

Peace and Arbitration.

On the Friday morning, Mrs Lucia Ames Mead, well known for her distinguished labours on behalf of international peace, was introduced to Convention as the representative of the Peace department of the International Council of Women. Mrs Mead prophesied that the aims of the department of Peace would be attained five hundred years before those of any other department. At a later session, Mrs Hannah J. Bailey, superintendent of Peace and Arbitration, said that twenty-three countries had sent in reports of work done, in the shape of sermons preached, public meetings held, resolutions adopted and presented, etc. Mrs Bailey also reported that the Government of Holland had purchased a plot of land for the erection of the Carnegie Palace of Peace. "The Inter-Parliamentary Union now numbers 2000 practical men, members of the principal Parliaments of the world. An international congress, with frequent stated sessions, and having at least advisory powers, is talked of, and it is hoped will materialise in the not distant future."

L. T. L.

Miss Anna Gordon reported that the Loyal Temperance Legion has 500,000 little followers in the various colonies of Australasia, and in Great Britain, Burmah, Bermuda, Bulgaria, Canada, Chili, China, Cuba, Cape Colony, Finland, Iceland, India, Japan, Madagascar, Mexico, Norway, New Zealand, Panama, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Uruguay and the United States.

Patent Medicines.

In giving her report, Mrs Martha M. Allen, superintendent of the department of Medical Temperance, illuminated her remarks, showing a lighted lamp fed by the alcohol in a popular patent medicine. Speaking of the aid given in the crusade against patent medicines by several magazines and journals, notably *Collier's Weekly*, Mrs Allen said that the King of Norway had gone still further in the suppression of the evil. Last August he issued a royal proclamation forbidding newspaper advertising of all proprietary medicines, either as for sale in Norway, or to be obtained elsewhere and shipped to Norway.

Food.

After an address on the importance of pure food, the following resolution

was adopted:—"That this Convention, without advocating any special system of diet, would urge delegates to impress upon all their branches the importance of directing attention to the more general use of the much-neglected and staple foods, such as grains, cereals, fruits, nuts and vegetables."

Other Departments.

Other departments of work reported upon included Evangelistic (twenty mothers' meetings in Japan doing a great evangelistic work), work among Soldiers, work among Sailors, work among Railway Men, Missionary, Purity, Sunday School, Medal Contest, Penal, Charitable and Reformatory, School Savings Banks, department of Mercy, Press, Legislation and Petitions, and Protection of Native races.

In Memoriam.

A reverent and impressive memorial service gave opportunity for fitting reference to the following leaders summoned to higher service since the last World's meeting:—Mrs Eliza Trimble Thompson (U.S.A.), Mrs Jessie S. Rooke (Australasia), Mrs Mary H. Hunt (U.S.A.), Mrs Alice Gordon Gulick (Spain), Mrs Theresa W. Mackay (Cape Colony), Mrs M. K. Kaiopothake (Greece), Mrs R. S. Etnier (U.S.A.), Mrs Marwick (Australasia), Mrs McKinnon (Scotland), Lady Thorburn (Newfoundland), Miss J. E. Dougall (Scotland), Mrs M. C. Robinson (China), Mrs Mary A. Livermore (U.S.A.), Miss Susan B. Anthony (U.S.A.), Sir Wilfrid Lawson (England). "Lead, Kindly Light" was sung. The Earl of Carlisle spoke with deep appreciation of Sir Wilfrid Lawson, and Dr. T. D. Crothers paid tribute to Mrs Mary Hunt and her wonderful power of insight and organisation which led to the establishment of the most important of all Temperance work, the scientific instruction of the young.

Officers.

The ballot for World's officers resulted as follows:—President, the Countess of Carlisle, England; Vice-President-at-large, Mrs. Lilian M. N. Stevens, U.S.A.; honorary Secretaries, Miss Agnes E. Slack, England, and Miss Anna A. Gordon, U.S.A.; Treasurer, Mrs. Mary E. Sanderson, Canada.

Little Girl: "What was Eve made of?" Mother: "Of Adam's backbone."

NEWS OF THE UNIONS.

[We rely on our local Unions to send us news for this column. We cannot evolve it out of our inner consciousness.]

Auckland.

The annual meeting was held on December 12th. The secretary's annual report showed a fair amount of work done during the year, with some definite results, and a considerable addition to the membership roll, although, through delay in collecting fees, this does not appear in the statistics. The refreshment booth at the Agricultural Show gave a record return of cash, and was in every way the most successful yet attempted. The treasurer reported a good financial year, £158 having been received. Reports from other departments were equally gratifying. Mrs Dewar and Mrs Hughes were re-elected as President and Treasurer. Miss Dewar was elected Secretary pro tem. Mrs Dewar was elected delegate to the Convention at Christchurch. The usual grants were made, including one to purchase prizes for Bible Classes in the State Schools. A beautiful lot of Comfort-Bags for sailors have been made during the year, to be presented at Christmas. On the following Wednesday a social gathering was held to bid farewell to the retiring secretary, Mrs N. A. Davis, who is removing to Dunedin. A dainty volume was presented to Mrs Davis, suitably inscribed, and several hearty speeches made reference to the work of Mrs Davis and her husband in the cause of Prohibition.

Blenheim.

The annual meeting was held on December 4. The Secretary's and Treasurer's reports showed that the work of the year had been encouraging, and that there was an increase in membership. Officers were elected as follows:—President, Mrs Rose; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames R. W. Parker, Litchfield, and Rogers, and the wives of the various clergy in the district; Secretary and Assistant, Mesdames Griffin and T. Pike; Treasurer, Mrs Hay. Superintendents of Departments: Mothers' Meetings, Mesdames Brewer and McCallum; Cradle Roll, Mrs Brewer and Miss Davies; Home Meetings, Mrs Clarke; WHITE RIBBON Agent, Mrs W. B. Parker.

Devonport.

The annual report showed that good work had been done in several departments during the year. The sum of £2 has been sent to the W.C.T.U. Bay at the Exhibition. Medal contest work is being started. The officers for the year are:—President, Mrs Wilkinson; Secretary, Mrs Veats; Treasurer, Mrs Butler; Superintendent Home Visiting, Mrs Feltham; Literature, Mrs Bays; Medal Contests, Mrs Clarke.

Kaiapoi.

The meeting to elect officers for the ensuing year was held on December 12. Mrs Ellen declining re-election, Mrs F. Harrison was elected President. The other officers were re-elected. Extracts from addresses delivered at the World's Convention were then read.