

The White Ribbon

FOR GOD AND HOME AND HUMANITY

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Triennial Convention of the W.C.T.U. of Australasia.

The fifth Triennial Convention of the W.C.T.U. of Australasia opened in the Independent Church, Collins-street, Melbourne, on April 28, Mrs Nicholls (Australasian President) presiding.

Altogether 150 delegates, representing all the states of the Commonwealth, as well as New Zealand, were present.

Owing (says the Melbourne *Argus*) to the business-like manner in which the proceedings were conducted a great deal of work was accomplished, and as each of the speakers was compelled to adhere rigidly to the time limit of 10 minutes allotted them the programme for the day was concluded. The morning was devoted almost entirely to the conduct of formal business incidental to a gathering of the kind, such as the appointment of officers and committees. In addition, a short memorial service was held, when tributes to the memory of Mrs Love, Mrs Barber, Mrs Thomas, and Mrs Lyall were paid by Mrs Phillips and Lady Holder. Mrs Elliott and Mrs Hansen (Western Australia), Mrs Cole (Queensland), Mrs Harrison Lee (New South Wales), and Mrs Pettifer (Victoria) were appointed delegates to represent the

reports dealing with the young women's work, juvenile work, organisation, heredity and hygiene, scientific temperance instruction, anti-opium and narcotics, Sunday-school work, literature, the press, medal contests, systematic giving, Christian citizenship, world's



MRS. S. PAGE,
PRESIDENT OF THE CANTERBURY WOMEN'S
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missionary fund, and evangelistic and cottage meetings were read, and the presidential address was delivered by Mrs Nicholls.

vity in the world of Temperance. The second World's Temperance Congress, held in London in 1900, brought together 1000 delegates, nearly every country and nearly every phase of temperance work being represented. Following on that, legislative enactment for the more satisfactory regulation or the prohibition and suppression of the drink curse had been eagerly sought for in many lands, while temperance organisations composed of medical men had been largely multiplying. There was now a growing spirit of inquiry concerning the properties of alcohol among the medical profession generally. In a recent discussion concerning the causes of tuberculosis eminent doctors in Great Britain, America, France and Germany had made strong indictments of alcohol as one of the most potent causes of that disease, and in 1900 a company of Russian scientists issued an outline of their study of alcoholism extending over two years, in which they agreed upon a series of propositions strongly condemnatory of intoxicants.

MEETING IN THE MELBOURNE TOWN
HALL.

A largely-attended rally was held in the Town Hall in the evening, at which Mr Deakin (Federal Attorney-General) presided. Prior to 8 o'clock, Mr W. R. Bennetts gave an organ