

terest has been shown in the department of Back Blocks and Work Among Railwaymen, several Unions having taken up this work and appointed Superintendents for the first time. Wai-pawa, Wellington, Stratford, Blenheim, Feilding, and several others have sent their reports. Others will, no doubt, do so in a short time.

In Nelson we are steadily getting as much literature as possible to the Back Blocks, and quite a number of Unions state that the parcels sent out by them are much appreciated by the men, and find that all the papers put in the railway boxes are much read.

Trusting that any Union who has not taken up this work, will endeavour to do so, and I believe that if we pray and work as we ought we will have victory in 1922.

MEDICAL TEMPERANCE.

(Supt.: Mrs Clara M. Neal.)

Hawera, Ngaere, New Plymouth, and Aramohe Y's purchased leaflets.

Feilding and Pahiatua gave a copy of "Safe Remedies in Illness" to each new member.

Palmerston North and Feilding each read one medical temperance paper.

Balance-sheet Medical Temperance Department, 1920.

Receipts.

	£	s.	d.
1919 Balance	1	17	10½
Sales at Convention	0	2	6
Sales by Post	0	8	4
Dept. Grant from N.Z. Union	0	7	6

£2 16 2½

Expenditure.

	£	s.	d.
Postage on Parcels and Letters	0	2	1½
Balance in Hand	2	14	1

£2 16 2½

Assets.

	£	s.	d.
Cash in Hand	2	14	1
Value of Leaflets in Stock	2	10	11

£5 5 0

11 Letters and 7 parcels sent out. 630 leaflets sold and 66 distributed free.

PRESS.

(Supt.: Miss Jessie Mackay.)

As in previous years, a regrettable number of Unions have failed to report for 1920, but on the other hand there has been no falling off in Press activity since last Convention.

Feilding, Invercargill, Manaia, Oxford, and Wellington have reported meetings regularly in local papers, and the "White Ribbon." Pahiatua has sent at intervals. Wanganui District pays a tribute to generous treatment of the local Press regarding the Union's regular reports.

Palmerston North lost two Superintendents during the year, since which Mrs Crabb has kindly furnished reports for the local Press and "White Rib-

bon," when able. Names of donors to the street stalls have been regularly published. A circular leaflet of information regarding Willard Home was sent down the line, and its contents noted in the local papers.

From the Ashburton District Union comes the gratifying record of a busy year. Winchmore, Greenstreet, and the head Union itself have reported meetings regularly in the local papers, and "White Ribbon," Rakaia and Tinwald reporting occasionally. Under a new Editor the "Mail" and "Guardian" have rendered excellent service, supporting by able and timely articles the request of the District Union to the Hospital Board for a St. Helen's Home or Maternity Ward in Ashburton, also that trained nurses should be appointed to the country districts. As a result, an additional nurse has been sent. Miss Trevurza adds: "It is with pleasure that we can report a Press in entire sympathy with our efforts for the betterment of mankind, more up-to-date hygienic laws, and a higher moral and social purity."

Auckland District Union states that all meetings are advertised, and reported in the local Press and "White Ribbon," with locals when necessary. The lady reporter of one of the papers has attended special meetings, and Miss Dewar notes the good effect of the prominence thereby accorded in the Women's Column.

The Christchurch Union has reported all meetings in the city daily papers. The main work of the year was the part taken by the Union in conjunction with other women's societies, touching the inauguration of the Fight the Famine Campaign in Canterbury. The Press Superintendent sent a number of letters of information and appeal to the morning papers. Mrs Sheppard and Miss L. M. Smith supplied Canterbury country newspapers with information. Appeals were also sent to the "Methodist Times," "Outlook," and "Church News." Letters on Prohibition, indentured labour in Samoa, and the Gaming Bill were sent to Christchurch newspapers.

The Nelson Union has advertised all meetings, and secured good reports in the local Press, as well as sending to the "White Ribbon." Miss Atkinson wrote an appeal to help the "Save the Children Fund," to which there was a splendid response.

The Richmond Union pays for the weekly insertion in the local paper of a short telling advertisement against alcohol.

Wanganui East has all meetings in the "White Ribbon," also fully reported in both daily papers. The "Chronicle" is most sympathetic, and gives prominence to papers read at meetings. A lady visitor from abroad, being interviewed in Wanganui, rashly stated that Franchise had done neither good or harm in New Zealand. This evoked letters of protest, the Press Superinten-

dent (Mrs Duxfield) showing how many reforms have been placed on the Statute Book since 1893.

It is to be hoped, in conclusion, that Press Superintendents will lose no opportunity this year of making the voice of their Unions heard when great principles are at stake.

GENERAL LITERATURE.

Supt.: Mrs Mowlem.

This department has had a rather quiet year, owing, no doubt, to very little aggressive work being done apart from our Field Secretary; she has been busy, I believe, judging from her orders which have come to hand.

The passing of the Government measure in our Parliament for the strict education of our youth, especially in our public schools, on the evils of alcohol, is an indication that our work and our literature in the past has had its influence, and has been doing its work in our land upon our law-makers and those in authority. This measure, we understand, is to be in printed form, and therefore will be literature of more value to us, meeting our demands along this line as nothing has hitherto done. This measure in leaflet form, we hope, will meet any emergency in the coming days. It does not mean that the printed page or aggressive work is confined only to this, or must take a back seat, and allowed to sink into insignificance. The fact that there yet remains the drink and many preventible evils in our fair land is an evidence that much yet remains to be done along this line, and we trust that our Unions will take encouragement from these very evident signs of progress, and still seize every opportunity to bring our heaven-born principles before the public. There are many votes yet to capture. We have on hand a good supply of that which is necessary for the working of our Unions, such as membership cards, what the W.C.T.U. is, etc., etc., and all writing material. We trust to have our new hymn books to hand right soon, also a good supply of White Ribbon bows.

Reports that have come to hand show some activity. Ashburton is not behind in this, and tells of regular distribution of literature amongst the members, at the Rest Room, the railway station, the sick in hospital, especially the soldiers' ward, the Soldiers' Club-room, and Old Men's Home; books instructive to the young on sex questions kept in circulation, also purity leaflets. Copies of "White Ribbon" placed monthly in Public Library and women's rest room, also four dozen Convention numbers of "White Ribbon" distributed free. Winchmore, Greenstreet, and Tinwald Branches also participate and co-operate in all this work with their Mother Union. Special mention is made of the work of one of the assistants, a young lady who is almost blind, yet who has been most faithful in her work. "Verily, she hath done