

## WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

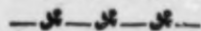
By MRS BESSIE LEE COWIE

When it was suggested that Joseph be killed, some of the brothers demurred; when it was proposed to SELL him, they agreed.

We don't like bare, bald murder, but we license drink, and the deaths resulting therefrom mount up rapidly; and we placidly rub our hands, and aver we could never do without the revenue so obtained. We will not kill the lads, but we willingly take the price of their lives.

Here is a parable: Two men went up to the booths to vote on the liquor traffic, one a deacon, the other a drunkard. The deacon said within himself, "I am glad I am not as other men are—liars, thieves, corrupters, or even as this drunkard. I go regularly to church and to prayer meeting, I help to pay the preacher. I send money to convert the heathen, I have no appetite for drink, and the bar-room is no temptation to me, so I can give my vote for its perpetuation, and it will bring no danger to me, but will give me favour with the men who trade with me." And the drunkard stood afar off while the deacon voted, for he was ashamed to be seen by him in his rags and filth. But, when the deacon was gone, he slipped up to the ballot-box and said within himself, "Lord, be merciful to me in my helplessness, and to my family in their misery, and I will cast my vote for my deliverance, and the saving of others." I say to you, the drunkard went down to his house justified in the sight of God rather than the deacon.

—From "National Voice."



## N.S.W. LIQUOR HOURS REFERENDUM

### Final Figures

Final result of the referendum on liquor trading hours conducted in New South Wales on 15th February:—

6 o'clock .....	1,051,260
9 o'clock .....	26,954
10 o'clock .....	604,833
Informal .....	15,183

It is estimated that for every pound the Temperance Organisation spent in advocating 6 o'clock closing, the brewery interests spent £6 advocating 10 o'clock.

The "Sydney Morning Herald" said: "It was a referendum in which money and propaganda were of little avail. The people had already made up their minds."

The unpardonable sin of a local Woman's Christian Temperance Union is to neglect the children. Too many unions are content to carry on other departments of our important work, while they seem wholly oblivious of their greatest opportunity, the child. Children are to be found everywhere; they are eager, enthusiastic, love to have their own organizations; and the impressions they receive are lasting. However, children do not wait for us to find a more convenient season. Many interests are bidding for their attention, and to-morrow they are gone.—"Connecticut White Ribbon Banner."

## Bulletin of Union News

### AUCKLAND DISTRICT

**Executive Meeting, Sept. 1:** The District President, Mrs. Mountjoy, presided, Devotions being led by Mrs. Anstice. Local Unions reported having sent the Resolutions received from the Dominion Officers during the month to the Government. The President announced that Mrs. H. Kasper was returning by plane that day from her trip to America, where she had attended the World W.C.T.U. Convention. Final arrangements were made for holding the District Convention this month. Most satisfactory report of Maori Hostel work given by Mrs. J. W. Long. Mrs. Joiner reported that Mrs. N. Millar, a devoted member of the Ponsonby Union had passed away during the month. N.C.W. report given by Mrs. Mountjoy.

**Remuera, July 28th and August 25th.** Mrs. G. Robinson, Vice-President, presided at both meetings, and she took Devotions at the latter, Mrs. Laird at the former. Pledge recited at both, and Temperance Facts given. Vote of sympathy expressed by standing in silence and prayer, with Mrs. Gibbons, whose husband had passed away. A new member initiated at July meeting, Miss McLay carrying this out. Miss McLay also spoke of her work among the Maoris at Rotorua, etc. Sister Grace spoke at the August meeting. Both closed with Prayer and Benediction.

**Auckland, August 12:** Mrs. Long presiding. Good attendance. Mrs. Vail appointed to collect Press Cuttings re Crime and Accidents due to drink. Members took collecting cards for the Ellen Melville Memorial Hall, which is expected to be a helpful amenity for women's organisations. A donation passed for the Council of Temperance Education, the fine work of which was mentioned. Mrs. Long reported on the conference of Maori workers held in Auckland to which she had been invited. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mrs. Long for her splendid work at the Hostel.

**September 9:** Franchise Day, Mrs. Long presiding. Good attendance. Press cutting telling of the great success of the "Drys" in the U.S.A. Replies received from the Prime Minister and the local M.P. to protests sent forward. "How the Franchise Was Won" was read. Delegates appointed for District Convention. Devotional talk by Mrs. Douglas on "Objectives in Life."

**Warkworth, August 14:** Good attendance, including several visitors. Mrs. C. Rope read a paper on "Gambling." Another paper on the same subject to be given next month and a discussion to follow. Stirring address from Miss E. M. Berg on the work of the British and Foreign Bible Society, which could not be done without the faithful work of every member and collector.

**Ponsonby, July 17:** Devotions led by Mrs. Christopher. Speaker, Mrs. Mountjoy, District President, interest being shown in a variety of subjects mentioned. Miss Watson was presented with a Long Service Badge on behalf of her mother, who was called to Higher Service in 1943, after 30 years of loyal, faithful service. In replying, Miss Watson recalled memories of days gone by. A "Bring and Buy" yielded £2/14/- as a donation to Headquarters Fund. Pledge and Benediction closed an enjoyable afternoon.

**August 21:** Mrs. Joiner presided and led Devotions. A welcome given from the chair to all present, especially the speaker, Mrs. Hambly, who gave a helpful message. Pledge and Benediction.

**Mount Eden, August 5:** Miss McLay presided. Reports of District Executive and annual meeting of Council of Temperance Education. Interesting address by Mrs. Morcom, on her work as a missionary in India. Mrs. Morcom appointed in place of Miss McLay, who has resigned, as President.

**Henderson, July:** Mrs. Chadwick presided and led Devotions. Extracts read from first minute book of the Union, which was formed in 1914. Four of the present members were enrolled at the first meeting, 33 years ago.

**Kohi-Mission Bay, July 17:** Meeting held at the home of Mrs. Lediard. Miss McLay led Devotions. Mrs. Biddle presided, and Mrs. Phillips acted as Secretary. Cheerful, interesting letter from Mrs. Kasper. Miss McLay spoke of work among the Maoris, asking for

constant prayer by the Union for the success of efforts to check the ravages of alcohol. Miss McLay was warmly thanked for her address, and Mrs. Lediard for her hospitality.

**August 22:** Meeting held at Mrs. L. Eady's home. Good attendance. Franchise Day observed. Mrs. Machin presided in the absence of the President through illness, and led Devotions. Resolution against drinking in restaurants sent to Executive. Temperance Fact given by Mrs. Lediard, who with Mrs. McLaren was appointed delegate to District Convention. Mrs. Machin spoke on "Food Values Without Alcohol." Letter from Mrs. Kasper sent from the home of Mrs. Lee Cowie, read. Thanks given to Mrs. Machin for address and Mrs. Eady for hospitality.

### SOUTH AUCKLAND DISTRICT

**Cambridge, July 29:** Large attendance, Mrs. Kemsley presiding. The speaker was Miss Ruby Martin, who told of the life and work of her late mother. This was fitting for Memorial Day. Wires from the Prime Minister and Mrs. H. Roes, M.P. were received, in reply to Resolution sent forward. A new member welcomed. Secretary reported that three new Unions had been added to the district through the work of Miss C. M. McLay in organising. Tea and Benediction. Successful "Bring and Buy."

**Tauranga, August 5 and September 2:** Mrs. Christian presided at both meetings. Devotions led by Mrs. K. Christian and Mrs. Bensley respectively. N.C.W. reports given and expression of opinion on important local matter given. Message of sympathy to be sent to District Vice-President, Mrs. Stephenson Craig, in the loss of her husband, from September meeting. Mrs. Christian spoke at August meeting on "Food Values and Alcohol." Temperance Fact. September meeting largely occupied with plans for Convention and Silver Jubilee. Prayer session held as part of Devotions.

### TARANAKI DISTRICT

**New Plymouth, July 30:** Memorial Day. Mrs. Stewart spoke of the Bible Roll of Honour; also the "White Ribbon" Honour Roll. Miss Drew solicited help for big effort in November to help the "Seamen's Rest." The speaker was the Rev. Mr. Miller. Mrs. Ferry sang solos and Mrs. Bullock recited.

**August 27:** Miss Matheson welcomed back. Temperance Fact. Mrs. Hurrell reported on visit to Stratford by four members of Union. Some Temperance work begun. Mrs. Stewart, President, gave a short address, quoting several appalling effects of drink. Motion of sympathy in bereavement with Mrs. Wood was passed.

**Hawera, August 29:** Mrs. Page, Vice-President in the chair, also led Devotions, reading a fine extract from "The Challenge." Several letters of sympathy to be sent. Several communications received from Dominion Corresponding Secretary, an urgent one containing suggested Resolutions to be sent forward being immediately acted upon. Members asked to bring contributions of food for parcels to be sent to W.C.T.U.'s in Britain. Tea Hostesses, Mesdames Page and Burton. Prayer and Benediction.

### WANGANUI DISTRICT

**Wanganui East:** Good attendances maintained. Mrs. Day, President, very busy inviting young married women to attend. One new member enrolled at last meeting. "W.R." Day observed with a very bright social afternoon. A visit from Mrs. Read with her films was most helpful to young and old alike. A "Bring and Buy" stall is run by Mrs. Walker at each meeting.

**Wanganui, August and September:** Mrs. Duxfield presiding. Attendances fair. Dominion Corresponding Secretary's letter read and Remits from N.C.W. discussed. Mrs. Voyce appointed C.R. Superintendent. Welcome to Mesdames Voyce, D'Ath, and Easterbrook (a new member). Urgent letter from Mrs. Toomer re protests to be sent to the Government. These have been sent forward and a reply has been received from the member, Mr. J. B. Cotterill. Mrs. Goodey was appointed delegate to District Convention. Mrs. Duxfield gave extracts from the N.Z. Alliance annual meeting report.

### HAWKE'S BAY DISTRICT

**Dannevirke, August 12:** Mrs. Calcott presided over satisfactory attendance. Rev. Mr. Sleep led Devotions. Dominion News Letter read. Decided to provide some literature for