

CONVENTION REMITS, 1948**AUCKLAND**

1.—That this Convention of the W.C.T.U. is of the opinion that a penalty should be attached to the breaking of the by-law re drinking on railway trains.

2.—That this Convention views with alarm the pernicious sex literature being imported into our country; and desires the Government to prohibit this importation as it affects the social and moral well-being of the younger citizens of New Zealand.

SOUTH AUCKLAND

3.—That this Convention urge upon the authorities the necessity for ensuring that Cinema Programmes advertised as being suitable for children should not include ANY screening of unsuitable films.

MANAWATU

4.—That it be a recommendation to Sunday School Unions that a question on the Temperance lessons be included in the annual Scripture Examination papers.

5.—That Temperance Instruction, which is on the School syllabus should not be overlooked at the time of the Inspectors' visits to the schools, otherwise there might be a tendency for it to be omitted by teachers.

HAWKE'S BAY

6.—In view of the growing practice of hotel-keepers of supplying liquor to youths under age, this Convention urges that in the event of these youths being brought before the court, the law regarding those who supply the liquor be rigidly enforced.

7.—That the Minister of Broadcasting be asked to arrange for an authority on Alcohol to give short talks over the air in the Correspondence School sessions.

N.B.—The suggestion is that the arrangement should be on the lines of the "Radio Doctor" talks mentioned in the September "Beacon."

8.—That Convention protests against radio talks glamorising the distribution of surplus profits of the Invercargill Liquor Trust to various organisations, but making no mention of extra police work since the Trust began operations.

9.—While congratulating the Junior Chambers of Commerce on the recently held Road Safety Campaign, Convention urges that in any future campaign against road accidents, greater

prominence be given to the menace of strong drink especially to drivers of motor vehicles.

WELLINGTON (MASTERTON)

10.—That Convention consider the holding of Convention bi-annually, thus saving unnecessary travelling and expense.

11.—That the use made of Child Endowment payments be carefully watched when wrongful use is suspected.

MARLBOROUGH

12.—That November 12th be the closing date for the nomination of Dominion Officers.

13.—That the W.C.T.U. members individually and as unions are right behind the "Food for Britain" campaign, but are of the opinion that there is a great waste of grain and sugar in the manufacture of alcoholic drinks.

NORTH CANTERBURY

14.—That the Women's Christian Temperance Union of New Zealand supports the International Conference on Human Rights in its overture to UNO dealing with the abolition of slavery.

OTAGO (DUNEDIN CENTRAL)

15.—That the attention of Convention is drawn to the urgent necessity for literature in connection with Sabbath desecration; and asks that such be prepared for general distribution.

16.—That as the Gambling evil is demoralising the country, this Convention deplores the fact that this Government is giving this evil every encouragement, and urges that in the interests of common morality the granting of art union tickets shall cease.

17.—This Convention desires to draw the attention of both Legislators and the general public to the fact that the amount of money spent in New Zealand for 1946 Drink Bill exceeded £13,000,000. Further, Convention states that any consideration of the total amount of revenue expended in connection with the Drink Trade, must also debit the Drink Bill with a large part of the cost of Mental and General Hospitals expenditure, gaol administration, and the administration of justice in general.

N.B.—That this additional cost should be laid at liquor's door is attested by authorities quoting alcoholism as being responsible for some 12 per cent of all first admissions to hospitals for the insane, and stating that alcoholism definitely predisposes the alcoholic to infection generally. In this connection it is relevant to quote a statement by Sir George Paish, a celebrated British Economist, who, after World War I, said that the abolition of the drink trade would enable the trade of the world to be restored. When a world shortage of food exists and when world trade is anything but satisfactory, we would most strongly urge the curtailment of this enormous waste, occasioned by this traffic in drink, which, without any exaggeration, constitutes a reproach to any people.

**SPECIAL REPORTS
MARLBOROUGH WOMEN'S DAY
OF PRAYER****November 27th**

A good number attended the November Day of Prayer meetings at Blenheim on November 27th, when the Leaders were Mrs. P. Stevens and Mrs. Kearse in the morning, and Mrs. V. Underhill and Mrs. V. Powell in the afternoon, the organist being Mrs. W. D. Pike.

Interesting subjects were chosen, hymns in keeping, and reverent prayers were offered, many members of the congregation taking part. Several requests for prayer were handed in. The sick were remembered and very special prayers were offered on behalf of the relatives and friends of the Christchurch fire victims.

This being the last meeting for the year, at the close, Mrs. Bayley gave special thanks to those who had helped in any way during the year to make the meetings such a help and spiritual benefit that all who have attended have felt. She prayed that God's richest blessing would rest on all the members, and that we would meet again with others on the World's Day of Prayer, when it is hoped to continue with the full day of prayer and fellowship every month.

**MARLBOROUGH DISTRICT
CLOSING SOCIAL****December 2nd**

To mark the closing of the year's activities, the Blenheim and Springlands Unions held a united Christmas Social Afternoon in Wesley Hall, Blenheim, which was gay with flowers for the occasion. Mrs. Adjutant Kearse led the brief Devotions.

Mrs. V. Underhill presided and welcomed the large number of visitors who had been personally welcomed on arrival by Mrs. N. Forbes.

The Rev. A. O. Jones gave an inspiring message in an address based on the words: "Let us now go to Bethlehem." Carols were rendered by the Redwoodtown Women's Institute Singing Circle. A piano solo by Miss S. Blick, and two competitions arranged by Mrs. Gascoigne were much enjoyed. A well-stocked Sales Table did good business on behalf of District Funds, and a very special afternoon tea was served.

Opportunity was taken to present "Long Service" badges, the President briefly outlining the services rendered by Union members throughout New Zealand in the early days (for the benefit of the visitors present), and explaining that the badge was a recognition of services given with no thought of reward, but felt to be worthy of gratitude. Mrs. Forbes assisted in the presentations which were as follows:—Thirty years and over, Mrs. T. Pike, Mrs. W. G. Girling and Mrs. W. B. Wilson; twenty years and over, Mrs. E. Milgrew, Mrs. Lane, Mrs. F. Wass, and Mrs. V. Underhill.

Votes of thanks to the speakers and singers were passed, and a very successful afternoon concluded with exchange of greetings.

love and respect. Mrs. Whiteman was the first President of a Union formed at Lower Hutt many years ago, which had lapsed, but was reformed later. As a member of this Union Mrs. Whiteman was a great help and encouragement, and will be greatly missed by all members. She was presented with the Long Service Badge in 1936 and continued to be a devoted and honoured member to the last, and was greatly respected and beloved in the whole district.