

Bulletin of Union News

AUCKLAND DISTRICT

District Executive: First meeting for the year held Monday, Feb. 3rd, Mrs. Mountjoy presiding over good attendance. Devotions led by Miss C. M. McLay. Replies were received from the Mayor of Auckland, Mr. J. A. C. Allum, the Minister of Education, the Hon. H. G. R. Mason, and the Auckland Education Board, in answer to the resolution sent to them re the holding of Sunday sports in school grounds. Sister Jessie, who was present, was heartily congratulated on attaining the honour of M.B.E., which was conferred among the New Year Honours. Further plans made for Dominion Convention in March. Mrs. J. W. Long gave most satisfactory report on the Maori Girls' Hostel, which was full. Miss E. M. Appleby reported that the "Y" Conference was arranged to be held in conjunction with the Dominion Convention.

Grey Lynn, December, 1946: The President held a Christmas evening at her home, all ladies being invited. Carols and competitions formed part of the entertainment which was enjoyed by all. Gifts were presented to Mrs. Cook, President, by members, and by the Union, in recognition of her good work for the Union all through the year. Supper was prepared and served by Mrs. Cook's son and daughter, who are both "Y's." Pleasant social chatting was indulged in, and Mrs. Cook gave a present to each of the ladies. Most hearty thanks were expressed for the delightful evening, which was closed with prayer.

SOUTH AUCKLAND DISTRICT

District Executive: First meeting for 1947 held at Hamilton, February 7th. Four Unions were represented, apologies being received from others. Devotions led by Mesdames Christian and Alexander. The District Secretary, Mrs. Lewis, to attend Dominion Convention. Full report of work done in the latter part of last year in the District, by the Dominion Organiser, Miss Appleby, was read and discussed. The needs of the district as a whole were considered, and it was agreed that an effort should be made to assist Unions by visits and suggestions regarding the carrying on of the work along the most interesting lines. One or two remits for Dominion Convention were discussed, and voting agreed upon. Suggestions for District Convention received. Meeting closed with prayer.

Tauranga, February 4th: First meeting for the year held at the home of the President. Good attendance, and one new member. Discussion of Conference Remit, and election of delegate. Meeting held under trees in very hot weather. "Bring and Buy" for Maori Girls' Hostel realised £3. A visitor from Palmerston North, Mrs. Pitcher, who is staying in Tauranga, was present and was welcomed, agreeing to convey a greeting to her home Union on her return. Congratulations on her attaining her ninety-eighth birthday a few days later, were conveyed with a box of flowers. Meeting closed with prayer.

MANAWATU DISTRICT

Palmerston North, February: In the unavoidable absence of the President, Mrs. Coles, Miss Jamieson presided. Devotions led by Mrs. Eckersley, her message being, "Launch out into the deep." Reported that Garden Party held at Mrs. Claridge's home resulted in the taking of £42/3, which, with donations, made an amount for the Maori Girls' Hostel of £6. Miss Jamieson reported on the National Council of Women. Miss R. Edwards elected as Convention delegate.

Feilding, February 12th: Mrs. Tremain presided and Mrs. Kendall led Devotions. Report of District Executive meeting given. Mrs. Tremain elected delegate for Dominion Convention. Meeting took the form of a social afternoon. (Special report.)

TARANAKI DISTRICT

District Executive: Held at Hawera, Mrs. T. J. Hurrell presiding. Plans made for District Convention to be held at Eltham, February 13th. Devotions were led by the President and Mesdames Cox, Arthur, Wood and Thayer.

Hawera: In the afternoon, the Hawera Union held their first meeting for the year, Mrs. Hurrell presiding. District Convention delegates were appointed. Mrs. Tozer, accompanied by Mrs. F. Baker, sang solos. Dele-

gates to the Executive expressed thanks to Hawera members for their hospitality. The hostesses were Mesdames Page and Burton.

Annual Meeting: Special mention was made at this meeting of the selling of raffle tickets by children under the age allowed by law. (Boys 16 and girls 14 years of age.) The law was still being broken by children going from door to door selling tickets. The Union voiced its satisfaction that the R.S.A. was still continuing its ban on the consumption of liquor on the premises of the Hawera Returned Services Club, in line with similar clubs in Dunedin, Christchurch and Wellington. A "Bring-and-Buy" stall did good business for local funds. Officers elected were:—President, Mrs. Thayer; Vice-Presidents, Major Woodford, Mesdames Gould and Page; Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs. Barron; Departmental Superintendents also being appointed.

New Plymouth, February: Mrs. Stewart presided over good attendance and took Devotions. Temperance Fact given and plans of work discussed. Delegate to District Convention, Mrs. Morwood, and Dominion Convention, Mrs. Wright. Report on Seamen's Rest showed urgent need for repairs. Benediction.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT

Brooklyn, November 26: Last meeting for the year. Mrs. Brewer presided. Devotions, Mrs. Greenwood. Welcomes to Mrs. Long, a visitor from "Central," and Mrs. Pearson, after an illness. Congratulations to Mrs. Gillings on becoming a J.P. Temperance Fact, Mrs. Dudley. Recorded opposition to resolution to alter the identity of the Bible-in-Schools Department so that it becomes a Department of the National Council of Churches. "W.R." leader read by Mrs. Gittings. £1/10/- raised for Maori Work. President wished Compliments of the Season to members, and Benediction followed the Sigil Prayer.

MARLBOROUGH DISTRICT

Blenheim, February 4th: Opening meeting. Good attendance, Mrs. N. Forbes presiding. Devotions led by Mrs. A. T. Milgrew. One minute's silence observed in memory of Mrs. Grooms, a very valued member of the Union. Mrs. P. Stephens elected Convention delegate. Mrs. Reeves read extracts from the life of Sankey. Graphic description of the Maori Girls' Hostel in Auckland given by Mrs. Forbes, who recently visited it. Mrs. Fear bidden Godspeed on her impending departure for Greymouth. Benediction pronounced by Mrs. Fear.

NORTH CANTERBURY DISTRICT

Oxford, January 15th: Mrs. Hight, newly-elected President, in the chair. Motion of sympathy with Mrs. Comyns in her illness. £3/3/- voted for the Maori Girls' Hostel. President appointed as delegate for Dominion Convention. Agreed to ask co-operation of other organisations for the purchase of a film projector. Roll Call responded to with New Year messages. Agreed to spend more time at meetings in intercession, the need for this being strongly felt.

New Brighton, February 6th: Mrs. Edmond, newly-elected President, in the chair, and Mrs. Flower leading devotions. Motion of sympathy in bereavement passed. Report from ladies who were collectors in street appeal for Mental Welfare, and also report on visit to Mental Hospital. Collection taken for Band of Hope picnic. Arrangements made for the selling of Health Stamps. Mrs. Flower, elected Convention delegate. Report of Shop Day held December 14th showed good results. Satisfactory balance sheet presented by Treasurer and appreciation expressed.

Spreydon, second Tuesday: Mrs. Ancell, President in the chair; Devotions, Mrs. Horwood. Special prayer for all leaders of our movement. Sympathy expressed to relatives of two of our members who have passed on. Temperance Fact. Mrs. Lewis, a Rangiora member welcomed. Letters of appreciation from remembered friends, and greetings from Mesdames Foster, Dennis, and Pirrett read. Afternoon tea party given to Mental Hospital patients, and a concert to the Reformatory inmates met with appreciation, the tea being provided by the district, and the concert by Mrs. and Inez Woodcock of Spreydon Unit. Prizes for the School Essay on "Keeping Fit," were won by J. Quin (1st), and B. Columbus (2nd) of the Spreydon School. Satisfactory financial report.

OTAGO DISTRICT

Port Chalmers, November 13th. Annual meeting. Good attendance. Devotions, Captain G. Winwood. Rev. J. Chambers, M.A., being honorary member, asked to be delegate at the Auckland Convention. Election of Officers resulted:—President, Mrs. G. Taylor; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames Bowman, Brasell, Chambers and Captain Winwood; Secretary, Mrs. J. Chambers; Treasurer, Mrs. Jenkins. Departmental Superintendents also appointed. Tea hostess for the day, Mrs. J. B. Chambers, was thanked.

YOUTH AND DRINK.

Speaking at Holywell, Alderman H. R. Thomas, chairman of the Flintshire Higher Education Committee, said that his experience as a magistrate had convinced him that drink held a threat to young life. On official visits to public houses he had been horrified by the spectacle of young men and women not yet in their twenties consuming alcohol freely and unashamed. He saw a marked increase in drinking among juveniles, adolescents and women. Alderman Thomas expressed the opinion that there should be a complete revision in methods of teaching temperance.

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