

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor,

The "White Ribbon."

Dear Madam,—

At our monthly meeting it was a pleasure to hear our President refer, as I am sure many other Presidents and private members have done, to the particularly good quality of the last White Ribbon. But there was one expression which it seems to me might have been improved. Why say "Back to the Kitchen" as if the kitchen of necessity means drudgery, and only drudgery? If we are to have homes we need kitchens, and the better type of brain used there (not misused or left to addle itself) the better for the home life, both physical, mental and spiritual. Children of every age need good food, in all three ways, and it takes a mind, alert, well trained and generous to supply that need. We have made far too much mistake in our system of education in not impressing on the last generation that home-making is the highest profession, and that those who give their lives to it are to be honoured.

The W.C.T.U. can help the country, now and in the future, if it lays stress on the importance of this attitude. It does not sweep a room as for His Majesty— we all know the feeling comes without warning, sometimes in the most unobtrusive of routine jobs, and the day is spoiled. Thanks be for the knowledge that God sends every housewife sometimes, if she loves her work, "This house is mine, and Thou my ministering priest. To make it holy for Thy race to enter in, Thy work is not the least." Would not we be wiser to use this as a slogan, Forward in the Kitchen? Forward all the time, for us and for our children. Our children don't inherit our early enthusiasm, they have to be trained in it, and the home, of which the kitchen is a basic part, is the training-ground God has given us. If the country is to live it needs comfortable homes, so we can't afford any snobbishness in regarding home-making as below any girl's ambition, and in that side of education, as in others, it is for the W.C.T.U. to lead.

KATHERINE MERCER.

Had our correspondent looked carefully she would have seen that "Back to the kitchen" was a quotation. We are entirely in accord with the writer as to the importance of the kitchen. But our objection is to the contention that the kitchen is the only place for women. Also, what of the women who never have kitchens to work in? Woman is an individual and has a right to any position for which God has given her talents.—Ed. "W.R."

STOP PRESS.

Just as we go to Press comes the sad news that Mrs. B. H. Low, our Peace and Arbitration Superintendent, has passed away after a short illness. Our sympathy goes out to her family and sons in their great loss.

News of the Union.

Reports MUST,—

- (1) Reach Editor by 8th of month.
- (2) Be written in ink, on one side of the paper only.
- (3) Be short and to the point.

NORTH AUCKLAND DISTRICT.

Dargaville.—July 10: Mrs Wordsworth presided, and gave a very beautiful reading from the book, "Through Open Windows." Decided to carry on Band of Hope. Delegates to attend District Convention at Russell. Large attendance. Very enjoyable meeting. Closed with afternoon tea.

Leigh.—July 26. Home meeting at Mrs Grigg's, President in the chair. Fair attendance. Report of Executive meeting. Mrs Neeley read "Zulu Manners and Customs," Mrs Horton read "Lord Snowdon and the Liquor Question," Mrs Woodcock read "Closed Courts." Mottoes were read by members. Mrs Dill read a poem, "Did You?" Mrs D. A. Matheson read "A Scotch Lady's Recipe for Long Life." Mrs Torkington read "Temperance according to U.S.A. brewers." The hostesses for the afternoon were Mesdames Grigg and Torkington.

Russell (Bay of Islands).—July 10: Successful Cradle Roll Rally held in the Hall. Nine members present, and 14 non-members and 26 children. Mrs Clow presided. The meeting was opened with a hymn and prayer and Scripture reading. An excellent entertainment was given by the children, who had been carefully trained by the C.R. Superintendent, Mrs Rummins. Number of names on the Russell C.R., 27. Five new adult members enrolled.

AUCKLAND DISTRICT.

Auckland.—July 10. Annual Pay-up social. Mrs Cook presided. Large gathering of members and friends. Mrs Skinner, an old member, was presented with a long-service badge. The following resolution was passed:—"At the meeting of the Auckland W.C.T.U., held on July 10th, the following resolution was passed: 'Believing that righteousness exalteth a nation, and in the interests of the children of the primary schools of New Zealand, we urge upon the Government to give whole-hearted support to the Bible-in-Schools Enabling Bill.'" Copies of the resolution were sent to the Premier, Minister of Education, local M.P.'s, also to local papers. Mr Falkner gave a very forceful address on the Temperance outlook. A very pleasing programme of solos and recitations was contributed. Afternoon tea.

Grey Lynn.—July 12. President presided. Devotions. Pledge repeated and Temperance Fact given. One new member initiated, and warmly welcomed. Memorial Day observed. A scientific temperance address was given by Mrs Singleton on "The Use and Abuse of Alcohol." Pianoforte solo by Mrs A. Hes much appreciated. Mesdames Gussey and Lewis served afternoon tea.

Henderson.—July. Pay-up social afternoon. Fair attendance. Mrs Platt in the chair. Report of Fair held at Airedale Street, and thanks to members for contributions towards same. Letter to be sent to our Member (Mr H. G. R. Mason) asking him to support the Bible-in-Schools Bill. Decided to ask schoolmaster to allow Standards V. and VI. to write essays as usual. Paper read on "How to Make Our Meetings More Interesting." Discussion followed. Afternoon tea served by members. Gifts on the table were all sold.

Kohimarama.—July 18. Good attendance. Mrs C. Perkins gave a devotional address. Resolution in support of the Bible-in-Schools Enabling Bill was passed, and wires sent. Mrs Kasper gave an address on "Bridge Building." Mrs Lewis read a poem of her own composing, and Mrs Herick rendered a solo.

Northcote.—July 19. Mrs Hulbert in chair. Mrs Kasper spoke of the import-

ance of keeping up even small branches of our Union, and the work they could do. She had recently visited hotels in the city with a Salvation Army lass, and sold "War Cries" with her. She saw a lot of drinking amongst women, and urged that this matter be given attention; also the conditions of same. Afternoon tea served.

Otahuhu.—July 19. Mrs Eccersall in the chair. A paper on "The Life and Work of Our Pioneers in the Cause of Temperance" read, and the Memorial Prayer repeated. Afternoon tea served. Hostess, Mrs Hall.

Onehunga.—July 24. A well-attended home meeting at Mrs Yockney's. Mrs Mountjoy occupied the chair. Songs given by Mesdames Sturgess and Pearson. A duet by Mrs Angus and Mrs Smith, recitations by Mrs Hodder and Miss Cornish, and a reading by Mrs Perritt. Mrs Stacey gave a short talk on "Malays and Their Customs." A dainty tea was served, and a competition won by Mrs Perritt. Votes of thanks passed to all who had taken part and to our hostess.

Ponsonby.—July 19. Miss Read presided. Good attendance. Devotional talk by Mrs Christopher. Solo, "He Shall Feed His Flock," by Mrs Lewis. Being "In Memoriam Day," the Rev. G. I. Laurenson spoke on the life and work of the late Rev. John Dawson; also dealt on the evils of alcohol from the scientific standpoint. A telegram was also sent to the Prime Minister re the support of the Ponsonby Branch to the Bible-in-Schools Enabling Bill.

Remuera.—July 17. Good attendance. Mrs Kasper presided. Mrs Gilmore, formerly of Christchurch, was welcomed, and gave greetings. A report upon N.C.W. was given by Mrs Robinson. Arrangements for members to take a day at the Winter Show to help at W.C.T.U. stall were made. A resolution supporting Bible-in-Schools Enabling Bill was passed, wires to be forwarded. The President brought booklets to form a library, and other members offered to donate books. Sister Grace and the President gave short addresses. Mrs H. Kasper congratulated on her election as President of Auckland branch of N.C.W.

Sylvan Avenue.—July. Noteworthy for the number of plans proposed, and suggestions made for various departments of the work. Miss Pudney in the chair, reported on the work of the District Executive. Miss Jennie Street exhibited curios from Asiatic and European countries, and told of Temperance work and the need for it in the lands from which they came, and, as a visitor, expressed admiration for the way in which the meeting had been prepared for, with an arresting anti-alcoholic poster outside, and within a good display of Temperance literature, the five-fold campaign diagram on view, and a boldly written Temperance fact on the blackboard.

Warkworth.—July 12. Fair attendance. Mrs F. F. Thompson gave an interesting address, comparing the works of Tennyson, which are read and appreciated to-day, with those of W. T. Stead, which were for his own period of time only. Each member to bring Temperance item for next meeting.

SOUTH AUCKLAND DISTRICT.

Hamilton.—July 2. Mrs J. M. Jones presided. Large attendance. Feeling reference was made to the loss the Union had sustained in the death of Miss S. Ambury. The members stood in silence as a mark of respect. Letter of condolence sent, and a wreath. Members had attended the service in the chapel and at the graveside. The President announced that arrangements were being made for the District Convention, to be held at Cambridge on September 11th. Mrs T. E. Taylor, Dominion President, and Mrs Bennett, of Wellington, a delegate to the Pan Pacific Conference at Honolulu, would be present. Rev. H. G. Gilbert and Mrs Gilbert gave three delightful musical items, and Rev. Gilbert gave a most inspiring address. Afternoon tea.

Tauranga.—Aug. Good attendance. Committee formed to work up a Bring and Buy afternoon, to be held on our usual date next month. Decided we try and arrange for a Bible Class Rally on the 26th. Afternoon tea.