

## 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.

March 13. Mrs Thorpe presided. Telegrams of congratulation and greetings sent to Mrs A. R. Atkinson on her election to the Licensing Committee, and to Convention at Dunedin. Resolution protesting against the proposed extension of tram services, life-saving demonstrations in the public park, and collections on the beaches, on Sundays, sent to the City Council.

27. A very earnest address, given by Miss Burridge, recently arrived from England. The speaker urged workers to live nearer to God, to pray more constantly to be filled with His love, so that our work be more successful.

April 10. Mrs Dewar presided. Members deeply interested in reports of Convention given by the delegates. Mrs Hughes reported that 44 Maori Unions are at work north of Auckland. There are 111 European Unions, an increase of 24 on the year. The North Island has 76 branches and the South Island numbers 55.

April 17, several members went to the meeting at Devonport and gave reports of Convention meetings.

24th. Miss Dewar presided. Letters of sympathy sent to those in sorrow, and one of congratulation to another on her marriage. A request from Papakura for help to form a branch was responded to. Mrs Hughes and Miss Evans to assist in organising at Northcote. Miss Evans gave an earnest address on importance of organising for the next poll. A committee was formed to arrange a scheme. The fact was emphasised 'hat although our opponents have money on their side, we have a far stronger weapon in prayer which they have not; and a helpful thought was expressed that "God's delay is not 'denial.'" Great thankfulness is felt at our large increase in numbers throughout the Dominion.

### HAMILTON.

March 7, in Wesley classroom. Mrs Auld presided. Correspondence which had been dealt with by the Executive was endorsed by the Union. A paper was read by the Secretary, Mrs Jones, on "Why I voted No-license." An address on "Work and Prayer" was given by Mrs Snow lately from Palmerston North.

April 14, in Wesley Hall. Mrs Auld presided.

16th, a Cradle Roll Birthday Party was held in the Frankton Presbyterian Church, Mrs Auld presiding. The Church was well filled with mothers and their little ones. Musical items were rendered, interspersed with short addresses. Afternoon tea was provided, and several new names were added to the Cradle Roll.

May 2, in Wesley classroom, Dr Rogers gave a most helpful and instructive address on "The care of an ordinary healthy child." The doctor was given a most attentive hearing, and he promised to give another address at some future date.

### CAMBRIDGE.

March 21, a large number of ladies gathered at the Secretary's (Mrs Watson) to bid farewell and God-speed to the President (Mrs Shepherd) who is leaving for a trip to the Old Country. She was presented with an autograph album and a gold-mounted fountain pen as a token of appreciation of her good work in the Union. Afternoon tea was served.

April 2, in Victoria Hall. Mrs Auld (Pres.) and Mrs Jones (Sec.) of Hamilton were present. Each gave a very helpful talk bearing specially on the Cradle Roll. It was resolved to take up this branch of work. Mrs Gow will preside during the absence of the President.

### GISBORNE.

March 26th. Mrs Oakley appointed Superintendent of work amongst seamen. Mrs Stewart read short articles on "Prayer," and "Parents' duty towards teachers."

April 18th. Celebration of Francis Willard Day by a garden party held at the residence of Mrs A. Graham, Kaiti. Mrs Graham spoke on the great work done by Frances Willard. Mr Jones, No-license Organiser, and Revs. Chatterton and Lochore also addressed the gathering, referring to the noble life and work of the founder, and the high ideals that the Union stands for. Mrs Goffe, delegate, gave a most interesting and comprehensive report of Convention. A beautiful hymn was sung by the students of the Native College of Te Rau, and a humorous recitation was given by Mrs N. Hooper.

30th. Old Men's Home and Hospital had been visited, and literature distributed. Five of our members were elected on the School Committees. Mesdames Walker, East, and Church on the Central School, and Mesdames McLeod and Scott on the Mangapapa (suburban).

### MASTERTON.

April 2nd, in Knox Hall, Mrs Burton presided. Miss McNeish, Organiser, gave a very interesting address stating that she had visited 28 Unions in the North Island and organised eleven, initiating 143 members. Miss McNeish was on her way to Greytown. A vote of sympathy was passed to the Rev. Serpell and family in their sad bereavement in the death of Mrs Serpell, who was a Vice-President of the Union. The members sent a beautiful wreath to be placed on her grave.

May 7th, Home Meeting at the residence of Mrs Marley. Mrs Anderson presided. An excellent programme was given. During the afternoon Mrs D'Ews (the late Secretary) was presented with a gold initial brooch as a small token of appreciation of her work during the past three years. A vote of sympathy was accorded to Mrs Exell on account of her recent bereavement. A dainty tea was provided by the hostess. Six new members were initiated.

### LEVIN.

At the Methodist Parsonage. Mrs Remington presided. One new member was welcomed and a happy meeting was brought to a close.

### RAETIHI.

March 26th, Mrs Gibbs presided. Mrs Underwood read a very interesting paper entitled, "Are the lives of our boys worth saving?"

April 30th, Mrs Gibbs presided. Mrs Herd read paper written by Mrs Ritchie, Palmerston North, which was very much appreciated. The Band of Hope is doing splendid work, all the meetings being well attended.

### WANGANUI.

April 12th, at St. Paul's Hall, Mrs Upton, Vice-President, in the chair. Miss Tucker, the Secretary for many years, tendered her resignation owing to ill-health. The Union expressed deep sympathy with Miss Tucker in her illness. The report of the delegate to the Dunedin Convention was read.

May 3rd. Mrs Small in the chair. Mrs Upton was appointed Secretary and Miss McAneny Recording Secretary. Mrs Siddells, Treasurer, was elected a member of the School Committee. Mrs Field, a visitor from Nelson, was welcomed.

### HAWERA.

Visitors from other Unions present: Mrs Cumming, Christchurch, Mrs Thomas, Eltham, and Miss Christiansen, Okaiawa. Mrs Martin was appointed to represent us at the Palmerston North Convention. Decided that in future the Union should meet in electric picture theatre (Oddfellows' Hall). Mr Lee, Organiser for Dr. Barnardo's Homes, addressed the meeting. At the close a number volunteered their services as collectors for this worthy object.

Held in Oddfellows Hall, Mrs Boase presided. A paper was read on "Home Meetings; How to conduct and organise them." Mrs Best and Mrs Browne were nominated for the School Committee. The members decided to present the sum of 10/- to the managers of the Wesley Church for use of their Hall during the year. Mrs Martin gave an interesting report at the Palmerston North Convention. Two new members were initiated.

### CHRISTCHURCH.

April 10th, an address on "Women as Citizens" was given by Mrs S. S. Page. The speaker opened by saying that mothers were coming to the conclusion that for the sake of their children they must take their share in public work, that a man-made world would never do to send their children into. Women did not regard a finance-ridden country as an ideal environment for human beings. The ideal Government would be one composed equally of men and women. When a scheme for improving school grounds, teacher's residences, etc., was brought forward, the cry had been that it would be disastrous to the finances of the country, and yet the State had recently spent an amount equal to that voted for education on the defence scheme. Regarding the School Committee elections, Mrs Page urged the returning of suitable women as well as men. She also advocated the appointment of a playtime teacher, who would engage the children in play, thus helping to make and keep the atmosphere of the playground clean and wholesome. During the discussion which followed two members spoke of the courtesy they had received during their term of service on the School Committees.

### OXFORD.

Held in the Coronation Hall, Mrs Gainsford presided. An address was given by the Rev. H. Couch on "The Duties of Mothers and Members of Unions," urging all to work together in unity and sisterly love. The address was greatly appreciated. Decided to start a Matinee Loyal Temperance Legion for children who are too young to attend meetings at night. Mrs Kippenberger appointed Cradle Roll Superintendent, Mrs T. Gainsford to assist. Two new members were enrolled.