

procuror should apparently be liable to at most a sentence of 12 months only is, in the judgment of this Convention, nothing short of a legal scandal, and in view of these unutterable wrong procurors inflict upon their victims, and the shameful issue of venereal diseases in those allured through the devices of the procuror, the Convention urges the Government to increase the penalty, and make it at least equivalent to the penalties attached to the comparatively innocuous crimes of forgery, arson, and assault.

Further, since the Magistrate stated that the reason for imposing a sentence of 11 months only was that the full sentence would render the man ineligible for military service, the Union strongly protests against the possibility of such a man being allowed to disgrace the King's uniform and to contaminate the young soldiers with whom he might be brought into contact.

Session closed in usual way.

TUESDAY MORNING, MARCH 19th.

Devotions (Miss Maunder and Mrs J. Wright).

The President once more begged delegates to take note that membership fees and all other moneys coming to the Union Treasury in the ordinary course belong to the Union, and cannot be diverted from Union purposes.

Roll call, 77. Minutes read and confirmed.

Agenda altered, and report of "Strength of the Nation" movement taken at once. Balance-sheet submitted, showing deficit of £28 13s 10d, which had been paid by the Organiser, Mrs Cowie. Resolved that Unions would voluntarily make up this sum, and following resolution carried with enthusiasm:—That Convention desires to place on record its hearty appreciation of the untiring energy and great efforts of Mrs Lee-Cowie during her year's campaign as Organiser of the "Strength of the Nation" movement. Report adopted.

Re referencee in "Mercantile Gazette" to waste of foodstuffs, following resolution was carried: That delegates be asked to call the attention of their local editors to an article in the "Mercantile Gazette" of March 13th, with a view of getting it inserted in their papers. This article comments upon the waste of barley and sugar in Britain in the manufacture of beer, and shows that while every one is rationed for food, there is no rationing of beer, which is made from food materials. Attention is also to be drawn to the fact that spirits imported into our Dominion are made from the food needed for the hungry thousands at Home.

Resolved also that cable should be sent to Imperial Government, and letter to New Zealand Parliament, protesting against importation of liquor into New Zealand from Britain, where conservation of foodstuffs is so urgently demanded.

Plans of Campaign.—Miss Henderson moved:

(1) That an Organiser be appointed for each province, such Organiser to be employed by the Dominion Execu-

tive, but to work under the control of the Provincial Executive.

Noontide devotions (Mrs Peart and Mrs Hall).

Discussion continued till luncheon adjournment, and resolution was carried by large majority.

Session closed in usual way.

Tuesday Afternoon, March 19th.

Devotions (Mrs Walker).

Appeal for funds for N.Z. Treasury, including donations to the "Strength of the Nation" account. Sum of £55 promised.

Roll call, 81. Minutes read and confirmed.

Vote of thanks to Mrs Withall for her generous entertainment at the Garden Party on Saturday, and resolved to present her with framed photo. of the Garden Party.

Greetings from Auckland District Union. Letter read from Mrs Bedford in answer to resolution of sympathy.

Plans of Campaign (continued).—Miss Henderson moved:

(2) That a Travelling Secretary be appointed to collect annual and other subscriptions for a fund to be used for organising and campaign purposes, such fund to be administered by the Dominion Executive.—Carried.

(3) That the Travelling Secretary and the Provincial Organisers be paid such a salary as will obviate the necessity of asking for hospitality.—Carried.

Executive recommended appointment of Miss Weymouth as Travelling Secretary.

Testimony given to her ability and success as a collector by those who had personal experience of her work, and recommendation unanimously carried.

Miss Weymouth briefly responded. Her duties to begin after she had had a month's holiday, or more if needed.

Resolved that if our advertisements are refused by the picture managers, the Executive be asked to enter a strong protest against liquor advertisements being displayed on picture screens, and to call upon the Unions to take up the matter in their own districts.

Resolutions (from Resolutions Committee).—

1. Having heard with dismay of the continued large importation of liquor into New Zealand, we earnestly appeal to every patriot to refuse to allow such importations on the following grounds:—

(1) Every gallon of whisky has been manufactured by the destruction of grain in the United Kingdom, where such grain is absolutely required for the food supplies of hungry women and children.

(2) The shipping space occupied by the cases and barrels is required by merchants for essential materials needed in New Zealand.

(3) When every penny is needed to win the war, this shameful waste of men, money, and material is deserving of every patriot's condemnation.—Carried.

2. Since an investigation just concluded by the American Episcopal

Church reveals the fact that at least 840 American daily papers are now utterly declining liquor advertisements—an increase of 120 papers in one year—and that there are 64 American magazines, including all the best, that are pursuing the same policy, this Convention resolves to call upon the managers of the New Zealand papers, and particularly those in No-License districts, to adopt the same restrictive measures.—Carried.

3. That a letter be sent to the Hon. Lloyd George asking for the abolition of the wet canteen in the military camps where New Zealand soldiers are in training.—Carried.

4. That a protest be sent to the Minister of Railways and to the General Manager against the display of liquor advertisements on railway platforms in No-License districts, and the request be made that for the future such advertisements be not permitted.—Carried.

5. That this Convention of the W.C.T.U. heartily supports the effort now being made to secure the adoption of the system of open-air schools.

Resolved, on motion of Mrs Shepard: That Convention strongly recommends that Unions appointing delegates should, with the fewest exceptions possible, leave them free, after hearing a full discussion, to speak and vote on the various subjects brought forward. This should also apply to "proxy" delegates.

Resolutions dealing with cinema entertainments for children.—Moved by Miss Macarthy:

This Convention is of opinion that:

(1) It is in the best interests of children that cinema performances of a wholesome and varied type, suitable to the child mind, be given on Saturdays and in school vacations.

(2) That the suggestion of model programmes for children's performances would be most usefully undertaken by representatives of Educational Bodies in co-operation with the Picture Managers.

(3) That since the eyesight of children is liable to injury by cinema attendances, their distance from the screen should be properly regulated, and that explanatory interludes should be given to lessen any strain.

This Convention also urges:

(a.) That the employment of children in the picture theatres should be prohibited.

(b.) That the theatres should be better lighted.

(c.) That the better ventilation of these theatres is very desirable.

Branch Unions are urged to bring the question of better lighting under the notice of the municipal bodies.

Convention further urges that two women, to be nominated by representative women's societies, be associated with the censor of picture films.—Carried.

Sister Moody-Bell moved:

That this Convention re-affirms the earnest protest of last year against the opening of picture palaces on Sunday evenings in several parts of the Dominion, where this practice is the source of moral injury to the com-