

children, in view of the wave of famine said to be passing over the country.

8. That the "Backblocks" department be known in future by this name with the addition of "and Scattered members' League."

Very interesting reports were presented by district superintendents of departments, all showing excellent work done.

The following officers were elected for the coming year: President, Mrs. F. W. Mountjoy; Vice-president, Mrs. J. W. Long; Corresponding Secretary, Miss A. M. McLay; Recording Secretary, Mrs. R. A. Joiner; Treasurer, Mrs. J. A. R. Prussing.

Votes of thanks were passed to all the many friends and helpers who had done so much for the Convention. This concluded the Convention, and Mrs. Mountjoy closed with the Benediction.

ROSE A. JOINER.

NELSON DISTRICT CONVENTION

Nelson District Convention, held in the Motueka Methodist Sunday School, presided over by the District President, Mrs. Toomer, and attended by delegates from Nelson, Motueka and Richmond.

The opening Devotions were taken by the Rev. Mr. Beaumont, and delegates were welcomed by the Rev. Mr. Ford, and by the local president, Miss Cresswell, who presented Mrs. Toomer with flowers. Greetings were sent to absent members, and a telegram of greeting was received from Mrs. Walker, and Miss F. Cooke.

The reports of the Secretary and Treasurer were read and adopted, and it was decided to send a letter of thanks to the retiring treasurer, Miss F. Cooke.

The Dominion Secretary's quarterly letter was read and discussed, and Miss Cresswell and Mrs. Carter spoke appreciatively of the help this letter gave to small Unions.

A Temperance Fact was read by each delegate. Noontide Devotions were taken by Miss Every.

The afternoon session was opened with a short devotional talk by Mrs. Sherrat.

All officers were elected for another year, with the exception of Miss Cooke who did not seek re-election. Her place was filled temporarily by Mrs. J. Andrews.

Reports were read and adopted. The following remits were passed for Dominion Convention:

1. That when a man is charged with a crime before a Magistrate the sentence should not be lightened because he was drunk, but rather made more severe.

2. A protest against the continued wastage of grain and sugar in brewing, while there is such dire need overseas.

3. A protest against the shipping of liquor to the J. Force.

A letter was received from Mrs. Rankin, stating that she had written to congratulate Adjutant Pauling on refusing to accept £50 for the Salvation

Army Band, and she had replied stating that she had received congratulations from all over New Zealand, and also donations. Mrs. Rankin also stated that the Salvation Army could no longer accept an annual grant from the Macarthy Trust fund.

In a short, inspiring talk, the president spoke of the need for building after the ruin of a world war, and said that the W.C.T.U. could well be called a Building Society whose duty it was to repair the far greater ravages caused by the Liquor Traffic. Two lines of action were indicated. In the first place, the youth of the country should be approached through scientific teaching, and in the second place, we should work through prayer, which would rouse into action the women of New Zealand, who are the natural protectors of the young.

Motions of thanks were passed to the ladies of Motueka for their hospitality, and to the Revs. Beaumont and Ford, and Convention closed with the Benediction.

DISTRICT CONVENTIONS

NORTH AND SOUTH CANTERBURY, CHRISTCHURCH

A two-day Convention of North and South Canterbury delegates was held in Christchurch, in the Central Mission Rooms, on September 18th and 19th.

Proceedings opened with Devotions led by the North Canterbury President, Mrs. F. J. T. Grigg. The Pledge was repeated and the Roll Call taken, thirty-four delegates being present, six for the first time. Mrs. Mitchell was appointed Letter-writer; Mrs. Atkins and Miss E. Gordon, Mistresses of Courtesies; Mrs. E. R. Clark, Press reporter.

South and North Canterbury Reports and financial statements were read. Mrs. Ancell (Spreydon) gave a five-minute paper on "Gambling," and Mrs. Ashton, of Waimate, one on "Equal Rights of Women." Branch reports were taken from Ashburton, Christchurch, New Brighton and North Brighton, before luncheon adjournment.

The afternoon session opened with Devotions by Mrs. Ancell. The Mayoress, Mrs. Hardy Cookson, and Miss May McLean, President of the National Council of Women, were welcomed, and Miss E. Gordon presented them with sprays of flowers, and pinned a white bow on. Mrs. Goldman, of North Brighton Union, ably rendered vocal solos, after which the Mayoress welcomed the delegates to the city, and wished the Convention all success. Miss M. McLean also spoke, and urged us all to press our work among the young people. She said we must decide about the Government taking over the breweries. Mr. F. Chesman spoke on behalf of the "Y's." Mrs. E. Crowley rendered two solos. Temuka reported that they were distributing 1,000 Temperance leaflets. Miss C. Crowley, of the Bryndwr Union gave a talk on "Monetary Re-

form." Timaru mentioned in their report that they send twenty-five copies of the "White Ribbon" to the Public Hospital every month. Reports were taken from Opawa, Shirley-Richmond, St. Albans and Oxford.

Mrs. Millar (Tinwald) opened Thursday morning's session with Devotions. After Roll Call and Minutes, a five-minute paper was given by Mrs. Ashwood, of Ashburton, "Trumpeter, what are you sounding now?"

Reports from Waimate, Woolston, Riccarton, Papanui, Sydenham, Kaia-poi, Bryndwr, Spreydon, Linwood, and the District "Y's" were received.

Thursday afternoon session opened with Devotions led by Mrs. Weston, of Oxford. A Question Box gave rise to some discussion, particularly the question, "What can we do to encourage our young women to join our ranks?" As the result of another question, it was decided to write to the City Council asking for the discontinuance of Sunday concerts. A Greeting (Psalm 37. v. 5) was received by telegram from Ashburton.

Miss Henderson gave us a very comprehensive summary of the findings of the Royal Commission. Votes of thanks were passed to all who helped to make Convention run so smoothly.

Though the membership is not all we could desire, the Branch reports disclosed much faithful service which we know must bear witness to our cause.

The election of officers took place on Thursday morning, the Officers for the coming year being: South Canterbury, President, Mrs. Densem; Vice-President, Mrs. Kippenberger; Secretary, Miss P. Tooley; Treasurer, Mrs. Stark. North Canterbury, President, Mrs. E. R. Clark; Vice-President, Mrs. F. J. T. Grigg; Secretary, Mrs. R. Black; Treasurer, Mrs. Atkins.

OTAGO: PIONEER HALL, PORT CHALMERS

The Convention was held under rather unpleasant weather conditions on September 25th, 1946, very heavy rain having been experienced for some days before, and heavy showers continuing.

Twenty-eight delegates attended. Convention opened with the singing of the National Anthem, after which the District Secretary called for nominations for a chairman, in the unavoidable absence of Mrs. J. Donaldson, District President, and Mrs. S. Sanders, District Vice-President. Mrs. Hiett, Dominion Vice-President, was elected to the chair, and continued with the singing of the Crusade hymn, and the reading of the 62nd chapter of Isaiah, followed by prayer.

A welcome to Port Chalmers was extended by His Worship the Mayor, Mr. H. S. Watson, and on behalf of the Churches by the Rev. H. M. Brasell. Mrs. Hiett replied, expressing in jocular vein the comparison of the weather to the liquor trade and our cause, emphasising that we want to win people by courtesy, understanding and love, outlining the facts as truths, not

(W.R.—Continued on page 7.)