

Bulletin of Union News

DISTRICT EXECUTIVE MEETINGS

North Canterbury: Mrs. F. J. T. Grigg presided at the monthly meeting of the North Canterbury Executive, at which there was a good attendance of town and country members. Mrs. Gainsford took devotions, stressing the urgent need for more prayer. It was reported the Convention meetings held in Durham Street Methodist Sunday School had been most successful. A letter was received from Mrs. McGibbon enclosing a donation of £2/5/- towards Convention expenses from women of the Presbyterian Church. Arrangements were made for the Reformatory Concert in April. Interesting reports were given by Mrs. McLean, "White Ribbon" superintendent, and by secretaries of Unions. Mrs. Grigg read a tribute written by Miss Havelaar, Dominion president of the National Council of Women, on the life and work of the late Mrs. C. W. Barrell.

Auckland: Held in the Temperance Room, Queen Street, on April 1st. Mrs. Long, District President, in the chair; and devotions led by Miss A. M. McLay. Members were asked to help in the Poppy Day street appeal to be held on Thursday, April 18th. Several members reported having attended the Women's World Day of Prayer. Arrangements were finalised for having a "Mother's Day" gathering on Sunday, May 12th. It was decided to hold a monthly prayer meeting for Poll work in the interests of Temperance until after the election. Mrs. Long and Mrs. Joiner were appointed to represent the W.C.T.U. at a Civic Reception to be tendered to Admiral Louis and Lady Mountbatten, to be held in the Auckland Town Hall on April 15th. The report of the Dominion Convention was given by Mrs. Long.

Wellington, April 11th: Meeting held at Lower Hutt, Miss Kirk presiding, and devotions led by Miss Appleby. Mrs. Spencer welcomed all delegates. A letter from the N.Z. Alliance stated that they were working for Abolition, and not for Trust Control. Mrs. Reed reported that the projector would soon arrive. Greetings were to be sent to Miss Lovell-Smith, Mrs. Hiatt and Mrs. Lopdell. Literature arranged for distribution at each meeting through Mrs. Ross. A paper stating the true position of Prohibition in the U.S.A. was on sale. The Treasurer reported £16/17/- in hand for the projector; and £2/18/- also in hand. Miss Appleby reported on her work in the Wellington district; asking all Unions to help her by preparing the way for her. The Masterton delegate reported that they had twenty members of the Band of Hope who had signed the Pledge; others attending but not counted as members till they sign. Mrs. Reed gave a splendid report of the Dominion Convention. The matter of questionnaires was discussed; and it was decided that Unions should report on the Departments they are working and no others. Mrs. M. Maurice spoke on the people of Manila, and how they are following on in Temperance work. The Hutt Union was thanked for their hospitality, and the meeting closed with the Benediction.

UNION REPORTS

AUCKLAND DISTRICT

Kohi-St. Heliers, March 21st: First meeting of the year. In the absence of Mrs. Farr, Evangelical Supt., Mrs. Kasper read an article, "Are we living by the standards of Jesus today?" The Churches were shown to be not standing foursquare against the liquor traffic. A letter was received from Mrs. Lee-Cowie on "Liquor Ads. must go." Mrs. Kasper gave a most interesting talk on the lately held Convention, for which she was warmly thanked. Benediction.

Otahuhu, March 21st: Opening meeting for 1946. Mrs. W. Taylor presided over a goodly gathering of members and interested friends. The meeting took the form of a social afternoon. Musical items were rendered; and then a talk on "Good Citizenship," given by Mrs. Mountjoy, was listened to with much interest, and proved a very helpful message to all present.

Onehunga, March 14th: See special reports. March 28th: Very successful Home meeting held at the home of Mrs. Chappell. Solos by Dr. Jeannie Craig, and address by Miss McLay, who told of the recent annual meeting of the N.Z. Alliance and their future arrangements. All very interesting and informative.

Ponsonby, March 21st: Mrs. Joiner, President, in the chair. Mrs. Read led Devotions, and dealt with "The Peace of Christ," by which we are all surrounded. President welcomed all members and visitors, among whom was Dr. Jeannie Craig and Mrs. and Miss Prussing. Members stood in silence as an expression of sympathy and regret in the passing on of Miss Read, a past President, and very faithful worker of the Ponsonby Union. Letter received from Mrs. Lee-Cowie donating £10 for the purchase of Memorial to be placed in the Maori Girls' Hostel. Temperance fact given by Miss Runciman. Dr. Jeannie Craig rendered a solo very beautifully, and was also the speaker for the afternoon, giving a most interesting and challenging address. Mrs. Joiner thanked the speaker on behalf of all present. Meeting closed with the repeating of the Pledge and the pronouncing of the Benediction.

Auckland, April 9th: Mrs. Long presided. Temperance fact given by Mrs. Holmes. Reports of District Executive and National Council of Women were given. An interesting report of the Dominion Convention was given by the district delegate, Mrs. Massam. Mrs. Long gave a comprehensive report of the Conference of the N.Z. Alliance held in Wellington. Votes of thanks given to both ladies. Mrs. Long also reported on the Maori Girls' Hostel and the useful training the girls are receiving. The Benediction, pronounced by Mrs. Long, closed a most interesting and profitable meeting.

Henderson, March 27th: Very pleasant afternoon spent at the home of Mrs. Chadwick to entertain the children of Cradle Roll and their mothers. Good attendance. Miss McLay told the story of the birth and childhood of Moses, and also gave a very interesting account of the beginning of the W.C.T.U. Literature was distributed to the mothers, and several children were enrolled.

SOUTH AUCKLAND DISTRICT

Tauranga, April 2nd: Mrs. Christian presided over a good attendance, leading Devotions in the absence of the Evangelical Supt. Pledge. Reports of Garden Party and Executive meeting given. Band of Hope arrangements made for early start. Literature distributed. Dominion Convention report given by the delegate, Mrs. Foxcroft, and much appreciated. "Bring and Buy." Benediction.

Hamilton, April 4th: Mrs. Gatman presided. Good attendance. Miss Gagen conducted Devotions, speaking on Praise being Prayer. Mrs. Lewis, of Cambridge, District Secretary, was present, and gave report on Dominion Convention; most informative and lucid on the business, covering achievements, planning and future vision. The aim of nothing less than Total Abolition of the Liquor Traffic was still the goal. The importance of this year being Poll year was stressed. A vote of thanks to the speaker was passed, and the Benediction closed the meeting.

Thames, April 3rd: Well attended meeting in the Methodist school-room. Convention delegate presented "Plans of work for Poll year" as decided on at Convention. Members decided to start immediately by advertising slogans, etc., in the local newspapers as funds permit. A resolution to be sent to Thames Ministers' Association asking that the evils of intemperance be emphasised at the Bible in Schools lessons, and also in the pulpit.

TARANAKI DISTRICT

Hawera, March 26th: A very well attended meeting. Mrs. K. Thayer in the chair as president; also took Devotions. Temperance fact given. A detailed report of Dominion Convention was given by the delegate, Mrs. Barron. Meeting closed with prayer and Benediction by the President.

MANAWATU DISTRICT

Feilding, April 3rd: Mrs. Spence in the chair. Mrs. Kendall led Devotions and spoke on Faith, and trusting more. A hearty vote of thanks to Mrs. Tremaine for a splendid and inspiring report of Dominion Convention. Decided to see about getting Temperance Education into Bible Class Camps. An effort to be made to have Miss Appleby to give a talk at our next meeting. A bright meeting closed with prayer by Mrs. Stewart.

HAWKE'S BAY DISTRICT

Hastings, February: First meeting for the year was well attended. Mrs. Hickmott, again president, was presented with a birthday posy, with all good wishes for the coming year of work for God. Molly Wakefield was presented with the gold medal for the Temperance Examination. Mrs. Murtagh, treasurer for five years, has resigned. Appreciation of her faithful work was expressed in words and flowers.

March: Good gathering of members and friends to hear Mrs. Lewis report on the Dominion Convention. She told of the doings day by day with great enthusiasm, inspiring the members to seize every opportunity for the Temperance cause. Collectors were appointed for the street collection for "Relief for Greece."

WELLINGTON DISTRICT

Lower Hutt, March 27th: Mr. Lopdell gave a very forceful address on Temperance, giving statistics showing how the evils of drink are on the increase, and suggesting as a means of helping to educate the young on the subject that a good temperance article should be included each month in the School Journal; the use of temperance films in the schools; and that an itinerant lecturer should visit the schools to teach the evils of alcoholic drinking. Benediction.

Brooklyn, March 26th: Mrs. Sawden presided. Fifteen present. Pledge. Devotions led by Mrs. Greenwood. A short resume of Miss Kirk's talk at last Executive meeting from the chair. Mrs. Brewer presented Mrs. Gillings with a handbag in recognition of many years' service as Corresponding Secretary. Mrs. Sawden elected in her place. An interesting and comprehensive report of Christchurch Convention given by the delegate, Mrs. Pearce. Much enjoyed; and matter noted for discussion at next meeting. Successful "Bring and Buy." Sigil prayer and Benediction.

Wellington Central, March 20th: Attendance fair. Sick visiting reported. Birthday posies presented. Convention report received. Very helpful and educational. We must be on the watch-tower this Poll year. Delegate for district meeting appointed.

MARLBOROUGH DISTRICT

Springlands, March 19th: Mrs. Underhill presided. Sympathy expressed with members and friends who had suffered bereavement. Devotions, Mrs. Gascoigne. Roll call well responded to. Congratulations to President on being elected to Dominion office. Bouquets of flowers to be sent with good wishes to two overseas brides and to a mother with first babe. President passed on few thoughts on Convention and proudly presented the L.W.R. Banner. Delegate's report next meeting. Mrs. L. Green consented to accept Recording Secretary position and Mrs. J. Herd that of Corresponding Secretary. Mrs. Gascoigne read a most interesting chapter from Rita Snowden's book, "A Thousand Sunrises," which was much enjoyed.

Blenheim, April 2nd: Mrs. N. Forbes presided over a good attendance. Mrs. A. J. Milgrew took Devotions, reading from St. Luke's Gospel, and from the book, "Starting Afresh," by Pat McCormack. Letters to be sent to Mrs. Goslin, Mrs. J. S. White, in Wellington Hospital; and congratulations to Mrs. V. Underhill on her appointment as Dominion Recording Secretary. Mrs. N. Forbes gave a splendid and interesting report of Convention. Vote of thanks to her proposed by Mrs. Goslin and carried by acclamation. Benediction.

NELSON DISTRICT

Nelson, March 12th: Mrs. Walker presided in the absence of Mrs. Toomer at Convention, and spoke on God's gifts to us, and our use and abuse of them. Agreed to ask Mrs. Gardiner, of the Wellington Union, to represent us at the Alliance Conference in Wellington. Mrs. Rankin, Health and Nutrition Superintendent, gave a most able talk on "Health, the birthright of all"; giving as the three main causes of ill-health, (1) wrong eating, (2) wrong thinking, and (3) wrong living. Mrs. Rankin was thanked for her talk, and the meeting closed with the Benediction.

April 9th: Mrs. Toomer presided and welcomed members and visitors. Verses of favourite hymns were sung, the pledge repeated, and prayer offered by the President. Flowers and letters to be sent to two sick members. Mesdames Doel and Hay reported interestingly on Dominion Convention. Mrs. Toomer, who was congratulated on having been elected Corresponding Secretary, thanked members, urging them to pray unceasingly for the