

The White Ribbon

FOR GOD AND HOME AND HUMANITY

Vol 32.—No. 370.

WELLINGTON, N.Z., APRIL 18, 1926.

3s Per Annum Post Free
Single Copy, 4d.

CONVENTION.

Our 41st Convention has become a matter of history. Its memories are all that is left to us, coupled with the inspiration, the dynamic force which each received from its seasons of converse with one another, and of communion with our "unseen" Leader. Much was accomplished; more was left for future accomplishment. A full report of special meetings appear in this issue. The Convention sermon was a rousing call to service and to sacrifice, a stern challenge to cast our fears behind us, and to rely upon the power of our God to bring victory to us.

Dr. O'Brien gave a very charming talk upon the evils of alcohol as a beverage, and how really harmful it is to the human body in health, and unnecessary in sickness. Professor Concliffe spoke upon the Honolulu Conference between various nations interested in Pacific problems. A wider understanding of our brothers and sisters of different colour to ourselves is needed by us all, and we trust this may be the beginning of that golden time when the ideal of the great Apostle will become the actual, that there shall be neither black nor white, bond nor free, barbarian, Greek nor Jew, but all shall be one great family in Christ Jesus.

MRS DON'S RETIREMENT.

After a strenuous period as President, Mrs Don declined to be nominated again. She was nominated as Vice-President by Mrs Cole at the Dunedin Convention in 1912, and again at Nelson in 1913. In May, 1913, by the death of Mrs Cole, she became acting-President, and as such presided over the Gisborne

Convention. There, in 1914, she was elected President, and at Christchurch last month concluded twelve years of loving, loyal, and arduous service. She has worthily represented the Dominion Union at the World's Convention in London, and also at many State Conventions, as well as the National Jubilee Convention in the U.S.A. in 1924.

Mrs Don has given much of her time to visiting Unions and speaking at meetings and other public functions.

At the afternoon tea adjournment, after the election of officers, Convention took occasion to mark its appreciation of Mrs Don's leadership and its regret at losing such an able officer. On behalf of officers and delegates, Miss Atkinson presented Mrs Don with a purse-bag containing not gold, but paper currency. Miss Kirk also expressed the good wishes of delegates, and Mrs Peryman spoke a few words on behalf of the officers, the inner family circle, who more than all will miss their President and friend. Mrs Peryman spoke also of the pleasure it was to have Mrs Don still on our Executive as our Dominion Evangelistic Superintendent. In this department we all feel sure that Mrs Don will be an aid and an inspiration to us all in our work.

OUR NEW PRESIDENT.

Mrs T. E. Taylor, of Christchurch, was unanimously elected President. We all heartily welcomed her as our leader. As District President of North Canterbury, she won the love and loyalty of that District, and as acting-President during Mrs Don's absence we learnt to know her talents for leadership. Her intimate personal touch with each Union, her wide knowledge of our many

departments of work, her quiet persistence in keeping always to the work in hand, should be of great help to our Branches. We can promise Mrs Taylor the whole-hearted support of the Dominion officers and the love and loyalty of its members everywhere. May her term as President be marked by a great advance in all branches of our work, and the carrying of National Prohibition.

CONVENTION SUNDAY.

The Convention sermon was preached by Rev. Coursey in St. Paul's Church on the Sunday morning. The reverend gentleman took for his subject the despair of Elijah at the gross moral darkness that had descended upon the people of Israel, and God's comforting assurance that yet there were 7000 who had not bowed the knee to Baal. Elijah was a man of strong character. He had had a marvellous success on Mount Carmel, and yet so soon after he was found overwhelmed with despair, and uttering this growl, "I, even I, only am left."

There are many lessons for the present day in this story. Our age is a wonderful one, the like of which history contains no record. What marvellous progress! What wonderful inventions in the material world! But besides this, we have a great pleasure-loving age. How artificial is much of the present day life; what a break-up of family life; what a slackening of the moral fibre of the nation. All these things make ours a wonderful age, unlike any that has preceded it. We, too, like Elijah, may give way to despair, unless we re-