

report that the Crusade is now fairly going in all the chief cities of our Dominion. In addition, quite a number of Branches have been formed in many of the smaller towns, and we reasonably hope and expect that every month will find a number of other towns added to our list. It is only by a united and determined effort that we can hope to win. The splendid services that are being rendered to our cause by Mrs Barton, Mrs Cowie, and Miss Hughes, will be of inestimable value to us, and we cannot be too gratified to the New Zealand Alliance for the sympathy and co-operation which they have given us. While deeply thankful to these ladies for their valued assistance, let us not be willing to leave the work to them. Now is the time to leave no stone unturned, now is the time for strenuous effort on the part of every member of our Unions. We want, not only to canvass and to influence the women of the towns in which we live, but to organise and work in every little township, remembering that every vote will count. It is quite possible to lose by the failure of a very few votes. We cannot lay too much stress on the importance of making sure that all the women have their names on the roll. Many who really wished to vote at last election went to the polling booth and came away disappointed, because of their own or some one else's neglect.

Amongst some of the workers, the feeling is abroad that we have plenty of time. Such is not the case. To do all the work that is before us, we need to begin *at once*, and not to wait until a month or so before the poll. We cannot begin to pray too soon for the blessing of God upon our Crusade. We should without delay secure the co-operation of every minister, and hold prayer-meetings in the Churches. We are about to begin Sunday night meetings in Dunedin, after the services for about half-an-hour, amongst the women. At these meetings the interest and help of many workers should be secured for our cause.

You will be glad to know that the first edition of the Crusade Books has been sold out. A second edition is now ready, and these can be had for sixpence each. We have now 1000 on hand for sale. Please send for them, and do not delay until too

near the election. The second edition of the Crusade Books is issued in a smaller form, and has space for 130 names only.

If you have not enlisted as a working Crusader, will you do so now? The success of the movement in your district will depend greatly on *your* help and your enthusiasm; your zeal and your prayers. "Work while it is day, for the night cometh when no man can work."

Yours in the Holy War,

ANNIE J. P. DRIVER.

Worthy of Imitation.

Palmerston North is not only arranging for a house-to-house canvass of the town, but is also organising the Women's Crusade in all the surrounding townships and country districts where no branch of the Union exists. If every Union will follow this method—arranging with the neighbouring Unions so that no overlapping takes place—the whole Dominion will be thoroughly worked and the numbers joining the Crusade be vastly augmented. Palmerston is also getting Crusade books printed in pledge form, with butts, thinking it better the women should keep some token of their promise. M.S.P.

The Women's Crusade.

(Lines written by Mrs Helen Barton, of Glasgow, on the inauguration of the New Zealand Women's Crusade for Prohibition.)

The call to arms, dear comrades here,
Whose hearts are kind and true,
All loyal womanhood unite—
Your nation calls to you.
A noble band of dauntless hearts,
You now must take your place,
Triumphant lead this crusade on,
True patriots of your race.

Now forward march—your cause is just,
The tyrant Drink *must* go;
No parley for our enemy,
But lay the oppressor low.
Our standard we have planted firm,
Our banner is unfurled,
The bugle notes we sound so clear
Shall ring throughout the world.

Our weapon shall be words of truth,
Our Battle Cry is Love;
No deadly sword shall stain our hands,
No fear of brother's blood.
But in a holy crusade march,
Our people's lives to save,
High over all our King doth reign,
His banners brightly wave.

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.]

AUCKLAND.

June 20th, in the Congregational Church, a public meeting was held. Rev. Steel Craik took the chair. The meeting took the form of a welcome to Miss Anderson Hughes back to her native land. Welcome speeches were given by Mr Wesley Spragg, President New Zealand Alliance, Mr C. H. Poole, M.P., and Mrs Dewar, President W.C.T.U. A beautiful bouquet, with the New Zealand flag and Union Jack intertwined, was presented to Miss Hughes by the President's two little granddaughters. Miss Anderson Hughes gave a splendid address, introducing the "Women's Crusade" into Auckland. A large number signed the pledge, and took the books to secure other pledges.

July 2nd, in the Opera House, Miss Anderson Hughes gave an address on the "Magic War Cry." Mrs Pacey took the chair, and there were musical items rendered during the afternoon. Miss Hughes gave a stirring address and the movement took on heartily. At the close of her address Miss Hughes asked for a standing vote of all who were willing to join the crusade, and the audience rose *en masse*. Large numbers signed the crusade pledge, while many volunteers took the books to canvass for pledges.

GISBORNE.

A special meeting was held June 16th to celebrate WHITE RIBBON Day. Mrs J. Stewart, Superintendent of this Department, read the annual report of the paper given at Convention, and also spoke on the local circulation, which has increased this year. Other members spoke on the usefulness of the paper. An excellent paper on the subject of "Mental Purity" was given by the President, and an interesting discussion followed, several members taking part and speaking of the need for intelligent thought on these subjects, and a request was made that Mrs Graham's paper be printed if possible in the WHITE RIBBON. A letter and leaflet from Mrs Webb on the same subject, with practical suggestions for local workers, were also read and discussed.

The business meeting was held on June 25th. Reports from the following Departments of work given—Literature, Flower Mission, three cases of rescue work; Peace and Arbitration—that, in answer to a request from the Union, excellent sermons had been preached in the Anglican Church on this subject on the Sunday following Coronation week. Some beautiful extracts from the "Life of Man," by Lecky, on character and right thought, were read by Mrs Wilkes.

July 5th. Mrs Barton has spent a very useful and busy week amongst us. She is a most able witty, and humorous speaker, with a fine understanding and personal knowledge of the great social reforms on which she speaks. Her meetings and addresses have been delightful and given fresh inspiration and enthusiasm to the workers and roused all her hearers to a more earnest consideration of this question, *i.e.*, the drink traffic. We cannot speak too highly of her ability, nor of her self-sacrificing power of