

N.Z. Treasury endorsed by Convention.

Proposed by Mrs Wright: "That vote of appreciation of the Editor's work be recorded in the minutes." Carried, proposer to draw up the resolution.

Mrs Peryman reappointed Editor and Business Manager; Mrs Evans nominated Associate Editor.

Usual votes of £15 for Business Manager, and £20 honorarium for Editor passed; also £25 for printing of Convention number.

Reports.—Literature—Balance-sheet read, showing receipts £33 2s 6d, expenditure £4 3s 9d, leaving credit balance of £28 18s 9d, against which, however, was sum of £13 13s 4d due to Messrs Wright and Carman for printing. Report adopted.

Peace and Arbitration.—Very little had been done, but effort should be made to influence people towards peace, and get principles of peace inculcated into minds of children. Mrs Parkes asked whether there was a branch of the League of Nations in New Zealand, and gave some information about this organisation. She suggested that message be sent from this Convention to Peace Conference to express wish of the women for establishment of permanent world peace, and that resolution be sent to Parliament advocating formation of League of Nations Branch in New Zealand. Mrs Parkes and Mrs Judson to draw up resolutions accordingly. Report adopted.

Noontide devotions.

Bible in Schools and Sabbath Observance.—Mrs Peryman warned delegates that attempt might be made to take away privilege of the weekly hour's Bible instruction in school hours; such attempt had been made in Port Chalmers. The right course to take against this was to elect School Committees favourable to weekly Bible instruction. In response to questions, she explained the legal position: Schools must be open for secular instruction 24 hours per week; in schools open for 25 hours, one hour's Bible instruction could legally given through the Ministers' Association, provided the School Committee consented, consent of Education Board not being now required. Report adopted.

Reports on Home Science, Flower Mission and Relief Work, Rest and Refreshment Booths, Back Blocks and Work Among Railwaymen, Notable Days, Press, adopted without discussion.

Military Camps.—Discussion re welcoming wives of returned soldiers and getting in touch with them. Auckland White Ribboners had done something in the matter, and Women's National Reserve also. It would be well to co-operate with this organisation. Several delegates promised to help in their own district. Suggested a special department might be set up

to deal with the matter. Report adopted.

Session closed with prayer.

MONDAY AFTERNOON.

Devotions (Mrs Dowsett).

Roll call, 87. Minutes read and confirmed.

Resolutions Passed.

1. That a series of questions dealing with the various matters that have been passed by previous Conventions be submitted to Parliamentary candidates at the coming election.

2. That seeing the Government has already admitted, through two of its Departments—the Health Department and the Defence Department—that the ordinary Widows' Pension is not enough to keep a mother and her family, unless she either leave her young children to the care of others while she goes to work, or else resorts to charitable aid for assistance, we would respectfully urge upon their attention the necessity for giving all widows with young children a basis of pension not less than that granted to epidemic widows and the widows of soldiers. We would further venture to point out that it is not in the best interests of the individual or the State that a mother should have to leave her infant children in the care of others while she works to support them. On the other hand, if she does not do this, part of the maintenance of her family must ultimately fall on the State or the community through the Education Department (Charitable Aid), and her children have to carry a stigma from this source, which it should never have been their misfortune to incur.

At 3 p.m. Mr Martin, Secretary of the N.Z. Shop Assistants' Federation, waited by appointment upon Convention to ask support of Union for certain amendments in the legislation affecting conditions of shop assistants' work, chief among these amendments being shorter hours, a week of 45 hours, shops to close at 5.30 and 12 on Saturday, and no late night.

Better dining-room accommodation, and better heating and seating facilities.

Prohibition of concrete floors.

Provision of rest rooms.

Appointment of women inspectors for shops and factories.

Questions asked, explanations and illustrations given. Hearty vote of thanks passed to Mr. Martin for his address.

"Y" Organiser's Report presented (Mrs. Napier)—

Many new branches formed, old ones visited and helped, and great increase in number of "Y" members.

Interesting discussion followed; girls themselves giving details of their work and their methods for keeping up the interest. In response to questions, advice on various matters was given to them, and President addressed to them a few words of encourage-

ment, bidding them keep pegging away, trust in God and do the right.

Report adopted.

Hearty vote of thanks and appreciation passed to Mrs Napier, who promised to donate a banner for annual competition.

Hutment Fund Organiser (Mrs Young) presented report. £475 7s 6d raised, including two contributions of £100 each (Mr Ferriman, of Ashburton and Palmerston North.) Expenses, £2 13s 2½d, balance £472 14s 2½d handed over to Y.M.C.A. Letters of thanks and appreciation from Secretary of Y.M.C.A., and Minister for Internal Affairs.

Report adopted.

Session closed with prayer.

MONDAY EVENING.

Monday evening a special conference was held to consider questions of Purity and Moral Education.

Roll call 73. Mrs Crabb presided.

Miss Henderson, speaking with reference to Social Hygiene Bill, passed last year, described how the objectionable clauses, that practically revived the C.D. Acts, were withdrawn through the prompt action of the W.C.T.U., and in view of the possibility of another attempt being made along similar lines, she urged delegates to impress on their Unions the necessity of trusting the Dominion Officers, and acting immediately and unitedly according to the instructions that might be written or telegraphed to them by the Executive.

Mrs Cowie showed how from earliest times the punishment for immorality had fallen upon women, and men had not been called to account, but Christ's judgment was quite different. He held up a standard of morality the same for men and women. She explained the action and value of the life-creating forces in the human body, forces instinctively used by the lower animals only at the proper times, but in man, placed under the control of his will. If the life-fluid, or semen, is not used for the purpose of reproduction, it is available for strengthening any part of the body that requires it; but if wasted, the whole body is weakened. She showed how the system of regulation utterly fails to protect from disease, how the clean certificate given to a woman, who after treatment is supposed to be cured, is no safeguard (for she may become infected again within 24 hours), but is really a source of danger. Sin can never be made safe; no one, man or woman, can sin against the laws of purity without incurring the penalty. It was an exploded fallacy that a life of continence was prejudicial to health; were impure practices a necessity of nature, women who sacrificed themselves for meeting this necessity ought to be held in high honour, instead of being regarded with scorn. It was time all recognised that the provisions of the C.D. Act simply ruin women, and utterly fail to protect men.