

## President's Message

Dear Fellow Members,

By this time I suppose we are beginning to feel as if the Christmas holidays are quite a long way behind us; already the young folk are beginning to talk about the Easter Camps and the still younger folk are looking forward to next Christmas. Yesterday I was informed by a small neighbour—"You see I just might get a puppy next Christmas. Mum says that if we don't count this month I'll only have to wait eleven months." Are we looking forward as happily as that? We should, and we will, if we remember that we are in Partnership with God; that is what gives us security, courage and love for our work. The burning question for all of us is how can I best use the opportunities that will come to me during this year of our Lord, 1948? Opportunities for promoting peace; for educational work in the need for abolishing the liquor trade; the need for a higher moral standard in the political, commercial, social and private life of the community. All these things lie in the duty line of every Union member. Our "Partner" expects us to do this work with Him. A sleeping partner is not much use to God or man, but an active partner with God is a definite force in the community. Our goal is to do the Lord Christ's will. He only wins who sides with God.

I pray that 1948 will bring much joy in service to each one of us, and that when December comes we may look back with thankfulness for the many opportunities for service, and for the strength and the ability to use them. God cannot fail us. We must not fail Him.

Yours in the fellowship of service,  
C. E. KIRK,  
Dominion President.

## TE KUITI MAORI UNION SPECIAL REPORT

Although space forbids the publishing of Annual Reports of Unions, it is felt that this, the first Annual Report of the Te Kuiti Maori Union is of such outstanding interest, that we are glad to make room for it. This is our only Maori Union; and we congratulate its officers and members on their very successful and most efficient six months of activity. (Ed.).

"On June 12th, 1947, Miss Catherine McLay addressed thirty Maori women at the Methodist Church, on the evils of liquor, and the Aims and Ideals of the W.C.T. Union. As a result of this gathering, the Te Kuiti Branch of the Union was formed with twenty-three Foundation members. The membership list now stands at thirty-eight, a good number of these being country residents.

The Cradle Roll numbers sixty-three. Three having turned eight years leaves sixty on the list. Twenty-

three birthday cards have been sent out.

**Work Among Seamen:** Ten bags, with eight cakes of soap, have been forwarded to Mrs. Gardiner by Mrs. Hose, our Seamen's Work Superintendent.

**Youth Work** is as yet in the initial stages, but a start has been made.

**Patients at the Hospital** have been visited by the Hospital visitor; and flowers and fruit have been provided.

**Temperance Facts** are a feature of our meetings; also educational talks on health, the detrimental effect of liquor imbibing in restaurants; the screening of an educational film by Miss McLay dealing with the poisonous effects of liquor drinking on the body and its organs, have been successfully incorporated into our monthly meetings.

Two "Bring and Buy" functions have been held in the dining hall of the Pa, to supplement the Union's finances.

The President, Treasurer and Evangelistic Superintendent were able to attend the District Convention at Tauranga on September 18th. Our Union was in the happy position of being able to defray all expenses involved.

Some of our members attended the Pakeha Union's "Bring and Buy" at the Presbyterian Church; and many more combined with the other local Unions; and took part in a combined reception to Mrs. Christian, led by our President, Mrs. Josephs.

Our activities are reported by our Press Reporter to the local Press and "The White Ribbon."

The spiritual needs of our members are met in devout fulness by our Devotional Leader, Sister Nicholls.

A delegate has been appointed to Dominion Convention. So closes the work for this year.

JANE EMERY, Secretary.

## Statement of Income and Expenditure for Six Months Ending December 31st., 1947.

### INCOME.

	£	s.	d.
Fees for 38 members	4	18	2
Monthly Collections	1	2	4
Two "Bring and Buys" for Convention Expenses	12	0	7
Donation from Miss Grace Gibbs	0	10	0
	£18	11	1

### EXPENDITURE.

	£	s.	d.
Account Literature	0	16	0
C.R. Supt. Postages	0	5	0
Literature (Miss McLay)	0	3	2
Delegates' Expenses to Tauranga (three)	5	1	9
Capitation Fees	1	2	2
Poundage	0	0	3
Postage Seamen's Bags	0	0	8
W.R. Advertisements	0	10	0
Credit Balance as shown in Bank Book	10	12	1
	£18	11	1

RAWINIA EWAN, Treasurer.

Audited and found correct.

J. D. BAYNE, A.P.A.N.Z.  
28th November, 1947.

## NELSON PRESIDENT RETIRES

November 11th, 1947

Nelson Union held its Annual Meeting and Flower Day on November 11th. Annual reports were presented showing good work. Mrs. Toomer, President, in moving their adoption, thanked all officers and superintendents for their work during the year. As Mrs. Toomer did not seek re-election, Mrs. Sherratt was elected to the office of President, and all other officers were returned. Plans of work for next year were to include Sunday teas and rallies for young people, films to be shown where possible. Birthday posies were presented by Mrs. Lummis, our new Birthday Superintendent.

Occasion was taken to pay a tribute to Mrs. Toomer for her four years of devoted service, and to present her with a small gift as a token of affection and appreciation.

Mrs. Walker, who made the presentation of a book, spoke of Mrs. Toomer's efficiency as a President, and of her devotion to the Temperance cause. Miss Cooke also paid a tribute to Mrs. Toomer, and presented her with a box of flowers.

In her reply, Mrs. Toomer thanked the members for the gift, and the Executive for their loyal support during her term of office, saying that her years of service had been a great joy to her.

During the afternoon a floral display was held, Mrs. K. E. Kidson winning first prize for the best bloom, with Mrs. Lummis second. At the close of the meeting the flowers were taken to sick members, and to those no longer able to attend. Afternoon tea hostesses were Mesdames Frost and Bertram.

## CHRISTMAS PARTY, AUCKLAND

### EXECUTIVE (DISTRICT)

In place of the usual District Executive meeting, the Auckland District Executive held a Christmas Party and the annual reunion of old members in the Pitt Street Methodist Church Parlour, on December 8th.

The District President, Mrs. W. Mountjoy, presided over a large and representative gathering, nearly every Union being represented. Mrs. Mountjoy extended a warm welcome to all present, especially the elderly members, one lady, Mrs. Bestford, being over ninety years of age. An excellent programme of musical and elocutionary items was presented.

During the afternoon Mrs. Mountjoy presented a Long Service Badge to Mrs. Breese, of the Onehunga Union, for thirty years of service. Thanks to the artists was expressed by Mrs. Long, District Vice-President, and season's greetings were given to all present by Mrs. Mountjoy on behalf of the District Officers. Afternoon tea brought the afternoon to a close.