

President's Message



Dear Friends,—

At last we have in our newspapers some report of the Royal Commission on the Liquor Traffic. Those who read such reports as were published during the sittings of the Commission are, perhaps, not very much surprised at the "Findings," but whether we are surprised, shocked, or disappointed, makes no difference to our attitude towards this evil thing, beverage alcohol.

However it may be sold, and however attractive the surroundings may be, it will still be a poison, creating its own appetite; and will still be striving to teach our boys and girls to drink. This Trade will still be willing to pay its shareholders big money gained by the loss of health, brainpower, honesty and purity of thought and action of the best of the Youth of this Dominion. Worse still is the fact that many people who profess themselves Christian, will still be willing to receive these dividends which are, in a very certain proportion, smeared with the blood and tears of those who have fallen victims to this poisonous thing, and of those who love them. The fight is on! We go forward with banners flying because we know that our cause is right and that in the right time God will give the victory; only through Him can victory come.

"Sow in the morn thy seed,
At eve hold not thy hand;
To doubt and fear give thou no heed,
Broadcast it o'er the land."

Trust in the Lord and do right; in doing so we shall find no room for doubt and fear.

May God's blessing rest upon you very richly, giving you comfort and courage.

Yours friend,

C. E. KIRK.

POLL WORK IN THE UNIONS

It is good to know that so many Unions are working in different ways for the coming Poll. No effort is too great for us to put forth if we are to have any appreciable effect on the proposals made through the Royal Commission, and we are glad to make a special feature, giving details of the work being done. Ideas may thus be exchanged and a healthy spirit of emulation may be thus engendered. We commend the perusal of this to all Unions.

Thames has distributed literature and displayed posters and slogans. **Tauranga** has posted, delivered, and distributed leaflets at various functions. **Dannevirke** reports good work going on and the intention of getting some literature into every home in the town; and **Hastings** sent letters to all Church members, inviting them to attend a public meeting for the purpose of organising a branch of the N.Z. Alliance. This was a great success, the branch being formed and most energetic officers elected. Good progress is reported and literature is being used extensively, a house-to-house distribution being undertaken. The "American Issue" is to be sent to the business men of the town. Old copies of the "White Ribbon" are being sent to Mr. Tate for distribution among Maoris of the Bay of Plenty. **New Brighton** has spent £1 on poll literature, and **North Brighton** has distributed leaflets in the district and through the Sunday Schools and Life Brigades. **Linwood** reports wide distribution going on. **Woolston** has erected a "Temperance Board." **Waimate** Union organised a meeting for organising purposes, at which Mr. G. S. Gapper, the South Island representative of the Alliance, was the speaker. At the close of a stirring address it was agreed to form a Wai-

mate Committee for work with the Alliance. The W.C.T.U. would be glad to welcome any in connection with the committee who would be willing to work. Mr. George Dash was elected chairman.

Dear Friends,—

I am wondering how you are all progressing with your efforts for the coming Poll? Heartening news comes from the South and the North, where the larger Unions, having greater scope and more workers, are very busy. We of the smaller Unions are inclined to feel that there is very little for us to do, but even a little may accomplish a great deal! However small our Branch, we must remember that we belong to the great Tree—our Organisation in New Zealand—and that every branch which beareth a little fruit helps to make the harvest!

We can all distribute the fine leaflets obtainable at Headquarters—these accompanied by prayer, may be the means of influencing someone for our cause. Then there is the personal contact, and in our conversation why not talk about the coming Election and Poll, and the importance of registering the vote? You know perhaps, someone who is not interested even in voting, whom you may influence. There are, too, the young people who are voting for the first time. What an opportunity is ours, yours and mine? Individual work of this kind counts for much, so take your courage in both hands and with your Faith in God's guidance go forward. It is very important that we should register an outstanding vote this Poll; do not let us miss one.

With all good wishes,

Yours for Service,

RUBY M. UNDERHILL.

AN IMPORTANT NOTICE WORLD CONVENTION

Housing and food are postwar problems not only in Canada but in many other countries and you will not really be surprised that the Convention and Tourists Bureau has notified the Canadian W.C.T.U. that it will be impossible for Toronto to house and care for the World's Convention in 1947.

Three times we have postponed our convention to dates recommended by the Hotels and Tourist Bureau, and this decision is final. Our Canadian White Ribboners are greatly distressed at the decision. They feel, however, that under the circumstances it will be impossible for the Canadian W.C.T.U. to entertain us. They feel, and so do we, that this is another post-war tragedy.

We have not had a convention since 1937, and it is imperative that we hold one in 1947.

When the situation was made known to the officers of the National W.C.T.U. of the United States, they graciously invited the convention. Here there are similar problems, but the city of

Asbury Park, New Jersey, offers the use of its five million dollar Convention Hall and its equipment for the World's Convention, the dates June 5th to 10th, 1947. There are 200 hotels in Asbury Park, several very near Convention Hall, while Ocean Grove, a Christian community, is separated from it by Wesley Lake and an imaginary line. Both cities have a large winter as well as summer population, though they are both summer resorts. They use the same railroad station, as do the two railroads. Both are located on the ocean front and the weather in June is delightful.

The City of Asbury Park welcomes us, and not only gives us the Convention Hall free, with its auditorium and other rooms, but the use of other city-owned property off the boardwalk.

You will not be surprised that the invitation has been accepted. We will tell you more about it later in the Bulletin—in the Union Signal and through other National W.C.T.U. papers. Remember the place—Asbury Park, New Jersey, U.S.A. The dates June 5th to 10th, 1947.

THE GENERAL OFFICERS.