

Riccarton, Feb. 14: Meeting opened with devotions by Mrs. Harris. Attendance 17. Five apologies. A motion of sympathy passed with Mr. C. H. Barrell and family in their very sad bereavement. Inward correspondence: The resignation of Mrs. Evans received with regret; letter from Zealandia Soap Works asking for donations of fat to be made up into soap to be sent free to Greece; invitations received to attend Band of Hope picnic and concert; also to attend the meeting in connection with the world day of prayer, a farewell social to Lady Newall, and a welcome to Lady Dobbie. A request to attend the memorial service of the late Mrs. C. W. Barrell was also received. Final arrangements made in connection with the Dominion convention. Mrs. Harris appointed delegate. Letters of sympathy, one of regret, and one of thanks, to be sent out. "Bring and buy" table brought in £1/0/3; £1 sent to Band of Hope funds. Benediction.

Christchurch: During January members arranged a farewell social for Mrs. Hawke on her return to England. Fine tributes paid to Mrs. Hawke by our president, Miss C. Henderson and Miss Lovell-Smith, for her outstanding work in many departments of our branch, particularly as superintendent of our mental hospital visiting committee. On behalf of the union, Miss Lovell-Smith presented Mrs. Hawke with souvenir booklets of New Zealand; other gifts also being given.

February 5: Miss Henderson presided. Members learned with great regret of the passing of our president, Mrs. C. W. Barrell. Vote of sympathy passed with relatives. Thanks for our sympathy received from Mrs. Hiatt, in the loss of her sister. Miss Lovell-Smith (hon. treasurer) read satisfactory financial statement. Convention arrangements discussed. Members volunteered to give hospitality to visiting delegates. Mrs. Hunt elected superintendent of mental hospital visiting committee. Donation sent to Band of Hope Union. Thanks received for donation to Timaru Sailors' Rest. President read extracts of temperance work in other countries and also urged the importance of urging Members of Parliament to work for compulsory teaching on temperance in schools.

February 27: Miss Henderson presiding. Thanks received from Mr. C. W. Barrell. Members promised to help in coming CORSO street collection. Mrs. B. James elected delegate to Dominion convention. Members invited to attend evening reception to Lady Dobbie. Convention remits then discussed.

North Brighton: February meeting held in the form of a picnic at the home of Mrs. Scott. A "bring and buy" sale was held for general funds. Cheering message from new president, Mrs. Norman. Motion of sympathy with the relatives of the late Mrs. C. W. Barrell. Reports on mental hospital visiting; prayer meeting; cradle roll party at which a "bring and buy" sale was held, were received.

SOUTH CANTERBURY DISTRICT

Ashburton, Feb. 5: Mrs. Browning presided in the absence of the president and also led devotions, reading from Mark 1st, and helpful talk given. Mrs. Adjutant Smith elected delegate to convention. Rev. Mr. Blight gave a convincing address on the advantage of "no licence" towns, stating that only a small amount of liquor goes into "dry" areas. Where there are licences there are more convictions for excessive drinking. More sly grog business is done in licensed areas than in dry. Also, the lack of accommodation is not the result of "no licence." Solo by Miss Gunn. Afternoon tea.

Temuka, Feb. 27: First meeting for the year. Good attendance. Mrs. Grocott presided. Devotions, Mrs. R. Smart. "Frances Willard Day" observed. An inspiring address by Mrs. Hiatt, Dominion president. Doxology.

Timaru, Feb. 26: Activities re-commenced, Miss Fyfe presiding. Devotions led by Mrs. Prattley. Delegates for Dominion convention appointed and a discussion on remits for convention was held.

Oamaru, Feb. 11: Mrs. Winn, in the chair, led in prayer and gave inspirational devotional talk. Members stood in sympathy with relatives of the late Miss M. Milligan, a faithful and valued member, and also the relatives of the late Mr. D. Simpson, a devoted worker for the temperance cause. Miss Thompson appointed delegate to convention. £1 was voted for foodstuffs for Britain. Members joined with other organisations in giving subs. for the Winston Churchill fund. Reference to Frances Willard, and collection. Duet; afternoon tea and Benediction.

Dunedin South, fourth Thursday: Mrs. Rippin presided. Mrs. Smith, devotions. President announced the passing of Mrs. Dray, former cradle roll superintendent. Customary tribute paid. Two new members welcomed. Mesdames Dickson and Dow. Syllabus for the year to be arranged with realisation of the insidiousness of the drink habit to youth especially. A "social" committee set up with this object. Special days also to be observed. Delegates to annual convention, Mrs. Rippin, and Mrs. Donaldson (as district president). Mrs. Purcell (Australia) had visited Invercargill and taken notes on licensing system and promised to give us the notes when completed.

North East Valley, Feb. 28: Good attendance. Helpful devotions led by Mrs. Peart. Miss Gibbs appointed delegate to convention. Interesting discussion on remits.

SOUTHLAND DISTRICT

South Invercargill: First meeting of the year. Good attendance. Devotions led by Mrs. Richards, devotional superintendent. Mrs. Holmes said a few words on the passing of Miss McCallum, and hymn 10 was sung in remembrance. Invitation from Winton W.C.T.U. to their twenty-first birthday party. It was agreed to have a plaque hung in the hall in memory of our late president, Miss McCallum. Mrs. Holmes elected delegate for convention. Benediction.

Kaikorai, Feb. 26: Mrs. Flett presided and read an interesting article called the "Song of our Syrian Guest," a commentary on the twenty-third Psalm. Decided to have roll call with temperance fact or Scripture verse. Social afternoon tendered to Miss Dobson, who had been our secretary for 21 years. Mrs. Flett presented a book with love and best wishes in appreciation of Miss Dobson's long and devoted service. Miss Duff sang a solo, and Mrs. McKenzie recited. Mrs. McKenzie to be delegate at convention.

Invercargill Central.—March 13th. Mrs. J. Ruthven presided. The speaker was Mrs. J. J. Wesnet, who gave an address on "Life and Work." Mrs. Walker reported on the conference of the National Council of Women held in Napier.

Otago District: Lawrence.—March 7th. Miss Ferguson, President, in the chair. Good attendance. Extracts from "White Ribbon" read. Greeting to be sent to Convention. Paper, "Was Jesus a Prohibitionist?" read by Mrs. McNeilly, and "The Story of Ramabai," by Miss Ferguson.

Presidential Address—from page 6.

human consumption must go. God's law must hold sway, "That nothing shall hurt or destroy in all His holy mountain." He is waiting at the head of His army till His people are ready to set up new values, to take up the challenge to redeem human character. The liquor traffic cannot stand before the organised hosts of the Lord. Let us follow our Leader to sacrifice, to live sacrificially. God needs thousands more to take up the challenge. Are we willing to pay the price of victory in prayer, and offerings of self, substance and service?

May this year be more momentous than the year 1945, because God's people are willing to give consecrated service for children, for youth, for homes, for neighbours, with unfaltering faith in the power, and love of God. By so doing the drink traffic, entrenched as it is, shall receive its death blow. We shall then be able to say with joy unspeakable, "Thanks be to God Who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

IN LOVING MEMORY

MRS. C. W. BARRELL, J.P., CHRISTCHURCH

Christchurch mourns the loss of a beloved woman in the person of Mrs. C. W. Barrell, J.P., late president of the Christchurch branch of the National Council of Women, and of the North Canterbury District of the W.C.T.U.

Mrs. Barrell was a valued member of her own Methodist Church Orphanage Board, and in the depression was chairman of the Girls' Employment Committee. She also acted as chairman of the Elizabeth McCombs Memorial Committee, which raised a fund for a scholarship at West Christchurch High School.

Our own W.C.T.U. knew her as its Dominion vice-president for one year. When North Canterbury undertook the visitation of the mental hospital, Mrs. Barrell went each Sunday, taking with her the results of her Saturday's baking.

Her outstanding qualities were her logical mind, fairness and sympathy, and her dignity commanded the respect of all. Even those who opposed her temperance views were the first to pay tribute to the qualities mentioned. As one who did not belong to us said: "I always felt so proud of her." A sense of humour helped her over difficult places.

This tribute will not convey adequately the love and affection the women of Christchurch and other parts of New Zealand felt for their dear friend. How many enjoyed her hospitality, for she kept "open house."

We thank God for her life and the privilege of knowing her. May we take up the work she has laid down with renewed enthusiasm, remembering how she carried on to the end in spite of her serious illness. She truly spent her life for "Good, Home, and Humanity."—Sent by Mrs. F. J. T. Grigg, Christchurch.

MISS ASHWORTH, NEW PLYMOUTH

It is with deep regret that we report the passing of one of our faithful members, Miss Ashworth, who came from Wanganui some years ago. She was always an earnest supporter of the temperance cause and did faithful service in early years. She frequently related stories of her mission work with the poor and needy. New Plymouth is the poorer for her passing.—Sent by Mrs. Barron, Hawera.