

Devonport is trying to get the best men elected on committees.

We shall hope to see a greater interest taken in this Department as our children will not become good citizens unless they are educated to their responsibility.

M. M. LOGAN,
N.Z. Superintendent.

Maori Work.

A Maori report having already been published in the January number of "THE WHITE RIBBON," there remains but little more to be added.

Great interest was shown in the Maori work of the W.C.T.U. at the time of the Convention held in Invercargill in February.

The presence of our New Zealand Maori Organiser, Miss Stirling, who, with Mrs. Papakakura and the Maori friends, took an active part, especially with the social side of the Convention proceedings, added much to the pleasure and interest of the meetings, and in committees a good foundation was laid for future work among our coloured sisters.

District Superintendents for Maori work were appointed, and it is hoped, that with united effort during the coming year, we may, at next Convention, have a good report to give of "something attempted, something done."

Miss Stirling reported that great interest is being shown by the Maori women in the W.C.T.U. work, and wherever a Union has been started and carried on in a fair, excellent results have followed, the younger women especially rising to their opportunities, and with the signing of the pledge, undertaking to keep themselves, their homes and their children neat and tidy, and clean, and, in some cases, where improvements have been made inside, the men folk have been requested by their wives to mend fences and dig gardens, and keep the surroundings of the house as neat as the interior.

The Convention received, with great regret, the resignation of Mr. Pani Te Tau, one of our organisers, who felt she could no longer do justice to the cause in which she has, in the past, rendered such excellent service.

The great need of the Maori work is visitation and organisation, and in order to assist in these, Miss Powell, with her usual administrative ability, had collecting cards printed and distributed, and these "silent messengers" are proving most successful. One small union in Hawkes' Bay recently returned to the Treasurer eight cards only, but they carried a face value of £4 5s. 8d.

Any Union wishing to beat that record for collecting, please apply to the Maori Superintendent for cards at once,

It was decided that, as soon as practicable, a Maori Convention should be held in Hawkes' Bay, at which the New Zealand President was asked to preside. Maoris are quick to recognise and to respect a "Kangitira" or Chief, and it was thought that the presence of our N.Z. Rangitira Wahine would impress our native sisters, and make them feel that they belonged to, and were one with, a world-wide sisterhood.

Our hope of success lies in the younger generation of Maori women, and we appeal to every White Ribboner in the Dominion to "put her shoulder to the wheel" and help on this most important branch of our work.

W.C.T.U.—Maori Fund, Year ending February, 1910:—

RECEIPTS.		£	s.	d.
1909. Department grant	..	7	6	
Timaru Union	..	1	0	0
Treasury Donation	..	5	0	0
Port Chalmers, P.W.M.U.	..	1	0	0
Ashburton	..	1	2	2
Miss Reeve, Te Kuiti	..	0	12	0
Napier (collected)	..	0	6	0
Waipukurau	..	4	5	8
Hastings	..	0	12	0
		£14	5	4

EXPENDITURE.		£	s.	d.
1909. Printing music, cards, etc.	3	2	6	
Miss Powell, Maori Work, Te Kuiti	..	1	0	0
Miss Stirling, travelling	0	12	6	
Stamps, stationery, exchange, and cost of P.O orders	..	0	5	6
Balance in hand	..	9	4	10
		£14	5	4

E. H. HENDERSON,
N.Z. Superintendent and Treasurer,
Maori Work.

Purity.

I cannot tell how sorry I am to have again such a meagre report to present of the work done in my department. I do not know how it is; perhaps it is my fault. I have had a good deal of my time and attention occupied, as some of you are aware, by illness and death in my family, and have not sent out a circular to the Unions as I usually do; but I have endeavoured to keep a good supply of new and attractive literature, and have sent out a much larger supply than ever before. I think some of our Unions expect me to report their work from the scanty information I possess from sending them literature; but this would not do justice to the work that I am sure is being done in many places. I have left the writing of my report to the last moment in the hope of other informa-

tion coming on. At present I have only reports from five places:—Christchurch, Dunedin, New Plymouth, Gisborne, and Waimate.

Christchurch reports an address given to mothers by our President (Mrs. Cole), followed by orders for literature. Some of the Christchurch members have also sent letters to elder girls, and had talks with them, besides circulating a good deal of literature and lending copies of the "Purity Advocate." They are also hoping to start a Reading Circle soon.

Dunedin reports much personal work amongst mothers and distribution of literature.

Gisborne seems to have chiefly done rescue work, and reports three young women placed in situations, and one rescued from prison; besides which a good deal of food and clothing has been distributed. Gisborne has also lately formed a strong Vigilance Committee, and has already been able to rescue three children from undesirable surroundings and place them in the Gisborne Children's Home.

New Plymouth has not been able to do much, but is keenly interested in the work and hopes to do more.

Waimate reports meetings held regularly, and a good deal of literature distributed; also an address given by Miss Powell, which was much appreciated. They hope to work on similar lines on a larger scale this year.

These are the only reports that have been sent to me. To this I would add that I have ordered for various members 62 copies of the "Purity Advocate," and Mrs. Cole tells me that she has recently sent six more names. The circulation of this paper cannot, I think, fail to do good, and it is marvellously cheap—only 6d. for four numbers post free. It is published quarterly, and subscriptions may commence at any time. I have a large variety of literature from England, Scotland, America, and Australia, and have recently got some admirable booklets for boys, men, and parents, published by the "Alliance of Honour," an English society which is doing splendid work. I have also some attractive booklets published by Mr. McCall Barbour, of Edinburgh; booklets by the late Mrs. Atkey; and the "Self and Sex" Series. I also am expecting a further consignment, of the late Mrs. Wood-Allen's books, "Almost a Man" and "Almost a Woman." Miss Powell has specimens of most of these, and will be glad to show them to members. In closing I would mention gratefully the help kindly given to our Purity work by Miss Powell, who carried booklets round with her on her organising tour.

MARIA WEBB, N.Z. Supt.