

PRESIDENT'S LETTER.



My Dear Friends,—

We have had two conferences recently, one in Timaru and one in Palmerston North, to consolidate our plans of work. Each Union will receive our findings from the District President. I wish to emphasise the need of prayer, individual prayer and concerted prayer. Ask your shut-in members to pray three times a day. As you pray, believe. Honour God by your faith. Next emphasis comes on **winning votes**. Each one definitely decide to win one, and coupled with that, is the distribution of our very telling literature. It will win votes if you use it intelligently.

I must also emphasise our Membership Campaign. Challenge other Unions, as to which Union will gain most in a given time, also let the challenge go forth for "White Ribbon" subscribers.

I can visualize a wonderful increase in membership and in subscribers by the end of this year. Pray, work, believe! This is the way of victory.

God is with us, God is with us,

So our brave forefathers sang,
Far across the field of battle,
Loud their holy war-cry rang;

Never once they feared nor faltered,
Never once they ceased to sing—
"God is with us, God is with us,
Christ our Lord shall reign as King."

Great the heritage they left us,
Great the conquests to be won,
Arméd hosts to meet and scatter,
Larger duties to be done.

Raise the song they nobly taught us,
Round the wide world let it ring,
"God is with us, God is with us,
Christ, our Lord, shall reign as King."

—(Copied from hymn by Walter Wathams.)

Yours in glad endeavour,

JESSIE HIETT.

WANGANUI CENTRAL CELEBRATES FRANCHISE DAY.

Meeting held first Thursday in Trinity Parlour. The President presided over a good attendance of members and friends and there was one new member initiated. The Treasurer reported a credit balance of £8. The amount of £1 each was donated to the N.Z. Fund, Organising Fund, and District Union, also Capitation Fee to be forwarded to District Treasurer. It was reported that permission had been given for Scientific Facts to be shown on the films once a week in three picture theatres in Wanganui for the ensuing three months.

A hearty welcome was given to Mrs. Chesswass, District President who gave a comprehensive report of meeting held in Palmerston North by the National Executive and North Island District Presidents. Many useful hints were given re plans of work, etc., for coming Poll.

Franchise Day was observed when Mrs. Wickham, National President of W.D.F.U., gave a very interesting address on the gaining of the Franchise, and what it means to the women of New Zealand. The speaker urged all to go forward, not forgetting the price that had been paid by our pioneers in order that we should have the same rights and privileges as the men of New Zealand. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the speaker, after which the District President was invited to cut a beautiful Franchise Birthday Cake, adorned with 45 candles, which were lit and blown out by two of our oldest members, viz. Mesdames Upton and Edmonds.

It was decided that Maori Day be observed next month, and arrangements for providing a suitable Maori speaker to be left in the hands of Mrs. Mercer.

A number of members took part in the Y.M.C.A. street appeal.

Mesdames Blake and Prince, tea hostesses for October.

WOMEN'S MEETING, HAMILTON.

Hamilton August 31. Mrs. Bartlett presided at a special meeting to which members of other women's organizations were invited. Usual Devotions led by President. Mrs. Robertson and Mrs. Williams were appointed delegates to District Convention to be held at Cambridge on September 29.

Addressed by Mrs. Kasper, of Auckland, who expressed pleasure at meeting not only members of W.C.T.U., but those of other women's organisations. In her address she dealt with women's part in combating social evils and stressed the magnitude of effectiveness of the work of the W.C.T.U. in dealing with social problems. During her recent world tour, mental and other hospitals were visited, a doctor in one of the former stating that drink and im-

morality were the chief factors in producing insanity. Notwithstanding this admission he was not prepared to advocate the abolition of the liquor traffic.

Coronation festivities arranged by women were remarkable for the amount of drinking indulged in, many of them developing into drunken orgies. No palliatives can be offered for these appalling conditions—the only remedy is eradication of liquor.

Mrs. Ward Chapman, on behalf of Women's Institutes, expressed thanks for the invitation to be present and stated that while the abolition of liquor was not one of the objectives of the W.I., the teaching of temperance in the home was strongly advocated.

Mrs. Kasper reminded the audience that in many homes no moral teaching of any kind was ever given.

Mrs. Kasper's address was listened to with profound attention.

Afternoon tea served at conclusion.

OTAKI REORGANISED.

A very enjoyable afternoon was spent recently at Otaki, when Mrs. Spence, Manawatu Dist. President, Mrs. Kennerley Dist. Treas., Mrs. Young, Dist. Sec., with two officers of the Levin branch, Mrs. Dennis and Mrs. Andericksen, journeyed by car to Otaki and had the pleasure of re-forming the Otaki Branch of the W.C.T.U.

Pledge Taken.

Mrs. Kennerley presided, Mrs. Dennis led in Devotions, and Mrs. Andericksen read the Scientific Fact dealing with the drink question, and what the soldiers say about it.

Mrs. Kennerley then introduced Mrs. Spence, who gave us a very interesting and helpful address on the Drink Traffic in various parts of the world, and some very interesting statements from the "White Ribbon." Several questions were asked, and Mrs. Spence gave very helpful and detailed replies. The following officers were then elected:—Mrs. Gatman, President; Mrs. Jackson and Miss Bargrove, Vice-Presidents; Miss Grant, Rec. Sec.; Mrs. Taylor, Corres. Sec.; Mrs. Ken Taylor, Treas.; Mrs. Cockrell, W.R. Agent pro tem.

A very delightful afternoon tea was served by the Otaki ladies and much enjoyed by all.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed by Mrs. Gatman to all those who had helped to make the afternoon such a great success. Two new members were initiated. Meeting closed with prayer by Mrs. Spence.

WELLINGTON CENTRAL OPENS CONVENTION CAMPAIGN.

Gay smiles and cheery greetings were seen and heard as friend met friend, when the Central Branch of the Women's Christian Temperance Union entertained about 50 members and their friends in the New Zealand Educational