

ed:—"That with a view to supplying the need for Temperance work in outlying districts, this Convention resolves:

"(1) That the N.Z. Alliance be urgently recommended to consider advisability of employing a saddle bag canvasser to bring the No-License cause before the residents in outlying districts, Public Works camps, etc.

"(2) That Ministers and Home Missionaries in such districts be urged to give special prominence to the Temperance question in their work.

"(3) That the Unions be asked to endeavour to move the churches and other Christian bodies in their districts to send some worker to visit backblocks residents and Public Works camps.

"(4) That N.Z. Alliance be further recommended to ask the No-License Councils to make some effort to deal with question. All Unions urged to do their utmost to carry out spirit of these resolutions."

(c.) Resolved: "That all Unions be recommended to establish in their districts, if possible, L.T.L. and Young People's Branches."

Letter read dealing with urgent necessity for getting certain reforms carried out in Cairo, that our soldiers there may be protected from immorality and disease rampant in lowest quarters of that city. Suggested that N.Z. Government might be urged to bring pressure to bear on the authorities at Cairo to (1) enforce the law prohibiting solicitation, (2) make the brother district, a fairly well-defined area, out of bounds to soldiers, by means of pickets. A similar measure might be adopted with reference to our own towns. Discussion postponed till evening session.

(d.) Miss Powell brought up necessity for stricter supervision of picture films. It was stated that a strong deputation from a representative public meeting, got up by Roman Catholic Federation, had received from Minister for Internal Affairs a promise that the matter should not be allowed to rest.

(e.) Mrs Field suggested something should be done to provide somewhere, as an object lesson, a bright and homely place where men could meet instead of in the public-house bar, on the lines of the "Despard Arms" in London. From evidence supplied by the "dry districts," and from possibility of 6 o'clock closing being carried, this matter was not considered to be immediately pressing.

(f.) Miss Powell referred to granting of wine licenses to confectioners' shops, a practice that is growing, and is fraught with extreme danger.—Deferred.

Reports discussed and adopted, viz.: Rest and Refreshment Booths, Bible in Schools, Notable Days, Educational Bureau.

Delegates reminded that if School Committees were elected who were favourable to Bible reading in school

hours, it could be introduced, as Education Boards no longer had power to object.

Mrs Rule conducted noontide devotions.

Resolved: "That every Union be urged to ask the local authorities (1) to prohibit the exposure to flies and dust of sweets, confectionery, etc., offered for sale; (2) to enforce strictly the inspection of back yards and similar premises."

Session closed with the Benediction.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON.

Devotions (Mrs Rule). Roll call, 83. Minutes.

Greetings from Wellington Central and Ashburton Unions, also from International Women's Christian Temperance Union.

Reports adopted: Military Camps, Y's and Medal Contests, Peace and Arbitration.

Moved: "That this gathering of women representatives from every portion of New Zealand wish to emphasise the principle that mutual fear is the root of all strife, that no spiritual good can be furthered by physical force, and that right relations between nations, as between individuals, must be founded on love, goodwill, and perfect trust. Realising the responsibility of women in this matter, we therefore urge the creation of an atmosphere that will make peace possible on the very best foundations by the concentration of our thought on peace, love and harmony, emphasising Edith Cavell's last words, 'This I would say, standing as I do in view of God and eternity, I believe patriotism is not enough, I must have no hatred or bitterness to any one.' We desire to advance the cause of peace by a conference of neutrals, and by the promulgation of peace principles in every country. We therefore earnestly urge on our Unions and churches the desirability of working towards that end."

Mrs Lee-Cowie moved the insertion of the words, "many of them mothers, having sons at the Front," after the words "from every portion of New Zealand." They were accordingly inserted.

A long discussion followed. Finally further consideration of the motion was deferred to next morning's session.

Session closed at 3 p.m. to allow members to proceed to Castlecliff for afternoon tea.

TUESDAY EVENING.

A special session was held on Tuesday evening, at 7.30, for the purpose of discussing much needed social reforms.

After devotional exercises, the subject was introduced by Mrs Peryman in an able and telling address, an abstract of which will appear in the May number of the "White Ribbon."

A long discussion took place, in the course of which reference was made to the Public Health Amendment Act

and its contemplated introduction. This, providing as it did for the detention of men, as well as women, seemed to offer a solution, and some of the Unions had therefore acted last year contrary to the recommendation of the National Union. But delegates should remember—(1) Experience showed that every time it was women, and not men, that were chiefly affected by the practical application of the law, and that it would be impossible to detain men compulsorily, for the doctors were not likely to give them away; (2) that all the most experienced doctors at Home, both Army and Navy, had spoken strongly against compulsory detention. With reference to returned soldiers, Government had assured a deputation from Wellington citizens that all that were diseased were being detained. Mrs Cowie quoted from the report of the Select Committee of the N.S. Wales Legislative Assembly, proving the gravity of the menace arising from the soldiers there, and the ineffectiveness of the means for detention, and again emphasised that drink was mainly responsible.

The following resolutions were carried unanimously:—

(1) "That in view of the present war conditions, and the possibility of girls and women being called upon to take a more prominent part in the public life of the community, it is desirable that no means be neglected of safeguarding from the dangers and temptations of the streets our young people of both sexes, especially those who, by reason of their circumstances, are removed from direct home influence. This Union would therefore heartily support:

"(a) The appointment of police women;

"(b) The demand for the censorship of picture films;

"(c) The stricter censorship of all literature offered for sale;

"(d) Any measures suggested for the prevention of gambling;

"(e) Measures for securing more widespread and more systematic instruction of boys and girls in sex physiology."

(2) "That the National Union approach the Council of Education and suggest that the Council should advise the appointment of a woman or women, preferably a doctor or doctors, to give the children of the public schools instruction in sex physiology."

The banner won by Patea Union was presented to Miss Cody, the President, who thanked Convention, saying she intended to try and make the banner the absolute property of Patea Union, in accordance with a statement just made by the Dominion President that the banner became the absolute property of any Union that won it either twice in succession or three times at intervals.

It was announced that Mrs Patterson, President of Manaia Union, had offered a banner for competition, to be gained by the Union that obtains the largest number of new members, regardless of percentage. In the