

SUPERINTENDENTS' ANNUAL REPORTS.

EVANGELISTIC AND HOME MEETINGS.

Supt.: Mrs Johnson Wright.

The following Unions report holding Home Meetings:—Lower Hutt (1); Wanganui (2, with collections for mine-sweepers); Kaiapoi combines with Mother Union and Plunket Society for meetings; Picton held 30 meetings at home of President, and worked for patriotic purposes; Nelson, 5 home meetings; Auckland, Ashburton, and Wellington District report drawing-room meetings.

Weekly prayer meetings are held by Lyttelton, Dunedin, and Wellington District. Monthly prayer meetings by Pahiatua, Greymouth, Picton, Nelson, Waipawa. Auckland, fortnightly and many special prayer meetings have been held.

Evangelistic meetings were held monthly by Wanganui. Auckland and Christchurch hold monthly Bible readings. Waipawa helped with an evangelical mission last September. Wellington holds weekly evangelical meetings at Alexandra Home.

Timaru visits hospital and distributes literature. Dunedin sent Testaments to sailors and leaflets to soldiers. The Christchurch Union marched in a body to the combined intercessory service in the Cathedral.

MAORI.

Supt.: Mrs Walker.

Lyttelton held its usual Christmas Tree.

Pahiatua distributed Maori leaflets at Hamua.

Ashburton, Timaru, New Plymouth, Wanganui East, Auckland, and Gisborne have appointed superintendents, and distributed leaflets. Mrs Cook (Feilding), Mrs McConnon (Palmerston), Mrs Evans, and Miss Gaustad have distributed leaflets.

The following Unions have contributed to the funds, as published in "White Ribbon" (January, 1919):—Oxford, Dunedin, South Dunedin, N.E. Valley, Wanganui East, Nelson, Wakapuaka, Ashburton, Ponsonby, Gisborne, Waihi - Greenstreet, Richmond, Hawera, New Plymouth, Wellington District, Pahiatua, Napier, Waimate, Waipukurau, Ngaere, Christchurch, Otamatea, Onawhero, Pahi Greymouth. Otamatea, Onawhero, Pahi and Torere (Maori Unions) deserve great credit for keeping their work and membership going in spite of all difficulties this year.

I have written over 100 letters and sent out about 500 leaflets, and thanks are due to those ladies and Unions who have distributed literature and otherwise assisted the Maori Unions.

I was for some time in correspondence with Mrs Rebecca Harris, who hoped to be able to take up some organising work for us. Later on, however, she found, through pressure of other work, that she was unable to do so. A suitable organiser is much needed for this department of Union work.

MORAL AND SOCIAL HYGIENE.

Supt.: Miss McCarthy.

Of the hundred Branches now in existence, about one-fourth of that number have communicated with me during the year. From "White Ribbon" reports and other sources I gather that thirty-five branches have undertaken work in this department.

The activities may be summarised as follows:—

Literature: Circulating magazines.

"Purity Advocate": Forty-five new subscribers—Ashburton, Christchurch, Blenheim, Dunedin, South Dunedin, Kaiapoi, Kaikorai, Invercargill, Timaru, Palmerston North, Port Chalmers, Nelson, and Sawyer's Bay.

"American Motherhood": Dunedin, Greymouth, Nelson, and Waihi.

Libraries: The following have maintained or added to their libraries:—Christchurch, Nelson, and Pahiatua; while a commencement has been made during the year by the Avondale "Y's," Dunedin, Gisborne, Napier, South Dunedin, Timaru, and Wellington "Y's." Hastings and Nelson have depots for the sale of literature. Sales or distribution of literature are reported from Auckland, Dunedin, Eltham, Feilding, Greymouth, Hastings, Kaiapoi, Orari, Urenui, Oxford, and Wanganui East. Palmerston North distributed "White Ribbon" with manifesto in them.

Meetings and Addresses: These have been arranged at Auckland, Christchurch, Hastings, Oxford, Palmerston North, Rakaia, Takapuna, Timaru, and Gisborne. Special addresses urging improvements in the department of Education have been given at Auckland, Cambridge, Dunedin, Dunedin South, North-East Valley, Nelson, Palmerston North, Wanganui East, and Wakapuaka.

Resolutions and Protests to the authorities in regard to differentiation between the sexes, as revealed in the Kelburn Raid case, and sentences for assaults on children, against the appeal for supply of prophylactic outfits to soldiers on leave. Health patrols are reported. The following report in regard to one of these matters:—Auckland, Dunedin, Eden, Nelson, Hamilton, Maitua, Oxford, Onehunga, Pahiatua, Pakiri, Rakaia, South Dunedin, North-East Valley, Wanganui, Wellington, Wakapuaka.

Study Circle: Lyttelton and Timaru report study circles. In conjunction with other societies, Christchurch contributed towards the salary of Nurse Chappell, who addressed several of the branches in Canterbury. Nelson has been successful in making arrangements for regular cinema programmes suitable for children.

Palmerston North and Norsewood sent protests re Miss Rout's letter.

A notable feature of this year's work is the co-operation of branches with other organisations, especially representatives from the Teachers' Institutes, both in regard to educational reforms and moral instruction.

Christchurch has sent delegates to a Round Table Conference called for the purpose of considering how to advance moral reform.

The Dominion Library, for the use of the members of the Executive, is now established.

I should like, in conclusion, to stress the value of libraries and special books now available for study.

LITERATURE.

(Superintendent: Mrs Houlder.)

Increased prices and war conditions have been felt amongst the Unions. Nelson, Christchurch, and South Invercargill have small libraries for their members to use.

Literature has been well circulated by the following Unions:—Nelson, four copies of "American Motherhood" among their members; South Invercargill, 150 copies of Dr. Platts-Mills' Pamphlet on "Social Disease," given away, and the Plunkett Nurse supplied with literature; Hawera, Feilding and Wellington District circulate by means of boxes at railway stations; Ashburton supplies Rest Room and Public Library, and sends to sailors' camps and hospitals; Picton distributes hundreds of copies of "Defeat," also dozens of khaki Testaments in soldiers' kits; Timaru supplies hospital and Sailors' Rest; Christchurch and Hastings distribute literature; Pahiatua distributed 50 copies of Convention number, and sends a copy of "White Ribbon" to the Library; it also put leaflets in sailors' comfort bags.

Balance Sheet to April 21st, 1919.

RECEIPTS.

	£	s.	d.
Balance December, 1917 ...	3	4	1
Literature sold to 21/4/19 ...	29	18	5

£33 2 6

EXPENDITURE.

	£	s.	d.
Cartage Literature—			
Timaru	0	15	9
Timaru to Wellington ...	0	9	3
Telegrams	0	2	8
National Headquarters ...	3	0	0
Bible Tract Society ...	7	14	6
Wright and Carman ...	9	1	5
Cartage to Napier ...	0	8	0
500 "A Man's Question" ...	2	5	0
N.Z. Tract Society ...	1	3	0
Cash Payments	0	17	5
Postage	3	1	3

28 18 9

Balance 4 3 9

£33 2 6

Audited and found correct.

S. BOXALL.

April 23rd, 1919.

WORK AMONG SEAMEN.

(Superintendent: Bessie Nimmo.)

Work among seamen during the past year has been considerably restricted owing to fewer overseas vessels visiting our ports, and seriously hindered by the terrible influenza epidemic that passed through the Dominion, closing for a time the various Rests, and suspending all work among sailors.