

DISTRICT CONVENTIONS—Contd.

work, the district roll numbering 728. Mrs. Rodgeron spoke in regard to the peace Department and the "White Ribbon" reports showed a satisfactory position.

At noon the Noontide hymn was sung and prayer offered for the victims of the Poliomyelitis epidemic and for women and children. A discussion on the work was followed by a brief address by the President.

A buffet lunch partaken of in the sunshine, with a little social chat, made a happy break. The afternoon session was opened with Devotions by Mrs. E. Blick. Several visitors were welcomed and musical items were rendered by Mesdames Tennant and Jenkin (Picton), Mesdames W. Glennie, N. Grylls and B. Patchett (vocal trios), Mrs. W. Glennie, piano solo, Mrs. Tennant and Mrs. Sanders, vocal solos.

A most interesting address was given by Mrs. Tennant, who spoke on "The Potter and the Clay" (Isaiah 64:8), which was much enjoyed. Votes of thanks were passed to the speaker, those who had entertained, Board of Management of St. Andrew's Church, Blenheim Union and "The Marlborough Express."

Mrs. Sanders was initiated and welcomed into membership. The Officers were all re-elected, while Mrs. F. C. Wilson was made a Vice-President, and two new Superintendents—Mrs. E. J. Blick, Evangelistic Superintendent, and Mrs. R. Watson, "White Ribbon" Superintendent.

At the conclusion of the meeting, which closed with hymn and the Benediction, afternoon tea was dispensed.

SOUTHLAND DISTRICT

The District Convention was held in Invercargill on Friday, October 29th, in the Esk Street Baptist Hall, and delegates from six Unions were present. Mrs. Frances D. Smith, of Gore, conducted the morning Devotions, speaking of the obscure, the humble, and the unexpected people whom God chose throughout the ages to be His servants, His prophets, leaders and missionaries.

The District President called the meeting to order, and after the Pledge had been repeated, the usual routine business was conducted. All present Officers were re-elected. At noontide, the President called the names of those who had passed away during the year, and Mrs. Richards led in prayer. Two members who have passed on were Mrs. Southern, aged 94, and Mrs. Perry, aged 92 years—both faithful Christians and alert in mind to the end.

At the afternoon session, several remits were passed, and a helpful address was given by the Rev. R. Thornley, who, recognising the extremely difficult times through which we are passing still, showed us reasons for carrying on with renewed hope and courage. Miss M. Halliday rendered a vocal solo, and the town Unions supplied afternoon tea.

Bulletin of Union News

NORTHLAND DISTRICT

Te Kopera, September 16: Mrs. Bickers presided and led Devotions. Temperance Essay Competition in connection with the local school to be held, members donating prizes. Sick members visited. Mrs. Sired of Wellington gave the address.

AUCKLAND DISTRICT

Executive Meeting, November 1: District President, Mrs. F. W. Mountjoy, in the chair, Devotions being led by Mrs. Eccersall. A vote of sympathy passed with Mrs. L. Dickinson in the death of her sister, Mrs. E. Chadwick, who was the President of the Henderson Union. The following resolution was sent from the meeting to the Prime Minister (Acting), Mr. Walter Nash:—"The Auckland District Executive of the W.C.T.U., representing 660 members, wish to register a strong protest against the term 'British' being dropped from the British Commonwealth of Nations." There were 25 members and one visitor present. Mrs. Eccersall reported on the meeting of the Bible-in-Schools Committee. The Treasurer, Mrs. E. Prussing, reported that quite a number of Unions had responded to the appeal for small donations for a presentation to the Queen and Princess Margaret during their visit to New Zealand next year. Some Unions had also sent donations for the Empire Cancer Campaign. Decided to hold a Jumble Sale early in the New Year to raise funds for painting the outside of the Maori Girls' Hostel. Benediction.

Auckland: Annual and last meeting for the year. Mrs. Long presided. Good attendance. Reports on Dominion Officers meeting, Union Annual, Financial and Departmental Work were all read, and much good work was recorded for 1948. Appreciation was expressed. A resolution: "This meeting of the Auckland Branch of the W.C.T.U. unanimously protests against the suggested omitting of the term 'British' from the Commonwealth. The name has stood in time past for freedom and justice to all nations." This was to be sent, and a copy to the Mayor. Officers elected were: President, Mrs. Long; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames Holmes, Warring, Massam, Douglas and Seal; Corresponding Secretary, Miss Dewar; Recording Secretary, Mrs. W. Doull; Treasurer, Mrs. Swan. Superintendents also appointed. Loving tribute paid to Mrs. Long for her work in the Union and at the Maori Girls' Hostel.

Wellsford, October 11: Special Social Evening. Large attendance of young men and women. Programme of games, competitions, and items thoroughly enjoyed. Collection to defray expenses of hall hire, resulted in £2/10/- for Union funds. Excellent supper served by members. Mrs. Singleton thanked all for successful function.

October 26: Usual meeting presided over by Mrs. Fordyce, who led Devotions. Pledge re-affirmed and Temperance Fact given. Maori Day observed. Collection for Maori work, also donation of vegetables, lemons and money for the Maori Girls' Hostel. Benediction.

Ponsonby, October 21: The President, Mrs. R. Joiner, presided, and Devotions were led by Mrs. B. Christopher. Temperance Fact, Miss Funicman. The speaker was the Rev. Harris Whitfield of St. John's Church, and he gave a most interesting talk on "A Chaplain's Experiences in the Army," also telling what had happened to him in Dunedin when he challenged the hotel-keepers on after-hours trading. At the close of the talk, quite a nice little discussion took place which was very profitable to all present.

Onehunga, October 14: Maori Day. Good attendance for interesting meeting. Much business. Report of Temperance gathering held on a recent Sunday evening at Ponsonby. Mrs. Mountjoy reported on District Executive. All possible support to be given to Cancer Research Campaign. Agreed to unite with other women's organisations in the presenting of a gift to Her Majesty and Princess Margaret.

October 24: Home meeting held at the residence of Mrs. Fordyce in lovely weather, under the presidency of Mrs. Archer, Home Meeting Superintendent. A pleasing and profitable gathering, though not well attended. Pleasing programme presented, including a paper on "Women's Influence, all being well received."

Kohi-St. Heliers, October 28: Meeting held

at the home of Mrs. H. Kasper. Good attendance. Meeting took the form of a Floral Day. The Floral Mission was explained, beautiful poems and readings were given by the members. The competition for the best-arranged vase was won by Mrs. Ernest Eady, also the Spray. Some of the flowers were sent to the sick. Mrs. Gresham was appointed to represent the Kohi W.C.T.U. at the Kchi League of Mothers "At Home." Vote of thanks passed to Mrs. Kasper and all who took part.

Warkworth, October 3: Mrs. R. Moore presided over a good attendance of members and visitors. Devotions, Fact, and Thought for the Month given by Mrs. Sanderson. Roll Call, "A hymn verse which has helped me." Mrs. W. Phillips then gave a soul-searching talk on the sordid lives of some Maoris in the heart of the city of Auckland. She also stressed Mrs. Long's great need of help in the Hostel. Solo by Miss Peggy Chessum. Mrs. Moore gave an account of the Auckland District Convention. Bring-and-Buy in aid of the Maori Girls' Hostel.

November 11: Annual meeting. Mrs. Moore presided over fair attendance. Roll Call on "Service." All Superintendents reported on their work. Officers all re-elected. Various departments discussed—Cradle Roll, etc.—concluded a happy year.

Remuera, October 18: Mrs. Kasper presiding and leading Devotions, Sister Grace leading in prayer. Temperance Fact, Miss Gane. Floral afternoon, each member reading an extract about a garden. Best spray competition won by Miss Bond. Interesting talk given by Sister Grace. Benediction.

SOUTH AUCKLAND DISTRICT

Tauranga: Annual Meeting, November 2, Mrs. Christian presiding over very good attendance. Mrs. Gill, a member from Dannevirke, welcomed. Opening Devotions led by Mrs. Bensley, from John, ch. 21. After ordinary business was done, the annual report was read by Mrs. York, Secretary; Mrs. Maunders giving the Financial report. Departmental reports were given by Superintendents, and a large amount of work was shown to have been done in all. The election of officers resulted: President, Mrs. Christian; Secretary, Mrs. York; Treasurer, Mrs. Maunders; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames Bensley, Bryan, Home, Bulmer and Williamson. Superintendents also appointed. A new member initiated. Donation of £10/- approved for Headquarters Mortgage reduction fund. Cradle Roll party arranged. Flowers presented by President to past officers and to the President by Mrs. Maunders. Thanks for work of the year expressed. Benediction.

Hamilton, November 4: In the absence of the Acting President, Mrs. Bradley took the chair. New Officers, Mrs. Buick (Secretary) and Mrs. Hood (Treasurer) warmly welcomed and assured of help from members. Miss A. M. McLay, District President, received a cordial welcome and took the Devotions, also giving an address on the work of the "Christian Citizenship" Department. The members were very interested, and the speaker was thanked for all the information she gave on the Departmental work of the Union. Annual meeting arranged for, Misses A. and C. McLay both hoping to attend and give needed help. Bring-and-Buy Stall to help for delegate's expenses for Dominion Convention.

WANGANUI DISTRICT

Wanganui Central, October 7: Mrs. Wilson was in the chair and led Devotions, and Miss Wadsworth led in prayer. A social afternoon was held. Items were given by Miss Jarvie, recitation; Miss Kendall, song; Mrs. Jarvis, piano solo, and Mrs. Ogg, piano solo; recitation and song by Mrs. Payne. The programme was much enjoyed. 25 present. There was a Bring-and-Buy Stall.

November 4: Mrs. Duxfield was in the chair. Mrs. Wilson led the Devotions. Business meeting. Sister Jean from Raetihi was a visitor and also gave a little talk. Ten were present.

HAWKE'S BAY DISTRICT

Napier, October: Evening meeting with the young members. Devotions led by Beth Ennor. All members responded to the Roll Call with a Temperance Fact. Food parcels were brought to be sent to Britain for Christmas. Helpful and profitable meeting closed with prayer by Mrs. Lewis, President.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT

Brooklyn, October 26: Departmental reports discussed in preparation for District Execu-