

Gerrand, from the N.Z. League, addressed the meeting on the Majority question, the resolution re same being still left for another time. Owing to shortness of time, White Ribbon Day was quite left out, but it will be given later on. Papers on "Franchise Movement" were read by Mrs. Doull. A collection taken amounted to 18/9. Some new members were added. Mrs. Whitehead presided.

Oct. 4. Mrs. Whitehead presided. Arrangements are well in hand for the refreshment booth at the Spring Show, and great things are expected. All the members are working well together, and it is expected to be a great success. Resolved that £1 be sent to the N.Z. Union. Rev. Dawson to address the members on Monday, Oct. 14, re the Majority question. Several members took pledge-books. Revised roll shows 80 members. Mrs. Bailey has decided to be Supt. of Evangelistic department; once more this important branch will be worked.

At a meeting of the Executive the Recording Secretary's (Mrs. McDonald) resignation was accepted. Mrs. McDonald is removing to Mosgtel.

WANGANUI.

Held in St. Paul's Hall, Mrs. J. Smith in the chair. Reported the A. and P. Association had granted the use of the small grandstand for women and children on Show Day. This will take the place of the "rest tent" hitherto provided by the W.C.T.U. The thanks of the meeting were conveyed to the Association. An old member was welcomed back after an absence of five years. A paper was read about the Home for Girls in Invercargill. Decided the members send clothing to the Home. A paper on "Good Citizenship" was also read.

NORSEWOOD.

Sept. 19. A drawing-room meeting, presided over by Mrs. Bridgman, was held at Mrs. S. Fredrickson's, Garfield. Miss Alice Webb addressed the meeting, her subject being "Personal Responsibility." We shall be judged according to what we have, and in our noble Temperance work we have three things—the power to pray, the power to work, and the power to vote. If we fail to use what we have in a right way, and vote in the drink, we have a share in every crime that drink commits. It was decided in future to hold our meetings on the third Thursday of each month.

AUCKLAND CENTRAL.

Sept. 11. Mrs. Thorpe presided. An excellent address was given by Rev. Falkner on "Christian Citizenship: Its Privileges and Responsibilities."

WAIPIKURAU.

Sept. 19, in St. Andrew's Hall, Mrs. Logan in the chair. Willard Day commemorated by suitable readings, etc., interspersed with songs. Pleasant and profitable time spent.

TIMARU.

Sept. 24. Mrs. Wallace presided. Mrs. Howard, delegate, enjoyed the meetings, and brought with her many wise suggestions for future work from the District Convention held at Kaiapoi. Decided to approach the committee with a request for the privilege of having a Rest and Refreshment Tent at the coming A. and P. Show.

GISBORNE.

Aug. 31, special meeting called to consider proposals in connection with the Bare Majority vote and Totalisator Referendum, and the following resolution was passed after a good discussion:—"The members of this Union express their indignation and sorrow that a majority of members in the House of Representatives refused to grant a very large majority of the electors of this country any reduction in the iniquitous handicap imposed upon them in licensing matters, and unless some reduction is made before the next election we shall be reluctantly compelled to induce as many as possible to refuse to vote for any candidate who will not support a reduced majority." A resolution was also passed protesting against legislation of the totalisator. These resolutions are being forwarded to M.S.P., Ministers, etc.

Franchise Day, Sept. 19, observed by a meeting open to friends and sympathisers. Mrs. A. Graham presided, and opened the meeting with a short address, speaking upon the duties that devolve upon members, both as wives and mothers, and also as citizens, and of the code of rules to be found in the Bible for the conduct of life. Mr. J. R. Kirk, solicitor, gave a short address, speaking of the Education Commission, from which he had just returned, and some of its important recommendations regarding "Lessons on Health" in our schools. He also referred to the importance of women interesting themselves in the universal training system, which he considered should provide both physical and moral training for our youths. Rev. W. Grant spoke on "Comradeship," and how the granting of greater privileges and opportunities to women helped to promote better friendship between them, and also with men. He congratulated women on all that had been accomplished with their help, and spoke of the importance of their realising the responsibilities of citizenship. He also touched upon the military training system, and said that with care and watchfulness on the part of the authorities he was convinced that it would only tend for good. Musical items and recitations were contributed by Mesdames Church and N. Hooper. The following resolution was carried almost unanimously:—"That the Gisborne Branch of the W.C.T.U. is earnestly desirous of seeing the franchise extended as speedily as possible to our sisters in the Homeland, and would encourage them to continue striving for this end by

every legitimate means in their power."

Sept. 24, monthly meeting. Reports received from members that good work was being done in literature department, also hospital and sick visiting. Decided that Band of Hope gold medal essay competition take place Sept. 28th.

ASHBURTON.

Sept. Mrs. W. T. Lil presided. The Secretary of the No-License League wrote asking the assistance of the Union in connection with the Tea on Labour Day. It was resolved to comply with the request. Mrs. C. Thomas, one of the delegates to the District Convention held in Kaiapoi, gave a lengthy and admirable report. One new member was initiated.

Sept. 10, Garden Party. Our Union celebrated the nineteenth anniversary of Franchise Day by holding a Garden Party in Mrs. Ferriman's grounds. The Mayor and Mayoress, and several members of the Borough Council, were present. Mrs. Lil, President, made a few introductory remarks, after which Mrs. Cole, N.Z. President, addressed the gathering. Mrs. Cole dealt in a comprehensive way with the history of the women's franchise movement in New Zealand, going as far back as 1843, and she made particular reference to the excellent services rendered the movement by the late Mr. A. Saunders, Mr. J. Ballance, and Sir John Hall. The address was full of instruction. Mr. Wesley Spragg and Rev. J. Dawson briefly addressed the gathering, and to add to the pleasure of those present the Ashburton Temperance Band played several selections during the afternoon. Solos and duets by members and friends were pleasingly rendered. The whole of the proceedings were characterised by enthusiasm and heartiness, and reflected much credit on the promoters. From the proceeds a donation was made towards the funds of the Band, as well as adding a substantial sum to the funds of the Union.

HAMILTON.

Oct. 3, in the class rooms. Mrs. Auld presided. "The Democratic Vote" was discussed, members being greatly enthused by the meeting held the day previously by Messrs Spragg, Bedford, and Dawson. The pledge-book on the democratic vote campaign, inaugurated by the N.Z. Alliance, is being heartily taken up by members.

STRATFORD.

Sept. 21 and 22. We were fortunate in securing the able assistance of Dr. Elizabeth Dunn, of Wanganui, for a series of preparatory "Health Talks" in the Town Hall. At the afternoon meeting the children were instructed in the importance of yielding obedience to the authority of parents and teachers, who knew the dangers by which they were surrounded, and the consequences of broken health to mind and body if they disregarded the restrictions to which they were subjugated.