

been to meet so many earnest workers and hear the able and instructive discussions.

May 31st, the President read Mrs. Bendely's able paper on "Problems Awaiting Solution." One new member was initiated.

WARKWORTH.

May 30th, Mrs. Morrison presided. Much interest is shown in the work. A Dorcas Box has been provided. The Defence Act was freely discussed. Mrs. Warin was elected President of the Cradle Roll. A new member was enrolled.

NEW PLYMOUTH.

May 23rd, a successful "Jumble Fair" was held, to raise funds for our assessment to Organising Fund, and to help the Cradle Roll and Maori work.

We are combining with the Good Templars, No-License League, and other Temperance Societies in a stand at the Winter Show, in the new Agricultural Hall, to be opened by the Governor June 5th. The Show runs for four days, and the object lesson, "Total Abstinence versus Alcohol," should attract some attention. White Ribbon Day is arranged for June 26th, when we shall endeavour to sell the balance of goods left over from the Fair. Correspondence, "Scientific Temperance" and "Evangelistic," read.

STRATFORD.

May 15th Miss Morgan, Plunket nurse, New Plymouth, gave a lecture and demonstration in Foresters' Hall. Much valuable information was given in regard to the diet and care of infants, and humanised milk was prepared. There is much need for a series of these lectures, as the ignorance amongst many mothers in regard to proper food for their children is almost incredible. Miss Morgan is a good speaker, and possesses a winning personality.

ASHBURTON.

May, Mrs. W. T. Lill presiding. Favourite hymns were read and quoted. Mrs. Cole, N.Z. President, wrote at length, stating why it would be inadvisable at the present time to make the local branch a District Union. As nothing could be settled until next Convention, it was decided to postpone further discussion. Mrs. Lill presented the Union with a handsome new banner, and in doing so she referred to the gratuitous work done by Mr. W. H. ALEN. Resolved that a letter be sent Miss A. C. Watson (Treas.) conveying heartfelt sympathy with her in her illness. The Rev. W. J. Elliott spoke on the subject of "Hymnology," giving a highly instructive address.

DUNEDIN "Y's."

At an open meeting, Mrs. Don presiding, a lecture by Mrs. Stables on "Food Reform" was given. In her interesting address she said that people could live and receive sufficient nourishment from cereals, nuts, and fruits. More suffering was caused through over-eating than the opposite, and men and women should learn to control their appetites if the race was to be purified. She quoted

Dr. George Cheyne's work, "The English Malady," wherein he states: "There are some cases wherein a vegetable diet seems absolutely necessary, as in severe and habitual gout, rheumatism, cancerous disorders, etc., and towards the last stages of all chronic distempers. In such cases I have seldom seen such a diet fail of a good effect at last." The same writer urges that with regard to all nervous and brain diseases a reformed diet would greatly alleviate and render tolerable distempers derived from diseased parents. Mrs. Stables also touched on the use of plain food for persons addicted to the alcohol habit.

We are helping with the Carnival at the opening of the new buildings of the Y.M.C.A. Misses Hastie and Reid are in charge of a beautiful Christmas Tree, the fruit of which was largely contributed by our members. Some are also assisting as waitresses in the tea rooms connected with the Carnival.

Any work helping on the spiritual and moral welfare of the people is gladly assisted by our branch.

OXFORD.

May 29th, in the Coronation Hall, Mrs. Gainsford presiding. Rev. Nixon addressed the meeting on "Religious influence of Women," especially on the home. One new member was enrolled. Decided to make special effort to obtain literature for the backblocks. The matinee Band of Hope is progressing; have had three meetings. Rev. Wise gave an instructive blackboard address on "Strong Drink and Its Effects on the Soul, Body, and Nation." The children copied the address on the slates, and a small prize was given for the best copy.

FEILDING.

June 6th, in St. Paul's Hall, Mrs. Frost, President, presided. Correspondence read re Mr. Bligh. A letter of sympathy to Miss Bell re her late bereavement. The members agreed that the work of sick-visiting was much needed. The Cradle Roll was discussed, and the Superintendent of the Cradle Roll was requested to bring a report on her work to the next meeting.

DUNEDIN.

May 7th, a "United" Social was held. General regret was expressed at the great loss sustained by us through the removal to the North Island of Mrs. Heatley, late Treas. Several testified to the excellent service rendered in many capacities by her, and hoped she would be a tower of strength to the Otaki Union. Mrs. H. H. Driver was appointed to speak at the Y.M.C.A.'s "Mothers' Day" Demonstration. Hearty congratulations were given to the five ladies recently elected members of the South Dunedin and North-East Valley Unions School Committees.

Over five hundred copies of Hon. J. T. Paul's pamphlet on "Women in Civic and Political Life" have been sold. After the initiation of two new members, the evening was occupied with music and short speeches. Great interest was taken in an impromptu speech competition. Mesdames Hislop, H. H. Dri-

ver, the Misses Mazengarb and Roseveare taking part. The subject chosen was "What do you think of the present Industrial Unrest throughout the World?" Miss Roseveare was declared the winner. Refreshments were served by the "Y's."

MASTERTON.

June 4th, Mrs. Devonport presiding. Mrs. McDonald, of Palmerston North, also Miss Ramsay, organiser of the Presbyterian Women's Missionary Union, were present, and briefly addressed the meeting. At the close the President, on behalf of the Union, presented Mrs. James Miller with a handsome morocco handbag mounted in silver, with initials inscribed, as a small token of appreciation for her services as Treasurer during the past six years. Mrs. Miller suitably responded. Mrs. Beale kindly invited the Union to hold their next meeting at her residence.

NORSEWOOD.

May 17th, in the Library. The absence of Mrs. Oldham through illness was regretted, but we were cheered by the presence of Mrs. Dearlove, who gave many helpful hints about the work of the Union. So well did she tell the story that we had the joy of welcoming five new members.

NELSON "Y's."

Reports progress. Several new members have been initiated recently. Membership now stands over 40.

A very successful social gathering was held recently by members and their friends, and most enjoyable time spent by all.

The Hospital is visited on Sunday afternoons.

Mrs. Watson and Miss Atkinson (senior branch) gave addresses on returning from Convention.

TIMARU "Y's."

May 6th, in the Arcade room, Mrs. Butcher presiding. Mrs. Hunt gave a very interesting report on "Missionary Work in Samoa." Several cards were given out in connection with the Maori work. Two musical items were pleasingly rendered. One new member was initiated.

Decided to open room twice weekly--Wednesday and Friday evenings.

NEW BRIGHTON.

May 7th, in Methodist Church. Correspondence received from Mesdames Cowie and Rimmer re Convention. Resolved to hand the Band of Hope over to the new committee formed. Miss Roberts gave interesting address on the recent Convention held in Dunedin.

June, in Methodist Church. Correspondence was received from Mr. Cooper re Band of Hope. Decided to hold the meetings at 2.30 p.m. during the winter months. Decided to keep a Members' Roll. Mesdames Spratt, McKinney, Rountræ, and Goodwin were appointed a committee for visiting absent members. Our President gave a most interesting paper, followed by a brief address. One new member was initiated.