

DISTRICT CONVENTIONS.

NELSON.

The Nelson District Union held its Annual Convention this year on September 8th, at the Anglican Sunday School, Richmond. Great regret was expressed that Mrs T. E. Taylor, owing to illness, could not be present as expected. The Richmond Union who did all possible to make the Convention a success, gave the visitors a warm welcome. The Convention Officers and Delegates numbered 17. In the afternoon quite a number of visitors also were present. Five out of six branches were represented, Nelson, Richmond, Wakefield, Wakapuka, Motueka. The chair was occupied by the District President, Mrs Field, who led the opening devotions, and afterwards addressed the members. The pledge was repeated by all members, and a Temperance fact given by Mrs Telenius, of Wakefield. Reports were received from the Secretary, Treasurer, each of the five branch Unions and from the Library Superintendent. Six resolutions passed at Dominion Convention were confirmed. Several other matters were discussed and resolutions passed.

The Election of Officers resulted in the same officers being returned: President, Mrs Field; Vice-President, Miss Tarrant; Secretary, Miss Cresswell; Treasurer, Miss Cooke.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

On Tuesday evening, September 15th, a civic reception was given the delegates in Knox Church. Welcome speeches were given by the Mayor of the town, the Alliance, Ministers' Association, and the Salvation Army. Mrs Evans and Miss Kirk thanked the speakers on behalf of the delegates for their warm welcome.

On Wednesday morning, Convention opened with devotions led by Mrs Evans, District President. The Crusade Psalm was repeated, after which Mrs Evans spoke on the power of right thinking. The roll was then called, when sixteen delegates representing twelve Societies answered. We were very pleased to have with us Mrs Peryman, representing the White Ribbon, also Miss Bradshaw, our Dominion Organiser. Mrs Evans then spoke on "The Family allowances Bill," that had just passed the

House, providing a small weekly amount to be paid direct to the mother, and used by her for the benefit of the children.

Reports were then read from the various Unions represented, and showed that good work had been going on in all departments during the year, that at most meetings the pledge had been repeated, and a fact given re the danger of alcohol. The noontide hour of prayer was then observed, after which a discussion on District work ensued.

The afternoon session opened by devotions led by Mrs Peryman, who read the 91st Psalm, and then spoke on, "Faith and Prayer." Dwell in the secret place of the Most High with God and let Him use you, it is where we get our power, let us resolve this year that we will do this.

Miss Kirk then spoke on the benefits that would arise from a domestic court; as things are now, they are not at all satisfactory; she cited cases coming under her own personal knowledge. Some of the cases were very sad and pathetic, and made us realize that there was still need of us as Unions, rousing ourselves on behalf of our unfortunate sisters, and helping our country to give them better facilities when they are brought before the court, and their cases are being tried.

Resolutions were then passed:—First, re Total Disarmament as the only sure road to Peace.

(2) That as the Navy League has access to the School, counteracting influence should also be allowed, that the children should be taught the horrors of war and the principles of Peace.

(3) That history books in the Schools be subject to periodical revision.

(4) That standard works be included on Peace movements, etc., in Libraries for Teachers.

(5) That Lectures on Peace be given at intervals.

(6) That closer co-operation be ensured between Teachers and Members of League of Nations.

Greetings were then read from Carterton and from Canterbury Conventions, who were also holding their Annual District Convention. Let us not be weary in well-doing, for we shall surely reap if we faint not.

Letters of sympathy to be sent to Mesdames Sutherland and Burton.

Decided to put on record an appreciation of the work done by the late Mrs Johnson Wright, of her untiring self-sacrifice for the good of others; we all realize the loss our Union has sustained, may her life be an incentive to us that are left to go forward and fill the gap she has left. Resolution of thanks passed to Miss Avison for her work as District Secretary, and our sorrow at losing her.

Thursday morning Devotions led by Mrs Keene, Nehemiah 1st Chapter. The power of prayer; it was through prayer Nehemiah had been able to build again the walls of Jerusalem. After a hymn and prayer, discussion ensued re holding periodically District Executive meetings in various districts, if possible, in those places that need stimulating. A resolution was passed affirming this. Carterton then invited for the first meeting, which will be held in November; they have a membership of over a hundred, but find it hard work getting leaders to keep the work going. We hope and pray that the Executive will stimulate and encourage them.

Resolution of thanks was passed to the Hon. Bollard for curtailing of Art Unions, Postages, etc.

A letter of thanks to the Hon. Rolleston, re the Guardianship of Children.

Resolved that we protest strongly against the extension of time in the Poll, also in favour of a Two-issue Paper.

We were pleased to note we have the driest Parliament also the power to appoint Justices of the Peace.

Mrs Peryman then spoke on the White Ribbon, urging us all to help circulate it more, and help her to keep it up to the high standard it holds; to send good reports of work done, etc. A vote of thanks was passed to Mrs Peryman for her self-sacrificing work in connection with the paper, and we assure her that we greatly appreciate it.

The following were elected officers for the ensuing year:—Miss Oates, of Greytown, President, Mrs Evans, M.A., Vice-President; Miss Kirk, Secretary, and Mrs Anderson, Treasurer.

Votes of thanks were then passed to the Local Unions for the royal way they had entertained us, to Knox Church, and to our Hostesses.