

In the regretted absence of Mrs Webb, Superintendent of Purity Department, Mrs Cole read the report. Many Unions reported having held meetings addressed by Mr. R. H. W. Bligh, and much appreciation of his work generally was expressed.

Above reports having been adopted, announcements were made as to the Sunday evening meeting, and that of Monday evening.

FEBRUARY 18th, Morning.

The devotional meeting was conducted by Mrs Boxall. Mrs Wagstaff took her seat as proxy for Ormondville.

The "White Ribbon" financial statement was presented by the business manager, a hearty vote of thanks to Mrs Spencer being carried with acclamation.

The noontide hour of prayer having been observed, a vote of thanks was accorded Miss L. M. Smith for the skill and courage with which she had carried out her editorial duties, also to Miss Jessie McKay for her admirable articles and able assistance to the editor.

The President impressed upon the delegates that whatever is decided upon by Convention is binding upon all the Unions in the colony, which are urged to send a delegate to assist in the discussions and in administration of W.C.T.U. business.

Mrs Spencer laid before the delegates a scheme in the interests of the "White Ribbon" accounts.

Afternoon.

The session was opened with singing and prayer by Mrs Oldham.

The N.Z. Treasurer reported a donation of £2 2s from a well-known Canterbury farmer as a thank-offering for the rain.

The further discussion of the "White Ribbon" was adjourned until Tuesday morning.

Correspondence was read from Mrs Harrison Lee, Mrs Napier, Miss Anna Gordon (U.S.A.), and Colyton branch.

Miss McCarthy presented her report upon Influencing the Press. Resolved—"That in future the title of this department be 'The Press.'"

Resolved—"That a committee consisting of Mrs Sheppard, Mrs Cole, Miss Roberts, and Miss McCarthy be appointed to prepare a statement as to the duties of all local and New Zealand officers, etc., under the head of bye-laws."

Reports were then presented as follows:—Work Among Young People (Band of Hope, Cradle Roll, etc). Mention was made of the fact that Miss Sarah Smith, of England, was willing to visit branches and organise Y Unions. Maori Work—Reference was made to Miss Stirling, a worker among the natives. Mothers' Meetings—It was suggested that the Cradle-roll might well be worked in connection with this Department, both organisations thereby benefiting. Narcotics—The President advised members to be on the alert, and to write to the Inspector of Police when the law forbidding smoking upon the part of boys under fifteen was not observed. The reports were then adopted.

Mrs Mitchell read a paper by Rev. A. Mitchell on "No-license in Invercargill"—the largest town in Australasia under No-license—which proved to be a testimony very encouraging to our workers.

The Napier Resolution,

of which notice of motion was given last year, was read by Mrs Oldham, and ran as follows:—"That no N.Z. officer retain her position for a longer period than five consecutive years, and that she be not eligible for re-election for two years from the date of such retirement." Lost by a large majority.

Resolved—"That this Convention affirms the right of the bare majority to rule in connection with all forms of liquor license.

FEBRUARY 19th, Morning.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Mrs Lill.

Letters of sympathy were directed to be sent to Mrs McLeod, St. Albans Lane, and the family of Rev. J. and Mrs Orchard, both of whom had passed away during the year.

Resolved—"That a letter be sent to Mr. W. H. Judkins, of Melbourne, expressing our appreciation of the grand fight he is making in the interests of moral reform, and congratulating him upon the results already achieved.

"White Ribbon" Paper—A long discussion took place; the business manager particularly requested that notes re change of address reach her before the 8th of the month.

After the noontide hour of prayer the election of officers was proceeded with. Mrs Cole, being the only nominee for President, was declared duly elected. Mrs A. R. Atkinson was re-appointed Vice-President-at-Large.

Miss Alice Webb having declined nomination for the post of Corresponding Secretary, Mrs Dohrmann, M.A., was elected, and upon her nomination Miss Alice Webb was appointed Assistant Corresponding Secretary.

Recording Secretary—The nominations for Miss Moody-Bell and Miss Powell being almost equal, Miss Bell expressed a strong wish to retire in favour of Miss Powell, but Convention ruling that the names be balloted upon, Miss Powell was elected. A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded Miss Bell, much appreciation of the way in which she had performed her duties being expressed.

Miss McCarthy was then elected treasurer, and the session closed with the Doxology.

Afternoon.

Mrs Somerville led the opening exercises.

It was reported that the number of signatures obtained to the Anti-gambling petition lately presented to Parliament was close on 20,000.

"White Ribbon" business was further discussed. Various recommendations relating to the paper were handed for consideration to a sub-committee appointed to deal with the matter, and consisting of the President, Mesdames Spencer,

Sheppard, W. S. Smith, and Oldham, and Misses L. M. Smith and Roberts. The necessity of additional advertisements being urged, promises to do their best were received from Auckland, Napier, Wellington, New Plymouth, Ashburton, Greymouth, Timaru, Waimate, and Dunedin.

A letter, with greeting, was received from Mrs A. R. Atkinson.

Miss L. M. Smith was re-appointed editor of the "White Ribbon," with Miss Jessie McKay as associate editor, and Mrs Spencer as business manager.

Superintendents of Departments were appointed as follows:—Evangelistic, Mrs Kirkland; Home Meetings, Miss Moody Bell; Purity, Mrs Webb; Educational Meetings, Miss Powell; Sabbath Observance, Mrs W. T. Lill; Work Among Young People, Mrs Spence; Medal Contests, Mrs Evans; Scientific Temperance Instruction, Miss Maunder; Unfermented Wine, Mrs Gaskin; Hygiene, Mrs W. S. Smith; Press, Mrs A. Mitchell; Mothers' Meetings, Mrs Kirkland; Bible-in-Schools, Mrs Dewar; Narcotics, Miss Alice Webb; Work Among Seamen, Mrs Whitby; Peace and Arbitration, Mrs E. C. Somerville; Literature, Mrs Hughes; Anti-gambling, Mrs Macalister; Legal and Parliamentary, Mrs Sheppard.

Resolved—"That Mrs Macalister be requested to circulate an Anti-gambling petition throughout the Unions this year."

Re Dr. Frederick Bell—The President was desired to write to the local papers.

Resolved—(1) "That this Convention tenders to the Hon. Jas. Carroll its hearty thanks for his action in declining to allow alcohol to be used at the tangi of Tohu."

(2) "That this Convention expresses its pleasure at the refutation by Dr. Pomare of the statement that he applied for permission to use liquor at the tangi of Tohu."

(3) "That this Convention of enfranchised women tender to their sisters in Great Britain their deep sympathy with, and appreciation of, their heroic struggles for the political freedom and rights which the women of New Zealand enjoy. The Convention expresses the conviction that the persecution which they are suffering and the sacrifices which they are making will speedily result in the triumphant success of their cause."

(4) "That this Convention strongly protests against the lax administration of the licensing laws in No-license districts, and begs to call the attention of the Minister of Justice to the need of more vigilance on the part of the police."

(5) "That this Convention expresses its gratification that the predicted failure of the Christchurch Exhibition owing to the absence of all liquor licenses has proved utterly false. The Convention considers the splendid orderliness and sobriety of the great crowds which have attended the Exhibition, and the general success of the undertaking, are a standing object lesson of the value of No-license.

(6) "The Convention tenders to the Christchurch Licensing Committee its hearty thanks for and deep appreciation