

HANDCROSS.

THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.—Unfavourable weather conditions on June 17th prevented the local Women's Institute carrying out their plan to hold a picnic in the open, but the afternoon was not wasted. Members found just as much enjoyment in a "fancy dress meeting" at the Parish Hall. The gathering was so varied as to include Johnnie Walker, an Austrian peasant, black-bearded Farmer Giles, a gipsy, a masked pierrot and several ladies in picturesque costumes of by-gone days. Presiding over the meeting was a very precisely attired "balloon seller" with a bunch of gaily coloured balloons. She was the President—**Mr. RAYMOND WARREN.** When the business had been dealt with and a report of the National Federation's annual meeting had been given by the delegate, tea was partaken of and games were indulged in. There were two relay races and tests of skill, such as blindfolded members lifting balls of cotton-wool out of basins with the aid of spoons, biting lumps of sugar from the ends of long pieces of string and so on. Photographs of members in fancy costumes were taken before the company dispersed. The next meeting is fixed for July 8th.