

Springlands, Mrs. J. Eyles; Blenheim, Miss E. Tarrant and Mrs. Knight reported on the work done up to time of disbandment. The President commended the Unions on their activities which showed that the work was well maintained in each Union.

Superintendents' Reports were full of interests, it may be possible to help these organisations. The Noontide was observed, Mrs. Mackie taking the prayer. Mrs. Underhill, in her presidential address, spoke on "Opportunity." Lunch was a happy respite, all sitting down at a large table, and justice was done!

The afternoon session was opened with devotions conducted by Mrs. Gilling. Two resolutions were passed as follows:

(1) That this Convention views with grave alarm the Report of the findings of the Royal Licensing Commission and strongly protests against its recommendations, urging that every possible effort be made to protect the youth of our country by keeping hotels closed from six o'clock and preventing alcoholic drinks being sold in restaurants etc., as has been suggested.

(2) That, realising the urgent necessity, a special Department be set up in our Public Hospitals where special Shock Treatment may be administered to persons with mental disorders, so that they may be saved the stigma of Mental Hospitals, where the treatment is solely used at present.

Many more visitors were welcomed at the afternoon meeting including members from the Springlands-Farnham Women's Institute who entertained with singing several choral pieces and an elocutionary item. Mrs. Mackie was then introduced and she addressed the gathering on "Why are people in prison?" telling of conditions in some of the prisons and of the aspirations of the Howard League in education of the inmates. Mrs. Mackie astounded her listeners as she stated some facts concerning figures and she was accorded a very appreciative vote of thanks for her splendid address.

The election of Officers resulted in the President, Vice-President, Rec. Secretary and Corresponding Secretary being re-elected. Miss Tarrant was elected Treasurer in place of Mrs. Stephens who on account of ill health did not seek re-election. Mrs. Wells, Picton, was appointed "Y" Superintendent, Mrs. A. M. Gascoigne, White Ribbon Superintendent, the Evangelistic, Peace and L.W.R. Supis. were re-appointed.

Two new members were initiated at the close, while later four subscriptions were received, and others signified their intention and desire to link up.

After votes of thanks having been passed to all who had assisted, the Convention closed with the singing of the Temperance Doxology and afternoon tea was dispensed.

R. M. UNDERHILL.

29, 9, 46.

AUCKLAND PRESBYTERIAN HALL.

Edinburgh Street, Newton

The twenty-third District Convention of the Auckland district opened on Sunday, September 22nd, 1946, with a Church Parade in the Church of Christ, West Street, Newton, Pastor Campbell, Pastor of the Church, conducting the service, between 70 and 80 members attending.

Reception to Delegates.

A reception to delegates was held on Monday in the Convention Hall, which was beautifully decorated with flowers. Mrs. Mountjoy, District President, presided over a large gathering. The Mayoress, Mrs. J. A. C. Allum, was absent through illness, and a bouquet intended for her was taken to her by one of the members with the love of the W.T.C.U. Mrs. Mountjoy welcomed all delegates and representatives of other organisations who brought greetings and messages of Goodwill to the Convention. Among these were the N.Z. Alliance, Newton Salvation Army, the Women's "Day of Prayer" members, the Auckland Presbyterian Church and the Congregational Church of New Zealand. An excellent musical programme was presented. During the afternoon Mrs. Kasper presented the Cradle Roll banner for the largest Cradle Roll, to Grey Lynn, their number being 404.

The L.T.L. banner was gained by the Kurahuna Maori Girls' Union which is "mothered" by the Onehunga Union. The Silver Vase was also won by Grey Lynn for the best work done in the "Five-fold Plan," and the Bronze Vase went to the Kohi-St. Heliers Union which gained second place.

The Rev. J. D. Smith was the guest speaker, and in his address he spoke of the growing complacency of the people towards the drinking tradition. He also stated that he considered there was a real danger in the Royal Commission's recommendation for the sale of liquor in restaurants.

Communion Service.

The Annual Communion service was held in the Church of Christ, West Street, on Tuesday morning, September 24th, Pastor W. Campbell conducting. This was a most impressive and suitable opening for the Convention.

Tuesday morning session was presided over by Mrs. Mountjoy, who welcomed all present. Letters of sympathy were sent to many sick and aged members, and greetings to distant friend. Fifty-eight delegates were present. The corresponding Secretary's report was given by Miss A. N. McLav, much good work being noted. The Recording Secretary's report was given by Mrs. R. A. Joiner, showing much good work done by the Executive. The Treasurer's report and balance sheet, presented by Mrs. J. A. Prussing showed finance to be in a healthy condition. The Cradle Roll report was given by Mrs. J. Williams, showing the roll number for the district to be 1690, an increase of 114 on

last year's figures. Grey Lynn, with 404, has the largest Cradle Roll for the district, Onehunga coming second with 235. Noontide Devotions were led by Mrs. Kasper, and a duet was sung by Mesdames Bartlett and Livingstone.

Afternoon Session.

Before the business was taken, a most informative address was given by the Rev. E. C. Leadley, this being followed by the "Service of Memories" which was conducted by Mrs. Mountjoy.

62 delegates attended this session, and 18 visitors. Maori Girls' Hostel financial statement was presented by Mrs. Mountjoy, the Hostel treasurer, and showed that a great amount of work had been accomplished at the Hostel during the year. Mrs. J. W. Long gave the general report, which was most comprehensive. Mrs. Long paid a special tribute to Mollie who is a fine Christian girl, exercising a great influence for good in the hostel, where 27 girls are residing at present a staff of three making the number up to thirty.

The Presidential address was given by Mrs. Mountjoy, a comprehensive survey of present-day conditions in this and other lands in respect to the drink menace.

Wednesday morning session. Mrs. Mountjoy again presided and Mrs. Anstice led Devotions. A solo was sung by Mrs. Wanhill. Greeting were received from the "Y" conference. 55 delegates were present. L.T.L. report was given by Mrs. Kasper. Noontide Devotions were conducted by Mrs. Long.

Wednesday Afternoon Session.

Devotions were led by Mrs. J. Campbell. 61 delegates were present, visitors making the total up to 81.

The following remits were passed by the Convention (Abbreviated, Ed.):

1. That the plea of being intoxicated when committing a crime should be no excuse or ground for the discharge of the accused.

2. That the penalty should be heavier, not lighter, in such cases.

3. That the increase of drinking among young people of both sexes, should be dealt with by its being made illegal to sell, wholesale or retail, or to give liquor to any person under twenty-one years of age.

4. That letters of congratulation should be sent to the Salvation Army in Auckland and the Presbyterians in Invercargill for their refusal to accept money from the Liquor Trust.

5. That as paper is now plentiful, bread should be wrapped before it leaves the Bakery.

6. That the amount of liquor being sent to the J. Force is a matter for concern, the suggestion being made that Fruit-juices and soft drinks be given preference.

7. That more severe sentences should be passed, even to the reinstating of flogging for cases of assault on young