

Overseas News and Messages

W.C.T.U. WORLD CONVENTION AT TORONTO AGAIN POSTPONED

The post-war situation makes necessary another postponement of the World's Convention. The Canadian White Ribboners have graciously extended their invitation for 1947 and the time decided upon is June of that year. Exact dates will be announced later.

It will be ten years since we have met in convention and the years have been fraught with sacrifice, pain and suffering. It is wonderful the way in which White Ribboners have carried on. Our work is still needed. It is especially important that the national organisations in our federated countries be represented by one or more of their chosen officers and by regularly appointed delegates. Visitors will be welcome.

The place of meeting will be Toronto, Canada; the Royal York Hotel will be headquarters. It will be an important convention as several new World's Officers must be elected and there will be many problems to be solved and many plans made for the rehabilitation of our work.

Our organisation has been a pioneer in promoting world friendship. Let our convention be the first women's convention to cement the friendships of the present. Let us all pray for God's guidance and His blessing on our meeting.

ELLA A. BOOLE, President.
AGNES E. SLACK-SAUNDERS,
Secretary.
World's W.C.T.U.

MISS MARY L. BOLLERT, OF VANCOUVER, B.C.

(Late President of the Pan-Pacific
Women's Association)

News has recently been received in New Zealand of the death in Vancouver of Miss Mary L. Bollert, President of the Pan-Pacific Women's Association, and the first dean of women of the University of British Columbia.

After a distinguished scholastic career at Toronto University, from which she graduated with honours in English and modern languages, Miss Bollert held numerous important positions in colleges and universities, both in Canada and the United States. For some years she was a lecturer at the Teachers' College, Columbia University, and included in her work comprehensive public courses under the New York Board of Education. Later she became professor of English and dean of women at Regina, Sask., and then held similar positions in the University of British Columbia.

Her interest in social work and in women's organisations was international and comprehensive, her sound scholarship and her charming personality enabling her to make an outstanding contribution in women's affairs. Dean Bollert travelled widely in

this phase of her work. She was a Canadian delegate of the International Federation of University Women at conference in Paris (1924), Geneva (1929), and Edinburgh (1932), and was a guest speaker at the International Congress of Women in Chicago (1933). In 1934 she was selected as a member of a party of twelve deans of women of North America to visit the Y.W.C.A. of Japan, and her special interest in Pacific affairs was continued in her valuable work at conference of the Pan-Pacific Women's Association held at intervals at Honolulu and lastly at Vancouver in 1937.

As president of this association, Dean Bollert intended to visit New Zealand in January, 1940, when the triennial conference was planned to be held in Wellington. However, war-time conditions prevented the assembly of an international conference and New Zealand women now regret the passing of a gracious leader whose work for education and international co-operation has been so remarkable. (Supplied by Miss Elsie Andrews, Chairman Pan-Pacific Committee, N.Z.)

The following paragraph has been supplied by Mrs. Gainsford, President of the Opawa Union. She says: "Mr. Jones is one of our honoured missionaries. He is at present in New Zealand, and made the enclosed statement in an address at our recent Annual Assembly at Dunedin."

I was for three and a quarter years connected with the military in India during the recent war. For two and a half years I was in charge of a Unit of over 1,100 men. No liquor was allowed in any of the camps of the Unit. This applied also to the officers' mess. I doubt if there was in Assam a happier, healthier or more hard-working Unit.

My experience, covering months in many camps throughout India, leads to the conviction that drink is the greatest single removable cause of inefficiency in the Army in India.

(Signed) H. A. JONES,
Commandant.

2nd Bengal C.P.F.
Rev. H. A. Jones, New Zealand Baptist Mission, Brahmanbaria, East Bengal, India.

QUEENSLAND—BRISBANE

The Licensing Commission of Queensland now have power to suspend a licensed victualler's licence immediately for failure to supply accommodation and/or meals to the public, whether bona-fide travellers or not.

—From "International Record."

AUSTRALIA—SYDNEY

V.E. Days the bars were closed for forty-eight hours, with remarkable and gratifying results. A striking comparison between Sydney and Auckland, where the bars were opened, and resulted in drunken orgies.

—From "International Record."

AMONG THE DEPARTMENTS

Maori Department

SUPERINTENDENT'S LETTER

5a Oaklands Rd.,
Auckland, S.I.,
21/12/45.

Dear Comrades,

Work of Maori Department

I shall be glad to receive, as early as possible, reports of work done by Unions in this Department.

Distribution of literature, financial assistance, gifts to Maori Hostel, personal contacts, and any other work should all be reported.

With all good wishes for the New Year.

Yours for Service,
CATHERINE McLAY.

PALMERSTON NORTH

An "At Home" in aid of funds for the Maori Hostel was held on December 12th, 1945, at the residence of Mrs. A. L. Claridge, Superintendent of the Maori Department. The weather being fine, a happy time was spent out of doors, the visitors strolling round the garden and viewing the flowers. They were greeted on arrival by the joint hostesses, Mrs. Claridge and Miss R. Edwards.

The programme commenced with a brief speech of welcome by the vice-president, Miss Jamieson, who explained that the Hostel had been taken over by the W.C.T.U. during the war years in order to assist in providing homes for the Maori girls who were flocking to the city. It was thought that a Christian home under the influence of a kindly matron would help, if only in a small way, in providing a happy home atmosphere, which would prevent girls from getting into undesirable accommodation places.

Miss R. Edwards then gave pleasure with two recitations, after which the president, Mrs. D. H. Coles, spoke a few words, saying she had been pleased to be associated with members and hoped she would soon know them all. A treasure-hunt in the garden then took place, after which afternoon tea was partaken of under the trees.

The financial result of the afternoon was over £4, which included admissions, donations, and "Bring and Buy" takings. This was made up to £5/5/-. A hearty vote of thanks to the hostesses for the afternoon, which had involved much work, was carried by acclamation.

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