

MARLBOROUGH DISTRICT.

Tua Marina and Springlands.—The combined meeting was held in Tua Marina Methodist Hall, Mrs. Harris presiding over a very good meeting. Miss Underhill offered prayer and Mrs. Robinson gave a devotional talk. Five shillings was voted to N.Z. Fund, £1 to Headquarters Fund, and an account for Cradle Roll material was passed for payment. Mrs. Forbes reported on Dominion Convention and Mrs. Underhill explained the resolutions. The question of corporal punishment was discussed. Owing to Easter holidays April meeting will not be held but members were asked to make handkerchiefs for the Masterton Orphanage, to be handed in at the May meeting. Benediction.

NORTH CANTERBURY DISTRICT.

Oxford.—Jan. 17. President in the chair; sympathy with Mrs. Bayliss in her bereavement. Greetings and donation from Mrs. Ryde. Having been asked by the A. and P. Association to undertake the catering for the local show, it was decided to do so. The Roll was called, members responding with a New Year Message. Mrs. Hall appointed delegate to Convention. Decided to write to the County Council and to the Ministers' Association commending their action with regard to liquor at local dances. Mrs. Hall gave a most interesting account of medical and other work among the Maoris at Te Kuiti and other North Island places.

Monthly meeting held in Coronation Hall on March 9th, Mrs. J. Cross presiding. Pledge re-affirmed. Mrs. Cross gave good report on Dominion Convention. Benediction.

Riccarton.—Feb. 8th. Good attendance. President Mrs. Griffiths urged the members to a greater effort this year to uphold our motto. Mrs. Smith, our delegate to Dominion Conference. Mrs. Daly's resignation from Supt. of Cradle Roll accepted with deep regret. Mrs. Hertzell was appointed in her place. Good report given of mental hospital work. Mrs. Leathwick will sell health stamps at G.P.O. this month. Letters of sympathy and congratulations sent out. Literature distributed into letter boxes. Next meeting a bring-and-buy and report of Convention. Miss Havalear gave interesting talk on "Conditions in Europe and Reconstruction and Rehabilitation," and our part in it. Benediction.

March 8th. Good attendance. Three visitors welcomed. Devotions led by Mrs. Laughton. Letters of sympathy sent to Mrs. Odell and the Right Hon. the Prime Minister, Mr. Fraser. Congratulations to Mrs. Barrell on the safe arrival of a grandson. Space obtained for Temperance Fact in Methodist Quarterly magazine. Mental hospital and "White Ribbon" reports good. President requested all members to make cuttings of all reports concerning the Royal Commission. Invitations received from the National Council of Women to attend a meeting to be addressed by Mr. Morgan Williams, and also a screening of a film entitled "A World of Plenty." Agreed that each member buy a copy of the Constitution and study it. Mrs. Smith gave a comprehensive report of Dominion Convention. One new member gained. "Bring and buy" held. Bible Study group restarted. Votes of thanks and the Benediction.

Woolston.—Feb. 15th. Mrs. Ramsay presided. Mrs. Spier led the devotions. We had a bring-and-buy sale which brought in 14/-. Mrs. Spier was elected as delegate for the Convention in Dunedin. We closed with the benediction.

March 15th. Mrs. Spier presided in the absence of Mrs. Ramsay, President. Mrs. Sage conducted Devotions, giving a Scriptural talk and leading in prayer. A presentation was made to Mrs. Sage who is removing to New Brighton. Meeting closed with the Benediction.

Hokitika.—Feb. 21. Pres., Miss Hayman, presided. Arrangements made for programme for coming session. Talk on the "Royal Commission for investigating the Licensing Laws of N.Z." Decided to write to the National Council of Women congratulating them on the protest made to the Government that no women had been included in the personnel of the Commission. Decided also to write to the M.P. for Westland.

Sydenham.—Feb. 1st. Mrs. J. Filer in the chair. Fifteen members present. A hearty welcome extended to Mrs. Lindsay of the Salvation Army, on transfer from Ashburton. Mrs. Davies, devotions; Pledge was reaffirmed and a Temperance Fact given. The Secretary to make arrangements for our Branch to be

represented at the forthcoming Dominion Convention. The Syllabus for the ensuing year was compiled. Decided to make an effort to have Temperance Examinations conducted in two further local schools this year, the Secretary being instructed to interview the Headmasters in regard to the matter. Suggested that each member be asked to make a small article suitable for sale, the proceeds from same to be used for the purchase of prizes. The whole tone of the meeting was most encouraging. We feel that we have made a happy start on our year's work.

SOUTH CANTERBURY DISTRICT.

Ashburton.—March 6th. Good attendance, Mrs. W. H. Robinson presiding; and she gave the Temperance Fact, "In the Royal Commission on Venereal Disease, it was stated that alcohol renders a man liable to yield to temptations which he might otherwise resist and aggravates the disease by diminishing the resistance of the individual. The facts point to the conclusion that decrease in the use of alcohol will be an important factor in diminishing the prevalence of venereal disease." Cradle Roll party planned. Dominion Convention report given by Mrs. Harwood. National Savings collected by Mrs. Tucker. Small "bring and buy" held.

Waimate.—February 14th. First meeting for the year. Excellent attendance. Devotions taken by Mrs. Duckett. Temperance Fact. Executive members each read a short extract on prayer, Mrs. Starkie speaking on this subject in an inspiring and uplifting manner.

March 14th. Fair attendance. Devotions led by Miss P. Tooley, the Secretary and Assistant Treasurer. Mrs. Winn, Oamaru President, gave her winning recitation for Convention Competition and also gave a very good report of the Convention, a vote of thanks being passed at the conclusion of the meeting.

Timaru.—March meeting was presided over by Miss Fyffe. Very wet day and attendance small; several apologies received. Mrs. Middleton conducted Devotions. Agreed that a letter of appreciation be sent to Mrs. Hiett for her stand in regard to Trust Control in Invercargill. Several next-of-kin of sailors spent the afternoon in a social manner. The Rev. Mr. Wilson was the speaker. Thanks were received from a mother in England for entertainment given her son on furlough. Charge of Patriotic Shop to be undertaken later. Proposed to entertain soldiers' next-of-kin in September. April meeting to be a social afternoon with friends invited. Miss Fyffe to be the speaker on "Sixty Years of W.C.T.U." Meeting closed with the Benediction.

OTAGO DISTRICT.

Oamaru.—Feb. 12. Mrs. Winn presided and took Devotions. Mrs. Winn to be delegate to Convention in Dunedin. Mrs. Acutt to be hospital visitor. Cradle Roll Picnic to be held Feb. 17th. Our Union ordering a number of Montgomery Posters for display in Day Schools and also Sunday Schools. Two songs by Mrs. Bartlett. Copy of White Ribbon to be given monthly to Boys' High School. Several members offered to help with Plunket collection in March. Afternoon tea. Benediction.

March 12th. Mrs. Winn presided. Good attendance. Devotions taken by Miss Smyth who also read the Convention Report. A further supply of Montgomery posters to be ordered for Schools and Sunday Schools. Mrs. Winn and Miss Smyth congratulated on being first and second in recitation competition at Convention. A solo was sung by Mrs. Bartlett. Temperance Fact given by Mrs. McIlwraith. Mrs. Slinn brought greetings from Lower Hutt Union; £1 voted to N.Z. funds and £5 to Headquarters Fund.

Dunedin South.—March 22. Mrs. Rippin presided, Mrs. Smith conducting Devotions. Sympathy expressed for Mrs. Waugh on the passing of her mother. Mrs. Hazlewood welcomed after some years' absence in Auckland. Afternoon tea served by Miss Bruce. Mrs. Rippin announced payment (on promise) of £1 to N.Z. Fund and gave an excellent report of Dominion Convention. This was followed by a discussion on the problems besetting the No-Licence people of N.Z., especially in regard to the trend in the direction of State Control taking place in some of the churches. It was realised that all wished for the same thing in regard to the keeping of the laws and hoped in their different ways to work for the attainment of a truly temperate nation.

North East Valley.—March 22nd. President, Mrs. Green, in the chair. Mrs. Peart led helpful devotions. Miss Gibb presented reports of Dominion Convention.

Reefton.—February 28th. A most successful Cradle Roll party at the home of Mrs. Thompson, "The Terrace," on February 28th. When the members of the W.C.T.U. Reefton branch entertained twelve mothers and fifteen children, Mrs. Sara, C.R. Supt., and Mrs. Leaning kept the children happy with games and ice-cream while the mothers had afternoon tea. All thanked Mrs. Thompson for a very happy afternoon.

Sydenham.—March 1st. Our branch celebrated its twenty-third birthday with an informal social afternoon, representatives from other branches being our guests for the occasion. Devotions by Mrs. Davies; pledge reaffirmed and Temperance Fact given. Greetings received from Christchurch, Woolston, New Brighton, Spreydon, Shirley-Richmond, St. Albans branches. An enjoyable programme was contributed by the following: Vocal solos by Mesdames Reeve, Weatherhead and Drewett; recitations by Mrs. Richards; and vocal duets by Mesdames Filer and Weatherhead. Mrs. Reeve acted as accompanist.

Napier.—February 20th. The usual preliminaries gone through, an interested gathering listened with pleasure to Captain McKenzie, of the Salvation Army. His address, which was built up from "A Chain is Only as Strong as its Weakest Link"; mental pictures based on the Scriptures, "for to have the right conception of God" and to create right atmosphere, "Make Home not anything else but Home." The Peace of the World will only come when there is peace and goodwill in families and in the home.

WANGANUI DISTRICT.

Wanganui Central.—March 6th. Mrs. Darfield presided. Small attendance. Mrs. A. Morrison led devotions. Hostesses for April, Mesdames Ogg and Chelly. Mrs. Smith, a visitor, was welcomed and gave a most interesting talk on the Island of Niuea, where she has been assisting her husband in the special training of picked natives as teachers to work amongst their own people. Mrs. Smith said she became a member of this branch of the W.C.T.U. 48 years ago. A vote of thanks was accorded. Tea was served. Benediction.

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