

# W. C. T. U. Department.

All contributions to this department should be sent addressed to HOME GUARD Office, London, Ont. Postcard items are desired from every Union throughout the Dominion.

## Ontario W. C. T. U.

The Provincial Annual Convention at Cornwall This Week.

[Special to the HOME GUARD.]

CORNWALL, Nov. 1. — Seventeen years have passed since the first W. C. T. U. Provincial convention was held. Since that time the annual meetings have attracted a large amount of interest and sympathy wherever they have been held. But few of the active spirits of the first Provincial Convention are present at the present meetings, but while the workers have, from time to time, been removed from the scenes of their labors, the great work has gone on. Others have risen up to fill their places, and the work is now stronger and more hopeful of success than ever before.

The wisdom of the policy of holding these annual gatherings in small towns, and in very remote and outlying sections of the country, like Sarnia, Owen Sound and Cornwall, has been much questioned by some. Whatever may be its advantages, there are the disadvantages that, from year to year, there is not anything like the general representation of the unions there otherwise would be, nor the regularity of attendance of those who would otherwise become familiar with the various details of the work.

Last year's session was held at Chatham, which was found far west, involving a good deal of travel, expense and loss of time to reach it, even by the members in the central part of Ontario. This year the meeting place is to be the farthest available southeastern place in Ontario, and of course but few of last year's attendants are here, outside of the active officers, and even several of these heads of departments are not here. As it is the attendance varies from 100 to 200, outside of local visitors, which is certainly very good, considering the difficulties of reaching the locality. The session opened in the commodious Baptist Church on Tuesday morning, about 100 being present at that time.

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.  
The annual address of Mrs. May Thornley, the president, is the first one she has delivered. She has become so well known, however, as a lady of ability, energy and zeal in this and other good works, that an able and ringing address was expected. There was no disappointment in this respect. The remark has become pretty general that the mantle of the heroic Mrs. Youmans has fallen on able shoulders in the person of Mrs. Thornley. She said:

A clearly defined campaign is an aid towards a final triumph that in moral warfare at least can scarcely be over estimated. To discover where lies the ambushed foe, and the road that will lead to a certain encounter and a possible permanent advantage, is the aim of the wise general. Desultory fighting, with its waste of men and ammunition, its shuns, and plans and schemes for the clear cut encounter that shall disable or crush at a blow.

In this respect the field we viewed from the hill-top of last year's convention was unusually satisfactory. We know where and how to strike, and the one absorbing thought was that of preparation. Every soldier must be rallied to the standard, every muscle strained for action, every weapon sharpened for the conflict. We prayed and talked and planned with the piebiscite ever in view. It would be waste time at this distance from that notable event to expatiate on it any length. We turned a corner on Jan. 1 last, that, with God's blessing, will never be re-turned on a backward march. Our point is now clear and is no longer the football of the political speculator, viz., the relative strength of the opposing forces. We are tramping along 192,000 strong towards that ever-nearing, that inevitable coup de grace, that shall leave us nothing to do but echo the prayer of the ancient Jew: "So may all thine enemies perish, O Lord God Almighty." To know our strength is much. Let us never again permit the clouds of doubt or discouragement to hide "the smiling of his face." Nothing now stands between us and prohibition but a Supreme Court decision and the politicians. The Supreme Court deliverance will doubtless be all right, whether its lightning strikes Toronto or Ottawa. The politician has been learning some valuable lessons of late, as the recent selection for the leader of Ontario's Opposition, and the utterances of Sir John Thompson's Dominion opponent, most clearly demonstrate. Yet now, as never, we need skill and wisdom born of God.

THE PROVINCIAL ELECTION.  
There is no doubt that, as an organization, we rejoice over Sir Oliver Mowat's return to power. Not because of any personal prejudice in his favor, nor even political at-oneness with his methods and policy. Many of us viewed his victory through other than party lenses. But we rejoice because we believed him sincere in his promise of prohibition, and strong enough to compass at least a fair measure of it. And what with the alpha-

betical additions to the usual opponents of the Government, we may, with little flattery to ourselves, feel assured that Sir Oliver still swings the gavel because of, and not despite, the temperance support received. Had his answer to the convention deputations been other than it was (and we are glad to believe that the policy then outlined was in accord with his personal convictions), there would have been a vigorous fulfillment of the prophecies of defeat with which the air was fairly blue.

BUT NOW WHAT?  
Are we to wait, inactive, for tedious processes of law? Not at all. We know now, as before stated, which is the minority party, yet we find in our cities, towns and villages this very element too frequently installed in offices of public trust—police magistrates, stricken with legal blindness whenever a liquor case comes before them; license inspectors that won't inspect, coupled with commissioners that wink at their abusive power; sometimes we discover police forces that can detect the cleverest burglars, but not the clumsiest license violators; and all too often are we confronted with municipal dignitaries that represent the most ignoble forces in their constituencies. All this calls loudly for a reformation. Let us do our part towards a reign of righteousness in local politics. A lesser number of licensed bars, or none at all, would in many sections require only an honest effort to obtain. But beware of any rise in the license fee. Fight that as you would the plague. We do not want this "agreement with hell" any more deeply rooted in the taxpayer's pocket. Be prepared to second heartily every effort to press upon the Toronto Government the claims of the temperance people for immediate relief from some of the more burdensome features of the License Act. While the election was pending we refrained from complicating the issue with demands for these lesser gains. Now that we have a Government pledged to prohibition, and in for four years, why should we hesitate to ask attention to that abomination, the mis-numbering of offences against the Crock's Act? A fifth infraction may be counted as a first or second; and by reason of this the liquor sellers that reach the legal terminating limit of three convictions—after which they must seek some other method of earning a livelihood—are about as rare as prohibitionist brewers. Just lately a case occurred when within a few months a saloon-keeper was fined three times for selling liquor to Indians. By some ledger-demon he has not yet reached his third offence. No remedy has been provided for the continued existence of licensed places in sections of a city or town where the sentiment is strongly opposed to them. Once set the seal of government upon a bar and nothing but a social and civic convulsion will remove its baleful influences. These and many other points should, and we hope will, be rectified.

DOMINION CONTEST.  
Of the Dominion contest we can only say that while Mr. Laurier, with his piebiscite, is not satisfactory, Sir John Thompson's attitude is intolerable. For a man who knows that his party owes its tenure of office to a plurality for the whole Dominion of not more than 17,000 votes, to coolly ignore the 132,000 of a temperance majority, is simply insufferable, and we hope will be heartily resented at the polls.

EDUCATIONAL.  
But to turn from the legal to the educational side of the work—we have now attained a point where the value of our educational departments must be increasingly felt. Let us push to the front every form of our work that means more light from our angle of vision. Scientific temperance in the schools, Bands of Hope and Sabbath school training; press work, parlor meetings, and work among the various races and classes now under the care of our superintendents—all these require skilled and consecrated workers as never before. This year should see advance ground taken in all these efforts to build up a Gibraltar of public sentiment. I do not purpose taking up the departments individually, as is often done, but with this cursory review will only tax your patience a little longer to mention a few points of progress or danger.

SABBATH OBSERVANCE.  
I have been much pained to learn, through the local unions, of the increasing frequency of Sabbath desecration, particularly in small towns. In this respect the World's Fair was a powerful backward educator. Over and over I am surprised and grieved to hear of professed Christians, and even White Ribboners, who took the Lord's day for the drudgery of travel to or from the "White City," in order that they might not lose any time from pleasure seeking. David said that he would not sacrifice unto the Lord that which cost him nothing. I fear many modern Christians would like to read it "something" instead of "nothing." They are willing to keep holy the day when there is little inducement to do otherwise; but when such obedience to the divine command means a lost opportunity for sight see-

ing, combined with a hotel bill, they do not feel called upon to sacrifice thus much to "remember" the day of rest. If we, as parents, disobey God when it is convenient so to do, shall we wonder if our children tread in our footsteps and disregard our behests? In these days of moral laxity, let it be said of us, as a body, that where there is a doubt we prefer to give God, and not ourselves, the benefit of it.

FRANCHISE.  
The growth of sentiment in this department of our work is truly something astonishing. A few years ago even our Provincial Union was not a unit upon it; and a larger number of local societies were decidedly opposed. Today the indifferent are few and the opposed less. In planning the tour for the distinguished lady who will address us on Thursday evening, I communicated with about 25 unions. Many of these were unable to avail themselves of the services of the speaker, but in only one instance was the refusal based upon the ground of want of sympathy with the subject to be discussed, and even in this case the writer declared herself opposed to the position assumed by her union. The piebiscite was an "eye-opener" to many. Hundreds of those voteless women who toiled unceasing through the campaign to arouse and interest the favored few of their sex possessing the ballot, realized for the first time the grievous nature of the political disability under which they labored. It often took two or three hale, hearty women to get one old biddened dame to the polls, and when she was there they did not know how she might conduct herself. Age or illness had perhaps robbed her of the keen judgment of men and measures that once might have been hers. If she did not mark her ballot by mistake she might through ignorance, and all the while those eager workers, who so thoroughly understood the situation, and were so keenly alive to its importance, must content themselves with expending a ton of energy to get some one else to do what would not have cost themselves an ounce. The thought has been advanced that it is useless to ask the State to recognize the equality of man and woman till the church has done so. Here again we may note an advance. Miss Willard enumerates, as amongst the most notable events of the year in the ecclesiastical enfranchisement of women, the action of the Nova Scotia Methodist conference in receiving, as a delegate, a woman who had been duly elected to that position. To be sure the General Conference, just closed in London, disallowed this proceeding and passed a resolution intimating that they did not approve of enlarging woman's sphere. All the same the issue has been born, and while the conversation of these in power may keep it in swaddling clothes for a time, the forces of the life within it will ere long assert themselves.

In this connection we must not forget the just and chivalrous action of Judge Chesley, of Bridgewater, Nova Scotia. Shortly before the conference adjourned he introduced the following motion: "That the terms layman, lay delegate and lay delegates, be understood to include women, and that an interpreting clause to this effect be added to the discipline." The motion had a majority, but not the two-thirds necessary to effect a constitutional change. It would surely be appropriate that this convention should recognize the service done us by this friend of equal rights.

In England a similar struggle has been taking place. Women in the English Methodist Church may not only be members of the leaders' meeting, as in Canada, but of the trustees and quarterly board and the district conference, so that women trustees and circuit stewards are not uncommon occurrences. The third London district, recognizing the eminent abilities of a certain lady, in Miss Dawson, elected to a seat in their councils by a quarterly board, by a large majority selected her as their representative to the conference. This conference is their highest body, there being no General Conference such as in Canada and the States. A most amusing furore ensued upon the calling of the conference roll, which included the lady's name. After much debate a settlement was arrived at. The lady was to be permitted to remain and vote without the conference deciding as to the legality of the election; and the whole question was referred to the district meetings to be settled by their vote during the year. Think of the agitation that must follow such action! Nothing helps the franchise cause like discussion.

All this is transpiring without. What are we doing, as a union, to educate our own communities and make the enfranchisement of women a political issue? Our Dominion superintendents have large plans on foot. Let us as a Province co-operate with her. Let our plan of work committee suggest to us wise and definite methods of local and Provincial campaigning. England now gives her womanhood larger shares in Government than does Ontario. All qualified to vote, whether married or single, have the school and board of guardian franchise. If the conservative mother country considers it safe to trust its "home keepers" with such a slice of political power, is it not a shame that progressive Ontario should be so far behind?

LITERATURE DEPOSITORY.  
You will have this year to consider the proposition of the Dominion Union to purchase the Ontario Literature Depository stock. At the final meeting of the executive on the closing afternoon of last year's convention, the following recommendation was made: "That we ask Miss Scott during the year to reduce as far as possible the stock on hand; that we offer what remains to the Dominion Union at 75 cents on the dollar, one-third to be paid down and the remainder in three years." Nothing could be done with this proposal as there was no opportunity to submit it to vote of convention. The Dominion Union is desirous of an early reply.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF PLAN OF WORK.  
The only recommendation which demands our attention today is that under No. 12 (page 117 of the report), re a memorial to the British Government in the interests of sobriety and purity in India. Unfortunately this was discovered to be out of our power, as only British subjects living in territory governed directly by the English Parliament may petition that body. However, our object was partially attained through the official signature of a petition, circulated by the Moral Reform League of England, asking that offences against purity, such as we complained of, be made penal in every part of the world subject to the British Legislature. Recommendations 3, 14 and 15 will of course be reported upon by the superintendents of scientific temperance, narcotics and literature. Recommendation 7 is one that every Provincial superintendent present should aim to fulfill at some time during the session of this convention. Instead of burdening you with many new recommendations and suggestions, I have arranged to pass them through the plan of work circle, and so save time.

PERSONAL WORK.  
The personal work may be easily summed up, though it has crowded the twelve months just past. I have attended three sessions of the Provincial executive; three meetings of the union committee; nine conventions and a great many public meetings. The letters, cards and newspaper articles amount to 825; and when these are added to those written in the interests of the local W. C. T. U., they make a total of 1222 temperance communications for the year. When at Chatham last year you conferred upon me the official headship of this Ontario Union, I accepted with a heavy heart. To add so grave a responsibility to an already weighty load looked like presumption. The text that came to me was this: "The rod of thy strength shall come out of Zion." I closed the year, turned down forever this life page with the grateful acknowledgment:

"He was better to me than all my hopes,  
He was better than all my fears;  
He made a road of my broken works,  
And a rainbow of my tears.  
He guarded by-paths that I could not see,  
By ways that I have not known,  
The crooked was straight, and the rough made plain,  
As I followed the Lord alone.

THE SECRETARY'S REPORT.  
Mrs. Wiley, of Richmond Hill, has been filling the important position of corresponding secretary for some years, and is now about the oldest and most experienced office-bearer in the Provincial Union. She is a lady of earnestness of purpose, of intelligence and ability. Her report gave the statistics of the past year, from which it can be seen that a good deal of earnest work has been done. According to these there are now 211 unions in active operation in the Province, with an aggregate of 5,523 active and 704 honorary members. During the year 748 public meetings have been held, besides the regular meetings of the various unions. There are also 89 Bands of Hope, with 5,332 members. Of the adult members of the unions it has been found that 569 are voters at our municipal elections. Twenty-eight new unions have been organized during the year. Considerable other information in the report is also covered in the reports of the various superintendents of departments and will be referred to in connection with them.

THE FINANCES.  
Miss Jennie McArthur, of Cornwall, a careful and cautious Scottish-Canadian, has been very appropriately chosen treasurer for some years. Of course everybody knows that in her hands all funds will be carefully looked after and well accounted for. The annual receipts of the union have never been large, but it has always been kept clear of debt and with a balance of funds in hand. Her report shows that the income of last year was \$3,043 and the expenditure \$2,559, leaving a balance in hand of \$484. More work would have been done had there been more funds available. As it was there are no liabilities to meet, such as have been too common with many similar organizations.

SUPERINTENDENTS' REPORTS.  
The W. C. T. U. abounds in its multiplicity of superintendents of departments. Their various reports were presented from time to time during the first day and gave interesting details of work done.

Mrs. B. D. Livingston, of Tilsonburg, a well-known worker, presented her report as press superintendent. There has been a marked increase of interest in that department during the year. More letters and circulars have been sent out and twice as many replies received. The newspapers

throughout the country, irrespective of creed or party, have been friendly, almost without an exception, and have cheerfully published such matter as has been supplied to them. Nearly every editor to whom she has written has replied very courteously.

Mrs. Capt. Davis, superintendent of work among sailors, sent in her report. This work, of course, only applies to a few localities and must needs be done in the locality. At Sarnia, a large number of vessels have been visited and supplied with papers, magazines and similar literature. Similar work has been done at Gananoque and other points. No doubt excellent results have followed the sowing thus of good seed.

Mrs. W. W. Cowan, of Ottawa, superintendent of work among soldiers, reported that the officers had not granted permission of holding meetings among the soldiers, but literature had been supplied from time to time to the reading-rooms in the barracks. This work also only applies to a few localities.

A good deal of work has been done among railway men during the past year, not only in special work but in supplying literature and the like. In this work the need of special evangelists is often much felt. As to the excellent work also done among the lumbermen, especially in the shanties along the Upper Ottawa and the tributaries, the columns of the HOME GUARD have already given good evidence. But this will be referred to later on.

Mrs. T. H. Pratt, juvenile work, Hamilton, who is well known as an active worker in the newsboys' and other juveniles' behalf in that city, presented an encouraging report as superintendent of juvenile work. She referred, with a good deal of satisfaction, to the fact that far more interest is being manifested now, all over the Province, in behalf of child saving and child improvement than ever before. The W. C. T. U. is nobly doing its share in this respect. A large number of letters and cards have been sent out and personal enquiries made in behalf of homeless and friendless children. Many of the unions are taking an active interest in Bands of Hope, in the pledge movement, in Sunday schools and in Bible readings. During the year 771 new signatures are reported to have been taken in connection with the Bands of Hope. The number of these juvenile organizations is given in connection with the secretary's report.

Mr. J. J. Kelso, the new Provincial superintendent of neglected children, was present and addressed the union in connection with his work. It is needless to say that he got a very sympathetic hearing and an assurance of hearty co-operation. Among other things he remarked that "the drink traffic, which they were united to oppose, was one of the main causes of child abuse and neglect, and he wished them every success in the work of banishing drunkenness from the homes."

A PUBLIC RECEPTION.  
The public receptions in every place where these Provincial conventions have been held have been marked features of the gatherings. They have always been largely attended and enthusiastic. That on Tuesday evening was no exception. Mrs. A. O. Rutherford, of Toronto, vice-president, presided. Mayor Hamilton extended the cordial greetings of the town of Cornwall, in his official capacity, in a neat and appropriate speech. Mrs. Pringle, wife of Judge Pringle, was deputed to extend the fraternal greetings of the local W. C. T. U. She was unable to attend on account of sickness, but prepared an address, which was read by Mrs. Thornley. Mr. Meikle, reeve of Morrisburg and warden of the united counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, presented an address of welcome on behalf of the Counties' Council. Rev. H. F. Bland spoke on behalf of the clergy of the town, and Dr. Alguire on behalf of the Royal Templars.

The responses were all committed to able hands, the speakers being Mrs. McDonnell, of Sunnyside, Toronto; Mrs. Gibbs, of Port Arthur, who traveled further to attend than any other member, and Mrs. Thornley, of London.

During the evening a prize banner was presented to Essex county for having made the largest gain in membership of any county during the year.

SOME PRESENT.  
Among the officers present are the following: Mrs. M. Thornley, president, London; Mrs. A. O. Rutherford, vice-president, Toronto; Mrs. Mary Wiley, secretary, Richmond Hill; Miss Ella Cosford, recording secretary, South London; Miss Jennie McArthur, treasurer, Cornwall; superintendents of departments, Miss Scott, Ottawa; Mrs. Livingston, Tilsonburg; Mrs. A. Gordon, Ottawa; Miss Lillian Phelps, St. Catharines; Mrs. J. R. Cavers, Galt; Miss W. A. Douglass, St. Catharines; Miss Z. Rae, Ottawa; Mrs. T. H. Pratt, Hamilton; Mrs. Wright, South London; Mrs. Donaldson, Ottawa; Mrs. McCallum, Maxville; Mrs. Coates, Prescott; Mrs. R. P. Wright, Dresden; Mrs. J. H. Flagg, Mitchell; Mrs. Geo. Paton, Peterboro; Mrs. Keough, Vankleek Hill; Mrs. Scott, Ottawa; Mrs. T. McKee, Barrie; Mrs. Jas. Foster, Maitland; Mrs. W. Graham, Galt; Miss Dougall, of the Witness staff, Montreal, and many others.

In this theater of man's life, it is reserved for God and the angels to be lookers-on.—LORD BACON.

## Toronto "Y's" Work.

### FLOWER MISSION REPORT.

Although Flower Mission work is, in all probability, well known to the majority of the readers of these pages, I would like to give a brief sketch of the work done by the Toronto Central "Y's" in this line, during the past year. Every Thursday afternoon a small group assembles in their room, headquarters, to prepare for their day's business. On the tables are flowers, fruits, jellies, fresh eggs, tea, etc. The superintendent reads the various names from her list, and each member is given a certain number of sick ones to visit. The flowers are made up into small bouquets, but even the smallest one is eagerly grasped as something by no means to be overlooked or despised. Each posy is tied with a wire, to which is attached a suitable text of Scripture.

### SPECIALLY SELECTED.

The texts used are not those taken at random, but are carefully selected, and in every instance contain a promise or a word of thanksgiving. Many a testimony concerning these little cards has been given by those whom they have served to inspire with new hopes and cheer their sad hearts in the dark hours of sickness and adversity. The flowers all made up, the delicacies are portioned out—here a glass of jelly, there a fresh egg, or twist of tea, as the case may require. The baskets packed to the brim, the

### WORKERS SEPARATE.

each to her own appointed place. In many a home where sickness and want abound, Thursday is the red-letter day of the week, and the inmates are always ready to welcome the visitor. Last year our mission started the plan known as the "Helping Hand," which is worked as follows: Mrs. A is very sick; too ill to work for herself and family, and at the same time too poor to hire help. Mrs. B is strong and capable, but can procure no employment. The Flower Mission secures the services of Mrs. B for Mrs. A, and pays her the current rate of wages, and in this way two women are benefited. We have, by this means, been able to save one woman from becoming a helpless cripple, and others have been saved from serious illness. It would be quite impossible to give a full report of the help given in time of need, and what it has been made the means of accomplishing. One man, we have every reason to believe was saved from suicide.

### BY TIMELY AID.

Another man and his wife decided for Christ through what our workers did—not said. One poor man was loaned \$5 to buy tools and was way able to take in mending sufficiency to keep him. On old lady, alone and friendless, not able to work, has been kept in comfort for the past five years. In several cases money has been collected to pay the rent of some unfortunate about to be turned out of house and home. Forty families have been provided with comfortable clothing. Situations are found for those able to go out and work, and where necessary, work has been provided at home for those unable to go out. Last Christmas, a substantial dinner for 33 families was furnished by friends interested in our work. The aim of the Flower Mission is to elevate the lives of those with whom they come in contact. The report closes by saying: "We do all in our power to brighten and elevate the lives of those whom we visit, from making beds and sweeping floors to reading and singing to them. We strive always to exert an influence for temperance and carry Christ into the homes where he is not known. Despite all this we are told that this work is largely sentiment. We ask those laboring under such a delusion, to come and work with us; not sit with folded hands, looking on. Come and carry the heavy baskets and parcels into the homes and hear the sad stories, try to relieve the needs in all possible ways and then they will be convinced that we are doing the Master's work."

W. M. WILLS,  
Press Superintendent.

## DEAN'S CURE

### USERS TELL ITS WORTH.

### WE DON'T NEED TO.

Mr. Wm. Dean, Dean St., Toronto, writes: "I was taken down with a severe attack of rheumatism, and on the recommendation of Mr. Arkell I sent for half a gallon of your medicine. This was all I needed for it entirely cured me. I heartily recommend Dean's Cure. Yours very truly, Wm. Dean, Dec. 1st, 1902."

Wm. Dean, Esq., Dear Sir:—In reply to your inquiry, I beg to say that I have found great relief from the use of your mixture. Having been a sufferer from Acute Sciatica and Rheumatism, I can faithfully recommend it to any person suffering from the same malady. Respectfully yours, W. J. BERGHOUS, 315 Queen Street West, Toronto.

Wm. Dean,  
DUNN AVENUE, TORONTO.

**BEST** Place in Canada to get a Business Education, Short-hand, etc., is at the Central Business College, Toronto, Ont., and Stratford, Ont. Unquestionably Canada's Greatest Commercial School. Catalogues free. Mention this paper. Shaw & Elliott, Principals.

DR. ROZELLE V. FUNNELL—LATE Professor of Electro-Therapy, Queen's University, announces her removal from Deer Park Sanatorium to

10 Wilton Crescent, TORONTO.

Trained nurses in constant attendance on resident patients. Massage, in addition to electrical and medical treatment. Office hours from 2 to 6 p.m. daily.

Dr. Roselle V. Funnell.

**LADIES.** Medicated Silk Sponges for medicinal purposes. Send 3 cent stamp for circular. MADAM DE FROES, 90 Maitland Street, Toronto.