	Balance.		
		£	8.	d.	£	S.	d.	£	S.	d.	
Timaru		16	16	4	5	10	5	11	5	11	
Hawera		2	12	8	2	9	0	0	3	8	
Tariki		1	14	7	1	2	2	0	12	5	
Nelson		. 5	3	3	2	13	9	2	9	6	
Turakina		1	17	1	1	7	1	0	10	0	
Okaiawa		2	5	3	1	12	9	0	12	6	
Invercargill		20	13	0	13	4	10	7	8	2	
Special Income fr											
Building Fund		100	0	0		-			-		
Waianiwa		8	5	10	3	17	3	4	8	7	
Winton		2	5	3	1	16	7	0	8	ь	
Tapanui		15	4	3	3	2	4	12	1	11	
Wanganui		28	11	9	26	12	10	1	18	11	
Rongotea		6	9	9	5	11	6	0	18	3	
Wellington	***	49	16	1	47	4	7	2	11	6	
Onehunga	***	6	1	4	2	7	11	3	13	b	
Kaiapoi		27	19	11	27	17	11	0	2	0	
Marton		2	6	8	2	3	4	0	3	4	
Gisborne	***	10	6	ō	9	16	2	1	10	ö	
Marton, Juvenile W	ork	4	19	2	4	8	8	0	10	6	
Sanson		11	7	0	11	2	5	0	4	7	
Colyton	***	4	5	5	3	10	6	0	14	11	
Auckland		54	0	10	37	14	6	16	6	4	
To Agricultural Bo (Profits disbur	sed										
among seve		24	15	11	16	15	10	8	0	1	
small Unions)	++1	7	5	3	7	4	4	0	0	11	
Naseby	4-1	5	0	1	4	13	6	0	6	7	
Midhirst Non Disposith	***	34	15	5	29	6	4	5	9	í	
New Plymouth		76	18	7	76	9	3	0	9	4	
Blenheim Ormondville		1	14	9	0	12	0	1	2	9	
	***	2	14	11	2	3	Ö	0	11	11	
Woodend Port Chalmers	***	5	11	4	3	1	3	2	10	1	
Reefton		2	5	0	9	3	ĭ	0	1	11	
	237	19	18	9	13	8	9	6	10	0	
Greymouth Feilding		13	6	3	12	7	1	0	19	2	
Dunedin		22	0	8	21	9	2	0	11	6	
Christehureh	***	408	11	0	362	0	4	46	10	8	
	***	6	3	9	5	11	11	0	11	10	
Lyttelton	***	5	6	7	1	13	4	3	13	3	
Ashburton Palmerston North		5	10	9	2	5	4	3	5	5	
		3	19	5	2	19	3	1	0	2	
Pungarehu		14	6	10	9	5	6	5	1	4	
Rangiora	9.1	25	11	2	21	12	9	3	18	5	
Petone		1	6	6	1	3	8	0	2	10	
Woolston		7	12	9	6	9	9	1	3	0	
D vonport		í	7	6	0	7	0	1	0	6	
Okato Leeston			15	2	9	3	0	1	12	2	
Lecston	111	20		_		_				_	
	£	990	0	2	£826	11	11	£163	8	3	

MEMO. FROM GENERAL AUDITOR.

The Accounts furnished by the Branches on the printed forms are satisfactory, with the exception of—Hamilton.—Receipts do not total, but are audited. Kaiapoi.—20s short in t.tal of receipts; also audited. Auckland.—No details expenditure, but audited. Christchurch.—No totals inserted; expenditure 20s more than receipts; not audited.

Lyttelcon.—Receipts and expenditure do not balance, but accounts audited.

Rangiors.—Total receipts error is; not audited.

Rangiora .- Total receipts error 1s; not audited.

J. B. FIELDER, Auditor.

Napier, 16th March, 1901.

New Zealand Officers, 1901.

President-Mrs A. R. Atkinson, Wadestown, Wellington.

Vice-President at large-Mrs Schnackenberg, Mouri Albert, Auckland.

Corresponding Secretary — Miss Powell, Isca, St. Clair, Dunedin. Assistant Corres. Secretary — Miss Barnett,

Leeston. Recording Secretary—Miss C. E. Barry, Pal-

merston North. Treasurer-Mrs Hill, Bluff Hill, Napier.

N.Z. SUPERINTENDENTS OF DEPART-MENTS.

Evangelistic-Mrs Kirkland, The Manse, West Taieri.

Home Meetings - Mrs Newton, North Belt Christehurch.

Juvenile Work and Medal Contests - Mrs Hill, Bluff Hill, Napier.

(Girls' Sewing Classes included in this Department)

Educational Meetings—Miss Powell, Isca, St Clair, Dunedin.

Sabbath Observance and Sunday Trading-Miss Minchin, Colyton

Missionary Work - Mrs Cocker, Wanganui. Work among Young People - Mrs. E. B. Miller. Bonnie Bank, London st., Dun din.

Maori Work-Mrs Schnackenberg, Mt. Albert, Auckland.

Scientific Temperance Instruction-Miss Maunder, Hawera.

Unfermented Wine-Mrs Plummer, Ponsonby, Auckland.

Press Work-Mrs Cole, P.O. Box 196, Christchurch. Purity and Rescue Work-Mrs Webb, Holy

Trinity Vicarage, Gisborne.

Mothers' Meetings - Mrs Gaskin, Cobden, Greymouth. Mwar

Bible in Schools-Miss Morice, Gisborne. Narcotics—Miss C. E. Kirk, Wellington. Peace and rhitration Min Dyttelton. World Manual Schmidterst—(24).

Peace and rbitration Miss Dalrymple, Levin.

Literature—Mrs Hughes, Mt. Eden, Auckland.

Relief Work. Mrs. Confect. B. President—Mrs Sergeant.

Secretary—Miss Tomlinson. Relief Work—Mrs Corlett, Ponsonby, Auckland. Treasurer—Mrs Dickenson. Mrs Sheppard, Box 209,

Legal and Parliamentary

Christchurch. Mrs A. R. Atkinson Wadestown, Wellington.

Prison Reform-Anti Gambling-Miss McCarthy, Naseby

Names and Addresses of Local Officers.

(The figures indicate the Membership of each Union.)

AUCKLAND-(61).

President Mrs A. Thorne, Paget-street, Ponsonby.

Secretary—Miss Statham. Coombe's Arcade. Treasurer-Mrs Dewar, Pompallier Terrace, Ponsonby.

Devonport—(30).

President-Mrs Wilkinson.

Secretary-Mrs Hampton. Treasurer-Mrs Little

WAIHI-(13).

President-

Secretary-Mrs Heard. Treasurer-

Ponsonby—(13).

President-Mrs Knight, Ponsorby-road, Auckland.

Secretary-Mrs Ready, Ponsonby-road. Auckland.

Pacey. Treasurer-Mrs Franklin-road Ponsonby

ONEHUNGA-(22).

President-Mrs Watkin, Norman's-Hill. Secretary-Mrs De Wolfe, Arthur-street. Treasurer—Mrs Hall, Captain street.

HAMILTON-(19).

President—Mrs Jones, Kirikiriroa. Secretary- Mrs J. W. Maunder, Hamilton. Treasurer-Mrs Dillicar, Hamilton.

GISBORNE-(40).

President -Mrs Webb, The Vicarage.

Secretary-Miss E. Morice, Stuart Lodge. Treasurer—Miss E. Baker, Gladstone.

NAPIER - (51).

President-Mrs Troy.

Secretary—Mrs J. S. Holder. Treasurer-Mrs R. Saunders,

ORMONDVILLE-(6).

President-Mrs Wills The Vicarage. Secretary and Treasurer - Miss Paterson.

NEW PLYMOUTH (47).

President-Mrs A'lan Douglas, Devon-street. Secretary-Miss Ahier, Devon-street West. Freasurer-Mrs Clow, Elliot street.

Assistant-Secretary—Miss R. Sole. WAITARA-(8).

President-Mrs Cleave. Secretary-Miss Bichino. Treasurer-Mrs Bichino.

STRATFORD—(28).

President-Mrs Kennedy. Secretary-Mrs Mackay.

Treasurer-Mrs Hills.

TARIKI-(10).

President-Mrs Harkness. Secretary-Mrs Jamison. Treasurer-Mrs Waite.

NGAIRE - (14).

President-Mrs Blizzard. Secretary—Mrs Penney. Treasurer Mrs Manly.

Pungarehu-(10).

President-Miss White, Rahotu. Secretary-Mrs Leith, Pungarehu. Treasurer-Miss Phillips, Rahotu.

OKATO- (12).

President - Mrs McIntosh. Secretary—Mrs Browning. Treasurer-Mrs Barr.

HAWERA-(18).

President-Miss Maunder. Secretary-Mrs Sloan. Treasurer-Mrs Tait.

Ецтнам-(8).

President—Mrs Campbell. Secretary-

Treasurer-

OKAIAWA - (15).

President - Mrs George Maunder. Secretary-Mrs Bailey.

Treasurer-Miss Scott.

Vice-Presidents-Mesdames Gillivy and Bremer.

WANGANUI-(49).

President-Mrs G. H. Smith, Bell-street. Secretary - Miss Tucker, Campbell-street. Treasurer - Mrs McLeod, Durieton.

PALMERSTON NORTH - (27).

President-Mrs John Plimmer.

Vice-Presidents-Mesdames Butters and Astbury.

Secretary-Miss Barry. Treasurer-Mrs Plimmer.

FEILDING-(23).

President-Miss Minchin, Colyton

DRESSES.

Stylish Black and White Checks, Seven Patterns, 1s 3d yd Velvet Cords, all Leading Shades, 1s 11½d yd Coloured Coating Serges, Special, 2s yd Lovely Range Coloured French Serges, 2s 3d, 2s 6d, 3s 3d Coloured Suiting Serges, Very Stylish, 2s 11d yd Frieze Serges, Black, Navy and Latest Shades, 2s 9d to 5s 6d Heavy Costume Cloths, Extra Wide, 2s 6d to 3s 6d Coloured Velveteens, 2s 3d, 2s 11d, 3s 6d yd New Panne Velvet, an Un-to-Date Trimming. New Panne Velvet, an Up-to-Date Trimming.

SHOW ROOM.

Colonial Knitted Divided Skirts, 6s 6d to 12s 6d Corsets—The Celebrated, P.D., C.B., and other makes Winter Under Skirts, 2s 11d, 3s 6d, 3s 11d, to 17s 6d Children's American Coats and Tunics, 7s 6d to 32s 6d Ladies' and Children's Wool Vests, 1s 3d, 1s 9d, to 4s 6d Vests, Bodices and Combinations in Cashmere and Merino Infants' and Children's Wool Hats and Hoods



A Choice and Varied Selection of Ladies' Fur Necklets, including—
Tarbagana, Jap. Mink, Musquash, Sable, Bear, Skunk, Kolinsky, Mouflon,
Llama, Thibet, Fox. Opossum, Ermine, Goat, Marmot, &c., 2s 11d, 3s 11d.
4s 11d, 5s 11d, 6s 11d, 7s 11d, 9s 11d, 10s 9d, 12s 6d, 15s 6d, 17s 9d, 21s,
25s 6d, 29s 6d, 35s, 42s, 49s 6d, 55s, 63s, 70s, 84s, 95s, 105s, 126s.

Very Stylish White Fur Necklets, 2s 11d, 3s 11d, 5s 11d, 9s 11d, 15s 6d, 21s, 29s 6d, 37s 6d, 45s, 52s 6d, 63s, 84s.

Muffs in Marmot, Hare, Kolinsky, Sable, Thibet, &c., 7s 11d, 8s 6d, 9s 11d,

Children's Fur Sets-necklet and muff-7s 11d, 8s 11d, 9s 11d, 10s 9d, 13s 6d, 17s 6d, 21s, 25s, set.

GLOVES.

New Kid Gloves, all colcurs, dome fasteners, every pair guaranteed, Trilby 2s 6d, Queen 2s 11d, Marguerite 3s 11d, Carnot 4s 11d, Victoria 5s 6d. Lined ...id Gloves, 3 dome fasteners, 2s 11d and 3s 11d, splendid value. Fur Top, Lined Kid Gloves, special makes, 2s 11d, 3s 11d, 4s 6d, &s 6d.

BEATH & CO.,

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Secretary and Treasurer-Miss E. M. Goodbehere.

Colyton-(23).

200

President-Mrs R. L. Pudney, Fairfield, Colyton.

Secretary-Mrs W. F. Fennell, Homeleigh, Colyton.

Treasurer-Mrs J. Frazer, Colyton.

RONGOTEA-(35).

President-Mrs C. Anderson. Secretary-Mrs Knight. Treasurer-Mrs L. Gibson.

Corresponding-Secretary-Miss Scott.

MARTON-(15).

100

President—Mrs Spence, Wesleyan Parsonage. Secretary—Miss Wilton, Puhepapa-road, Treasurer-Miss Wilton, pro tem.

Sanson-(24).

President-Mrs Abernethy. Secretary-Mrs Crichton. Treasurer-Mrs Fagan.

WELLINGTON-(92).

02-00

President-Mrs Kirk, 30 Pirie-street. Secretary -Miss Kirk, 30 Pirie-street. Corresponding-Secretary-Mrs Taylor, Salisbury Terrace.

Treasurer-Miss Wilkinson, Pirie-street.

PETONE-(14).

President-Mrs Jackson, Nelson-street. Secretary-Mrs Corner, Nelson-street.

Secretary-Mrs Burton, Chapel-street.

Treasurer-Mrs Morrison, Worksop-road.

CHRISTCHURCH-(48).

President-Mrs Malcolm, Papanui-road.

Treasurer—Mrs Ferguson, Kilmore-street.

President-Mrs Whitby, Dampier's Bay.

Treasurer-Mrs Clark, London-street.

LYTTELTON-(15).

Secretary-Miss E. Kenner, Coleridge Ter-

race.

LEESTON—(34).

President-Miss Barnett, Deep Spring Farm.

Recording-Secretary—Miss Breach, Doyles-

Treasurer-Miss Napley, High-st., Leeston-

Corresponding-Secretary -Miss Barnett.

Secretary-Mrs Constable, Fendalton.

Treasurer - Mrs J. Battersby, Jackson-street.

MASTERTON-(25). President-Mrs Prior, Wesleyan Parsonage.

Secretary-Mrs Crump, Nelson.

BLENHEIM-(24).

2-00 President -- Mrs Rose. Recording-Secretary-Mrs Griffin. Corresponding-Secretary-Mrs Clarke.

President—Mrs Gaskin. Secretary—Mrs Hansen.

BRUNNERTON-(11).

RESTTON-(16).

TIMARU-(33).

President—Mrs Gillies. Secretary-Miss Avison.

Treasurer-Miss Sebly.

WOOLSTON-(16).

President-Mrs Bensley. Secretary-Miss Trerise. Treasurer -Miss Moore.

ASHBURTON-(14).

President—Mrs H. R. Steel, Havelock-street. Secretary-Mrs J. Lloyd, North-Belt. Treasurer—Mrs G. Andrews, East Belt.

KAIAPOI-(40).

President-Mrs Blackwell, The Willows. 300 Secretary-Mrs Soulby Treasurer—Mrs T. G. Blackwell.
Assistant-Secretary—Miss Blackwell, The Willows.

RANGIORA-(31).

President -Mrs R. Darling. Secretary-Mrs F. B. Lane. Treasurer-Mrs T. Keir.

WOODEND-(17). President - Mrs W. H. Judson, Woodend.

Secretary-Miss S. Burne, Waikuku. Treasurer-Mrs S. Gibbs, Woodend. WAIKARI -(13).

President-Mrs D. D. Rodgers

Secretary-Miss McDowell. Treasurer-Mrs Ireland.

NELSON-(24).

President-Mrs Smalley, Wesleyan Parsonage.

Treasurer-Mrs Webb Bowen, Nile street, Nelson.

Treasurer-Mrs Hay.

GREYMOUTH-(53).

Treasurer-Mrs Sweetman

President-Mrs Angel. Secretary-Mrs Glenn. Treasurer -Mrs Leesdale.

President-Mrs Grigg.

Secretary-Miss M. Watson Treasurer-Mrs Lawn.

INVERCARGILL-(56)

President—Mrs J. D. McGruer, Ellis road. Secretary—Mrs E. B. Jones, Dee-street. Treasurer-Mrs Perry, Lewis-street, Glad-

WAIANIWA-(15).

President-Mrs Ronald.

Secretary -Miss Howells.

Treasurer-Miss Fraser.

stone.

WINTON-(11).

President-Mrs Baird, The Manse. Secretary and Treasurer-Mrs Ritchie.

OCEAN BEACH-(5).

President-Mrs D. Mitchell. Secretary-Miss Mina Mitchell.

Treasurer - Mrs Dawson.

TAPANUI-(13).

President-Mrs. Begg. Secretary-Miss McKenzie. Treasurer -Mrs McFarlane.

DUNEDIN-(58).

President-Mrs Don, Canongate. Secretary-Mrs A. S. Adams, Cargill-st. Treasurer-Mrs Mazengarb, Heriot row

NASEBY-(9).

President—Mrs McCosh-Smith. Secretary-Mrs McCarthy.

Treasurer-Mrs Maclatchy.

Mosgiel-(12).

President-Mrs Wedderspoon. Vice-President - Mrs McKerrow. Secretary-Mrs McKerrow. Treasurer-Mrs Hay.

PORT CHALMERS-(21).

President-Mrs Johnston. Secretary-Mrs Menelaus

Treasurer-Mrs Porteous.

PALMERSTON SOUTH. President-Mrs Clarke, The Manse.

Secretary-Treasurer-

> COBDEN, GREYMOUTH-(36). Young People's Willard Society.

President-Miss Sweetman Secretary-Mr. T. S. Taylor. Treasurer-Miss Lily Dickie.

Total Membership-1307.

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TAYLOR & OAKLEY, PRESERVED FRUITS

AND

VEGETABLES

Garden Green Peas, pres	erved	, gal. tins	2	6
,, ,, ,,	,	2 lb. tins	0	9
Asparagus, 2 lb. tins			1	4
Tomatoes, 2 lb. tins		***	U	8
Pie Peaches, gallon tins			1	8
Pie Apricots, gallon tins		***	1	8
Pie Gooseberries, gallon	tins	***	1	11
Dried Apricots, per lb.	***		0	9
New Prunes, per lb., 6d o	r		0	8
Seeded Raisins, per lb., 7	d or		0	8
New Muscatels, per lb.		***	0	8
Just La	nd	ed:		0

	_		
Ham Cured Herrings, 1 doz. in tin		2	0
Real Yarmouth Bloaters, per tin		1	1
Gorgonzala Cheese, per jar		6	6
Stilton Cheese (English) per jar		6	6
Anchovies, in oil		1	4
Pate de fois Gras, large tin		3	0

1s 8d "Spring Leaves Tea" now 1s 6d. 1s 10d "Tiffin Tea" now 1s 8d. 1s 6d "Lotus Tea" now 1s 4d.

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