

Volgens spreker is opvoeding 'n proses wat dwarsdeur die lewe duur. Hoe hoër die peil van opvoeding hoe sprankelender is die betrokke volk.

Verder is aanwesiges toegesprek oor die oogmerke van die Volwasse-opvoeding soos dit ook in die Eybers-verslag weergegee is. Dit beoog onder andere, intellektuele ontwikkeling, sosiale aanpassing, verruiming van die gees en die waardering van geestelike en sedelike waardes.

Mnr. Breytenbach het melding gemaak van die suksesvolle familie-kamp wat te Hartebeestdam gehou is. Krugersdorp met sy pragtige natuurtonele is besonder geskik vir sulke kampe, aldus die spreker. Krugersdorp verskaf reeds klasse in naaldwerk, houtwerk, moederkunde ens.

Mnr. Breytenbach het 'n kopie van „Lantern” die tydskrif wat die Vereniging uitgee, aan die vergadering getoon. Almal was gretig om dit onder hande te kry.

Mev. Dommissie het die spreker bedank vir sy inligtingryke toespraak. Sy het gewag gemaak van die feit dat mnr. Breytenbach alom bekend is vir sy entoesiasme en toewyding aan alles op die gebied van opvoeding.

PIETERMARTITZBURG.—The November Meeting was the general meeting of the year. The retiring President, Mrs. H. B. Stephens, read her annual report. In it she said that when first elected to this position she had felt a certain amount of alarm at assuming so much responsibility; but she had found so much co-operation from her executive and members that she had enjoyed her term of office immensely. She had also found it to be an excellent opportunity for service. When Headquarters had come to Maritzburg so many of our valuable members had been elected to the board that she wondered how we were to carry on; but other members had come forward and proved themselves of such worth that it had extended our number of workers considerably. Even so there was still room for more and she urged members to join the various committees and so increase the strength of N.C.W. in this Branch. Mrs. Stephens also paid tribute to the help and advice that she had received from our National President Mrs. E. Russell.

Speaking of the Conference held here in April last, the President thanked all members for their help and support and made special mention of the work of the Universal Aunts and of the Hospitality Committee and their helpers.

Mrs. S. Cohen, the retiring secretary said in her report that this had been a useful and constructive year. The membership had risen to 180, but unfortunately monthly meetings showed an average attendance of only 50. She also urged the necessity for joining committees and said that until members did this they could not have an adequate knowledge of the work of N.C.W.

Reference was also made to the reports of the two delegates invited to the Conference of the Natal Inland Bodies, where much useful information had been gained, and which had also resulted in the affiliation of this branch to this Association. The financial statement was also read and Mrs. V. H. M. Barrett, retiring treasurer was highly commended for her excellent statement and balance sheet.

PORT ALFRED.—At the last meeting of the year, in the absence of the President (Mrs. Clarke), the chair was taken by the Mayoress, Mrs. Nel, and the following business was transacted:—

1. It was decided to send £2 10s. for the General Fund and £2 10s. for the Benevolent Fund to the Mayor's Christmas Treat.

2. To hold a social, tea and cake sale and a street collection early in December in aid of these funds—both of which are at present very low.

Mrs. Morris (Convener of the Play-Reading Society) reported that it was in a very flourishing condition. The readings had been well attended and appreciated. There were now 30 members and a prospect of several new ones next year. The society had been able to hand over £6 to the General Fund.

Miss Gilchrist (Convener of Native Affairs) reported on the satisfactory condition of the crippled Native children in the Orthopaedic Hospital.

She stated that the N.C.W. in the Location had held a small sale and raised £2 for the help of sick and indigent Natives. She then appealed for help (either in the form of money or small articles suitable for prizes) for the Native Children's Sports Afternoon to be held on December 7.

POTCHEFSTROOM.—A most animated and stimulating meeting took place in the Communal Hall. Members were particularly interested especially in the subject of Native affairs. The meeting was in the form of a quiz, where a corresponding member for a certain subject was given questions to answer.

Mrs. D. Bailey answered questions on crime, school feeding and tuberculosis in the Potchefstroom Location. These subjects caused a great deal of discussion and members suggested that a TB. hospital or farm colony be established as a memorial to General Smuts.

Mrs. A. Louw, corresponding member for Cinema and Broadcast, was asked many questions on the South African Broadcasting Corporation and she answered these technically.

Do you consider that any event of great importance in the sphere of arts has occurred in Potchefstroom during 1950? was the question answered by Miss F. E. Holden. She spoke on the Bach festival held in Potchefstroom when concerts and lectures had been given.

Another question which was put to the Arts and Letters corresponding member was about cave paintings to which Miss Rita Farley gave a very fluent and clear outline of prehistoric and the rock paintings in the Western Transvaal. Miss Farley is not a member of N.C.W. but is rather a specialist in this subject. She said that the prehistoric paintings were of deep significance to Southern Africa because it might mean that these finds in the Brandberg mountains in South-West Africa threw light on a new conception of the early beginning of civilization.

In the business half of the meeting it was decided to protest formally to the authorities concerned regarding the proposed granting of a liquor licence to the Lakeside Cafe, Potchefstroom's only pleasure resort for young men and women. Members spoke strongly in protest and points were made regarding the visit next year of the Active Citizen Force camps of young men who will be stationed in the Potchefstroom Military camp; the fact that there were sufficient places where liquor could be obtained and, thirdly, because many young school girls and boys and students from the various educational centres went to Lakeside, the only place in Potchefstroom for recreational purposes.

PRETORIA.—In the hands of an inspired convener like Mrs. Dickson, Affiliated Societies Day cannot but be a success and this year's event, arranged as an exhibition of the activities of 40 societies was quite outstanding and a great credit to all who took part in it.

Stalls displaying literature, posters and handicrafts were arranged along the walls, seating accommodation occupying the centre and

beautifully arranged bowls of flowers added to the pleasurable atmosphere. A most attractive "Cocktail Bar" where delicious fruit drinks were served by the W.C.T.U. was very popular. Dr. T. Gutsche, the guest speaker, confessed to being greatly impressed.

"The Power of the Housewife" was the unusual subject which was chosen by Mrs. A. L. Wright for her Presidential address upon the completion of her term of office, at the Annual General Meeting. "The growing tendency of the family woman to go out and work constituted a threat to the homelife of the nation." There was the danger that in time to come women would lose their privileges and would have to take their place as a matter of course in the industrial set-up of the country. The husband's earnings would undoubtedly be determined accordingly. "Let us watch these trends and be ready to do all in our power to preserve the place of the woman in the home intact. Never underestimate the power of the housewife." Furthermore, it was doubtful if going out to work paid even in the narrow financial aspect. There was the question of extra help, extra clothes and, with double salaries, increased income tax.

The report of the retiring honorary secretary and the financial statement of the honorary treasurer were warmly applauded, and the lovely floral tributes lent colour to a very happy meeting. It had been a successful year and very pleasant.

QUEENSTOWN.—The last general meeting of the year was held in November. It was unfortunate that Mrs E. Louw was unable to attend, as the members wished to congratulate her on her election as Chairman of the Queenstown School Board, which was unanimous, and is a tribute to the good work done by Mrs. Louw as Chairman of this Board during the past year. Another matter for regret was the impending departure of Mrs. Gilbey, who has acted as Press and Publicity member, sending reports to the Press and N.C.W. News, as well as being of great assistance in sending out notices and magazines. She will be greatly missed. The Branch wished her the best of luck in her new home in Basutoland. Mrs. Ensor undertook to send out the notices and magazines and Mrs. Bowes the reports for the N.C.W. News and local press.

The President, Mrs. Bowes, announced that notice had been received that applications must be made if any members of the Branch wished to serve on the jury. Fifteen members gave notice of their intention to apply.

A letter from the Town Council was read, stating that the purchase of a new Municipal Ambulance would be placed on their estimates for 1951. This was in reply to a request from the Branch that this matter be regarded as urgent. There was also a reply from the Town Council on the subject of a renewed appeal from the Branch in support of the Child Welfare Society's request that suitable children's playgrounds be included in any new town-planning scheme that may be adopted.

Miss Hodges then addressed the meeting on the subject of "Local Option" and gave a most interesting talk. In view of the possibility of the introduction of new liquor laws, she said, temperance organisations were preparing to "educate, legislate, and fight for" local option, which did not mean prohibition, but the right of every man and woman to vote as he or she thought fit regarding the control of liquor in their own particular community. The President thanked Miss Hodges, and the meeting resolved to support that part of the W.C.T.U.'s proposal at the forthcoming local Liquor Licensing Board to restrict the quantity of liquor sold to Coloureds. The Branch's own proposal is that some form of permit system be introduced, the permits to be date-stamped by the retailer at each purchase, and thus preventing

the purchaser from going from bottle-store to bottle-store, a practice which is followed in spite of the efforts of the police to check up on the offenders.

RUSTENBURG.—At the November meeting Mrs. Lagrange spoke on the Transvaal Agricultural Union, an organization started 25 years ago, and affiliated to similar ones in the other provinces and in other countries.

She described it as a movement to unite house-wives by fostering interest in and giving information on all aspects of housewifery and on general matters closely related, such as the Marketing Laws. It is indebted to the Department of Agriculture for literature and for the services of trained demonstrators who travel round, and examples of the work it stimulates can be seen on any show.

She concluded by outlining a typical year's programme of our local branch.

An entertaining description of a trip by air to Europe by Mrs. Wisskerke rounded off the meeting.

December: A good attendance of members enjoyed a talk on the Girl Guide movement by Mrs. Todd, District Guide Commissioner.

She began with a reference to the N.C.W. as "a forum, where women of widely varying social interests can meet", and commented on its value as a pressure-group.

Turning to the Girl Guide movement she said that, though an acknowledged butt for humour-stage and otherwise—it had something vital to offer. Its purpose was to develop character by responsibilities and a progressive series of difficulties, and to provide healthy companionship. By means of games, competitions, camping etc., girls were trained to be useful, resourceful, observant, sympathetic, and initiated into many activities.

This 40-year-old movement is now a world organization, linked by the Guide Promise and Law, and holding a world conference every two years. South Africa is affiliated but has its own constitution and typically South African badges to work for. Friendly relationship with all youth organizations is aimed at.

The meeting voted for a contribution to Christmas fare for the children at the School of Industry.

TWEESPRUIT-WESTMINSTER OUTPOST.—The September meeting took place at the home of Mrs. B. S. Wood, Tweespruit. Mrs. Gilbert was in the chair.

Mrs. R. Wood reported that projectors were unobtainable at present, but suggested that we should start collecting for one never-the-less, and that half the proceeds from sale of cakes at meetings be put aside for this purpose. Another suggestion for raising money for this was to start a Talent Box.

Greek Relief. Members were asked to give whatever they could in the way of clothing, linen, utensils, gardening tools, etc., for this fund. The Red Cross have agreed to pack and dispatch whatever we collect.

Towards the end of September a very special meeting was held to enable members to meet and hear Mrs. Russell the N.C.W. National President. The venue was Mrs. Gilbert's home, Westminster, and she welcomed Mrs. Russell whose address was most interesting and will long be remembered by those present. Mrs. Russell began by outlining the aims of the N.C.W. She explained that it was not a welfare organization in that it does not undertake definite welfare work, but is primarily concerned with the welfare and rights of women. In the N.C.W. all societies have a common platform and meeting ground

and it will help individual societies where necessary. Although Outposts differed vastly from Branches both in numbers and scope of activities they had an important part to play in the life of the community, and should be kept alive no matter how small the membership.

N.C.W. Outposts could act as a focal centre which affords both social contacts and a place where views can be interchanged. Misunderstandings are often due to lack of interchange of ideas. Any contribution any individual can make is of importance.

In countries where women had higher education they felt the need for a common platform and so the I.C.W. had been formed, and out of this the N.C.W. had grown. All subscribed to the same general principal but methods of organization differed.

Next year's I.C.W. Conference is to be held in Greece, Mrs. Russell said, and though South Africa could send 19 delegates, but owing to the expenses involved only a few would be able to attend. This was sad as the world was only too ready to condemn South Africa, and if women with specialized knowledge could afford to attend the Conference it would do much to show the world what South Africa was really trying to accomplish and had already accomplished.

UITENHAGE.—November: As an Interim Executive Meeting is to be held in April, there was some discussion on matters which the Branch wished to come before that meeting and finally a recommendation and resolution were framed.

A visit had been paid to the Location by a few members of the Committee. A crèche is already being run by the Child Welfare Society, but next year we are going to see if there are some ways in which we can help.

Mrs. Davey was elected as our representative to attend the next Liquor Licensing Court on 6th December.

Mrs. Gordon gave us a very clear and concise resumé of a circular received from the I.S.C. for Peace and International Affairs. It was with regret we heard that Mrs. Gordon is leaving us to go to Cape Town, and when presenting her with flowers Mrs. Dugmore spoke highly of the work Mrs. Gordon has done for the Branch. She has been an active member for some years, serving on the Committee and as Branch Representative for Peace and International Affairs. We are also losing Mrs. Hewitt, who goes to King William's Town, and Mrs. Sheard and Mrs. van Onselen, who are going overseas.

After tea had been served, Mrs. Thomas, who has recently returned from a holiday overseas, gave her impressions of the numerous countries she had visited. Of special interest were her remarks on the Passion Play at Oberammergau and the hard-working women of Switzerland.

VEREENIGING.—Presenting her Annual Report, our President, Mrs. Amm, announced that during the past year nine new members had joined our Branch. The Biennial Conference, highlight of N.C.W. activities, greatly stimulated our interest in N.C.W. affairs, while the Transvaal Provincial Legislative Committee meetings continue to be a source of enlightenment. Mrs. Amm expressed our gratitude to Mrs. Levi and her committee in Pretoria for accurate information on Government and Provincial matters; and for the concise and excellent memoranda sent to all Transvaal branches.

Our guest speakers during the year, though few in number, maintained a high standard. From them we learned much about "Municipal Affairs and Local Government", "Art and Culture in Municipalities" and "Prison Affairs and the Mentality of the Habitual Criminal"; while

a brilliant talk by Mr. Van Wyk of the S.A. Institute of Race Relations contributed to the success of our annual Goodwill Tea.

Mrs. Amm announced that in recognition of the services rendered to us by Mr. Day, Editor of the "Vereeniging News", we have asked Mrs. Day to be a life member of this Council.

In conclusion, Mrs. Amm thanked office-bearers and other members of the Executive Committee for their loyal support during the year.

Mrs. J. Roth, Convener of Education, was congratulated on reporting the incidence of initiation ceremonies in local schools, with far-reaching results. The excellent work done by Mrs. Blum, Convener of Cinemas, has resulted in an improvement in the quality of film programmes shown locally to juvenile audiences. The Treasurer's report that our financial condition is sound, is most gratifying.

Mrs. Evelyn Smith, presenting Mrs. Amm with a bouquet, wished her success and happiness in her terms of office as President of our Branch and as Mayoress of Vereeniging.

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