

(continued from page 6)

ber of fine posters with pertinent Temperance Facts arranged on the wall above our stall attracted much notice. These gave a clear idea to the public of the aims and objects of the W.C.T.U.

On another table, several practical displays were arranged. No. 1 was two saucers of wheat, one saucer having fine, healthy green shoots, this having been moistened with water only. The other saucer remained hard and lifeless, having been watered with water and spirits. No. 2 was a bottle of whisky, with the price plainly marked, and a quantity of tins of wholesome food bought for the same price. No. 3 showed a bottle of beer with the price plainly marked, and five bottles of milk bought for the same price. These gave a fine opportunity to tell the young people of the harmful effects of alcohol upon the human body.

"Y.P. SUPPLEMENTS," HAWERA

Further news of Union work among the young comes from Hawera. The Union here sends out 500 "Y.P. Supplements" monthly; and run a Picture Colouring Competition of their own. About 300 pictures are returned to Mrs. Barron, who deals with this work. A list of prizewinners is published in the "Y.P. Supplement" for this month. The interest taken shows that some result does follow the sending of the little sheet. If nothing more than this can be done by Unions, it is worth while to do it.

TEMPERANCE EXAMINATIONS

Preparations for these should be begun early. A good idea is to appoint a member of each church from the Union, to discuss the matter with their Sunday School Superintendents; and try to arouse interest in the plan. The pamphlets should be taken, and each Union should have a good supply on hand for those who may ask for them. If a class can be formed, with an experienced person to lead it, for perhaps half an hour weekly (after school on Monday is a popular time), the syllabus will soon be covered and the children can become really familiarised with the facts in good time. This is one of our best methods of reaching children and making the facts tell their own story.

ESSAY AND POSTER COMPETITIONS

At Convention it was agreed that these competitions should be put into the hands of a special committee. Particulars as to dates, subjects, and conditions will be published later. In the meantime, Unions should accustom themselves to the idea of doing all possible through their contacts with children, parents, teachers, ministers, and all youth workers in their districts, to create sympathetic interest. When the subject is known, members might do worse than to discuss it in all its aspects in their Union meetings. They

might learn something new for themselves; and would certainly be in a position to help and encourage children to enter. A great deal might be done in this way to increase the number of entries; which is really not large enough for the good prizes offered. The pamphlets are two in number, one for the Preparatory, Junior and Intermediate Grades, and one for the Senior Grade. They are really excellently prepared, being the work of our Temperance Examination Superintendent, Miss C. Jamieson, of Palmerston North; and equally valuable for preparation for Essay and Poster Competitions and the Examinations. They cost 6d. each and can be obtained from Mrs. Ross at Headquarters.

BEER BOTTLES

Horrid indignation was felt up and down the land last Christmas (1947), when statements were broadcast regarding the enormous numbers of beer bottles collected by boys and men after the Christmas and New Year celebrations in various places. The accounts given for this year's collections are worse. The idea that there would be less drinking because of the new legislation (remarkable idea, certainly) does not seem to have materialised. From Christchurch we have the following: "... this season's harvest is going to be a record one. Nearly thirty collectors are on the job and they are doing well. The beer bottle position is more buoyant than I have ever seen it." The comment following is: "The inference is that more beer was drunk in private houses this Christmas and New Year than ever before." The statement went on: "The man who watches the bottles coming in from all over Christchurch said that December was a record month for outgoing and incoming business. He thought the same remark applied to the whole of New Zealand."

In the N.Z. "Herald" appears the following: "Empty beer bottles collected at Mount Maunganui by the end of the holiday period are expected to exceed the number gathered last year. The yield in 1948 was between 15,000 and 20,000, but the number this year will probably exceed 20,000. This will represent an expenditure of over £17,000 on beer."

And from a leader in the Otago "Daily Times" we cull the following choice blossom to add to the bouquet: "If drinking in New Zealand is at the present time excessive and indiscriminate and undisciplined—and there is some evidence that it is—it will not be discouraged and controlled by limiting the people's opportunities of drinking, but by extending these opportunities, and making temperate drinking a respectable community indulgence."

Well, there has been an extending of opportunities, with what results the beer bottle figures give some indication. We await further indications of improvement with keen interest.

EDITOR.

W.C.T.U. FORWARD MOVE

Our Five-Year Plan

Pray—Plan—Proceed

Form W.C.T.U. Prayer Circles, in homes, if possible. Simple programme. Hymn, Scripture, Prayers.

Pray

Pray for a spiritual revival of the Church.

Pray for a deepening of the spiritual life of women.

Pray for a sober nation.

Pray for the Temperance Cause throughout the nation and the world.

Plan

Plan for a widespread CAMPAIGN OF TEMPERANCE OR ALCOHOL EDUCATION in every Church, Youth Organisation and Primary and Secondary Schools.

Plan for an intensive Band of Hope, L.T.L., "Y," and Pledge-signing campaign in your town and district.

Plan and organise a PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN in preparation for the Poll. Prepare teams, and train speakers. Enlist Churches and Christian Youth Organisations. NOW is the time.

Plan for continuous distribution of Temperance Literature, Poster Exhibitions and Pageants.

Proceed

Proceed with CAMPAIGN FOR NEW MEMBERS — OBJECTIVE, 2,000.

Proceed with CAMPAIGN FOR NEW "WHITE RIBBON" SUBSCRIBERS—OBJECTIVE, 1,500.

For Cradle Roll members—objective, 3,000.

For new Unions—objective, 100.

NOTE.—District Officers may organise new Unions, and supply "Acting" officers where necessary, to prevent Unions lapsing; and nurse weak Unions by fraternal gatherings or sending speakers.

Any member may recruit new members, who must be Christian women, and who will sign our Pledge of membership.

Any Union may organise a Band of Hope, L.T.L., or "Y" Group.

"Go, labour on, 'tis not for nought."