

President's Message



Dear Friends,—

As we again approach the wonderful festival of Christmas we shall surely do well to consider, not only, "all the way which the Lord our God hath led us," but with deep humility consider how we have responded to His leadership. Did we side-step now and then? Did we sometimes stop short of the top of the hill? Such thoughts as these will not discourage us if we regard them as stepping-stones to better travelling in the future. Any mistakes we have made should not deter us from further effort. We are prepared to walk more carefully next time. R. W. Emerson says "When a man lives with God his voice shall be as sweet as the murmur of the brook and the rustle of the corn." Can you think of any human personality more likely to help others to reach the hill-top of victory? As we think of the Baby-hood of Jesus may we never lose our realization of the fact that that lowly born babe was so born for us and our redemption and may our first thought ever be "what and how much can I do for Him?" May I remind you that members of Convention will be gathering in Auckland early in March. There will be but few meetings between this and then but during the holiday season we can, perhaps, give some time for private prayer and thought for our work. Let us pray that the Lord will send forth many labourers into this work of abolishing the liquor trade.

I can leave with you no better Christmas wish than that you may have an ever increasing knowledge of the love of God, who sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

I pray that your Christmas may be very happy and that you may be surrounded by the shining glory of God.

Your sincere friend,

C. E. KIRK.
Dominion President.

SPECIAL REPORTS

WELLINGTON AND DISTRICT UNION.

The members of the Wellington Union were joined by District Executive members recently to bid farewell to Mrs. Gardiner, who was leaving the district to reside in Nelson. Mrs. Gardiner had been both local and District Treasurer for a number of years, and on behalf of the Wellington Union Mrs. Brooks presented her with a book suitably inscribed. Miss Kirk, on behalf of the District Union, then presented her with a beautiful shoulder spray. Other members spoke highly of the work done by Mrs. Gardiner, and Miss Atkinson sang solos. Afternoon tea was served.

CRADLE ROLL PARTY.

Riccarton Union.

Following on the ordinary business, on October 10th, Riccarton Union welcomed mothers with their babies at a Cradle Roll party. The president spoke words of welcome, and then asked the speaker, Pastor T. S. Brash, to address the meeting. His subject was "Evils of Strong Drink."

Pianoforte solos were given by Miss Hertzell, and violin solos by Miss Helen Rendell. The children enjoyed games together. Afternoon tea was dispensed, and a birthday cake cut, each child receiving a piece with a candle on it. They also received toys, baskets of sweets and apples, on leaving. Literature was given to the mothers also. The afternoon closed with votes of thanks and the Benediction.

CRADLE ROLL PARTY, LEVIN

Levin's Annual Cradle Roll party was held in the Salvation Army Hall on October 30th, and was largely attended by mothers and children.

Mrs. Kennerley presided and extended a cordial welcome to all present. A programme of games kept the little ones all happy till teatime. The small guests were provided with delicious afternoon tea set on daintily arranged tables, and each received a colourful paper hat.

Sister Wood, of the District Nursing Service, gave an interesting talk on her work among the Maoris, for which she was thanked and provided with a posy of flowers by Miss Kennerley. Mrs. Burnham was the competition winner. Afternoon tea served by members was enjoyed by all present.

WOMEN'S DAY OF PRAYER.

Marlborough District.

The monthly Women's Day of Prayer was held at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Blenheim, when there was a good attendance at all the sessions. Commencing at 10 a.m., Mrs. A. Forbes as Leader, took for her subject, "Don't worry."

Mrs. W. J. Girling, Mayoress of Blenheim, led in the next session, and spoke on "Faithfulness," impressing

on her hearers that God does guide us, and is ever watching over us.

"The Beauty of Holiness" was the subject chosen by Mrs. L. Bayley, in which some very beautiful and helpful thoughts were expressed. The closing session of the day was led by Mrs. A. Fear, who spoke of missionaries and their work in China, India, Japan, Egypt, Australia, New Zealand, and Islands of the Pacific. Individual prayers were offered for the various countries by members of the congregation. Among the prayer requests were the sick, chaplains, ministers, missionaries, doctors and nurses, and all who passed through the room for instruction in connection with the Rev. Lionel Fletcher's recent mission. Special prayer on behalf of the coming election, especially regarding "first voters." Praise to God for answered prayer was also expressed.

HOME MEETING, Onehunga.

On October 24th, Onehunga held a Home meeting at the home of Mrs. Moore, conducted by Mrs. Hatton. Much satisfaction was felt on learning that the Maori girls of Kurahuna L.T.L., trained by their leader, Mrs. Moore, had been so successful in the recent Temperance Examinations. Mrs. Barker addressed the gathering, telling the "Christian Alliance of Women and Girls," who provide a comfortable room in Auckland, where women and girls can enjoy a quiet rest, or take their lunch and eat it there in pleasant surroundings, tea and coffee being provided at a small cost. "A lounge library, sewing machine, and iron at your disposal free of charge," is the announcement made. Many business girls resident in the City are grateful for these things, and the happy companionship enjoyed."

SPECIAL ELECTION MEETING

Winton.

Under the auspices of the W.C.T.U. a special, open, Temperance meeting was held in the Sunday School Hall on November 5th. Mrs. Thomson presided opening with a Hymn, and Devotions led by the Rev. Haigh. A bracket of songs was very sweetly sung by Miss Nancy Gerrard. Mrs. Thomson welcomed all and spoke of the difficulties facing us in connection with the coming Poll. She then called upon Mr. Haigh to speak. In his address, Mr. Haigh gave many astounding facts regarding the Liquor trade, arousing much interest and much discussion. Mrs. Smart proposed a vote of thanks to the speaker which was carried with hearty acclamation. Mrs. Cochrane then favoured with a bracket of songs, closing a fine programme. A vote of thanks to all helpers was carried. Supper and the Benediction brought the evening to a close.