

THE PRESIDENT IN SOUTHLAND AND OTAGO DISTRICTS

Following on Dominion Convention, Miss McLay, Dominion President, made use of her opportunity while in the South Island, to visit several Unions, and generally to further our work in places remote from bigger centres. Good results were secured and encouragement was gained from the welcome contact in places where the work may be inclined to flag as leaders lay down their work and new ones are not always readily forthcoming.

At Invercargill, Miss McLay visited the Unions, also meeting young people in Sunday Schools, Bible Classes, Christian Endeavour Societies, and in week-night services. Ministers of various churches became interested in our Youth publications, the "Beacon" and "Y.P. Supplement." At Winton, a good public meeting was held at which Miss McLay spoke. The Union there is strong and keen, numbering 35 members. Mrs. Wilson, President of the Gore Union, whose accident during Convention at Timaru, caused some concern, is well, and is happy in the co-operation of her Union members; and Miss McLay had opportunity there for work. Visits to Bluff, Mataura, Wyndham and Edendale showed that organising work is greatly needed. This need is felt very strongly in other places, and a full-time work awaits the right woman.

At Dunedin, three young, new members were initiated. At Oamaru, members of the Waimate Union were present at the Union meeting, when Miss McLay was the speaker, and gave an inspiring talk on the early temperance workers, urging members to hold on to the spirit which inspired them, and to keep Oamaru "dry." At Timaru, on March 15th, a small "Y" group was formed, under the Superintendency of Mrs. R. Walker. The members comprising the group are tremendously keen and good results are anticipated. On the 16th, an opportunity was made for a number of friends and supporters of the Temperance cause to meet Miss McLay at the home of Mrs. Hugh Densen. The guests were much impressed by Miss McLay's capability, versatility and wide knowledge of temperance affairs, and were very loth to see the guest of honour depart. Two new members were initiated. Miss McLay reached home on March 18th.

NEWS FROM ABROAD

At the last Executive meeting of the Auckland District, Mrs. Kasper reported having received a letter from Mrs. M. C. Munns of Seattle, Washington, which stated that Italy and Belgium are now added to the W.C.T.U. constituency, and that it was hoped that Holland would shortly come into the fellowship with other countries just waiting to enter.

TEMPERANCE FACTS

Brooklyn. When the Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit, was ready for business, the question of Alcohol was raised. Mr. Ford asked if the use of Alcohol was necessary to the successful operation of a hospital. He instructed the technical men to make an investigation: to visit the **best** hospitals everywhere, and find out what was the result of hospital experience in this subject. A thorough investigation was made. The experts reported back that Alcohol was unnecessary in the operation of a hospital.

Hawera. "49,000,000 to go dry. The press reports that all the 49 millions of Browns and Whites in Madras went dry at midnight, October 1st. Any white man who wants to drink since then can only get a liquor permit by declaring himself an 'addict.'"

"Nobody wanted beer at the London Olympic Games recently concluded; not even the spectators, according to the catering manager, Mr. A. Goldby. He had provided 1,200,000 bottles of beer, but only 10 per cent. was consumed."

"National Voice," Sept. 2nd, 1948.

CHEER GERM FROM STOKE

On a Sunday afternoon not so long ago, a gathering of young folk, about 30 strong, met Mrs. Toomer, Vice-President (Dominion) of the W.C.T.U., who delivered a stirring, educative, and illuminating address on alcohol and its evil effects on the human system, mental, moral, physical and spiritual. Quite a number of facts and illustrations were taken from the "White Ribbon" and the "Vanguard." During the tea that followed, an informal, thought-provoking and friendly discussion took place, wherein the conventional customs and habits of the present day came under the fire of free criticism. At its conclusion, all but one were convinced of the wisdom of total abstinence, and we have reason to believe that even that one has since come round to our way of thinking.

Several young folk have been prepared for membership in the Methodist Church by their Minister. When he put to them the question whether, for Christ's sake and the sake of example to others, they were willing to become total abstainers, they all with one consent answered in the affirmative.

Rev. C. B. JORDAN, M.A., B.D.

President's Message—continued.

and press certainly awakened the public to the enormity of this character-destroying habit and addiction. Again the women must rally to the fight. Stand against gambling in every shape and form. Raise a standard against the insidious evils of Raffles and Art Unions. Teach children the evil of them. Shun shops that sell Art Union tickets as a side issue.

A Christian gentleman who always assisted a certain organisation at an annual effort for funds, and who was approached again during polling week, wrote the promoter that he regretted he had deprived him of the privilege of assisting, because Art Unions and Raffles were used as a means of raising money in the effort. If every right-thinking man and woman would take this stand, something worth while would be done. **BE ON WATCH. ORGANISE, EDUCATE, AGITATE.**

I watched a little group of small boys playing. One was very aggressive, a real combatant. One day he met his "Waterloo," got a big fright, and I met him running home, his face and body tense, tears withheld, to tell mother. Throwing himself into her arms he sobbed out the story. Soon he reappeared, eating a slice of bread and jam, quite at peace with the world. Next day he was back with the gang, playing happily. I thought how like we are to that boy in many ways. We are in a great world struggle for righteousness. At times we are hurt and offended; we lose a battle; are told "It's no use"; and asked "What do these feeble women?" The forces arrayed against us are formidable, and numerically, very superior. Like the boy, we have a refuge, and One Who renews our strength. We kneel in prayer, how weak! He places His hand upon us in comfort and we are healed and rested. Then we feed on His Word, the Living Word, and are strong again. "We rise, how full of power!"

The days ahead are strenuous ones, but we have experienced the firm strength that flows from Faith; and we go forward together to firmer effort and greater victory.

With loving thanks for your co-operation and prayers,

CATHERINE M. McLAY.

FORM OF BEQUEST

"I give and bequeath to the NEW ZEALAND WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION (INC.) for (here insert the general, or the specific purpose)

- (a) The general purposes of the Society, or
- (b) The general purposes of the Centre (or sub-centre) of the Union.

the sum of £ or (description of property given), for which the receipt of the Dominion Secretary, Dominion Treasurer, or other Dominion officer shall be a good discharge therefor to my trustee."

The New Zealand
WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN
TEMPERANCE UNION (INC.)
Dominion Headquarters,
46 and 48 Brougham Street,
Wellington.