

says it creates interest, and I suppose it does. So this morning I just made some of the old sort of rock cakes we used to have at home—you know the kind—and how we used to go after them. Mum tried to keep them out of sight, but the boys always seemed to smell where they were. I made a good lot, and used a bit more dripping than we used to, and they're very nice, if I do say it myself. They'll sell all right.

You'll remember that little old piece we used to say about little drops of water and little grains of sand making the mighty ocean, etcetera. Well, it does seem to remind me of that when all the little bits come along for the Bring and Buy. There's nothing big, and yet we make such a lot of money with it. It's one way of helping that anyone can do.

Lorna's husband's been having boils. Awful, they are. The doctor has given him something to put in his bath water, and Lorna was nearly weeping over the telephone this morning when she told me it had made the bath all brown and even the walls. However, if it stops the boils it'll be worth it, for if there's one thing more than another that makes a man a trial to his wife, it's them.

I must stop. It's bedtime.

Love from John and Meg.

#### AMONG THE DEPARTMENTS

##### ORGANISING DEPARTMENT

##### Miss Annie McLay in Northland

Five weeks spent in Northland with some of the worst possible weather was not the most inspiring thing for Miss Annie McLay, who writes that the success of many meetings was much lessened by the weather.

"I think the visit could be regarded more in the nature of a survey," she writes, 'and I learned various things, i.e., not to go to the 'winterless north' in the winter! The Unions are all needing a great deal of help. In Dargaville I paid a great number of visits and gained five new members. A small new Union was commenced at Donnelly's Crossing, and I am just waiting to hear the result of the first meeting held last week.

"At Wellsford a very promising new Union was organised with 12 members, and a very active, interested President familiar with our work. (Auckland District.)

"New members are an absolute necessity if the work is to go on in some places."

A. M. McLAY.

##### Mrs. Reed at Wanganui

Mrs. Reed has been instrumental in arousing interest in the Wanganui district. We hear from the District Secretary, Mrs. Ogg, that the Unions reported at the executive meeting their great pleasure in her visit and that they were looking forward to meeting new members at their monthly meeting. Also the C.R. list had been added to.

At Ractihi, Mrs. Reed addressed a meeting of over 100 school children, showing films.

#### N.Z. ALLIANCE ANNUAL MEETING

It was a very earnest and anxious gathering of men and women who assembled in the Taranaki Street Methodist premises on July 24th. Matters of extreme urgency were on the agenda, and the general feeling was that in temperance history now in the making a crisis was impending.

It is not possible here to give anything like a full account of all that took place, or even of all that came under discussion, but as W.C.T.U. members, we should know something about those matters on which we ourselves may have to express an opinion.

Of course, the Masterton Bill, now before the House, was one of the most outstandingly important subjects. Those who have read the July number of "The Vanguard" will see how terribly retrograde are the provisions of the Bill. Restaurant drinking, the freedom to have an unlimited number of licences, and the permitting of the employment of barmaids are all provided for; and each of these is a dire threat to all that we stand for. Mr. Milner's clear summing up of the whole position has been sent, we believe, to every Member of Parliament, and we advise all our members to obtain and read carefully the statement in the Vanguard. Copies can be had from the N.Z.A. Headquarters, Box 1079, Wellington.

##### Trust Control

The terrible "cleft stick" in which the temperance party finds itself, the necessity for making a decision as to the **lesser evil of two evil things**, for this it is, occupied hours of the conference. Surely, never have we been faced with so difficult a problem. Every effort to arrive at the point of making a statement which would not appear to imply agreement with the principle that ownership in some form was favoured by the conference, failed. Again and again it seemed as though some finality were being reached, but in the end, it was deferred for six months, during which time area and electorate committees would be asked to consider the question and make their decisions known to the superintendent, Mr. Milner. The evils of Private Ownership as against those of Trust Control seemed on the whole to be regarded as the greater.

"Trust Control" is still something of a nebulous term, pending legislation on the whole thing. With certain qualifications suggested by the Alliance, it would be widely different from that which has functioned in Invercargill. We hope to give some information on the point in our next issue.

Since the conference, we understand that the Hon. Minister of Justice has been waited upon by a deputation appointed by the conference, and that he has met the members thereof in a friendly spirit. Certain matters were admitted by him to be against the volume of expressed public opinion, and for that reason would not be pressed by him. Chief among these was restaurant drinking.

## Bulletin of Union News

#### AUCKLAND DISTRICT

**Executive Meeting**, Monday, August 4th: District President, Mrs. F. W. Mountjoy, occupied the chair. Good attendance. Mrs. Beaumont led Devotions, and a Temperance Fact was given by Mrs. Anstice. During the month a letter of welcome had been sent to Field-Marshal Lord Montgomery and a reply was received from him which stated that he was very happy to be in New Zealand. Mrs. Long gave a most encouraging report of the work of the Maori Girls' Hostel. Miss A. M. McLay reported very interestingly on her work in the Northland, especially in the Wellsford district, where a new Union had been formed, consisting of 12 members. Mrs. Mountjoy reported on the annual meeting of the New Zealand Alliance held in July at Wellington, to which she and Mrs. Long had been appointed as delegates from Auckland. Mrs. Mountjoy also reported on the monthly meeting of the N.C.W. and brought forward some remits for a ruling at the next N.C.W. meeting. Further arrangements were made for holding the District Convention in September.

**Takapuna**, August: Fair attendance, Mrs. Morgan Richards presiding. Devotions led by Mrs. Gilmour in the absence of our faithful Miss Cullen through illness. Correspondence from executive re increased price of "W.R." and letter expressing disappointment regarding the Masterton position was approved. Nominations for Dominion officers discussed. All subscriptions paid. Reading by Mrs. Roper brought meeting to a close. Tea and Benediction.

**Moulti Albert**, July meeting: Held at the Maori Girls' Hostel. Mrs. Long, matron, was the speaker and gave a very interesting and encouraging talk on the work at the Hostel, making us feel that it was very well worth while. After tea was served, members were shown all over the house and all felt that we owe much to Mr. and Mrs. Long for all they have done to improve the hostel inside and outside, and for their continual interest in the spiritual welfare of the girls.

**Onehunga**, June 12th: "W.R." Day observed. Letter from Australia asking for Maori penfriend for an Aboriginal girl. This to be arranged; also for two other girls. Mrs. Ashby read leading article from "W.R.," urging efforts for the increased sale of our paper. Mrs. Mountjoy followed, speaking on the subject of "Corporate Control."

June 26th: Home meeting at residence of Mrs. Ballard. Devotional period and discussion on lifting of Liquor Advertisement restrictions. "Sing, say, or pay" period much enjoyed, especially "whistling" solos by Mrs. Perrett. Tea and chat closed a pleasant afternoon.

#### SOUTH AUCKLAND DISTRICT

**Executive Meeting**, August 1st: Held at Cambridge at the home of Mrs. Lewis, district secretary, Mrs. Christian presiding. Devotions, Mesdames Christian and Kemsley. Discussion on organising work done by Miss Catherine McLay, and proposed to be done by Miss A. McLay. District Convention arrangements finalised for September 17 and 18; invitation to attend Tauranga's "Silver Jubilee" celebration being also considered. Circular to be sent to all Unions in district, and special welcome to newly formed and reorganised Unions. Finance discussed and plans made for "Bring and Buy" at Convention. Meeting closed by President with prayer.

**Thames**, July 2nd: Good attendance of members to hear Major Moore speak of some aspects of rescue work done by the Salvation Army, which is made very difficult by the temptation of the open bar. He also spoke of the recent "Commando" Raid in Auckland and illustrated its success. Mrs. Whiteside was welcomed as Treasurer in place of Mrs. Scown who has left the district.

August 6th: The newly appointed Methodist Minister, the Rev. Mr. Rowe, talked to a fair gathering of the entrenched evils of the Liquor Traffic, especially amongst servicemen, as he saw the results in his overseas service. He stressed the importance of Youth Education. A petition urging the prohibition of liquor advertisement by screen, radio, poster, or