

WOMEN'S
Christian Temperance Union
Of New Zealand.

Organised 1885.

"For God and Home and Humanity."

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 Fendalton, Christchurch.

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CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:

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 St., Fendalton, Christchurch.

TREASURER:

MRS BENDELY, Aratonga Avenue,
 One Tree Hill, Auckland.

Official Organ:

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Editor: Mrs Peryman, Port Chalmers.

Associate Editor: Mrs Evans, M.A.

Business Manager: Mrs Peryman,
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For God and Home and Humanity.

WELLINGTON, JULY 18, 1917.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

The Dominion Executive of the W.C.T.U. met at Wellington on June 29th. Mrs Lee-Cowie gave a report of her work since Convention. Mrs Cowie has held meetings throughout the Dominion, and has stirred up great interest and enthusiasm in our campaign for National Prohibition. Several hundreds have given in their names at our meetings as wishing to join our Union, and a large increase of membership has resulted.

The Alliance Convention, held in Wellington in June, was a very fine gathering, many said the best Alliance Convention they had ever attended. It was certainly an improvement to have the gathering at each session presided over by its President. Important changes in the Constitution of the Alliance were adopted after careful consideration and weighty discussion, and should make for much greater efficiency.

The Public Meeting in the Town Hall was a fine one. The building was well filled, and a disturbing element, well primed with the brewer's best, was much in evidence. One speaker commented upon the kindness of the publicans in sending specimens of their products as exhibits at a temperance meeting. Another remarked that when you got a temperance meeting as quiet as a prayer meeting there was nothing doing.

Rev. Paterson, of Christchurch, in his address at the Town Hall, made a strong appeal for 6 o'clock closing—(1) For safe streets at night. Soon the Second Division would be called, and many youths in their teens would be left without fathers, uncles, or elder brothers. The Government had conscripted all these, therefore upon it was placed the obligation to safeguard these boys from the Liquor Bars. (2) For Equality of Sacrifice. Mothers were sacrificing their sons, wives their husbands. It was time the Government said to **the Trade**, "Line up with the rest of us, and do your share of sacrificing for the nation's good."

DEPUTATION TO CABINET.

From the Alliance Convention a deputation went to Cabinet. Mr Massey, Sir Joseph Ward, and Sir James Allen were present, and Mr A. S. Adams, Rev. R. S. Gray, and Mrs A. R. Atkinson were the speakers. They strongly presented the case for 6 o'clock closing on the ground of efficiency, economy, and stern necessity in this hour of national peril.

Mr Massey, in replying, said it was wrong to say this trade was entrenched behind the Government. The Government would not shirk dealing with this trade. It had done much to restrict the liquor trade. The National Government had given us anti-shouting.

Rev. Gray: A screaming farce.

Mr Massey: The Government had forbidden the sale of liquor to young people under twenty-one.

Chorus of voices: Broken every day.

Mr Massey: The Government had enacted that any publican allowing drunken or disorderly persons on their premises could have their licenses cancelled.

Mrs Atkinson: Can you tell us how many licenses have been cancelled for that cause?

Mr Massey: I really cannot say.

Mr A. S. Adams: Not one.

Rev. Gray: They threatened a man in Wellington, but never took a license away.

Mr Massey promised that the matter should be considered by Cabinet, and a Bill brought down early in the session.

Rev. Gray said that the Temperance Party would accept no compromise. Six o'clock was our irreducible minimum.

Altogether the prospects for early closing do not appear to be very rosy.

AN INDIAN BARRISTER ON WOMEN.

The following concluding words of an address given before the United Provinces Educational Conference, 1916, by Sri Prakasa, Barrister-at-Law, shows that advanced Eastern and Western thought are not so far apart in regard to the position of women:—

"If woman's part is so great in creation, it is equally great in the preservation of our kind. If we want to keep alive what is left as best in our Indian polity; if we want to save our social life from the vulgarisation that is creeping into it due to the lack of the staying influence of women; if we want to preserve the peace of our domestic hearths, already sadly violated; if we want our political life to be vigorous and effective, and not to be futile as it is, owing to the lack of the support of our women—if we want all this, then let that element in human life which has helped so greatly in bringing us into being, let that element also help and guide us in managing our public and private endeavours which are all for the one purpose of preserving our individual lives and the lives of the race. With woman's help, support, and sympathy, man can do much; without it, man is helpless as helpless can be; and in the words of Sri K. G. Gupta: 'In the qualities of Indian womanhood, in the power of well-directed sacrifice and service, lies the assured hope of national regeneration.'"

"WASHINGTON STAR."

"In deference to the wishes of many of its readers, the 'Star' will not print advertisements of intoxicating beverages hereafter."