

Since the war began the British breweries and distilleries have destroyed 5,110,000 tons of human food.

The American Medical Association, with a membership of 81,000 physicians and surgeons, adopted the following resolutions:—

Whereas we believe that the use of alcohol is detrimental to the human economy, and whereas its use in therapeutics as a tonic or stimulant or for food has no scientific value; therefore

Be it resolved, That the American Medical Association is opposed to the use of alcohol as a beverage; and

Be it further resolved, That the use of alcohol as a therapeutic agent should be further discouraged.

STRENGTH OF THE NATION MOVEMENT.

(By Mrs Lee-Cowie, Organiser.)

Otago and Southland have done nobly in response to the call of God. Nearly 1000 new members in three months. Such a fine lot of men are joining, and in many places the school teachers are our auxiliaries. We are rejoicing that the educated, the earnest, the loyal, are falling into line and getting ready for the final battle.

I have had wet, cold weather in many places, but in not one instance have we missed a meeting, and every meeting has resulted in its quota of members.

Mrs Weaver, of Alexandra, secured 17 names on a train journey (and the fees also). Now she sends me 12 more names, so I would say to every member, "Go and do likewise."

Mr A. Cowie is paying for a page in "The Outlook" to bring our work before the churches. Already several names have been sent me as a result. One lady in New South Wales has sent us 10s as her membership fee.

We urge every member to secure names to the great petition, and above all, to keep the prayers ascending day and night for the final victory over drink this year.

SOME DAY.

"Nearly every means except Christianity has been tried to get rid of war."

"Some day, it is hoped, that will be tried."

PROVINCIAL CONVENTION.

STRATFORD, JUNE 13th. 1918.

Convention opened with devotions, conducted by Mrs Kennington, life member of the Ngaere Union.

Welcome to delegates by Mrs M. Philips, President of Stratford Union.

Reply, Mrs Duxfield, Wanganui East.

Convention Letter-writer, Mrs Gillings.

Reports of Unions.

Ngaere has collected money and clothing for Red Cross work; assisted Stratford in efforts for Y.M.C.A. funds; visits the hospital; collects for Maori Department; a member on the School Committee, also a member Secretary and Treasurer of School Committee.

Stratford has a member on the School Committee; took over the patriotic shop and tea rooms on Y.M.C.A. Day, when nearly £50 was raised, no raffles or guessing competitions; runs a successful L.T.L.; has a Sunshine member.

Hawera has a flourishing Cradle Roll and L.T.L., also a Young People's Union; £60 was raised for comforts for mine-sweepers; Maori work undertaken.

Eltham has worked for patriotic purposes; held a Band of Hope last season.

Manaia conducts a most successful L.T.L., members 94; contributions are given at every meeting for Y.M.C.A. Fund.

Normanby reports keen interest in all work; held a Garden Party for mine-sweepers; has a flourishing Cradle Roll; takes flowers to the hospital; has an absent member letter-writer; owns a library in connection with Union, and, like most other Branches, been very busy with patriotic work.

Wanganui.—Home meetings; two members on School Committee, one on Hospital Board, and a Y Union.

Wanganui E.—Red Cross work, work among seamen, and home meetings were held and white ribbons distributed; L.T.L. does good work under the leadership of Mrs Duxfield; educational literature distributed. Most of the Unions have been visited by Mrs Lee-Cowie.

Reports adopted.

Noontide hour.

Afternoon. Devotions conducted by Mrs Campion. Roll call.

Twenty-six answered with a verse of Scripture.

Resolutions.

"That this Convention views with concern the insanitary condition of many of our public school buildings, and considers that, although much is needed to carry on the war, yet it is unwise to neglect the health of the rising generation, upon whom so much of the future welfare of the nation depends, and requests the Government to take means speedily to remedy this serious flaw in our education system."

"That in view of the fact that it is unwise, in the moral interests of children between the ages of 14 and 17, to be out so much at night away from their parents' control, the Government be strongly urged to amend the Education Act that compulsory continuation classes should be conducted at the Technical Colleges during the day time, instead of as now, at night."

Recommendation.

"That each Union procure a few copies of Parliamentary Rules by J. Roberts."

President's address. A review of work during the year; thankfulness for six o'clock closing, and encouragement for coming year. Received and adopted, and appreciated.

A paper on "Influence" was read by Miss Johnston. This was much appreciated, as it was the first time one of our young members appeared in public.

A few words of encouragement from Mrs White.

A short address from Mrs Duxfield on the evil effects of cigarette smoking.

Election of Officers.—The present officers were unanimously re-elected for ensuing year. Pres., Mrs Philips; Sunny Hollow, Stratford; Sec., Mrs Jones, Ngaere; Treas., Mrs Jemison, Tariki.

Invitations for next Convention were received from Hawera and Wanganui. Wanganui accepted.

Votes of thanks were passed to the ladies of Stratford Union, hosts and hostesses, Trustees of the Methodist Church.

Convention closed with singing the Temperance Doxology and the Benediction.

A law has been drafted in Nebraska authorising any peace officer in the State to arrest anyone whose breath has the odour of liquor.