

IN THE FIELD.

Leaving Ngaruawahia, I travelled to Waihi to attend their October meeting, where we arranged that I should return to work up the one a month later. Here I was the guest of Mrs Lochore at the manse. Feeling it to be quite a slur upon our organisation that we have no branch at Thames, I spent a day there in visiting, and could have enrolled a number of members, but the only ladies suitable for leaders were already so much engaged that to organise just now would be to court failure, and the same may be said of Paeroa.

Hamilton District Convention had been fixed for October 11th at Cambridge, but the day was ushered in with a deluge of rain. Friends arrived from the District Union, Ngaruawahia, Morrinsville, and our new branch at Te Kuiti, but in far less numbers than had been anticipated. However, about a dozen faithful souls braved the elements, and the Cambridge folks turned out in full force, so a pleasant and profitable time was spent. From there I returned to Hamilton, and attended one or two meetings there. I had intended going straight on to Bay of Plenty, but correspondence with Miss Dewar changed the programme, and I decided to attend the Auckland District Convention on 25th, visiting some smaller Unions en route. I arrived at Tuakau on the 18th, after very short notice, to find that the District Union had been in recess the whole of this year. Mrs Bycroft, at considerable inconvenience, took me to her home, and I visited most of the members within reach before the weather again broke. They decided to make a fresh start in February, and I am to visit them later, as well as the Pukekohe Branch. I spent a day in the latter town, and found our members were keeping the flag flying in the face of a good many difficulties. My departure from Tuakau was accomplished in a storm of wind and rain, but happily the latter had ceased by the time Onehunga was reached, though the gale tore a hat-pin from its moorings and a hole in my hat. Here I was met by the husband of the President, Mr S. F. Logan, one of our White Ribbon brothers, late of Waipukurau. I have never forgotten how, when I was an inmate of his home at that town,

he (then postmaster) carried the tray of cakes, etc., up the street to the church. The change of residence and the freedom from official duties have greatly improved his health, while Mrs Logan is just as cheery and enthusiastic as ever. A few visits were paid among the members, and on Tuesday I travelled to Auckland, and went out to Mt. Eden to see our comrade, Mrs J. Smith, late of Wanganui, who resides in a pretty bungalow just opposite the home of her daughter. I was so favoured as to be the guest of my dear friend, Mrs G. W. J. Spence, and the renewal of old friendships was very delightful. The District Convention was a great success, delegates being present from a number of auxiliaries. Among the visitors were Mrs Gaskin (Greymouth) and Miss Gaustad (Urenui).

Pukekohe was reached the following day (26th), and I managed to hit the ordinary meeting. There was an encouraging attendance, although a number of members are sick. Miss McCarthy's circular was dealt with, the Cradle Roll taken up, and arrangements made for circulating Purity books.

Friday evening found me at the Oddfellows' Hall, Hamilton, discoursing on "Girls and Their Lovers" to a good audience. At the close of the talk seven girls belonging to the lapsed Y Branch and four more joined the Union, and it was arranged to hold an evening meeting as soon as it could be arranged.

Waihi was the next sphere of work, and I was met on the Saturday by my host, Rev. P. Cossum, and taken to the parsonage. The intervening days having been spent in visiting, on Thursday (November 2nd) the monthly meeting was held, which in this case took the form of an American tea. The attendance was not large, several of the members being away from home. I gave an address on the work of the Union. Six new members were secured, and a pleasant afternoon spent. Waihi is a fearsome place to canvass, as one is in perpetual terror of waking some poor fellow who has been at work all night. These "shifts" interfere considerably with the Union, too, for when a man is expected home to dinner at four o'clock it is not easy for his wife to attend an afternoon meeting.

For some time I had been in correspondence with one of our Normanby members, who had removed to Kati Kati, Bay of Plenty, with reference to organising a branch there. Accordingly I arrived there on the Friday, to find that Mrs Baines had invited a number of ladies to her home for that afternoon. Only six came (one being already a member), and the five joined, so although we have no officers, we have already, with the three removed here from other Unions, a nucleus of eight members. We are planning home meetings, etc., and expect to succeed.

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OBITUARY.

As we go to press comes the news that an old and valued worker in the Temperance cause has been called to Higher Service. Rev. F. W. Isitt passed away at his home in Dunedin on Saturday, November 11th. Mr Isitt was one of the earliest workers in the Prohibition cause, and to that cause he gave unsparingly both time and strength. As Secretary of the New Zealand Alliance, he was well known throughout the Dominion, and the kindly courtesy of his manner and the sweetness of his disposition won the love of his fellow-workers. The heavy and long-continued strain of the work told severely on his health, and some six or seven years ago he had to retire from active work, and now the Master has called him to fuller knowledge and nobler service in God's more immediate presence.

AMERICA'S GOING DRY.

We note that news has been received by cable that the States of Michigan, South Dakota, Nebraska, Alaska, Utah, and Montana have voted to go dry. California defeated Prohibition, and by a good majority decided to remain wet. Already nineteen States are dry, and now adding these six there are 25 States which have outlawed the liquor traffic. Missouri votes on the question this month, and has a good prospect of going dry.