

## DEPARTMENTAL DISPLAY

Arranged by Mrs. Kasper, Auckland.

One of the most interesting features of the Convention was the display of the Departmental work arranged, with the assistance of superintendents of Departments and exhibited by World Superintendent of School of Methods, Mrs. H. Kasper.

The display centred around a table on which was shown the life story, in picture and prose, of Frances Willard, the founder of our International movement.

The White Ribbon Bow, the emblem of our world organisation, with the White Ribbon trailing around a small globe of the world, thus intimating that the W.C.T.U. was active in 52 countries was particularly attractive.

Another attraction, was a table on which the requirements for a model meeting were arranged. Many members were able to take notes of the agenda to take back to their Unions.

Among the exhibits were literature and posters, appertaining to the different departments. Other departments on display were Evangelistic Work among Seamen, Bible-in-Schools, Anti-Gambling, Backblocks, Bands of Hope, Good Citizenship, Home Meetings, Methods, Maori, Y's, Social and Moral Hygiene, Health and Nutrition, Scientific Temperance and examinations, the World Bulletin, L.T.L., Little White Ribboners, Press and Peace and Arbitration.

## TO UNION REPORTERS AND SECRETARIES

Unions were asked to report increases in membership; in Cradle Roll membership and Band of Hope membership, and increases in White Ribbon subscribers for the Five Year Plan for the period of SIX months ending 31st March, but as no reports have been received by me, no full report of Dominion gains can be given. Would reporters please send these figures as soon as possible, and in the future, report monthly gains to me, when sending Union monthly report for the White Ribbon?

E. V. SINGLETON,  
Acting-Editor.

## MAORI ORGANISER'S REPORT FOR CONVENTION

I feel this is a great privilege to write my first report for the Union and sincerely hope that what I write may be of interest to my readers.

During the three months of W.C.T.U. work, I can honestly report that the work among my people is a hard and difficult task; more so now, since the restrictions for Maori women have been lifted.

There is nothing different or anything new to say. We all have the same common knowledge that **drink** has got a good hold, not only of the older people of my race, but alas, the younger ones, too. I have heard one Maori Welfare Officer say she finds in her district, that girls are the heavier drinkers.

Of course, there are women, too, who are trying their best to abolish drink from their homes. Some have won victoriously, while others have failed. In many cases I have been told by women that they will not go without their drink, because it is the first time in Maori history that women are allowed to go into hotels. In one particular Pa I am made to believe that children (I think boys only) their ages ranging from 11 to 15 years, drink heavily at most weekends. Of course, the result is that some go to school still half dozey with drink, and others don't go at all, until they have sobered up.

In some Pas today, where there is a meeting held and notices are put up that "Drink is Prohibited," it is ridiculed and abused and "Komiti" maraes are absolutely ignored. One woman told me that not only are the women drinking much more since restrictions were lifted, but women and girls are learning to drink freely. Clubs are greatly increasing the drinking among women. We have also heard of a Maori man pulling out from a Lodge, through being offered drink there. As one Maori said: "We thought this would be a respectable thing to which to belong," and he seemed grieved and surprised.

In many places people received me kindly. Many women paid their subscriptions of 2/7 as they were so anxious to belong to a Union and be allowed to wear the White Ribbon bow. At the close of the meeting with the Otorohanga women, a voluntary collection was taken up by the women present, themselves, and handed me 11/1 towards the work.

I would like to say that nearly everywhere women seem sympathetic with my subject. This was mostly house-to-house visitation work, although we had some good group talks. I worked with various Church workers and others who helped to introduce me and co-operate with me. Rev. Mr. Seamer planned all my travel and transport. Sixty-one places were visited in three months.

It is a big and needy job, and I hope the W.C.T.U. members will not stop praying for my Maori sisters.

—TE URUNAROA (Eunice) BELL

## TEMPERANCE FACT

Given at Remuera. "The great violinist, Paganini, lost his power to give his usual perfect performance through a single glass of wine before two of his concerts."

"The only glory in life is to leave the world the better for having been in it," said Sir Wilfred Grenfell of Labrador; "Intoxicants will not help us to do that. Alcohol does not spare anybody, a Robert Burns or a Coleridge, any more than a poor woman. A thousand times have I thanked God that I have kept clear of the drink handicap. Alcoholic drink is artificial as a beverage, produces an artificial personality, and creates an artificial craving for itself. What greater handicap could any man have than such a habit as alcoholizing?"

## IMPRESSIONS OF THE DOMINION CONVENTION

By A First-time Delegate

If you desire a really happy, worthwhile experience, let me urge you to attend the next W.C.T.U. Convention, which will be held in Dunedin in 1951.

The 1950 Convention held in Wanganui in March, is now an event of the past, but the memory of it will remain with me through the year.

During those days of spiritual help, business, making new friends and discovering someone perhaps one knew in younger days, many thoughts kept racing through my mind. One, the privilege of being a delegate and meeting the Dominion Officers, who previously had been only names to me, and the question arose, can I take back to my Union a true picture of all the doings of Convention with the inspiration and enthusiasm found there?

The Communion Service in the Baptist Church, so simple yet so deeply spiritual, led me to appreciate the place *women* hold in the service of our Lord.

On the Sunday evening, the Parade Service in St. Paul's Presbyterian Church and the sermon was a challenge to the highest Christian life.

Naturally, some things puzzled me, being a "first-timer" at such a gathering, and one was the fact that all Dominion Superintendents present, when speaking to their reports, stressed the lack of reports from individual unions, and therefore the incompleteness of their Convention reports.

It was regrettable that the splendid departmental demonstration displays had to be dismantled on the Saturday afternoon, but this was unavoidable as the room was required for Sunday School purposes. First-time delegates, particularly, could have studied these really splendid displays more fully, had more time been available.

Words cannot express my appreciation to the entertaining unions—the colossal task they had in arranging accommodation for about 80 delegates, the Civic Reception, the Saturday afternoon motor drive, with the "Get-together Tea" following—all the little attentions that gave pleasure and comfort to everyone during Convention days.

Although the Convention was serious and businesslike—our President knowing just when to call for silence, there were moments of delightful, original humour.

As I listened to the "Plans of Work" discussions from time to time, I realised the earnestness and zeal exercised by our members. We **must help others to catch the vision!** There must be no slackening in the Temperance cause!

It was a busy week, full of blessing, of joy, and of opportunity. Each delegate should carry back to her district, something of the enthusiasm received.

We have renewed friendships and made new friends, but above all, we have strengthened the cords of service, for God, Home and Humanity.

Contributed by Mrs. M. Moore.

(President Hamilton Union)