

President's Message



Dear Friends,—

Since the close of Convention we have to record the passing of another of our stalwarts in the person of Mrs. Peryman.

As the funeral was strictly private it was not possible for the Union to take any part in the service, but in your name I laid a spray of Rosemary, tied with the white ribbon which we used on the Convention Gavel, on the casket.

In the realisation of the fine work which Mrs. Peryman has carried out in our Union may we see to it that we do all in our power to fill the gaps which she, and others, leave.

You will now have heard the Convention reports from your delegates and will, no doubt, be feeling that you have had, at least, a glimpse of the very earnest and happy week spent in Auckland.

It may be that some of you may not agree with the decisions made at Convention, there are one or two which I do not like myself, but as we are a democratic body I shall have to join with you in doing my very best to carry out those decisions.

There is much work laid out for us to do during the year, but not more than we can accomplish.

Now is the time for educating those with whom we come in contact in the value of total abstinence from beverage alcohol, and the worthlessness and stupidity of beverage alcohol consumption.

Sow NOW; the grain is good. The harvest will come later.

"Sow in the morn thy seed,
At eve hold not thine hand,
To doubt and fear give thou no heed,
Broadcast it o'er the land."

Believe me,

Yours for service,

C. E. KIRK.

CONVENTION FRAGMENTS

In our last issue, which was devoted almost entirely to Dominion Convention news and topics, some untidy ends were left for which we make our apologies, hoping that any apparent discourtesies will be understood to be the result of hurried endeavour to include as much as possible of Convention doings.

Among these was the omission in the list of Remits, of the fate of Nos 1, 6, 19, 20 and 21. We hasten to repair the omission.

No. 1 Withdrawn; No. 6 Carried; 19 and 20, Carried; 21, Withdrawn.

The accidental placing of the usual heading for the President's monthly message over her Convention Presidential Address is a serious disadvantage. Also we regret the lack of the special announcement on the cover page that this was the "Convention Number." Where copies are being used for distribution, we would venture to suggest that the Union Scribe or artist might make these omissions good, so that the value of the issue may not be unduly diminished.

A further error occurred in regard to the account of the Saturday's outing, entitled "Peeps at the Queen City." This was from the pen of our esteemed friend and member, Miss Edmed, to whom we make our grateful acknowledgements, while apologising for omitting her name as writer of the account.

"SHOCK" TREATMENT

During Convention one of the delegates was asked to bring what information she could gain about "Shock Treatment," this being the subject of a Remit from her district.

It was fully admitted that the subject was well beyond our sphere of knowledge, and that we could not hope to make any authoritative statements about it. The information gleaned was slight but was felt to be of very great interest to everyone. Here follows an outline of what we were told, and a little more has been added through the post since Convention.

Two cases, known personally, were treated. Of these, one lady, aged 39, recovered fully after ten treatments. The other, a lady of 52, died after the first treatment.

In the case of a married woman, her husband has to sign a statement that he will lay no claim in the event of his wife's death, or her total loss of reason as the result of treatment. Only a certain class of mental illness can be treated in this way.

A psychiatrist stated that the treatment was only in its infancy, but would in time be used for all nerve complaints, and for revitalising all mentally tired people.

Seven attendants are necessary for each patient during the administering of treatment, and between treatments a close watch of the patient must be kept.

Recent advice received adds to the above that the treatment has been simplified. One well-known doctor administers it in a very mild form at his own

private hospital. It is still held to be suitable only for one class of patient.

It is known that different types of apparatus are employed in different mental hospitals. The equipment is said to be extremely expensive and the necessity for a special staff for its use adds to its cost.

CONVENTION "SERVICE OF MEMORIES"

The following corrected list of names of members of the Southland District who passed beyond the veil during 1946, has been sent to us, and we wish to add them to the list published as being the names of those "remembered" in the "Service of Memories" regretting that it was impossible to include them in last month's issue.

Bluff: Mrs. R. N. Porter.

Invercargill North: Mrs. Clara Brown, Mrs. Ridland.

Invercargill South: Miss McCallum, Mrs. McIntyre.

Invercargill Central: Mrs. W. A. Ott, Mrs. Dobie, Mrs. Pennington, Mrs. Fraser, Miss McEwan, Miss McDowell.

Winton: Mrs. F. A. McWilliam.



TEMPERANCE FACTS

Epsom-Green Lane:

"In 1898, Lord Kitchener, in his Soudan campaign, enforced prohibition of liquor, and in a fifteen-mile desert march, with manoeuvres instead of rests during the whole five hours, not a single man fell out of the ranks."

Remuera:

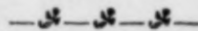
"Dr. Lorens, famous Austrian surgeon, says: 'I am a surgeon. My success depends upon my brain being clear, my muscles firm and my nerves steady. No one can take alcoholic liquor without blunting these physical powers, which I must keep on edge. As a surgeon, I must not drink.'"

Dannevirke:

"In 1943, at the time of the last referendum, every one of the six doctors practising in Masterton, signed the following statement: 'We, the undersigned medical practitioners of Masterton, are definitely of the opinion that "No License" has been beneficial to our town from the economic, moral and spiritual points of view, and that the return to "License" would be a very retrograde step.' (Statement made before Royal Commission.)"

Takapuna:

"Threequarters of the world's illness is caused by Alcohol."



A "wet" is a person who tells you he can make the country dryer by making it wetter.

Seems to us that we've got kinda muddled on Prohibition, and are blaming it for creating some kinds of meanness that it just uncovers.