

The activity amongst the Branches suggests a new launching out into the deep, and a letting down of the nets, but instinctively we adapt the prayer of the Breton fishermen and say:

O God! help us,
This sea is so wide,
And our boats are so small.

B.M.H.

WELLINGTON SOUTH.

WHITE RIBBON DAY.

A fair attendance. A short talk was given by Mrs Evans on the resolutions that had been passed by the Annual Convention in Dunedin. Explanations were given where necessary, and emphasis laid upon certain recommendations that had been stressed at Convention.

The rest of the time was devoted to an interesting address on the "White Ribbon," the meeting having been arranged to celebrate "White Ribbon Day." The speaker was Miss C. E. Kirk, and she referred to the excellent character of the paper, especially pointing out the fact that the greater part of it was original, and that in its preparation the scissors were not used over-freely. The Editor had great versatility of talents, and could with equal ease write the leading article, give the history of the Woman's Movement, and prepare songs and choruses for the children. The "Children's Supplement" came in for a special word of praise, and members were urged to send copies to the teachers in the backblocks, where the children were always eager to get them, and this was one way of getting Temperance truths made known in the country districts. Turning to the financial aspect of the paper, members were reminded how in the early days of the magazine the Editor had often found it very difficult to make both ends meet, and frequently a levy had to be made on the Unions to wipe off the deficit. Thanks to the energy of the present Editor in encouraging Unions to increase the circulation, and to her excellent management of the business, for a good many years now the balance had been consistently on the right side. The speaker closed by appealing to those present to "hold the ropes firmly," and each do her bit by securing at least one new subscriber during this month's "drive," for white vote-winning was the most important

work for this year, to introduce the "White Ribbon" into homes where it was hitherto unknown was one indirect method of achieving that end, and so contributing to the hoped-for victory. During the afternoon several vocal items were charmingly rendered by Mrs Bott and Miss E. Webb, and added greatly to the enjoyment of those who were present.

CARTERTON.

Mrs R. H. Every presided over a good gathering, who had come to hear Miss Dunraven Burls, lecturer for the New Zealand Alliance. Mrs Every introduced the speaker. During the course of her eloquent address on, "Woman's Power and Influence" Miss Burls said:—

That it was the home life that all thinking men and women looked for the future prosperity of the Dominion, and from the homes emanated all that was good and pure in the lives of the citizens of to-day. Yet in hundreds of homes throughout the land, drink robbed them of all the love, purity and kindness they contained, and replaced them with discord and misery. There were thousands of homes in New Zealand and Australia that had never known happiness because of the contaminating influence of drink. The amount of money spent in liquor in New Zealand last year, was sufficient to have started every child born during the year with a banking account of £240. There were 5000 children the inmates of the orphanages of New Zealand at the present time, and the superintendents in charge of those department had informed the speaker that 80 per cent. of the orphans had been robbed of their parents by the drink traffic. A Traffic that is detrimental to the child life of the country should never be tolerated. It was to the child that the nation looked for its future prosperity, and the children should be fostered and guarded as a sacred trust.

The question was a national one, and the issue rested with every woman to see that the curse was abolished. "The Woman," concluded Miss Burls, "who refused to take action to-day, was lacking in a sense of responsibility that would have to be answered for in the future."

The speaker was thanked for her address, and the meeting was brought to a close. Afternoon tea

was served, the hostesses for the afternoon being Mrs Lee and Mrs Mugley.

DOMINION LIBRARY.

MISSING BOOKS.

Five Library books are evidently lost. The Librarian would be glad to hear from any one who can help her to trace them.

"Woman and Marriage." The last record was lent to a member in Wellington in 1922; believed to have been returned the same year; was not missed until asked for last year.

"The Hope of Europe," by Sir Philip Gibbs, lent to Blenheim Union 1923.

"Back to Life," by Sir Philip Gibbs, lent during the New Plymouth Convention last year.

"Divorce," by Mrs Gallicham, lent during the same Convention. Both supposed to have been lent to Invercargill.

"Towards New Horizons," lent during the same Convention to a member from Oxford, North Canterbury.

It is hoped that members will understand that books are only lent for one month, as a good deal of time and postage has been taken up lately in trying to get these and other books returned or forwarded to members waiting for them.

Will those who apply for extension of time understand that the extension is granted—one or two months as asked for—unless notified to the contrary?

Of course, any of the last three books may have been left behind in New Plymouth.

The Librarian, Mrs Field, "The Rocks," Nelson, will be glad to hear from any one who can give her any information in regard to any of these books.

SOUTH CANTERBURY DISTRICT PROVINCIAL CONVENTION.

TIMARU-SEPTEMBER.

Will all delegates who require hospitality during Convention, send their names and addresses as soon as possible, to Mrs Minifie, 11 Roslyn Terrace, Timaru.