

Port Chalmers, May 15th: Meeting held at the home of Mrs. Bowman. Mrs. Taylor, President, led in prayer. Discussion re the possibility of Temperance teaching in schools. To be looked into. Decided to make special prayer for "the cause." Mrs. J. B. Chambers, wife of the "Y" Dominion President, welcomed and elected Secretary. Rev. J. B. Chambers, B.A., gave an encouraging address to the meeting. Thanked by Mrs. Watson. Meeting closed with Benediction. Afternoon tea.

Lawrence, June 6th: Miss Ferguson, President, in the chair. Attendance fair. Letter sent to sick member. One dozen copies of "Scientific Temperance Instruction" sent for Temperance Examinations. Members sending old copies of "White Ribbon" to the Maori Mission field. President read extracts from a paper, "Sermons I Remember." Mrs. McNeilly gave a paper, "We speak that we do know."

Oamaru, June 10th: Mrs. Winn presided and led in prayer. Fitting reference was made to the death of Miss Annie Milligan, one of the oldest and most faithful sympathisers in the Temperance cause. All stood as a mark of appreciation and respect. Devotions were taken by Mrs. Cropp, and a thought for the month was given: "Fear knocked at the door. Faith answered and there was no one there." Mrs. Winn thanked all who helped with the circular sent to members and friends, which brought a good result. Also thanked all those who had collected food coupons; which resulted in 70 for meat, 25 for butter, 22 for sugar, and 51 for tea. Subscriptions are being collected for the Memorial Window in the Memorial Chapel. The speaker for the afternoon, Miss Brady, gave some experiences of work amongst the Maoris in Auckland. The sad cases were mostly the result of drink. Prayer was asked for the workers and the Maori people that they may be strong to withstand this great evil.

SOUTHLAND DISTRICT

South Invercargill: Met on Tuesday afternoon when, despite the weather, there was a good assembly of members. The Evangelical Superintendent, Mrs. Richards, gave a short commentary on "Thou canst not see the Glory of God." Mrs. Buick sang two solos. The speaker for the afternoon was Mrs. Stanley Brown, her subject being "Just you, yourselves." Mrs. Holmes presided, and proposed a hearty vote of thanks.

NO GREATER CURSE

"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."

If this curse were anything but liquor we would liquidate it instead of licencing it; if we were patriotic we would prohibit it instead of patronising it; if we were realistic we would sever the root instead of serving the fruit.

—Dr. L. P. Bosman, M.P. ("Australian Temperance Advocate").

Mr. G. Bernard Shaw says: "The trader in drink takes all the money the drunkard pays for his liquor, and when he is drunk throws him into the street, leaving the ratepayers to pay for all the mischief he may do, all the crimes he may commit, all the idleness he may bring upon himself and his family, and all the poverty to which he may be reduced. If the cost of these were charged against the drink trade instead of against the police rates and poor rates, the profits of the Trade would vanish at once."—The Australian Temperance Advocate.

A WELCOME VISITOR TO NEW ZEALAND

Canon Henry Frazer

Christchurch members honour their Miss Gordon, aged eighty-three years, the only surviving member who was present at Mrs. Mary Clement Leavitt's meeting sixty-one years ago, when the Christchurch branch was formed.

On a recent Sunday evening, at Miss Gordon's invitation, I visited the Anglican Church of which she is a member, that of St. John the Baptist, Latimer Square. The preacher was Canon Henry Frazer, M.A., late of Liverpool, who has undertaken parochial work here for a period. Though seventy-five years of age, he has not lost his vigour, and gave us of his best in his sermon on the text: "In my Father's House are many mansions. I go to prepare a place for you."

It was of very real interest to me to hear Canon Frazer, because of his great Temperance work in England, both in the Church of England Temperance Society and in his writings. For some years I have made use of the matter contained in his valuable booklet, "The Church, the State, and the Drink Traffic," in my Temperance addresses. "The Bible, the Church and the Drink" is equally valuable. His "Tips and Tipsters" attacks the Gambling evil. He has been a staunch advocate of the use of unfermented wine in the Communion, and has stood stoutly against opposition from some high officers in his own Church.

He acknowledges with gratitude, however, support received from many of the Anglican communion, both Bishops and laymen.

The booklets quoted were written twenty years ago, but are just as fresh today, and it is to be regretted that they are nearly out of print. Speaking to me personally, after the service, Canon Frazer said that he regretted that in recent years his work in a parish of 10,000 souls had not left him the time he would have liked for Temperance work.

We honour him greatly for what he has done, and wish him a happy stay in our country. A warm welcome to New Zealand, Canon Frazer, from the W.C.T.U. and other Temperance bodies.

L. K. V. GRIGG.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO UNION TREASURERS

Please, in future, send money orders, cheques and postal notes to the Assistant Treasurer, Miss J. Atkinson, 57 Pitt Street, Wadestown, Wellington. They should be made payable to N.Z.W.C.T.U. as hitherto.

LETTERS OF ENQUIRY concerning payments, accounts and dues should be sent to me as Treasurer.

M. B. LOVELL-SMITH,
305 Riccarton Road, W.2.
Christchurch.

May 30th, 1946.

ALCOHOL AND CRIME

In reviewing the book "Mental Abnormality and Crime" in the last issue of "The Shield," G.H.S. writes: "The relation of alcohol to crime is a curious one. It may be a cause of the mental illness such as delirium tremens or alcoholic dementia. It may be a result of it, as when a middle-aged man takes to drink and is subsequently found to be suffering from the early stages of general paralysis of the insane. It may be put forward as a defence in a serious crime, when the accused claims not to have understood what he was doing, or in certain motor offences drink is not an extenuation but an aggravation of the crime. It probably exceeds any other factor in the production of crime and poverty."

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