

Bulletin of Union News

DISTRICT EXECUTIVE MEETINGS

Auckland: Held in the Temperance Room, Monday, May 6th. Mrs. Long, District President, in the chair, and also led devotions. An invitation was received, and accepted from the N.C.W. for members to attend a social evening to welcome to Auckland Miss Havelaar, Dominion President of the N.C.W. Mrs. Long reported on the work of the Maori Hostel, 26 being now in residence.

Mrs. F. W. Mountjoy was appointed to represent the W.C.T.U. at the Educational Conference at present being held in Auckland. Very interesting letter received from Mrs. Head, of Nuie Island, telling of life on the island, with reference specially to the work of the W.C.T.U. there. Quite a number of suggestions were received and discussed for Poll work, and final arrangements were made for the gathering to be held on Mother's Day.

South Auckland: Held in St. Paul's Ladies' Parlour, Hamilton. Mrs. Christian, acting-president, presided. Apologies received from Mrs. C. Clark, District Treasurer, and Mrs. Kemsley, Cambridge. Devotions led by chairman. Letter of sympathy to be sent to Mrs. Weston, whose resignation from the district presidency was received with regret, in the long period of ill-health through which she had passed. Her removal from the district to Oxford made her resignation final. Correspondence from Mrs. Toomer discussed. Mrs. Lewis's (District Secretary) appointment as delegate to the N.C.W. made at an extraordinary meeting approved. Decided to send out a circular to Presidents of Unions calling attention to the importance of Executive meetings, and urging better attendance. Discussion on best plans to make in connection with visits to Unions. Agreed to ask Miss Kirk to attend District Convention, and to visit Unions in the more isolated places. Agreed that next meeting begin in the morning, to allow more time for full attention to necessary planning. Benediction.

Taranaki: Meeting held at Stratford on Thursday, May 2nd, in the Presbyterian Hall, morning and afternoon sessions being held. A very full representation attended, all branches sending delegates. Mrs. J. T. Herrell, District President, presided, and led the devotions. The morning session opened with the singing of "The King of Love." Mrs. Arthur Inglewood led in prayer. The lesson and talk were by Mrs. Holly, Eltham. The President thanked Mrs. Holly and then welcomed the delegates. Several apologies were received from those who had hoped to attend. Mrs. Arthur, letter writer, to write a letter of sympathy and one of cheer. Letter from Mrs. Toomer much appreciated. Convention remits as passed were discussed. Drinking among young people in the streets and at dances was spoken of. Members to make firm stand wherever possible against smoking in non-smoking carriages on trains. Mrs. Arthur to write a letter of appreciation to Mrs. Christian on her good work with the "White Ribbon." Miss Drew made an appeal for scarves and ditty bags for the New Plymouth Sailors' Rest, telling of one seaman, who had been all over the world, and said he had never before seen such a fine place for seamen. A report and impressions gained at Dominion Convention were given by the three delegates, Mesdames Cox, Eltham, Wood (New Plymouth), and Barron (Hawera). Noonday prayer was taken by Mrs. Holly. As this is election year, members thought we must get busy with literature; Mrs. Simpson, District Treasurer, to write for samples. Miss Drew asked to write to Miss Appleby to see when an itinerary of the Taranaki Unions could be arranged. Mrs. Oliver, New Plymouth, thanked the members for their fine hospitality for morning and afternoon teas. Delegates invited for next Executive meeting to New Plymouth on the fifth Wednesday in July.

UNION REPORTS

NORTHLAND DISTRICT

Dargaville, April 9th: Small attendance. Mrs. Green in the chair. Mrs. Green spoke on knitting for lepers. Some garments have already been completed by members. Temperance fact given. Captain Jones, of the Salvation Army, was welcomed, and gave a most interesting address on "Inebriates and the work being done among them by the Salvation Army on Pakatoa and Roto Roa Islands." The address closed with a message in the words of General Booth (quoted elsewhere).

AUCKLAND DISTRICT

Kohi-St. Heliers, April 18th: Meeting held at the home of Mrs. Lewis Eady. Devotions led by Mrs. Farr, who spoke on Jesus Christ's last words on the Cross; an Easter message. Temperance fact, "That the drinking of alcohol is a frequent cause of ill-health." Mr. Farr spoke on the Bible in Schools, and was very interesting about his own experiences in this work. Mrs. Machin, Vice-President, proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Farr, and Mrs. Kasper mentioned that 600 children took part last year in the Bible lessons competition. A vote of thanks to Mrs. Eady was passed.

Otahuhu, April 18th: Mrs. Taylor presided, Mrs. Long being the speaker for the afternoon. She gave a report of the Christchurch Convention. Time being short, members expressed the wish to hear more from Mrs. Long on some future occasion.

Onehunga, April 11th: Several members absent through illness. Usual business and arrangements. Correspondence received and considered. The resignation of Mrs. Stacey, for health reasons, received with regret. Much appreciated address by the District President, Mrs. Long, who gave a very full and informative account of the Dominion Convention, touching on all points of importance, and giving much useful advice regarding future phases of our work. She urged us to be busy this year, and especially stressed the dangers of State Control. Speaker heartily thanked for her helpful and instructive talk.

Warkworth, May 9th: Mrs. Baker, President, in the chair. Twelve members present. Devotions. Temperance fact. Interesting address by Mrs. J. W. Long, District President, on the Dominion Convention. Remarked on the number of young, enthusiastic delegates present. Resolution passed at Convention asking for hotels to be closed on Peace Day and day following. Meeting closed with the Benediction.

Mount Eden, May: Meeting held at the Maori Girls' Hostel. The President, Miss A. M. McLay, presided, nine other members attending. Votes of sympathy passed on death of two members, Mrs. Reed and Mrs. Carter, our "W.R." agent. Reports of District Executive and Temperance Education Council given by President. Some useful gifts and the sum of £2/8/- handed to Mrs. Long, Matron of the Hostel. Mrs. Long then gave a short informal talk on a day's routine work in the Hostel, and some of her experiences in dealing with the personal problems of some of the girls. A number of the girls joined us at afternoon tea. The Hostel was inspected by those who had not visited it previously, and a pleasant and profitable afternoon was spent.

SOUTH AUCKLAND DISTRICT

Tauranga, May 7th: Mrs. Bulmer, Vice-President, presided in the absence of the President while attending Dominion Officers' meeting in Wellington. Also took devotions in absence through illness of Evangelistic Superintendent, Mrs. Bensley. Fair attendance. Mrs. York, Hon. Secretary, read a paper on the American position in regard to Prohibition at the present time; sent by Mrs. Grigg. "Bring and Buy." Tea Hostess, Mrs. Foxcroft. Benediction.

TARANAKI DISTRICT

Hawera, April 30th: The President, Mrs. Thayer, presided, and took devotions. Temperance fact given. In observance of "Frances Willard" day, the President gave a very fine talk on the life and works of Frances Willard, the Founder of the W.C.T.U., and other worthy institutions. Mrs. Burton, Cradle Roll Superintendent, with the members, made the necessary arrangements for the holding of the Cradle Roll party on the 16th. Collections for World Missionary Fund. Tea hostesses, Mesdames Page and Burton. Meeting closed with prayer and benediction.

New Plymouth, April 25th: Miss Drew presided over a fair attendance. Devotions were conducted and apologies received. Temperance fact given and minutes read. A small legacy was received and authorised to be put in the Savings Bank. Miss Appleby was invited to visit New Plymouth district shortly. Mrs. Wood was asked to write for samples of suitable literature for Poll year. A small table of produce was on sale for building up the special fund.

WANGANUI DISTRICT

Wanganui Central, April: Devotions led by Mrs. Gill. "Bring and Buy." Report from Treasurer, Mrs. Goodey, of two years' interest received on money lent to Headquarters. Mrs. Goodey explained that the money lent had been raised by the four Wanganui branches as a fund for special purposes. Pan-Pacific Association report held over till next month, as main business a full report, followed by discussion, of Christchurch Convention, given by the President, Mrs. Duxfield, who had been the delegate. Collection for CORSO; to be put with those from other branches.

May: Mrs. Duxfield in the chair, and eleven present. Mrs. Mercer led devotions, theme for Peace Day; on the line that Peace is not stagnation, but poise, need of understanding the other man's side, to be able to do our share individually of spreading peace in our own land. Tea served by Mesdames L. Wilson and Prince. Mrs. McGregor welcomed back. Apologies received from Mesdames Goodey, Grinstead, Ogg and Parker. Messages of sympathy sent to Mesdames Peryman and Grinstead, both in hospital, and to Mrs. Auxley, for severe accident to her son. Miss Wadsworth acted as Secretary in the absence of Mrs. Grinstead. Mrs. Leo was in charge of "Bring and Buy." Mrs. Mercer reported letter in local paper, and three others re lessening beer production to help in "Food for Britain." Special thanks given for results of W.C.T.U. post on Poppy Day. Post being at hotel corner, gave opportunity for talking to Maoris on Temperance. Mrs. Mercer questioned if action could be taken if only ale provided at a big boys' school reunion. Discussion of remits passed at Convention. Union represented at "Food for Britain" meeting, where inter-Church remit to have brewing reduced during time of stress was brought forward and ignored, the matter being ventilated later in the local press.

HAWKE'S BAY DISTRICT

Hastings, Date omitted. Meeting held in Methodist Hall, Mrs. H. Hickmott presiding. Very good attendance. Mrs. T. Thorpe conducted devotions. Pledge re-affirmed. Mrs. A. Murtagh gave the Scientific Temperance Fact. Members stood in silence as an expression of sympathy with the relatives of the late Canon Drake and Friday Tomoana. Work for coming poll discussed. Literature to be purchased, and delegates were appointed to approach the ministers of various Churches re the New Zealand Alliance. The meeting was busy and helpful, and important matters were usefully discussed. Tea hostesses, Mrs. M. Warren and helpers, were thanked, and the meeting closed with prayer.

MANAWATU DISTRICT

Levin, April 12th: Mrs. Kennerley presided, and Captain Williams led devotions. Pledge repeated. Roll call answered by a verse of a hymn. Temperance fact read by Mrs. Thomson. Mrs. Burnham, Convention delegate, read a splendid report, for which she was heartily thanked. A full discussion on the plans of work for the coming year was held. Decided to write to Mrs. Ross enquiring for suitable posters for display at suitable points of vantage. Leaflets to be distributed as often as possible through the district. Benediction.

Palmerston North, At the May meeting the speaker was Miss Appleby, who is visiting the district in order to resuscitate defunct Unions in Foxton, Otaki and Woodville. She gave some interesting facts; among them being the figures concerning the American Poll on the repeal of Prohibition. Mrs. Coles, President, conveyed thanks.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT

Wellington, April 10th: Mrs. Brooks presided. Miss Appleby present, and conducted devotions, and later spoke on Prohibition in America. President's address at Convention read by Miss Kirk. 200 leaflets taken by members for distribution, our aim being 1,000 before the Poll. Departmental Superintendents appointed. Benediction.