

C.W.A.

PORTLAND ENTHUSIASM

FIRST MEETING HELD

That the Country Women's Association could be a valued institution in the town was proved at the first regular meeting of the local association on Tuesday. Several appeals for assistance were received, all of which will receive attention.

A letter from headquarters invited members to forward exhibits to be shown in the C.W.A. pavilion at the Royal Agricultural Show in Sydney, and a number of C.W.A. badges were sent for sale amongst members.

The secretary (Mrs. C. P. Miskle) announced that the funds amounted to £5, and after accounts were paid there would be a credit of 9/3. Mrs. Miskle said that she had been given to understand that no financial assistance would be given by headquarters to the Portland branch since the town was considered to possess necessary conveniences. Assistance from headquarters would be given only to towns out-back which did not have a water supply, electricity, etc., and where women had to suffer real hardship.

Discussion ensued regarding the advisability of changing the time of the monthly meeting from the afternoon to night. The president (Mrs. W. Goode) said that there were quite a number of members who, for business and other reasons, could not attend in the afternoon, and she thought that the holding of future meetings at night might be worthy of consideration.

Members, however, contended that meetings held at night would not be

meetings held at night would not be well attended, particularly during winter. Another contention was that daylight was more suitable for sewing, and it was considered that it would be impossible for members from Sunny Corner and Wallerawang to make the journey at night. Some members stated that it was not convenient for them to attend the afternoon meetings, but their interest in the movement had caused them to strain a point to be present. Eventually it was decided to allow the meeting time to remain as it was.

It was suggested that a cottage hospital should be established in Portland, chiefly for treatment of maternity cases, but the secretary pointed out that the rules of the association would not permit the opening of a hospital in opposition to the local institution. The object of C.W.A. hospitals was to fill a need in places where no hospitals were in existence. In view of these facts it was decided to let the matter drop.

The necessity of a clothing depot was stressed by the president, and it was decided that a central depot would be established to receive left-off clothing. According to the rules, needy cases would be inquired into by the president and secretary. Mrs. J. Evans' (senr.) offer to establish a depot as her home in Wallerawang-road was gratefully accepted.

A proposal to organise a bazaar was agreed to, but it was decided to first run a euchre party and dance to raise funds for immediate expenses.