

Church News.

M. C. T. U.

THE CATHOLIC TOTAL ABSTINENCE UNION of the United States is doing a grand work for right and humanity. At its recent annual meeting it reported an aggregate membership of 39,446, being an increase during the year of 2,448. From the *C. L. Advocate's* report of this meeting we clip the following interesting information:—

Father O'Malley, of Brooklyn, reported that in his city there were fourteen societies with a membership of 674. There were also 224 boys working unitedly for the cause. There were 500 more members in the union now than last year. There were 1,600 men working with them, and all those he hoped to be able to report next year had joined the union. Chicago, Father Hogan reported, though the youngest of all the unions in the country save one, has nineteen societies, with a membership of 1,643, a gain of 1,200 over last year.

Father J. W. Jones reported that there are 2,714 abstainers in Connecticut; that twenty-eight societies have 1,675 members, and that sixteen societies which have not yet joined the union have 1,039 members. This was a gain of 300 members over last year. The good work in Connecticut, he said, was attributable in a large measure to the St. Aloysius Society of New Haven.

James A. Kennedy stated that Illinois has twenty-two societies and an enrollment of 661.

Indiana, Father Wyckmann reported, has eighteen adult societies, of 577 members, and five cadet societies, with 215 members, making a total of 302.

Father Drury, of Kentucky, said the union in the "Land of Bourbon" held its own in membership last year. It has thirteen societies and one cadet society, with a total membership of 681. There are two or three societies which are not enrolled in the union, although allied to it. The work rested on the shoulders of a few who are willing to make sacrifices for the cause of temperance.

Louisiana reported five societies, with a membership of 211.

New Brunswick has eight societies and 648 members. New Jersey has twenty-four societies composed of 1,378 members.

Father Egan reported New York has thirty-two societies, with a membership of 2,400, made up as follows:—Twenty-five adult societies of 1,927 members, four women societies of 294 members, and three cadet societies with 179 members. Ohio, according to the report of the representative, has thirty-five societies, with a total membership of 1,082. Twenty-three are adult societies of 618 members, one society of women has 20 members, and eleven cadet societies have 444.

John F. Walsh reported that Pennsylvania has fifty-seven adult societies, with 2,019 members, and eighteen cadet societies, with 1,270 members. Philadelphia, John H. Campbell reported, has seventy-eight societies and 10,100 members, a gain of 1,142 over last year. The societies owned nine halls, some of which cost as high as \$15,000. He thought Philadelphia had good reasons, if the others had not, to boast of its work. Several of the gentlemen who subsequently presented reports referred rather sarcastically to this remark of Mr. Campbell.

Rhode Island has, Father Walsh reported, nineteen adult societies of 1,180 members and one cadet society of 50 members. Besides this, there are eighteen societies in the diocese with a membership of 1,500 not in the Union, making the number of total abstainers 2,715.

Savannah, James F. Thompson reported, has three adult societies and one cadet, with a total membership of 265. The temperance sentiment is developing, and has been moulded toward the advancement of the cause.

Scranton, Pa., Mr. Ryder reported, has fifty-four societies of 4,250 members, a gain of 1,011 over last year.

Springfield, Father McCoy said, has sixteen adult societies of 1,204 members and two cadet societies of 136. There has been an increase in membership this year of 439.

St. Paul, J. F. Greer reported, has fifty-four societies and 2,700 members, a gain on the preceding year of 500.

Wisconsin, Mr. Mathews reported, has twenty-three societies and 1,145 members, a gain since last convention of five societies and 450 members.

Rev. S. P. Kasson, of Atchison, reported that the society in his place had been only recently organized, but he hoped it would grow in membership and enlarge its influence.

LONDON.—The annual business meeting of the city Woman's Christian Temperance Union was held yesterday afternoon in the Queen's-avenue Church lecture hall, Mrs. Gregston, president, in the chair; Miss Christie, secretary. Among others present were Mesdames Simpson, Darch, Lancaster, Jones, Kidner, Struthers, Middleton, the Misses Hogg, Tytler and others.

A letter was read from Mrs. J. L. Harvie, of Toronto, stating her inability to be present to address the annual public meeting. Capt. Bailey Jones, however, had promised an address, and Prof. Barakat, another. Victoria Hall had been secured for the 16th inst., for that purpose.

It was decided to send two delegates to the Provincial Union to be held in Toronto on October 14, 15 and 16.

The secretary, Miss Christie, then presented the sixth annual report, which opened with a reference to the blessings that had attended the efforts of the Union during the past year, and recounting in an interesting manner the work accomplished. Reference was made to the Boy's Home, the night school and the establishment of the Girls' Industrial School, which has proved so beneficial. Valuable work has been done in aid of the temperance movement. Efforts are being made to have unfermented wine used at communion services. Mention was made of the exhibition of drill generally donated by the London Uniformed Degree Camp. An acknowledgement was made of the donations from the Oddfellows, from the City Council and from the Sabbath schools of the city. "The special thanks of the union are due," the report went on, "the ex-Mayor Meredith, Mayor Hyman for the free use of rooms in the City Hall to hold meetings, and to the Trustees of Queen's Avenue Church for the use of a comfortable parlor in their lecture hall. The various denominations who have at much self-sacrifice responded to our calls upon them; to the city papers for their many marks of attention, and to all who have helped us by word or deed, we tender our thanks." A fitting allusion was made to the death of Mrs. Bremner, for years a faithful member of the union. In conclusion the report said: "And now, when we are summing up the result of last year's efforts, let us consider what we have been enabled to do—little, when we consider the vastness of the evil that surrounds us, and the many hearts and homes that are made sad and miserable through the curse of intemperance. Will not many come forward and help us in this work?"

On motion the report was adopted, and a vote of thanks was tendered Miss Christie for her care in its preparation.

Miss Hogg presented the reports of the night and Industrial schools, the work of which during the year she described in an exceedingly interesting manner. The night school which closed for vacation on July 2, and reopened Sept. 1, has made excellent progress under the teacher, Mr. McAlpine. Good work has been done in the Girls' Industrial School. The number of pupils enrolled in the latter was 65; total attendance, 500; average 30. Mrs. Darch has efficiently filled the position of president since the retirement of Mrs. Sage, who left the city for a time. The ladies who have taken an active interest in the work throughout the term were Mesdames Ferguson, Struthers, Moore, Jarvis, Finch, Kidner, Carfrae, Westland, and Misses Christie, Riddle, Crone, Deprose, Sage and others. Thanks were extended to all who have come forward with a helping hand, and their cordial sympathy and co-operation solicited for the future. An account was given of the first annual picnic of the two organizations. Report adopted.

Mrs. Kidner, the treasurer, reported a balance of \$62.21 cash on hand. Adopted.

Mrs. Simpson gave the report of the Jail Committee. Adopted. The election of officers resulted as follows:—President, Mrs. Gregston; first vice-president, Mrs. Darch; second vice-president, Mrs. Dr. Lancaster; treasurer, Mrs. Kidner; assistant-treasurer, Miss Tytler; secretary, Miss Hogg.

Industrial School Committee—Mesdames Darch, Moore, Deprose, Sage, Kidner, Jarvis, Struthers, Simpson, Hopkins, Westland, Jones, Kerr, and Misses Tytler, Christie, Hogg, and Riddle.

Boys' Night School Committee—Mesdames Sage, Kidner, Hopkins, Anderson, Darch, Simpson, Wright, Jones, Lancaster, and Misses Tytler, Christie and Hogg.

Jail Committee—Mesdames Kerr, Carfrae, Simpson, Sage, Westland, Ferguson and Ware.