

powers to induce them to consider the suggestion that public recreation rooms be opened and maintained as a permanent Peace Memorial.

After tea adjournment, Mrs Peryman made strong appeal to Unions to appoint "White Ribbon" agents and to make more use of the paper by reporting, shortly, anything of interest.

A discussion, arising from a resolution moved by Mrs Smith (Wanganui), took place as to the advisability of Unions establishing hostels for young women. Hastings and Wellington South were both moving in this direction. As Palmerston North was the only place so far running a hostel, Mrs Crabb explained that under present conditions a hostel could not do more than pay running expenses, therefore the first effort must be to get wealthy sympathisers to buy or lease a house. The W.C.T.U. should take up, so far as possible, this work, for which there was urgent need, and it would help the Campaign work. Finally, following resolution carried:—

8. This Convention recommends the establishment, where possible, of hostels for young women, and for mothers and children; and further, that an Advisory Board be set up to advise Unions desiring to establish such hostels.

Mrs Crabb agreed to confer with Mrs Wilson, of Hastings, and assist her to initiate the Hastings scheme, which it was stated the business men of that place would be willing to finance.

Resolutions Passed.

9. This Convention desires to express its sympathy with the aims and ideals of the League of Nations Society, and would urge the Government to take immediate steps to inaugurate such a Society in the Dominion, in order to support the Imperial Parliament in the effort which is being made to establish a permanent and abiding peace.

10. It now being recognised that the State should provide for the maintenance of children who are deprived of their fathers, this Convention, while resolutely standing for purity of life and the absolute sacredness of the marriage tie, would ask that the claims of the children of unmarried mothers may be recognised. This is asked: 1st, in the interests of the children, who, coming into the world with a stigma attached to their birth, have more claim on the State, that they may be able to become useful citizens; 2nd, in the interests of the mother, that in the struggle to regain her self-respect, she may not be handicapped by the difficulty of providing for herself and her child.

This gave rise to considerable discussion, and Mrs Cowie moved the following amendment:—

"This Convention, while resolutely standing for individual purity of life and the absolute sacredness of the marriage tie, yet feels that the help-

less child of the unmarried mother should be protected and cared for by the State; and to this end urges that adequate provision be made for the child, while making clear that the sin of the parents has no countenance from Society or State."

In answer to certain criticisms, Miss Henderson pointed out that the question of pensions was already safeguarded, and these would be withdrawn if the mothers did not look after the children properly. The chief purpose of the resolution was to secure that the child should be kept with the mother for the sake of the reforming and elevating influence of mother-love.

Amendment was lost, and original motion carried.

Convention adjourned for tea till 7.30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

Prayer (Mrs Garroway).

Roll call, 68.

Report of Sub-Committee for Syllabus of Examination for Organisers presented. Syllabus was drawn up with a view to the future; standard of education constantly arising, so Organisers of the future must be fairly well educated. They would take up this work as their life work or profession, and would expect to have to spend some time and money in fitting themselves for it, exactly as in other professions, especially seeing that it was proposed to arrange for superannuation. The standard of English required was only such as any intelligent girl was expected to reach after two years at a secondary school, and other subjects only such as every Organiser must know, to be successful in her work.

The Question Box was opened, and various matters of interest dealt with.

Resolutions Passed.

11. The Annual Dominion Convention of the Women's Christian Temperance Union of New Zealand, now sitting in Napier, desires to make an earnest appeal to the Synod of the Anglican Church to bring forward a motion to establish a Church of England Women's Total Abstinence Society on the lines of those in Great Britain.

12. That this Convention heartily supports the following reforms in our educational system:—(1) The standardisation of school books; (2) the modernisation of school buildings and furniture; (3) free school books and requisites; (4) forty-five children to be the maximum in any class under the charge of one teacher; (5) extension of open-air classes; (6) provision for larger play-grounds; (7) free and compulsory medical and dental treatment of children in State schools; (8) a complete and compulsory system of continuation schools up to the age of 18; (9) consolidation of schools in rural areas; (10) inclusion, in the training syllabus for teachers, of scientific instruction in sex hygiene and the effects of alcohol on the human body.

13. That in the interests of the women and girls employed as shop assistants throughout the Dominion, this Convention desires to support: (1) a 45 hours week; (2) the abolition of a late night; (3) the proper covering of concrete floors in shops; (4) the appointment of women inspectors to look after the requirements of women and girl employees.

Session closed with prayer.

THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 1st.

Devotions (Nurse Chappell).

Roll call, 81. Minutes read and confirmed.

Vote of thanks to Mrs Pasley for her trouble taken to ensure comfort of delegates lunching at the Trocadero.

Resolutions Passed.

14. That the Women's Christian Temperance Unions of the Dominion press resolutely for the appointment of women police, by sending resolutions to the Prime Minister and to the Minister of the Police Department, also by deputation as our Legal and Parliamentary Department may advise; and further, that every Union be instructed to ask all Parliamentary candidates for their electorate at the coming election whether they support this demand.

15. That Government be urged to fix the age at which persons can marry at 18 years of age for both sexes.

It was explained that at present girls could be married at 12, and boys at 14 years according to English law, and such cases had been known to delegates, even in the Dominion.

Mrs Peryman was granted leave of absence to go and address the elder scholars of the public school, the headmaster of which had asked her to do so, after hearing her speech at the Christian Citizenship meeting on Sunday evening.

A deputation had been arranged to wait on the Bishop and bring before him the resolution passed during the preceding session, but owing to unforeseen circumstances requiring the attention of the Bishop, the deputation had to be postponed till after the close of Convention.

Resolution moved by Mrs Cowie.

We, the delegates of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, have looked with sorrow on the sin and suffering caused by intemperance in our land, as in other lands, and we come to you to beseech your earnest help in the effort to reach the women of every church on behalf of home protection. We realise that our Society has not reached all the Church members, and we would respectfully ask you to devise ways and means of winning the women of your Church for the uplift of those who have fallen through drink, and to save the young from falling. Can you form in your Church a Temperance Society and unite all women for this great and Christ-like work?