

removal of poverty and other economic causes of war; but they are no less important because of that. They come more particularly in the woman's sphere also, as we are the main educators of the future generations in their most formative years. I urge all members to interest themselves in, and to promote support for the activities of UNESCO.

The other great need of the world is drastic disarmament. We cannot develop a spirit of peace until we have ceased piling up armaments with which to destroy one another. Disarmament would "clear the international air" in many ways, and would foster the spirit of peace to an unforceable degree. Further than that, disarmament would put back into the production of food and goods many millions of men who are now quite unproductive. It is a terrible commentary on us all that at a time when people are dying for lack of food and clothing and shelter we should be maintaining millions of men in the armies of the world. In England alone, something like 1,500,000 men are under arms while the country does not know where to turn for workers in industry and on the land. What is more, huge areas have been taken for this purpose, and though much of it is not of high productive capacity, large areas of good agricultural land have been taken while the people are short of food. The ancients used to say, "Those whom the gods destroy they first make mad," and it seems that we modern men and women are marching to destruction unless we can act soon to change our way of life and outlook, and particularly unless we can learn to "love one another" without distinction of race or country.

E. M. MACKIE,  
Dom. Supt. Peace Dept.

## TARANAKI DISTRICT CONVENTION

Delegates from New Plymouth, Ngaere, Inglewood, Eltham and Hawera were welcomed by the President, Mrs. T. J. Hurrell, to the annual District Convention of the Taranaki District, which was held in the Methodist Hall, Eltham. Opening Devotions were taken by Mrs. Arthur (Inglewood) in the morning, and Major Argyle (S.A.) in the afternoon. Reports were presented by the District Secretary, Mrs. Tarrant (Ngaere), and Union Secretaries. The balance sheet was presented by the District Treasurer, Mrs. Simpson (Ngaere), and Miss Drew reported on the Sailors' Rest at New Plymouth.

A Communion Service was conducted by the Rev. Gordon Hanna. The afternoon address was given by Miss Elsie Andrews, of New Plymouth, who recently returned from Sydney, where she was Guest Speaker at a large conference of the representatives of the women of Australia.

Officers were elected as follows:—District President, Mrs. T. J. Hurrell; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Tarrant; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. North (Inglewood); Treasurer, Mrs. Simpson.

An invitation to hold the next Convention at New Plymouth was accepted.

## Special Reports

### GARDEN PARTY, NELSON UNION

A most successful Garden Party was held at Stoke, at the home of the President, Mrs. H. N. Toomer, to raise funds for Convention expenses.

The produce stall, in charge of Mrs. C. Knapp, and Mrs. Martin, and the jumble stall, staffed by Mrs. Black and Mrs. Snodgrass, made good contributions to the funds.

Afternoon tea and ice cream were served on the lawn; and later an adjournment was made to the house where Mrs. Toomer displayed some Japanese curios; giving an interesting talk about each.

### MARLBOROUGH WOMEN'S DAY OF PRAYER

The Women's Monthly Day of Prayer was held in St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Blenheim, on March 27th.

Sessions began at 10 a.m. and all were attended; the following ladies being the Leaders: Mrs. Bythel, who was assisted by Miss Joan Bythel and Mrs. Milgrew, and during the afternoon, Mesdames Kearse and Pickford.

Interesting subjects were chosen, and helpful addresses given. Suitable hymns were sung; and many took part in prayer. It was announced that in future these days of prayer will be held on last Thursdays instead of Fridays as previously.

### CRADLE ROLL PARTY

Hawera Union

On March 25th, the Hawera Union entertained mothers of the Cradle Roll children at King Edward Park, when visitors were welcomed by the Superintendent, Mrs. H. Burton. Members provided afternoon tea, ice cream and soft drinks for the children, who also ran races and received books and party caps. The opportunity was taken by Mrs. Thayer, acting-president, of presenting "Long Service" badges to Mrs. Young, 30 years, and Mrs. Burrell, 20 years, both of whom were congratulated and wished long life and good health.

### FAREWELL GATHERING, HAMILTON UNION

On Tuesday, April 1st, a specially arranged gathering was held in the Methodist Hall, London Street, Hamilton, for the purpose of bidding farewell to Mrs. Gatman, who has been President for several years of the Hamilton Union.

The attendance was very large, among those present being the District Secretary, Mrs. Lewis, of Cambridge, and the members of the Council of Christian Women, who linked up with the Union for that day for the special purpose of paying their tribute to Mrs. Gatman, who was also their President.

Mrs. Gatman presided over the gathering, and read Psalm 27, with emphasis on verse 5, "He shall set me upon a rock." Mrs. Gatman gave this as her parting message, and urged all present

to press on in the cause of saving the people from the Drink Traffic, knowing that with Jesus Christ our Foundation and All-sufficiency, we must triumph.

Mrs. E. J. Davey was congratulated on her Golden Wedding, celebrated in February, and Mrs. Ben Jones for a like celebration in March. Both of these ladies are old and valued members of our Union. Mrs. Davey, who for many years held the position of District Treasurer was unanimously elected Vice-President.

Mrs. Moore was unanimously requested to fill the vacant position of President, but asked for time to consider the request.

During a special interlude, Mrs. Stephenson Craig paid tribute to Mr. Gatman's valued leadership as President, and thanked her sincerely for her great service. Mrs. Lewis also spoke in similar vein, and Mrs. Gatman was asked to accept several gifts and also floral offerings. Mrs. Ebbett, representing the Council of Christian Women, also conveyed to Mrs. Gatman appreciation of her spiritual leadership to this body.

Afternoon tea and friendly chat followed, after which the meeting was closed with the Benediction.

Mrs. Gatman is leaving the district owing to the retirement of her husband, the Rev. W. Gatman, from the Methodist Ministry. Their home will be in Auckland for the present.

### HOME MEETING, ONEHUNGA

Onehunga Union held a Home meeting at the home of Mrs. Leadley, on March 27th. The programme included solos by Miss Winnie Sibbin, a recitation by Mrs. Hatton, a competition and a talk by Mrs. Mountjoy, who also read a paper, this being followed by reminiscences by members present. After this, all took part in mentioning one thing for which she gave grateful thanks to God.

Conversation and afternoon tea concluded this profitable meeting at the Methodist parsonage.

## CONGRATULATIONS

We congratulate two of our members who have lately had birthdays. One of these is Mrs. Pitcher, of the Palmerston North Union, who has reached an advanced age; and the other, Mrs. S. Ayers, of Rangiora, who had her ninetieth birthday recently. Interesting reminiscences of days long past were given by both ladies during the celebration periods. We join in wishing them every happiness, and continued good health, and thank God for their lives of loving service.

## "BON VOYAGE"

We are all delighted to hear of Mrs. Kasper's improved health, and wish her and Mrs. Mackie "Bon Voyage," a happy time at The World Convention, and a safe return.