

work of Mrs. Motu of Ratana. The social hour passed most enjoyably, with items, competitions, and a trading table. The items were presented by Mesdames Crawford, Strachan, and R. Wilson.

Feilding, February. Devotions were taken by President, Mrs. I. Taylor. A reading from Rita Snowden's writings was enjoyed. Report of Executive meeting given, and remits for Convention discussed.

March meeting, the President led devotions with some thoughts from the Methodist Times. Discussion on tickets in small raffles held for worthy causes. A duet sung by Mrs. Gill and Major Arinell, and Mrs. Guy recited "The path the calf made".

April meeting opened with the Noontide Hymn, "Beautiful Hour of Noontide". President took the devotions. Thoughts given from the White Ribbon. Most interesting Convention report by Mrs. Hart. A prayer period closed the meeting.

Napier, March. Mrs. Ryan presided as our president attending Convention. Mrs. Ford was welcomed on transfer from Feilding. Mrs. Virtue gave a most inspiring account of her visit to Oberamagau, where she witnessed the Passion Plays. A brief season of prayer. Next Prayer Meeting at Mrs. Martin's home.

April, Mrs. Bartle presided. All present were intensely interested and challenged by the splendid report presented to us by Mrs. Bartle, who had attended the Dominion Convention in Nelson. Five new members added to our Roll. Literature to be purchased for the Election Campaign. Band of Hope is being sustained. Temperance film strip shown by Mrs. Bartle. Prayer meeting at Mrs. Maynard's home.

Wellington District Executive, 28th February, at Headquarters. Masterton was the hostess Union. Miss V. Jackson presided and led devotions. Mrs. Melvin especially welcomed, as she had returned from a trip overseas, having attended the World Convention in Germany. A request from the Paraparaumu Methodist Ladies' Guild to speakers resulted in the following members being available. Mesdames J. H. Grigg, F. J. T. Grigg, Miss Jackson, Brigadier Marshall, and Major Fletcher. Miss Jackson was appointed delegate to Nelson. Remits were fully discussed. In the afternoon, Mrs. Melvin gave a very interesting talk on the World Convention.

North Canterbury District Executive, March. Mrs. M. Griffiths presided and devotions taken by Miss Gainsford. N.Z. Alliance report received. Remits for Dominion Convention discussed. Remits of the N.C.W. also discussed. A Garden Party for the W.C.T.U. being arranged in Christchurch.

Riccarton, March. Mrs. A. T. Newth presided and Miss L. Hughes took devotions. Band of Hope Competition papers taken. Dist. Executive and Mental Hospital visiting reports given. A most interesting talk was given by Mrs. Searle of Bolivian Mission Field, in which was stressed the evil power of alcohol drinking there. Those who brought gifts for Mental Hospital patients thanked.

May meeting with Mrs. Newth in the chair and Miss L. Hughes led devotions, the theme being, "Peace". £22 raised at a Garden Party. Invitations to attend Christchurch Union's Birthday Party and to hear Sister Rita Snowden accepted. £2,10.0 donations handed in for W.R. Funds. A roll of adhesive stickers ordered from N.Z. Alliance for use on envelopes. Mrs. Clarke of Bryndwr Union gave an inspiring spiritual talk on "Peace". Special prayer offered for the speedy restoration to health of our President, Mrs. Griffiths.

Spreydon, February. Mrs. H. L. Hecc presided in the absence on holiday of the president, and led the devotions on the theme "Thou remainest". Mrs. Ancel placed the Dominion Convention remits before members, and also reported on the Temperance Quiz held at Addington School. Enjoyable time spent at Christmas time at Mental Hospital with patients.

New Brighton, March. Mrs. Wrighton presided and the subject of Mrs. Edmond's devotions was, "Jesus, our Helper". Twelve patients had been visited at the Mental Hospital by Mrs. Edmonds and Mrs. Wrighton. Mrs. Teague, President of Linwood was welcomed, and we were pleased to have Mrs. Mitchell with us again. Readings entitled "Lent" and "Harvest Festival" were read by the President.

April meeting. Collection for District Funds. Mrs. Baker welcomed as new member on transfer from Nelson. A 20 year service badge presented to Mrs. Gamble. Splendid report of Nelson Convention given by Mrs. Hunt of Christchurch Union.

Christchurch Central, March. Several members absent, as they were attending the Methodist Guild at Leeston. Mrs. C. H. Lennon gave the Convention report from Nelson. Mesdames J. Gray, J. McGregor, and H. A. Hunt went to Convention representing Spreydon, Rangiora, and New Brighton respectively. As these delegates paid their own expenses, and Mrs. Ford and Miss M. M. Thomas went as observers, financing themselves, it speaks highly for the enthusiasm of the Christchurch Central members.

Linwood, February. Mrs. Teague presided over good attendance. Mrs. Thomas spoke of her early day experiences in Band of Hope and other Temperance work in England. Remits for Convention discussed.

March meeting with Mrs. Teague presiding and Mrs. McMillan taking devotions. Mrs. Lewis gave a splendid report of Convention. A very interesting talk of their duties was given by a police woman, particularly in relation to work among women and children.

Dunedin Central meeting conducted by Mrs. J. Hiett, President. The guest speaker was Mrs. Wilson, missionary from Japan, who found these people happy, light-hearted, and interesting, but their worst enemy was strong drink. The recent Children's party was voted a great success, with many thanks due to those who arranged programme and games.

March meeting with Mrs. Hiett in the chair. Delegates from Nelson Convention, Mesdames Todd and Clarke, spoke in glowing terms of the hospitality and Christian fellowship and enthusiasm shown throughout all proceedings. The Convention had been an inspiration to all and they were grateful to the Nelson Press for the large amount of space allotted to W.C.T.U. reports.

Balclutha, March. Mrs. Gill presided. Two papers on the liquor question given and discussed. Example was given of someone beginning to drink with small quantities, but eventually he became a confirmed drunkard. It was shown how only the power of Christ was able to convert the drinker back to the right ways again.

April meeting. Following devotions and business. Mrs. Flett, Otago District President, gave an excellent report of the Nelson Convention, and members were most interested.

May meeting, Mrs. Gill in the chair. Captain Brindson of the Salvation Army gave a stirring address on the social work of the Salvation Army, with special reference to their methods of fighting the liquor traffic. He spoke of the evils of 10 o'clock closing.

Christchurch Central, 70th Birthday Party was presided over by Mrs. I. Wilson. Visitors came from the North Canterbury District Executive and from many of the Unions and brought good wishes and congratulations. Mrs. H. A. Hunt presented floral sprays to Mesdames Wrighton, Stokes, Pashby, Reeves, McGregor, and Misses Elton, Love-Smith, and Kathleen Margels. We were entertained to a feast of music from the North Brighton Women's Own, comprising Mesdames Voller, Wrighton, and Windsor, and to an item of music by their pianist. There were sketches and also songs by Miss K. Margels, and recitations by Mrs. Pashby. A letter of thanks received from Miss G. Musgrove and we are also glad to hear that Mrs. Ford is home from hospital.

"ARE YOU READY?" 1957 Is Election Year

Have you polished up your armour for the coming battle-field?

For the foe is very busy with intrigue!

Are your pians compact and stable, and your swords all sharp to wield?

Are the Unions and the Churches all in league?

Are you looking to your Captain for His orders in the fight?

Are you strong for Him, and all that you should be?

Are you lined up to go forward in the Power of His might?

And the swift and subtle enemy pursue?

The breastplates must be shining lights of righteousness as well,

For with God, and Truth and Right, we'll win the final day;

But there's nought to be accomplished, and we cannot cast a spell

If we do not work and watch and always pray.

But when all is fit and ready, we must take the shield of Faith.

We will hoist it when the foe begins to fight,
And our hearts and souls must rally in the Cause until the death

Of the Liquor Trade, and put our foes to flight.

—Ethel L. Piper (Seaview Rd., Milford).

Press on! Surmount the rocky steeps,

Climb boldly o'er the torrent's arch;

He fails alone, who feebly creeps;

He wins who dares the hero's march.

Be thou a hero! Let thy might

Tramp on eternal snows its way,

And through the ebon walls of night

Hew down a passage unto day.

—Park Benjamin.