

President's Message



Mrs. C. E. Kirk

June, 1946.

Dear Friends,

Now that Eastertide with all its wonderful message has passed it is time for reconsecration to our Lord and to our work. Surely there is no better proof of our belief in the love of Christ than that of redoubled effort to clear the evil of the Liquor Traffic from our land. On Easter Day I stood watching a glorious dawn and also looking out over the sleeping city; I could not but think how different Easter Dawn might be if there were no beverage alcohol. So many more people waking with clear brains and happy hearts. We CAN have such an Easter if we are prepared to pay the price in sacrifice and continuous service. J. R. Lowell said, "No man is born into this world whose work is not born with him; there is always work, and tools, to work withal for those who will," and Booker Washington said, "Nothing that is worth having ever comes to one except as the result of hard work." The battle is the Lord's, and strength in abundance will be the portion of those who "come to the help of the Lord."

With very cordial greetings from

C. E. KIRK,

Dominion President.



Let me tell you from the very outset, and speaking as a medical man, that I personally know of no greater curse on God's earth than alcohol; and medically speaking, there is no greater curse that we know of in the medical world.—Dr. L. P. Bosman, M.P.

National Council of Women

CHRISTCHURCH BRANCH

We are indebted to Mrs. F. J. T. Grigg for the very interesting report of the past year's activities of the Christchurch branch of the N.C.W. As this is probably indicative of much of the work of the average branch, we are glad to publish parts of general interest, so that we may have some idea of what is done by the organisation which has our representatives from the Dominion officers and from our local Unions in most places where both associations are functioning.

The number of delegates from women's societies in the Christchurch branch is 72; these representing 51 organisations. Miss C. Henderson, well-known to all W.C.T.U. members, is a Life Member.

A paragraph is devoted to the loss sustained by the branch in the loss of the much loved late President, Mrs. C. W. Barrell. Her gifts of character and personality are feelingly mentioned. Another loss was that of the late Mayoress, Miss E. Cousins, who was a former Vice-president of the branch.

The Dominion President, Miss Havelaar, J.P. is congratulated on having received the award of M.B.E., well deserved for the voluntary war work accomplished by her. Mesdames N. Banks and T. Taberner are congratulated on becoming J.P.'s.

Three of the Christchurch members have been re-elected as Dominion Officers: Miss Havelaar, President; Mrs. W. Mackay, J.P., and Mrs. L. I. Cattell.

Special Meetings mentioned in the report include one for the consideration of the recommendations sent down from the Wellington branch regarding the Licensing Commission. While not in agreement with some of these, the Council expressed gratitude for the time and thought given to the matter by their sister branch.

Victory Loan. At the request of the Christchurch War Loan Committee the branch undertook to secure helpers and collectors.

The milk problem was the subject of another special meeting. An endeavour to assist in solving the difficulties caused at the Hospital through staff shortage resulted in the forming of an association named "The Friends of the Hospital." This is sponsored by the branch, and its executive officers are all members thereof. The report reads: "We are truly proud of the great work accomplished by the 'Friends' in the short space of time since Christmas. They have formed a branch in Ashburton, a weekly sewing Circle which does mending at the Hospital, a Sewing Circle at Waltham for the Waltham Orphanage, and have been responsible for finding a large number of part-time workers for the Hospital and its institutions."

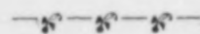
Reference is made to the Dominion Conference, of which a short report has already appeared in these pages.

Associate members have given much valuable assistance in many directions.

Special Committees set up within the branch are as follows: 1. Education and Child Welfare; 2. Food and Commodities; 3. Housing; 4. Pensions; 5. Reconstruction; 6. Social Welfare. Excellent work is reported by all of these.

Numerous deputations have been received and sent out by the branch.

It is illuminating to read this report and we congratulate the Christchurch Branch on its vigorous and healthy tone. To those of our readers who are not in touch with any branch of the Council, it will be very interesting to learn that its policy is in the direction of Good Citizenship all along the line.



LETTER FROM NUIE ISLAND

The following letter has been handed on by the Dominion President, and we publish it knowing that many readers will be greatly interested in news from our friend, Mrs. Head:—

Nuie Island,

April 23rd, 1946.

Dear Miss Kirk,

Very many thanks for your interest in our welfare, and for trying to purchase an organ for us. I realise the difficult task you are doing for us. I hope you will be able to purchase one even if it would cost more.

This is our Centenary. It is a hundred years this year since the Gospel was brought to Nuie (October 16th). Everyone is looking forward to its celebration. We hope to have our organ for the occasion.

Mrs. Beharell, our President, is starting a Girls' Brigade this year, which is another exciting event on the Island. The Boys' Brigade is progressing very well. We trust the girls' class will be the same.

The President has given us a new name, and is ordering a new badge. This will be the number two badge, to be worn above the white bow. F.C.W. are the letters, standing for "Federation of Christian Women." It is to be in blue and gold.

Our Easter passed away very quietly. It is three months now since we had a boat here. It is three months' scraping of the bottom of our supply tins and barrels. It is really Elijah's experience with us now.

All the Nuie Island members at our quarterly meeting convey to you their Christian greetings, and hope that all will be well with you.

We thank God for Peace, wherein we can serve Him without fear. Mr Head joins me in kindest regards to you. Kindly remember me to Mrs. Peryman, our dear friend in the Master's service.

Yours very sincerely,

MALAMA V. HEAD.