

OTAGO VISITED. OUR PETITION.

Mrs. Garden, our organiser for Otago, has been very busy lately in the southern end of her district. Balclutha was visited, and there she spoke at the nurses' home to nurses and staff. The matron thanked the speaker and endorsed her remarks. Twelve young people signed the pledge and a Y branch has been started with 18 members. Also eight new members were gained for the adult branch and five new subscribers to the "White Ribbon." Mrs. Garden spoke at the Methodist Sunday School at 10 a.m., the Presbyterian at 11 a.m., the Salvation Army at 2.30 p.m., to a Bible class at 3.30 p.m. and then at a temperance rally at 8 p.m. Some busy day that, even for an organiser. A small monthly Band of Hope, about to collapse, was revived. It now meets weekly, with a membership of about 50. Leaders for each night arranged from different churches

Owaka and Balclutha branches sent a request to the authorities that wet cantens be kept out of camps. Arrangements were made for Miss Elsie Andrews to speak at both Boys' and Girls' High Schools. Mosgiel was then visited and contact made with the different churches and Salvation Army, and arrangements made for Miss Andrews to speak at Mosgiel factory at the District High School and at a women's meeting when help has been promised to re-organise the union. The Otago district left to its organiser, Mrs. Garden, to arrange for Dominion organiser's visit to outlying places, and "We are going to keep her very busy."



LIQUOR RESTRICTIONS.

Hours of Sale.—From 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. except on Saturdays, when hotels must close between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.

Restrictions on Sales.—No intoxicating liquor is to be consumed on any public vehicles. No liquor to be supplied to members of armed forces for consumption off the premises.

Advertising.—Newspaper advertising of liquor is prohibited except for size of 2in. x 2½in. Existing contracts may be carried on until August 31st next.

No advertisement shall contain matter calculated to encourage drinking among women. Advertising of liquor by picture, screen or radio is prohibited.

Home Brew.—It is an offence to sell any material which is packed or prepared to make intoxicating liquor to any person other than a licensed brewer.

Constables may search for sly grog without a warrant and detain persons refusing to give their names or giving false names.

Penalty for after-hour trading, from £10 to £100. Penalty for after-hour buying, from £2 to £10.

The petition asking for stricter enforcement of the liquor laws, which was decided upon at the Nelson Convention in 1941 and was canvassed for by the unions, was presented to Parliament at the close of the year by Mr. Holland, Leader of the Opposition. The petition was signed by 33,294 electors.

Parliament, in accordance with its usual procedure, sent the petition to be considered by a committee, any evidence received, and a report submitted to Parliament. This committee met last week and Mrs. Sired, Wellington District President, and Mrs. Peryman, editor "White Ribbon," appeared on behalf of the petitioners. Mr. Holland introduced the ladies and said that the new liquor restrictions had altered the position and given what was asked for.

Mrs. Peryman said the new regulations gave by law what electors asked for, but it was a question now of strict administration and that the petitioners must press for.

The Commissioner of Police, who was present, said that the petitioners could be assured that the police would do all possible to enforce the regulation; but it must not be forgotten that the police force was heavily taxed with war-time work and had lost many of its experienced men, absent on war-work. The new regulations were helpful to the police. In regard to drinking after hours, the landlord is required to keep a register of lodgers, the entry to be made in ink on the lodger's arrival. Orders are to be signed for all drinks ordered by lodgers after hours and the number of the lodger's room must be entered upon the chit. The Commissioner said that any police officer going into a hotel and finding folk drinking after hours, asks to see their chit for liquor purchased. Failing this the landlord is summoned for selling liquor after hours and the onus of proof rests not upon the police to prove him guilty but upon the publican to prove himself innocent.

After consideration of the petition the committee reported that as the requests of petitioners had been met by the new regulations it had no report to make to the House.

Your editor has been before committees in the past and it was the first time she had seen a woman (Mrs. Catherine Stewart) upon a Parliamentary committee.



While approving most of the recommendations of the recent Canberra conference regarding methods of disposing of Australia's wine surplus, the Victorian Government will not agree to the recommendations that the liquor laws should be modified to allow sales of wine by grocers, and with meals in restaurants.—Melbourne "Age," 10/6/41

WORLD'S WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION.

April 21, 1942.

Dear Mrs. Hiett,

I have received the last number of your national paper and I always read it with interest. I am sorry you have had to give up your convention. The National W.C.T.U. of the United States is planning its convention for Birmingham, Alabama, the first of October. They are going ahead with their plans, but we do not know what is before us and it may have to be called off. Our cause is right and we must keep it alive in the hearts of the people.

I have had an interesting time meeting missionaries returning from Singapore the Philippines and from some other parts of the stricken areas. They are called home by their mission boards and some of them spent long weeks aboard ships, were blacked out all the time and suffered many dangers. Providentially they escaped death, though the husbands of some of our women are interned.

I trust you can use the new leaflet of the World's W.C.T.U. to promote the work of the organization as your society has been in existence ever since the time of Mary Clement Leavitt. I feel confident that you will continue, but in some countries our work is not so deeply rooted. We are hoping to have the leaflet translated into Spanish and Portuguese and perhaps into some other languages. I feel that we must issue something in printed form every year during these years that we cannot have a World Convention.

I hope that if American soldiers come to New Zealand they may be a credit to their home land. The very best of American young manhood has been drafted, but we know the temptations that come when they are away from home. Say a good word for the Yanks whenever you can and be kind to them when and if they come to New Zealand. We will do our best by your boys if they come to the United States.

Praying that you may all be kept in safety, I am,

Affectionately yours,

ELLA A. BOOLE.



There is a great desire on the part of all young men to be fit. A young man cannot be fit if he takes alcohol. By no possibility can be want it. No one who is young and healthy can want alcohol any more than he can want strychnine.—Sir Frederick Treves, Bart, F.R.C.S.