

NORTH AUCKLAND UNION.

Report of Annual Convention, held in Whangarei, Saturday, September 12th.

The Convention was introduced by an evening public meeting as a "Temperance Rally." This was held in the Army Hall, and the attendance was excellent. The Mayor of Whangarei, Mr F. Jones, was in the chair. The chief speaker was to have been our Dominion President, Mrs T. E. Taylor, but she was taken ill and had to receive medical attention immediately on arriving in Whangarei. The meeting expressed their sincerest sympathy. Several speakers gave temperance addresses, and these, with musical items, made an interesting and instructive evening.

The Convention opened the following morning at 10 a.m. at the Methodist Sunday School. There were present twenty-seven officers and delegates, and a total attendance of 38. Five of the delegates represented Y branches.

The President, Mrs T. E. Taylor, occupied the chair.

Delegates came from: Aratapu-Te Kopuru, Dargaville, Hikurangi, Maungaturoto, Maungakamea, Pukehuia, Taheki, Lower Waima, Upper Waima, and Whangarei.

The representatives from Taheki, Lower and Upper Waima, were our Maori sisters, these three being Maori branches. They were Mrs Tito, Mrs King, and Mrs Pehi respectively. They were most especially and heartily welcomed by the President as coming from the far North as delegates from the Maori branches. Their reports showed that these branches, thanks to the guidance and direction of Sister Eleanor Dobby, had been very active in all Christian work among the Maori brethren of the North, and the report was received with much enthusiasm by the Convention.

The gathering opened by devotions led by Mrs W. Vyle.

A motion of sincerest sympathy with Mrs T. E. Taylor in her illness was carried, and during the day earnest prayers were rendered for her speedy recovery. The President delivered greetings, and a special message from Mrs Taylor to the Convention.

The report of the District Executive was received and adopted. It showed a membership in the District of about 200 adults and 80 juniors in the three Maori, nine Pakeha, and four Y branches.

The District was fortunate in having a visit from an Organiser, Miss C. M. McLay, whose work renewed enthusiasm in the workers, as well as created interest in new circles.

The report from Te Kopuru showed especial work in educating the young. This Branch, which itself is an active and progressive adult branch, has an L.T.L. and a Y branch attached to it.

Dargaville reported a thriving Band of Hope, as well as a Y section.

Maungakamea, too, have a Band of Hope, as well as a Y branch.

The local branch, Whangarei, kindly dispensed refreshments during the day.

At noon a slight break was made for prayer and meditation.

The Convention sent greetings to Mrs Birch, of Taheki, a veteran member of 25 years, and the one who was largely responsible for the origin of the Maori branches in the North.

The afternoon session was occupied by the continuation of the reports and the election of officers.

Votes of thanks and Benediction.

OBITUARY.

Death has been busy among our Union members in Napier of late, and has removed from our midst two old and faithful members in the persons of Mrs Dodds (widow of the late Rev. J. N. Dodds), who attended the meetings most regularly, until failing health prevented. She acted in the capacity of Evangelistic Superintendent. She also worked with a will whenever she was able; for instance, when we were catering at the Hawke's Bay Show to earn money to buy a section and build our hall, Mrs Dodds was one of those who used to sit all day peeling potatoes to supply the needs of the hungry. She lived to a ripe old age, and then entered into Rest, leaving one son to mourn her loss.

Mrs Storkey, the last but one of our foundation members, was greatly inter-

ested in the Temperance movement, and in the early days did what she could in the cause of Prohibition. She was a consistent, kindly, Christian woman, and patient in affliction, showing forth the beauty of holiness in a meek and quiet spirit throughout her long life. She fell on sleep at her daughter's residence, leaving behind her two daughters and two sons and several grandchildren to mourn her loss. Her son-in-law's statement to the writer was very true: "She was a good woman."

A WORD TO UNION SECRETARIES.

Annual meetings have been held, and we will be very thankful if Secretaries will send in corrections to their advertisements. These should be kept up-to-date, and we can only do this with the help of our Secretaries. Also, will Unions send in their orders for Y.P. Supplements for next year? These little papers go into homes where no other Temperance literature goes, and we urge Unions to distribute as widely as possible. Why deprive the children of their papers while the L.T.L.'s are in recess? Many Unions give them out through Sunday Schools during their recess. The Y.P. Supplements can be had for 2/- per 100, smaller number pro rata.

We would ask also for name and address of "White Ribbon" Agent wherever a change is made.



The Disarmament Conference Meets Next February.

The following prayer has been compiled, and may be used by all our members daily:—

"Almighty God, bless, we beseech Thee, the plans for the Disarmament Conference at Geneva next February. Give the Nations faith and courage to reduce armaments. Grant that we and all men and women everywhere may work and pray for the peace of the world. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen."

HOME AND MOTHERS' MEETINGS.

Will superintendents of the above department kindly note that reports are to go to Mrs H. Chisholm, 9 Palm Grove, Berhampore, Wellington, and NOT to Miss Olsen, Norsewood.

WORLD-WIDE DAY OF PRAYER, FEBRUARY 12th, 1932.

Women's world day of prayer is held, which begins in New Zealand, going on round the world.

In preparation for the world's day of prayer, the following Call to Prayer has been sent out:—

Christ, the world's Intercessor, calls a world's sisterhood to world prayer.

Lord, teach us to pray;

Hold fast in prayer.

Ask for a life of deeper spirituality, that there come a world-wide Pentecost.

Seek for a life of world service as church members, that the world may believe.

Knock, that the world's doors may be opened, the Gospel spread, and the Kingdom established.

You are asked to use this prayer at sunset every Sunday evening.