

W. C. T. U. CONVENTION.

To Discourage the Slaughter of Innocent Birds.

"If it Wasn't for the Christians We Wouldn't Sell any Novels."

Buck's Endorsement of the White Ribbons—Valuable Work.

Frederickton, Sept. 24.—The devotional meeting was led by Miss Rice of Annapolis, and prayer was offered by Mrs. Fitch of Iowa.

Greetings were read from Mrs. Jessie C. Woodbury of Dartmouth.

At the suggestion of the president, Mrs. Brennan, the convention went into committee of the whole for the purpose of reconstruction of the constitution.

Mrs. Steadman moved, seconded by Mrs. McFarland, that the president's address be received and her suggestions referred to the plan of work committee.—Carried.

The following telegram was read from Mrs. Williams, president of the Dominion W. C. T. U.: "Thanks for telegram received from Col. II. 535. The convention having resolved itself into committee of the whole, and Mrs. Steadman called to the chair, the revised constitution, drawn up two years ago, was read and discussed article by article.

The first two articles were left as proposed.

It was moved by Miss Fullerton, seconded by Miss Seymour, that article III. be revised to provide for a vice-president at large.—Carried.

It was also resolved that superintendents be nominated by local or district conventions, names of nominees to be submitted to the executive and acted upon in open convention.

Article VI., on the time of annual meeting, brought out a spirited discussion, the Nova Scotia delegates advocating an earlier date than the third week in September on account of the fruit packing.

It was moved by Mrs. Archibald, seconded by Mrs. Olive, that the month be September and the date be fixed by the executive.—Carried.

Article VII. introduced the clause that the annual due of each Y be ten cents.

The time for the noon-tide prayer meeting having come, the debate on article IX. was adjourned until Tuesday morning.

Mrs. Trevery of Yarmouth extended an invitation to the convention to hold the next meeting in Yarmouth. The convention thanked Mrs. Trevery for her kind invitation.

Judge Steadman was introduced by Mrs. Randolph and made a short address of kindly encouragement. He complimented the ladies, especially for the more than parliamentary manner in which the debates were carried on.

On motion of Mrs. McFarland the judge was given a Chatauga salute; and an invitation was extended to him to sit upon the platform at the evening meeting.

Mrs. McFarland asked that an appointment be made for speakers at the opening exercises of the Normal school. Mrs. Atkinson, the first woman member of the board of education, was appointed. Mrs. Atkinson declined. Mrs. Archibald and Mrs. McFarland were appointed.

The lieutenant governor was introduced by the president and said a few words.

Gov. Fraser and Judge Steadman were made honorary members of convention, and the same honor was conferred upon Miss Hooper, a returned missionary.

Then came the noon-tide prayer, conducted by Miss Bartlett. A telegram from Mrs. Todd, Phil. I, 8, 9, 10, 11 was read.

Tuesday morning, after the devotional meeting and roll call, Miss Poole read a paper on Methods of Y. Work prepared by Miss Todd of St. Stephen. These methods were all the result of experience and embraced literature, flower missions, missions to invalids and shut-ins, etc. She told of books loaned by the Y. that had won the circuit from the Atlantic to Pacific and through the southern states.

Mrs. Archibald referred to a poor invalid, whose life in Cape Breton had been made more of sunshine by the work of the St. Stephen Y's.

Mrs. Randolph spoke of the work done in our own Victoria hospital by these workers.

Miss Poole reported for the Charlottetown Y's, and Miss Saunders for Halifax Y's.

Mrs. Charters was introduced by Mrs. Randolph as the first member of the Yarmouth branch. The first woman member of the board of education, was appointed. Mrs. Atkinson declined. Mrs. Archibald and Mrs. McFarland were appointed.

It was moved by Miss Olive that the paper by Miss Todd be printed in the annual report, and also in the temperance columns of local papers. Delegates from St. Stephen were requested to obtain Miss Todd's consent to publication.

On motion of Mrs. Brennan the convention went into committee of the whole to consider the constitution. Mrs. Atkinson took the chair.

Article IX. brought out a lively discussion about county organization.

Mrs. Steadman moved and Mrs. Archibald seconded, that article IX be swept out of sight and a better article at once substituted.—Carried.

A committee to frame a new article was named as follows: Mrs. Burpee, Mrs. Chesley, Mrs. Brennan, Mrs. Atkinson and Mrs. McFarland.

It was resolved to leave the consideration of the by-laws to the executive.

The committee then rose.

Rev. Dr. McLeod, Rev. Mr. Payson and Rev. Mr. Sykes were introduced and made encouraging speeches to the ladies.

After the noon-tide prayer service the report of the committee on resolutions was read by Mrs. Phillips.

The ladies all speak in the highest terms of the courtesy shown them by Mrs. Gibson, who provided an excursion to Marysville for them and personally conducted them through the cotton mill and the church.

The following resolutions were adopted.

We, the Maritime W. C. T. U. in convention assembled, acknowledge with gratitude the loving care of our Heavenly Father during the past year, and while we accept with thankfulness the success with which He has been pleased to crown our efforts, we feel that each of our departments should be more energetically worked. Believing that the liquor traffic cannot be legalized without sin; therefore resolved that total abstinence is the only safety for the individual and prohibition for the country;

Resolved, that we earnestly request that the members of the W. C. T. U. discourage by every means in their power the cruel and deplorable slaughter of innocent bird life, that is carried on all over this continent, 5,000,000 of bird skins being annually required for the ornamentation of American women. That this slaughter of birds, and consequent suffering of the young, is unworthy the patronage of Christian women, and is a loss and injury to the country, in the increase of insect pests.

Resolved, that no one should teach, preach, practice medicine, or hold any public office who uses strong drink, or sanctions its use.

The remainder of the resolutions had to be left until morning, as the meeting adjourned for lunch.

The afternoon session was taken up with the "School of Method," conducted by Mrs. Burpee, of Woodstock.

An interesting paper on the duties of officers and superintendents, written by Mrs. Todd, of St. Stephen, was read and provoked many suggestions from the delegates.

A paper, "Our Individual Responsibility," was read by Miss McRea, of P. E. I.

Miss Bartlett spoke of the condemnation of the news-boys on the trains. "If it wasn't for the Christians we wouldn't sell any novels." She warned W. C. T. U. women that even the appearance of evil should be avoided.

Many ladies spoke of the consideration paid to wearers of the white ribbon in the streets, in society, etc.

Mrs. Atkinson again gave one of her experiences with Buck. A woman visited the jail and Buck refused to see her. "But you want to see this woman," said the man in the next cell. "Why," said Buck. "Because she wears a white ribbon." "All right," said Buck. "I'll see her. White ribbon women are the only ones who care for poor devils like me."

Frederickton, Sept. 26.—The Monday evening session was opened by singing All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name, after which prayer was offered by Mrs. McFarland.

Mrs. Elliott read an interesting paper on the home view of the woman's suffrage movement. She said that because of the corruption of politics women must go to the polls in the name of morality.

At the close of this address, Mrs. Pitts, M. P. P., was called to a seat on the platform.

After singing the hymn, Some Glad Day, Hon. Mr. Emmerson, came forward and made a short address of kindly encouragement. He complimented the ladies, especially for the more than parliamentary manner in which the debates were carried on.

On motion of Mrs. McFarland the judge was given a Chatauga salute; and an invitation was extended to him to sit upon the platform at the evening meeting.

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Sabbath schools and public libraries and all benevolent and reformatory institutions are well supplied with temperance literature, lists of which may be procured from Mrs. T. H. Bullock, St. John.

10. Resolved, That we are pledged to discountenance the objectionable style of evening dress which prevails in society gatherings, and further, that recognizing fully the fact that a sound mind dwells in a sound body, we would advocate a mode of dress much more in accord with the laws of health than the one adopted by women at present, and that we endorse the efforts of those who are endeavoring to effect such reform.

11. Resolved, That whereas the law prohibiting the sale or furnishing of tobacco in any form to minors is violated constantly and openly, we urge upon our sisters the necessity of making determined effort to have the law enforced.

12. Resolved, That our local unions urge upon school trustees in employing teachers to give preference to those who are free from the tobacco habit.

13. Whereas, The ripper intelligence of the day can no longer recognize woman a national slave; and whereas, in its establishment of the right there be a conflict with present conditions of the home, it is because these conditions are abnormal and must sooner or later give way to reason, light and right; therefore

Resolved, That it is an imperative necessity for the peace of the home, the general good of society, and the proper development of the individual, that woman's natural rights shall be fully recognized, and the state in laws of perfect equality.

14. Resolved, That this convention commend the work of temperance reform as carried on by Mr. Robertson, of the Keeley cure of the city of Frederickton.

15. A resolution rejoicing in the defeat of the infamous Col. Breckenridge, etc. (to be redrafted).

Lastly, a resolution of thanks: Whereas, This convention has found its visit to Frederickton most delightful and beneficial; the courtesy of the local union indefatigable; that steamboats and railways have given the usual manner; that several of the churches have been freely opened for its evening sessions; that addresses of welcome from the mayor of the city, the lieutenant governor of the province, the chancellor of the U. N. P., the R. T. O. T. U., through their delegates, pastors of churches and others have been so agreeably cordial; that the greeting of the King's Daughters was so graceful and beautiful and their helpfulness so persistent, not forgetting the willing little pages; that the florists so kindly provided flowers; that Mr. Gibson of Marysville gave the convention a most delightful afternoon at his town; therefore

Resolved, That the M. W. C. T. U. express its thanks to those benefactors, and to the ladies who have so kindly and generously entertained the numerous delegates; editors and reporters also may claim a share of this most just and grateful tribute.

These resolutions were passed on a bloc, and then a special rising vote of thanks was passed for the King's Daughters for their graceful and untiring services.

Mrs. Archibald made a short address, thanking the people of Frederickton for their hospitality. She spoke earnestly of the comfort to be derived from a life lived in the Master's service, and urged that the Fredericton women in large numbers join the local union and together become an immense power for good. Her parting words were a quotation of the dying words of a noble man, "Live so as to make the world better."

The convention closed by the singing of "God Be With You Till We Meet Again," during which the members of the local union sang a hymn, and an immense circle around the room and the repetition of the Mizpah benediction.

OLD FOLKS IN KINGS CO.

Descendants of Loyalists who Settled on the Belleisle Bay.

While many instances of longevity are known to us, it is rare, if ever, to find a case equal to that of the present living descendants of a branch of the old loyalist families of Kiersteads and Grays who settled on the Belleisle Bay, Kings Co. Of these the children of the late Isaiah Kierstead, there were living on the 15th September, five sons and two daughters.

Rev. Elias Kierstead, aged 87 years 3 months and 24 days.

William Kierstead, aged 85 years 3 months and 18 days.

James Kierstead, aged 81 years 9 months and 5 days.

Mrs. Sarah West, aged 77 years and 1 month.

Mrs. Deborah R. Ganong, aged 74 years 2 months and 28 days.

Barzillai Kierstead, aged 79 years 4 months and 8 days.

Edwin Kierstead, aged 70 years 9 months and 19 days.

Making an average age of 79 years 5 months and 6 days.

Three of these married into the same family, that of the late James Ganong. Two only of his children survive: Mrs. William Kierstead, aged 81 years and 8 days; William Ganong, aged 72 years 8 months and 26 days.

These with the first five of the Kiersteads, named above, sat at dinner on September 16th at the home of Jacob Kierstead, near Collins. The average age of the seven was 79 years 11 months and 7 days, and of the five Kiersteads, 81 years and 9 months. The reunion was arranged by G. W. Ganong, of St. Stephen, and took place on the farm occupied by Rev. Elias Kierstead for the past fifty-four years.

A GRAVE OVERSIGHT.

A Scotch gentleman who has a very fine hot-house viney once took the opportunity, when the queen was on the periodical journeys through Scotland, to send her majesty an offering of his best grapes. In due course a letter of acknowledgement expressing the royal appreciation of the gift and complimenting the donor on the fineness of his fruit reached him, and feeling sure his head gardener would be greatly interested in the contents of the letter Mr. C. read it to him. The gardener gravely listened, but his only comment was: "She disna say anything about sending back the basket."

IN HISTORIC PRAGUE.

Herr Bochner's Life Drifted Into Conjugal Gulf-Streams.

His First Wife Did Not Come Back Until He Had Taken Another to His Bosom.

(Vienna Cor. of London Telegraph.)

Everybody knows that truth is often a good deal stranger than fiction, but who can explain why it is that precisely that romantic kind of truth invariably creeps into the lives of the most of mortals—honest, plodding, tame creatures of the domestic kind, who never once danced anything more animated than a quadrille, never possessed a latch-key, and never lit-on tried to light a cigar at the street lamp after the opera was over? What-ever the explanation, the fact remains, and it is now turning the existence of a widely-respected citizen of Vienna into a weariness of the flesh and his once happy home into a hell upon earth. He is a good, hard-working, honest man, whose ideal is to allow his life to glide "with the smooth current of domestic joy." But somehow his life will not do it—it seems to be absolutely incapable of gliding with any smooth current; indeed, it delights in drifting into conjugal gulf-streams instead of leaving him in hot water. He is not an old man yet—about thirty-five at the outside—and he has already had to make two starts in life, and the chances are that he will soon find it necessary to try again.

He began his career as a merchant—a prosperous merchant with a splendid future before him, in the historic city of Prague. That future seemed so very promising that one of the belles of the city felt honored when requested to share it, and the couple were pointed at when they drove about the principal promenades, the happiest mortals in all Austria.

"See how Herr Bochner treats his wife; you would think he was only going to propose to her, so gallantly and respectfully does he conduct himself," said many a rebellious wife of her domestic despot. "Ah, if I had a wife like Frau Bochner, my home would be a perfect paradise," the grumbling lord and master would reply. The Bochners positively swam in bliss; for not only were they devotedly attached to each other, but they were beloved by all their friends and respected by all their acquaintances. The clerks, too, were industrious, trustworthy, self-sacrificing young men; and as for the book-keeper and cashier, he was worth his weight in gold. And he evidently got to know it.

One day when Bochner returned home from Vienna, whither he had gone for three days on business, he found that during his absence X—his bookkeeper and cashier, had eloped with the gold, and his wife had gone to keep him company. "I know I am doing something very naughty, for which I shall be sorry some day," she wrote, "but really I cannot help it. Don't think too badly of me, dear, nor endeavor to discover my whereabouts."

Herr Bochner was wild with grief, anger and despair, for he was commercially beggared and socially ruined. His business affairs had to be wound up for a time, and it was feared that his reason would give way. He could think and speak only of his beloved Bertha, fondly hoping that "if goodness leads her not, yet weariness may toss her to my breast." But it did not. His happiness was gone for good, "as water split on the ground, and cannot be gathered up again," and by the time that a year had flowed into the ocean of eternity he himself recognized that hope "withering" had "fled, and mercy sighed farewell." His wife had crossed the ocean and was in America.

Many women cannot quench love, but many a female beauty can change its object; and that is what happened to Herr Bochner. He had meanwhile begun life a second time from the lowest rung of the ladder, and having become bookkeeper and cashier in a Vienna house—where he is still employed—his friends persuaded him that the secret of all happiness and success is woman. Take a good, loving woman to share your happiness, and you have solved the Sphinx problem. It was useless for Herr Bochner to protest that he had no happiness for any one to share; they triumphantly replied, "that is the beauty of it; the bliss comes as soon as you have somebody to share it." He gradually gave way, and after a short courtship which followed the divorce proceedings, he married another beauty with a little temper of her own—"a rosebud set with little willow thorns." And he was once more up to the ears in clover.

There is a happiness "that makes the heart afraid," the poet tells us, and when Herr Bochner contemplated his fourth little boy toddling about in his study that he experienced. His duties of late years necessitated frequent absence from home, and during one of the last and longest he received numerous lengthy letters from wife