

News of the Unions.

(The Editor cannot promise to insert anything in the next issue that does not reach her by the 8th of the month. Correspondents are requested to write their Reports as concisely as possible, on one side of the paper only. Newspaper cuttings are unsuitable.)

HAMILTON.

Aug. 29. Drawing-room meeting at Mrs Auld's residence. Miss Powell gave an address. Mrs Jones presented a banner for the Union, and was heartily thanked for it. Mrs Dillicar, senior member, unfolded the banner. Collection for Organising Fund, 16s. Afternoon tea. Three new members.

Sept. 19. United prayer and missionary meeting held at Mrs Cliff's residence. Mrs Tucker gave an earnest address. Afternoon tea.

Oct. 5. Decided to purchase literature for distribution on troop trains at Frankton Junction; also charts for school wall and Band of Hope. Final arrangements made for Provincial Convention.

BLUFF.

Sept. 19. Franchise Day celebrated. Attendance good. Address by Mrs Pasley, who also recited "The Women's Part" poem sent from the trenches. Afternoon tea. One new member. Band of Hope met same evening; address by Rev. Fowler, and a good programme.

Oct. Arrangements made for presentation of prizes at next Band of Hope meeting. Decided to hold a Cake and Lollie Sale. An article was read on the "Strength of Britain Movement," and a discussion followed.

STRATFORD.

Oct. 4. Midhurst tragedy discussed, and the callous treatment of the victim by the drink-sellers indignantly commented upon. Reference made to the unfairness of prohibiting women only from obtaining liquor after 6 p.m., and the opinion expressed that women were no more in need of this prohibition than men. The humour of allowing a liquor prince to sit in committee and prohibit a large portion of his own income was commented upon.

WHANGAREI.

Oct. 3. Five members present. Discussion took place on the organising Unions in adjoining districts. District Secretary to be written to re delegate from this Branch.

FEILDING.

Oct. 5. A letter received from America re direct legislation. Decided to ask Mr Judson King, Secretary of National Popular Government of America, to visit us. Report of Pro-

vincial Convention was given. Our first L.T.L. meeting was held on October 2nd, when Rev. T. Miller gave a splendid address.

AUCKLAND.

Oct. 11. Weather bad, attendance good. Votes of sympathy passed with members who have lost sons in battle and who have sons wounded. Reported that the recent sale of gifts had been most successful. Arrangements made for Provincial Convention. Decided to take charge of Soldiers' Club for a fortnight, as requested, several Branch Unions promising to assist.

SOUTH INVERCARGILL.

Oct. Franchise Day celebrated by an evening social. Attendance good. Mrs Cowie was given a hearty welcome home. Decided that we join with town Union to offer prizes to school children for Scientific Temperance essays. Mrs Garrett gave a very fine paper on the Franchise. Mrs Cowie spoke of her work in Australia. Songs, recitations, and supper filled in a pleasant evening.

TIMARU.

Oct. Report from Sailors' Rest was a very quiet month; no Home steamers had been in port, and coastal steamers made only a short stay. Decided to send circular from Superintendent of Moral Education to the Ministers' Association, and also to remind ministers of Temperance Sunday.

ASHBURTON.

Oct. 10. Votes of sympathy passed with members who have lost sons in the recent heavy fighting, also with Mr and Mrs G. Andrews in their recent bereavement. Decided to hold a Garden Party on November 23. Hearty thanks to be conveyed to Mr Ferriman for generous financial help given to the Union. Decided to help with Red Cross Day.

Oct. 16. Band of Hope, under supervision of Y Branch, held its final meeting for this season. An address by Mrs Broom, who also distributed the prizes. The Y's were heartily thanked for their help at the Band of Hope.

NELSON.

Oct. 10. Mrs Field read a letter from Mrs Sheppard, advocating the formation of a Women's National Council, which should represent all women's societies willing to join, and should discuss all questions specially connected with women. Resolved that the Nelson Union express its willingness to join such a Union. Financial report of Miss Weymouth's work read by Treasurer. Y Branch thanked for donation of £7.

Oct. 13. Good Citizenship meeting. Mrs Field spoke on "Venereal Disease and its Prevention." She considered that the right attitude to all sufferers from this terrible evil was one of compassion and helpful-

ness rather than condemnation, and that the most effective way of dealing with it was to raise an equal standard of purity for both sexes.

Oct. 27. Last Good Citizenship meeting. Miss Maude Royden's pamphlet was read, "The Great Adventure; The Way to Peace."

Oct. 25. Annual Sale of Work held, and was most satisfactory. A programme was provided by the Y Branch.

Intercessory services have been held regularly on the last Monday of every month.

RAKAIA.

We are very hopeful. Meetings are held monthly, and our membership stands at nineteen. Mrs Hopwood is Secretary, and Mrs Judkins Treasurer. Several interesting papers have been read, and a Band of Hope has been worked for two winters. Literature has been ordered for distribution.

KAIKORAI.

Oct. 28. Letters read from Mrs Pinfold and Miss McCarthy, the latter in reference to Moral Education. Decided to hold annual meeting in November. Mrs Don spoke on the work at heart with us all.

WANGANUI EAST.

Oct. 27. Letter from Mrs Suisted acknowledging Christmas gifts for soldiers, and from Miss McCarthy, Dominion Superintendent for Moral Education. Resolution of sympathy with mothers who have lost sons in the recent fighting was passed in silence, members standing. First prize essay in recent competition of "The Evils of Strong Drink in War Time," by Huia Clayton, was read. Decided to hold a "Pay-up Social" in November.

WELLINGTON CENTRAL.

Oct. 5. An "At Home" at the residence of Mrs Evans. Mrs A. R. Atkinson spoke on the need for women combining to compel the Government to frame legislation with respect to the wishes of the women of the Dominion. Rev. J. K. Archer urged women to watch all legislation affecting women and girl workers. Mrs Clark provided musical programme, and the hostess dispensed afternoon tea. Seven new members initiated.

Oct. 20. Votes of sympathy with Mesdames Comrie, Fear, and Smith, whose sons have fallen at the Front. Mrs McDonald spoke on Convention resolutions. Resolved: "That this meeting, believing that the appointment of Women Police by Government would tend to diminish crime, deeply regrets that the deputation of representative women which recently waited on the Minister of Justice asking for the appointment of women police met with so unsatisfactory a reception, especially as Mr Herdman, in his reply, admitted that voluntary police women in other parts of the world were rendering valuable service. Annual meeting to be held November 17.