

## SPECIALS.

## LOWER HUTT RE-UNION.

This was held at the residence of our President, Mrs Lopdell.

Apologies were received from Mesdames Reynolds, Barker, Fretney, and Hardy, who sent greetings, but were unable to be present among us.

Cars were sent for our older members to enable them to be present with us.

During the afternoon, solos were sung by Mesdames Aldersley and Taylor, and a recitation was given by Mrs Lopdell.

A large photo of delegates to a Convention at Auckland, to which the first delegate of our Union went, was handed round for inspection, and Mrs Routley, who was then our delegate, is still an active member.

Our Union has been in existence just on 30 years, the first President being Mrs Horace Baker, and the first Secretary Miss Winnie Burt.

The following Presidents have held office:—Mrs Baker, Mrs Brooker, Mrs Hobbs, Mrs Keay, Mrs McCaw, Mrs Ballantyne, Mrs Anderson, and at present Mrs Lopdell.

The first meetings were held in the Methodist Schoolroom, which was then situated in Bridge Street, but was afterwards removed to the present situation.

Later on the Union built a small hall, and for some time the meetings were held there, but eventually it was sold to Mr Routley, and the meetings for some years past have been held in the Church of Christ, Queen's Road, where we are at the present time.

Mesdames Routley, Garlick, Williamson, and Ballantyne are the oldest living members of our Union, three of whom are still active members. Each of these was presented with a nosegay tied with a white ribbon bow.

Mrs Garlick, one of the oldest members, told us she joined the Union just after its inception, and found all the members exceptionally keen in the work, special mention being made of one member, Mrs Chittendon, who canvassed the district, and by her efforts raised £115, for which she was accorded a hearty vote of thanks.

The Cradle Roll in 1912 numbered 80 members; to-day it is over 200.

Mesdames Routley and Ballantyne also spoke of the work of the Union.

At the time when early closing of hotel bars was sought, though only a short time was available, 500 signatures were obtained in favour of it.

During the war many comforts were sent to the Front.

Literature was also sent to the back-blocks.

Mrs Dunstal was presented with a nosegay as being one of the oldest present.

We were very pleased to welcome once more among us Mrs Anderson, our former President, who has been on the sick list for many months.

Afternoon tea was handed round, while the members exchanged reminiscences, and all thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon's entertainment.

Our hostess, Mrs Lopdell, was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for her hospitality.

## PICNIC.

The members of the New Brighton Branch recently held a picnic on Mrs H. M. Hall's property, Bexley. The charming garden and grounds on a beautiful day were ideal for this function. Through the kindness of Mr and Mrs Hall, the members had a most enjoyable day's outing.

## CRADLE ROLL PARTY.

Onehunga, March 9. Cradle Roll Party. A splendid attendance of mothers and little ones present. The President welcomed all, and led the devotions. Reported a good Home meeting had been held at Mrs Ashby's end of last month, and one new member initiated. The afternoon was given up to games for young and old. Races for the little White Ribboners, and prizes. A pretty paper cap and a balloon was given to all little ones present. (The caps had been made by the C.R. Supt's daughter.) A splendid collection of blocks, kindly lent by Mrs Mushet, was a great attraction. Recitations were given by two of the children. A dainty afternoon tea was served; the children, sitting in the centre, were especially catered for. Seven new names were added to the Cradle Roll. A hearty vote of thanks to Mrs Mountjoy, Cradle Roll Supt., for arranging such a happy afternoon, brought the party to a close.

## TE AWAMUTU.

Cradle Roll picnic was held in "Selwyn Park" on 11th March. Fair attendance. Games and races were enjoyed by children. The singing of two children's hymns by the little folk and adults was followed by words of welcome from Cradle Roll Supt. Mrs Rev. Whitelaw then addressed mothers and children. To the latter, she said, "they must do a kind act every day, and learn to do hard things, as this develops character." Her message to the mothers was wise and helpful, and long to be remembered. Afternoon tea was served, with lollies and nuts to the children, concluded a happy afternoon.

## KAIKORAI.

Tuesday, March 28. Cradle Roll social. President welcomed guests, and gave a short talk on the aims of the Union: Peace, Purity, and Prohibition. The little folk had a good time. Songs and recitations and two Highland dances were given by the children.

A presentation was made to Mrs Ryan, who is leaving for Christchurch, also a beautiful bouquet. Mrs Ryan feelingly responded.

Afternoon tea was provided, and a birthday cake was cut and handed round.

## RYAL BUSH.

A very enjoyable Cradle Roll picnic was held in Mr Blaikie's paddock on March 25th. Quite a large gathering of children and adults assembled. Games

were indulged in. A lolly scramble was given to the children. A delicious afternoon tea was provided, after which Mrs Fairbairn spoke to the mothers and children. Before leaving, the President presented each child with a handkerchief.

## GARDEN PARTY.

Tauranga.—April 5. A Garden Party was given at "Fairlight," the home of our President, and a good number of members and friends attended. As the object was to increase our funds, a Bring and Buy stall was held, and that and the game of clock golf gave most successful results, while the afternoon tea, taken under the trees on the shady lawn, helped to draw everyone closer together socially.

## BIRTHDAY PARTY.

Second Birthday Party of the Dalefield Union was held in the Dalefield Hall on April 6th. A very happy time spent at a children's party, which went with a great swing.

Mrs Tyler and Rev. Liddell gave short addresses.

A letter was read from Mrs Every conveying expressions of goodwill to all members.

Singing of "Auld Lang Syne" closed a very happy evening.

## CRADLE ROLL PARTY.

Fencourt held its annual C.R. afternoon in the Methodist Church on March 9th. Mrs Bartlett (President) presided. Rev. D. Hay, of the Matangi Presbyterian Church, gave a very interesting address, which was much appreciated. Mrs S. Rickard read the annual Cradle Roll report, which was very satisfactory, and showed how earnestly she had done her work, in having so many names on the roll in such a scattered district. Programme: Solos (two), Mrs Alderman (Matangi); recitations, Dorothy Voyle, Joan and Queenie Bartlett. Each C.R. member received a toy and a balloon from a tree. A dainty afternoon tea was served by the members, and a pleasant afternoon brought to a close by singing the Temperance Doxology and the Benediction.

## FAREWELL TO PRESIDENT.

Levin.—March 10. Large gathering held in Salvation Army Hall to bid farewell to our past President, Mrs Cummins, who is leaving the district. The President, Mrs Sorensen, expressed, on behalf of members, sincere regret at the departure of one who, by her devoted Christian example, has inspired all to greater service. On behalf of the townspeople, His Worship the Mayor, Mr P. W. Goldsmith, expressed regret that it had become necessary for Mrs Cummins to leave Levin. His Worship expressed the hope that, wherever she may settle, Mrs Cummins may long be spared to carry on the work with which she has had such a long and honoured association. In conclusion, he wished the departing guest God-speed. Other speakers were Miss Lee, of Otaki, and