

President, Lady Henry Somerset; the Earl of Carlisle, for his wife, Lady Carlisle, President of the British W.T.A.; the Baroness von Hausen, for Germany; Miss Sevasti Callisperi, for Greece; and Mrs Gordon Wright, for Canada.

The following morning, at 9.45, Convention met in Tremont Temple—every seat on floor and galleries being occupied by delegates and visitors—and the great international meeting was fittingly opened by the singing of "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!" This was followed by the Crusade Psalm and the Crusade Hymn; and then, after the roll-call and other preliminaries, Mrs Stevens, the Acting-President, read an address from Lady Henry Somerset. A cablegram of appreciation was sent to Lady Henry, and one was received from her, conveying thanks to the leaders in the various countries for the beautiful bell which they had given to be hung in the belfry of the chapel of her home. The bell was rung for the first time at the hour of opening the Convention.

More welcomes followed, this time from His Excellency the Governor of Massachusetts, and the Mayor of Boston.

### Secretary's Report.

Miss Agnes Slack presented a report of the work in various countries, and the following are a few of the prominent items:—"Gains have been made nearly everywhere, both in membership and in activity, the largest proportional being in **Sweden**, where in three years the membership has been raised from 798 to 2638. A large number of temperance restaurants have also been established. **Iceland** reports good work in several departments. In **India** there are thirty-three local Unions, and Scientific Temperance Instruction has been introduced into the schools. In **South Africa** the work had, through the late war, become disorganised in many places; but owing to Miss Slack's visit new Unions have been established, and the work, generally, revived. In **Madeira** much assistance is being received from the doctors, who are publicly warning people against the use of alcohol. **Great Britain** has 1165 branches, with a membership of 109,053. The W.C.T.U. of **Germany** petitioned the War Department to discontinue wine and rum being given to the troops in Africa, and received a favourable reply. The department is now intro-

ducing non-alcoholic fruit juices as rapidly as possible in place of liquor. In **Norway** the W.C.T.U. is represented on a joint Temperance Commission, which is preparing a system of scientific temperance instruction for the public schools. In **Egypt** temperance work is pushed forward through the Sunday schools and C.E. Societies."

Thursday afternoon was largely devoted to the introduction of Presidents and official representatives. Mrs M. B. Thomson represented Australasia, and the Lady Dorothy Howard spoke for her mother—the Countess of Carlisle. Miss Callisperi gave greetings from Greece, Mrs. Mary S. Fernie from Africa, Miss Amalie Nix from Finland. Mrs Gordon Wright, president of the Dominion of Canada, gave statistics of the growth of prohibition in her country. "In Quebec there are 603 municipalities that have outvoted the traffic; in Ontario, 203, and in Nova Scotia 16 out of 18 counties have a measure of prohibition through local option. One entire province—Prince Edward Island—is under prohibition; and," said Mrs Wright, "During the time I was there I did not see one intoxicated person. For one whole week in July of this year the white flag floated over the jail in this province, signifying that it had no inmates."

An early adjournment was made in order that the Convention might accept the hospitality of the Governor and the Mayor.

### The Children.

The first hour of the Thursday evening session was occupied with Loyal Temperance Legion exercises presented by children from the Frances E. Willard Settlement of Boston. The demonstration was not only beautiful to look upon and to hear, but bore witness to the thorough and fundamental temperance work that may be done by training the children.

### Japan.

The second part of the programme was opened by the introduction of Mrs Kaji Yajima, for twenty-six years president of the W. C. T. U. of Japan. Mrs Yajima is seventy-four years of age and was the first woman in her country to receive a teacher's certificate. During the war with Russia she secured for the army and navy 60,000 comfort bags, and received from the Emperor, as a token of appreciation, a set of bowls stamped with the imperial seal.

Described as "black haired, keen eyed, and of erect figure," Mrs Yajima was accompanied by her grand niece, Miss Ochimi Okubo, who acted as interpreter. Both were in native costume, and conspicuous on the platform was the Japanese banner of crimson satin, embroidered in white and gold.

### England.

Lady Dorothy Howard was the next speaker. Called by the Boston Press "a typical beauty of the British realm," and only twenty years old. Lady Dorothy spoke with simple modesty, yet with great self-possession. With much skill and force she told of work being done by the Temperance forces in England. She reminded her hearers that, owing to prevailing English public opinion, to work for and obtain advanced Temperance legislation was more difficult for English women than it was for their American sisters; "but," said the young speaker, "we believe that as it is our truest sphere to care for the home, so all the more is it our sphere to take up this grave problem, the solution of which will make happier homes in all the world."

### Austria.

Following the English girl came Fraulein Julie Kassowitz, of Vienna, "the gifted daughter of a noble father"—a scientific medical man. Speaking of the peace between nations, which is one of the planks in the W. C. T. U. platform, the Austrian lady said, "As alcoholicism itself is a curse to humanity, the fighting of alcoholism, that unites all the best powers of our time, can become a blessing in promoting that sentiment of human solidarity that destroys the barriers between different nations and creeds." Fraulein Kassowitz went on to remark that the impulse to the foundation of the Union in Vienna, and indeed of the total abstinence movement in Austria, was given by the International Congress against alcoholism held in Vienna, in 1901. The Union is the only organisation promoting abstinence among the middle and upper classes. The Temperance movement in Austria is not yet what may be termed a popular movement. It had "its origin in thought," the scientific findings of Dr Kassowitz and other eminent men clearly demonstrating the fact that alcohol is a poison and not a food.