

NEW ZEALAND WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION

(Incorporated)

Organised 1885

"For God, and Home, and Humanity"

President:Miss C. E. KIRK, J.P.,
57 Pitt St., Wadestown, N.Z. Phone 40-729.**Vice-President:**

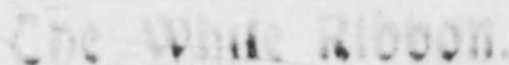
Mrs. J. HIETT, 11 Duke St., Dunedin.

Treasurer:Miss G. GIBBS, 118 North Rd.,
Dunedin, N.E.1.**DOMINION HEADQUARTERS:**46 and 48 Brougham St., Wellington, E.1.
Phone 52-062.**Recording Secretary:**Mrs. V. UNDERHILL, Lakings Rd.,
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Stoke, Nelson.**Legal and Parliamentary Superintendent:**Mrs. E. J. CHESSWAS, 7 Field St.,
Aramoho, Wanganui.**Official Organ:**

"THE WHITE RIBBON"

Editor:Mrs. F. N. CHRISTIAN,
"Fairlight," Tauranga.All matter for publication, reports, etc.,
should be in the hands of the Editor by the
15th of the month.**Business Manager:**

Mrs. J. H. GRIGG,

1 Mallam Street, Karori, Wellington, W.3.
Telephone 26-903.All Union advertisements must be sent to
the Business Manager, to whom all payments
for Advertisements, Beacons, Y.P. Supple-
ments and subscriptions must be made.


"For God, and Home, and Humanity"

WELLINGTON, SEPTEMBER 1, 1948.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NEW ZEALAND ALLIANCE

August 4 and 5, Taranaki Street
Methodist Church, Wellington

For many years it has seemed to me that the W.C.T.U. plays more or less a lone hand for the Temperance Cause. It was therefore a real pleasure to be able to attend for the first time the annual meeting of the New Zealand Alliance and to realise that there are many good and sincere men, ministers and laymen, who are also working well for the cause which we hold dear.

In the absence of the President, Rev. W. A. Burley, through indisposition, the Rev. Dr. Merrington presided and commenced the meeting on a high note with Devotions, which included a message concerning Paul's advice to the Ephesians to "put on the whole armour of God," in order to withstand the wiles of the Devil. Dr. Merrington made special mention of the big issues confronting us and the danger of legislation increasing the facilities for drinking.

The Rev. S. W. Webber and the Rev. G. R. Harris gave efficient service as Minute Secretaries, and the Rev. G. H. Goodman gave a valuable ser-

vice as Deputy-Chairman and in presenting a report from a special sub-committee.

In addition to the annual report the General Secretary presented a number of special reports on such matters as organisation and "The Vanguard." The annual report gave useful information concerning the increase in acreage for the growing of grapes for wine and barley for beer—all this being done in our country when so many in the world are crying for food. To absorb the extra wine production the Department of Agriculture had suggested the sale of wine in restaurants and the sale, by the bottle, by grocers. May God preserve us from the "Grocers' Licence," which the late Dr. F. B. Meyer declared to be one of the worst causes of drinking among women. We are asked to eat less meat, less butter, less bread, but the Government is afraid to ask the people to drink less beer.

The annual report gave an interesting summary of Licensing Legislation since 1866, with particular reference to the period from 1922 to the present day. This is well worth study by Unions. It also made mention of recent newspaper reports concerning the supplying of liquor to members of the Police Force, and stressed the need for thorough investigation of this matter.

It has been suggested that the name "New Zealand Alliance" be changed to "N.Z. Temperance Alliance." Personally I think the change would be a good one as I have found that so many people these days do not know what the words "N.Z. Alliance" stand for. The full title does explain its meaning, but that is too long for everyday use.

While it would take up too much space to give in full the findings of the Conference on Policy, Organisation and Finance, a brief account of some of these might be helpful to those Unions which have not access to the Minutes.

Policy.

1. The Alliance considers it most important that **in the event of any re-distribution of licenses, electors should determine by referendum whether they desire a license in their particular locality.**

2. If Corporate Control is to be submitted to the electors as a National Referendum, that "Corporate Control" should include the whole trade, and not merely the retail trade.

3. The Alliance cannot support any Trust Control system yet inaugurated in New Zealand, and reaffirms its conviction that the total abolition of the liquor trade is the only final solution of the problems and abuses associated with the continuance of the liquor trade.

4. The powers of Licensing Committees should be strengthened and there should be stouter enforcement of Licensing Laws.

5. The Alliance will strenuously oppose the sale of and supply of liquor in restaurants and tea rooms.

6. Local Option should be introduced, including the areas at present under Trust Control. The Alliance is opposed to any extension of the periods between polls on the National Issue.

Organisation

1. Areas are urged to do their utmost to secure persons as full or part-time Area or Financial Organisers, and nominate them to the Dominion Executive for appointment.

2. Urgent appeals should be made to Churches to release suitable Ministers for brief periods to assist in organisation.

3. All Area and Electorate Committees are urged to inaugurate immediately preparations for the forthcoming poll.

4. Each Area is urged to appoint a Political Action Committee to keep in touch with the Dominion Executive concerning legislation.

5. A representative from each Area should attend special meetings of the Dominion Executive for the purpose of deciding matters of vital importance.

Finance

The following budget was accepted for the 1948 financial year.

1. Headquarters expenses	£2,100
Area Organisers	1,400
Provision for possible referendums on re-distribution of licenses, hours of sale, etc.	1,500
Royal Commission	1,000
	£6,000