

The White Ribbon

FOR GOD AND HOME AND HUMANITY

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VISIT OF MR AND MRS PHILIP SNOWDEN.

The last month has been rendered memorable by the visit of two interesting personalities from the Home Land, Mr Philip Snowden, M.P. for Blackburn, and one of the leading Labour members, and his gifted wife, who has the reputation of being the best woman speaker in England. Their visit was necessarily short, and their series of lectures for the No-License League were compressed into the brief space of four days, but they were truly a feast of good things.

The visitors arrived by the first express from Auckland on Friday, the 16th October, and in the afternoon they were accorded a civic reception. The Council Chamber was crowded with ladies and gentlemen, including many members of the No-License League and other Temperance organisations. Short speeches of welcome were delivered by His Worship the Mayor and several City Councillors, present and past, and other representative citizens. Mr Snowden, in reply, spoke feelingly of the kindness shown to him and his wife by the people of New Zealand, so that from the first they had felt at home. He paid a high tribute to the British Parliament. Since his arrival he had more than once been referred to as "representative of the British Parliament," but he could assure his listeners that he would not dare to claim such a distinction. But he was proud of being a member of the most democratic assemblage in the world, where were many aristocrats, and still more rich men, but where all that went for nothing unless ac-



MRS ETHEL SNOWDEN.

companied with sterling character, a political purpose, and high ability. There was no snobbery, and the Labour members were always listened to with the greatest respect, because it was recognised that the information they could give was reliable, being gained at first hand. The House of Commons would not be lectured to, but it was always willing and anxious to gain information on great social questions.

Referring to the various humble positions he had held before entering Parliament, as on the Parish Council, School Board, Educational Committee, and so on, the speaker emphasised the importance of the municipal offices, both in themselves and as affording a training ground for higher positions. Their function, though not legislative, like that of Parliament, was equally important, seeing that most reforms have to be carried out by the people themselves. In closing, he said that he had been greatly touched by hearing hundreds and thousands of New Zealanders talking of England as "Home," though perhaps they had never been outside these islands. "While this spirit lasts, the Empire will be able to stand four square against what ever winds may blow."

Mrs Snowden said it was hardly necessary for her to say anything, for her heart and her husband's beat in unison, so that all that he had said she said too. There had been no thought of war when they left Britain, or doubtless they would not have come, but having come, they were resolved to do what they had come for. As to the war, the chief thing was not to worry, but keep calm, prepared for any emergency and any service required. She too appreciated the kindness of the New Zealanders, and if ever her roots could be pulled up and she could settle in another land than "Home," New Zealand would be the country where she could feel most at home.

The first of the series of Prohibition addresses, given under the auspices of the No-License League, were delivered on Friday evening in the

Town Hall. Sir Joseph Ward occupied the chair, and briefly introduced the visitors. Mr Snowden gave a telling address, clear, logical, and to the point. He argued that all social problems are closely knit together, so that it is impossible now to deal with one apart from the others. The social problem of to-day is really the old problem of earlier times modified by the different conditions of modern life. The aim is to secure the largest amount of happiness with the least expenditure of labour, and in the earlier stages of civilisation slavery was held to supply the solution. The social problem of to-day is to devise some industrial organisation whereby sufficient wealth for the needs and comforts of all may be obtained with the least expenditure, so as to leave each individual leisure for the development of his intellectual faculties, and for social intercourse. In the great countries, like Britain and the United States, it takes the form of a protest against the extremes of wealth and poverty, idleness and hard work, culture and ignorance; or the effort to devise a scheme whereby the wealth of the nation may be produced in the most economical way, so as to abolish the present waste of time and money. He traced the great change that during the last twenty years has taken place in public opinion, so that no party working for the improvement of social conditions now confines its attention to one aspect and ignores all others. At one time the Temperance party refused to consider anything but the drink question; the Socialist Party maintained that the unsatisfactory position of the working men was in no way due to their drinking habits; Trades Unionism had nothing at all to do with Temperance. But now the British Labour Party and British Trades Unionism have alike taken up an entirely different attitude, and recognise that drink is one of the greatest obstacles to their progress, for the man that drinks is always the one that wants to come out on strike. On the other hand, it is now generally admitted by all parties labouring for reforms that the abolition of the Liquor Traffic will not remove slums, nor solve the housing problem, but it will make this and all other problems easier to solve. If the working people are to be the dominant political power, they must prepare themselves for it. They must think less about asserting their rights and more

about understanding and fulfilling their duties; and they must avoid that which tends to unfit them for the exercise of power. The address concluded with a powerful appeal to all to go forward and use their power to abolish the Liquor Traffic, and thus ameliorate the conditions of living.

Mrs Snowden said she wished to emphasise the woman's viewpoint of the Liquor Traffic. One purpose she had in coming to New Zealand was to find out whether women used the power they had gained, through their enfranchisement, to the best advantage, and she would be heartbroken if she had to acknowledge herself disappointed. She had never prophesied that the millennium would come when women had the vote, but it was a fact that wherever women had been enfranchised they had, in part, or altogether, abolished the Liquor Traffic. The woman's point of view in regard to every public question must take a certain line, for alike with men and women, the viewpoint is that which each has gained from past experience. To men has belonged the duty of supporting the home and obtaining property; to women that of bearing and training children. Men have worked for procuring material things, so certain parts of the male character have developed unduly. What men have toiled for so much they respect highly, so they think too much of property. This is seen in the laws respecting property. Only 100 years ago there were 300 crimes against property that were punishable with death, and though this state of things has gone, and we do not now hang a thief, still the same old spirit is found in the attitude of those who administer the law. Here is an instance reported in one of the Liverpool papers: A man stole two overcoats in order to buy bread for his starving wife and children, and for this he was sentenced to six months' hard labour. In the same paper was reported the case of a man who had assaulted a little girl of 10 in a picture theatre, and he was fined 10s and costs. But the change of public opinion is such that an audience of British men would express their disapproval of this just as heartily as an audience in New Zealand. Women are not better than men, nor men than women; each is superior to the other in different ways. There is a sense in which the children are especially the property of the mother,

who has suffered so much for their sake. Fatherhood can be achieved without the father knowing it, but motherhood brings its special experience and training, wherever the mother is. So when women are enfranchised and are called upon to decide between property and children, they will vote for the children. There are exceptions, no doubt; there are women canvassing for the Licensed Victuallers, for many women take the selfish attitude on this question, and this class is said to be growing with the spread of social, intellectual, and political liberty. Some even argue that because of the increase in liberty women ought to have more liberty to drink. But drinking among women is a serious menace to the existence of the nation and of the Empire, through its terrible effects on the bodies, minds, and souls of the children. It was bad when the aristocracy took to drink; it was worse when the middle class followed their example; worse still when the evil habit spread to the working classes; but it is worst of all when the women yield to the temptation. "I appeal to the chivalry of the men," said Mrs Snowden, in conclusion, "to sacrifice their own small pleasures, and to make drink inaccessible; to protect the women of your nation, and so make way for the superman and superwoman, for whose coming we are daily waiting."

ORGANISING FUND.

The following amounts have been received for the Organising Fund during the month of October, 1914:—

6th—Opotiki Union, 10s
 9th—Woodville Union, "Franchise Day," 12s
 12th—Mrs Boniface, Pungarehu (per Mrs Mowlem), £1.
 22nd—Donation from Manaia Union (per Mrs Patterson): Normanby Union, £2; Mr Douglas, New Plymouth, 12s 6d; Ngaire, 10s; Manaia Convention contribution, 13s 6d
 25th—Timaru Union, £3 13s
 30th—Wellington S. District, £5 7s
 30th—Invercargill Union, £5.

ALICE R. C. TAYLOR,

Treasurer Organising Fund.

Money orders payable to Alice Taylor.

Address: Mrs R. H. S. Taylor, "Coveney," Balgownie, Wanganui.

The "White Ribbon" will be posted to any address on receipt of 2s 8d, payable to Mrs Peryman, Johnsonville.

A PAGE FOR Y's.

A GIRL'S INFLUENCE.

By Annie M. Vail.

(Continued.)

He had not left a bad impression; he always had a taking way with the girls he tried to please, not girls like Miss Armitage; but the earnestness, the humility, the almost reverential respect he had shown became him well, and he had the kind of good looks which, with purity of life and right ambitions, would be most attractive.

This was the beginning. Next evening he took care to find a place across the aisle in her vicinity. He seemed unconscious of her presence until the appeal to rise for prayers; then he slightly turned his head, caught and earnestly held her eyes for a moment, noted the tightening clasp of her hands, and slowly rose to his feet. He was determined to associate her with every step of his new pathway.

There was much rejoicing over this sign of interest; the church people gathered round him; there was special prayer in his behalf; Ed. Clifford would indeed be a brand saved from the burning.

In the semi-darkness of the church porch he breathed in Mabel's ear, "Do I presume too much? You seem to me like a beacon light in this trouble." At the gate he said, "God bless you, Mabel Armitage!" and strode down the street as if there were temptation in the thought of lingering.

Ed. Clifford's conversion was not a quick one. He rose again for prayers; he said before the congregation that he was trying to find the way out of darkness. More than once he went to the altar, but found only the blessing of increased anxiety. "God's angel does not let me go backward," he said one night; "but I don't find peace yet." Mabel's face flamed, but no one else knew his literal meaning. The nightly talks grew more earnest; there was more and more lingering at parting, but it did not suit him yet to enter the little charmed parlour. He was honest in all this effort. If he could have separated Mabel from his endeavour there might have been a different outcome. Almost from the very first he aspired to win her, and he had strong hope.

He could not realise that they were separated by anything but difference in social position—"and if I come out all right, she isn't the girl to consider that," he argued.

Mabel was enlisted heart and soul in his rescue. She thought of and prayed for little else; she believed herself entrusted with a sacred mission; she grew a little pale and large-eyed in the intensity of the struggle.

At last there came a night when he was lifted farther away from self. He felt joyful and light-hearted. If it was not all, he thought it had its bearing in God's plan for him. He rose from his knees and told the congregation he believed he had found safety and peace and rest, and there was rejoicing over him. He saw the radiant gladness in Mabel's face, and his heart beat high. They scarcely spoke during the homeward walk.

"May I come in a little while?" he pleaded as humbly as if she had never invited him.

"Yes, come in," she said. "I haven't told you how glad I am." He had never been a guest in such a place. The room was full of the fragrance of Bon Lilene roses; the tinted light fell just as he had pictured it on the pretty figure in soft cashmere and pale blue ribbons. "After all, I can't tell you how glad I am," she said.

"It is all your work," he answered. "Oh, Mabel," he broke out, "you have been an angel of light to lead me so far; don't let me go now. You don't know how far I've had to come. How hard it is. Nobody but you can hold me. Can't you guide me and keep me right all my life? I am poor, dear, and not fit for you, with nothing but a wasted life behind me, but I worship you, and you can save me. Unworthy as I am, dear, is not it what the Lord has given you to do?"

He did not stay long to weary her. "My little girl," he said, "you are worn out with what you have been through for me, and you must rest." Then she held his coat for him to slip into, and made some pretty ado about turning up the collar, for the early December air was sharp, and he gave her an adoring look, and whispered some adoring words, and lightly touched her lips, and left her flushed, tremulously happy, sweetly assured that she had found her appointed mission. It was the only

unalloyed comfort she had in her unfortunate little love affair, for on the morrow the crusade against it began.

(To be Continued.)

Mrs Moody, 15, Henderson Street, Bluff, wishes to notify Y. Unions that she has a large number of World's Convention report of Y. Branch. Any White Ribboners (Y's or otherwise) can have copies by sending to Mrs Moody the cost of postage. All interested in Y. work would do well to get a copy, as it gives a splendid insight into the Y. work all over the world.

MAORI ORGANISER'S REPORT.

October 25, 1914.

Owing to a long illness, I have been unable to do any more travelling amongst the Unions this last few months, but since I have been convalescent I have been corresponding with each one of them, and have also sent them pamphlets by Dr. Pomare re the "Care of Babies," and another instructing them on how to care for typhoid patients. These have been greatly appreciated by them all. Indeed, one Union in the far North has written to me an invitation to myself to pay them a long visit, and to take Dr Buck and Dr. Pomare with me, that we might further instruct them on matters of health.

There has been a new branch formed at Oruawharo, nine miles inland from Kaipara Harbour. The Union at Otamatea met last month, and I attended. I found that their work is greatly handicapped by the fact that the men folk can procure liquor in any quantity at any time. I have written to the constable asking him to do his best for us by preventing any being brought away, and to try to detect the "go-betweens," who for a drink or two are willing to buy bottles and carry them to the Maoris.

I wish to thank, through this paper, the Rev. E. Te Tuhi for the splendid help he has rendered to the Unions in the Kaipara Harbour. I am sorry that I have not a better report to make this time. My work is all being done by correspondence, and I am afraid it will be a month or two more before I am able to travel again.—I remain, dears sisters, yours in the work,

FLORENCE WOODHEAD.

News of the Unions.

(The Editor cannot promise to insert anything in the next issue that does not reach her by the 8th of the month. Correspondents are requested to write their Reports as concisely as possible, on one side of the paper only. Newspaper cuttings are unsuitable.)

NORMANBY.

Sept. Meeting held in Social Hall, 15 present, four new members joining. Resolved: "That each member look after their neighbours, that we may gain all votes." Reading by Miss Gilling. Vote of thanks was passed to Mrs Patterson for gift of Bibles and hymn books. Refreshments handed round.

Oct. Meeting held in Social Hall, 13 being present. One new member joined. Mrs Scott presided. Mrs Butler proposed, as we had enjoyed the franchise for 21 years, we use all the power we undoubtedly possess to wipe the Liquor Traffic out of our fair land. Mrs Hayward was elected Superintendent of Literature. Decided to provide refreshments on polling day. Each member promised to put in as much time as possible on that day to help. A very enthusiastic meeting was brought to a close. Afternoon tea was then handed round.

WANGANUI.

Meeting held in Trinity Parlour on October 30th, Mrs J. Smith presiding for the last time. A vote of condolence was passed to the family of the late Mrs Basil Taylor. Two new members were initiated. Mrs Upton received a warm welcome, and gave an interesting account of her recent trip to England. The Agricultural Association wrote granting the use of one of the outside grandstands for the use of mothers and children on Show days. At Paul and Co.'s tearooms the members made a presentation to Mrs Smith of a pair of copper vases and a silver cake stand. A delicious afternoon tea was served. In spite of the heavy rain, there was a large attendance.

Our Bazaar, which was held on the afternoon and evening of October 8th, realised the sum of £96, which was very satisfactory.

A meeting was held on October 13th for the purpose of allocating the money and to pass accounts for payment. £74 was voted to the No-License League, £10 to the Maori Organiser, and £10 to our own Organiser.

TAURANGA.

The meeting began with prayer. Reports were read by the various office-holders. Miss Norrie was initiated into our membership, and heartily welcomed.

NORTH-EAST VALLEY.

Usual monthly meeting held on Thursday afternoon. Mrs Eliot presided over good attendance. A solo was sung during the afternoon, and one new member was welcomed. Pastor McCallum gave an evangelistic address. Decided to forego the usual tea at the annual meeting next month, and to devote the money thus saved to the No-License Fighting Fund.

DUNEDIN.

November meeting in No-License rooms, President in the chair. Memorial service to the late Mrs R. Booth, who died very suddenly while in the North Island. Mrs Booth, formerly of the Nelson Union, was a sweet, gracious woman. Mesdames Driver and Porteous spoke feelingly of the inspiring influence and faithful services of our late member. A motion was passed expressing deep sorrow with the bereaved family. The following resolutions were carried:—"That the members of the W.C.T.U. express their horror at the atrocities committed by German soldiers in the march through Belgium, and express the belief that these were largely due to the drinking customs of the German army, and furnish the strongest possible argument for the abolition of all intoxicating liquors. The action of the Belgians in destroying every bottle of intoxicants before leaving Antwerp proves their conviction that the frightful barbarities of the Germans were due to drunkenness." "That there is much cause for thankfulness that some naval and military authorities are prohibiting the use of intoxicating liquor by soldiers and sailors. Russia has sacrificed £90,000,000 annually by the abolition of the spirit monopoly. This direful war has achieved a victory elsewhere than on the battlefield." Regret was expressed that the measure to give women seats on the Legislative Council had been defeated. Mrs Jarvie was appointed Superintendent of Home and Suburban Meetings.

KAIKORAI.

Meeting held in Church Hall October 30th. Mrs Driver presided. There was a small attendance. Rolls and enrolment forms were given out for the district canvass, members to begin at once. After prayer by Mrs Driver, meeting adjourned to Mr Stewart's meeting for ladies, a candidate who is in favour of the Bare Majority.

SHEFFIELD.

October meeting. Ten members present, Mrs McIlraith presiding. Miss Roberts' letter in current number "White Ribbon" read and discussed, and decided to follow Miss Roberts' advice. Secretary to write Minister of Public Health re same. Mrs McIlraith, our delegate, gave an instructive report of the Provincial Convention.

Special meeting held at Annat October 29th. Mrs Lee-Cowie was expected to address, but was planned at Lincoln, and could not come. Seven members present, and one visitor. Mrs McIlraith presided. A letter received from Mrs Day re the Hon. Mr Allen's refusal to listen to the demands of the women teachers; held over until next meeting. A book on the "Women's Franchise Movement in New Zealand" was received from Mr Sydney Smith, to be dealt with at next meeting.

Meeting held at Sheffield November 4th, present 5 members, Mrs McMillan presiding. Mrs Day's letter was then read and discussed, and decided that we send a protest to the Minister of Education re his refusal to listen to the teachers' demands. Mr Sydney Smith's book on "Women's Franchise Movement in New Zealand" was received with thanks. Members to take it in turn to read. Secretary to write a letter of thanks to Mr Smith. Letter received from Mrs Lee-Cowie, also booklets and papers for distribution among members; also a letter from Miss Henderson re annual report for year ending December 31st.

BLLENHEIM.

Monthly meeting held October 6th, in Wesley Hall, Mrs Jackson presiding. Attendance good. Decided to donate £5 to relief of poor in Britain and Belgium, also a box of clothing each member donating one garment. One new member. Afternoon tea handed round.

MANAIA.

Oct. Usual monthly meeting held in Methodist Church, 12 members present and two visitors. Mrs Don wrote returning money donated to N.Z. Fund, and suggesting that it be donated to the Organising Fund. Resolved to send £5 to Maori Organising Fund. Mrs Membry appointed Superintendent of Maori Work, and spoke of the interest the Maoris take in the Maori Notes in "White Ribbon." It was noted that the Bill giving 31 days more gambling had been passed by Parliament. One new member, two for Cradle Roll.

ASHBURTON.

Meeting held on October 6th. Mrs Mowlem (Dominion Organiser) present, and addressed the meeting on the "Aims and Objects" of the W.C.T.U. The speaker emphasised the need for united prayer in seeking to accomplish the overthrow of the liquor traffic. She spoke of work for the coming poll, and distributed literature. Vote of thanks to Mrs Mowlem. Afternoon tea handed round.

Meeting held on October 13th. Mrs W. K. Watson presided over a fair attendance of members. Resolved that a collection be taken next meeting in aid of the Organising Funds.

Mrs Mowlem's work as organiser was referred to by Mrs Watson, and the prospect of extending our influence was very encouraging. The delegate's report of the Provincial Convention, held in Christchurch, was read by Mrs J. H. Dent, and adopted. A vote of thanks was accorded the writer, and a discussion on campaign work followed.

KAIAPOI.

Meeting held on 14th October. The Cycling Club accepted with thanks the offer of the W.C.T.U. to provide all the attendants necessary at the refreshment booth on Labour Day. Unanimously resolved to urge the Park Committee to provide conveniences in the Park grounds for women and children. Decided that Mr Bligh's lecture be held on November 10th at Kaiapoi, and to ask all the Bible Classes to attend, and endeavour to make this meeting a success. Decided to forward four questions from the W.C.T.U. on the licensing and gambling issues to Mr Jones. These questions to be answered publicly. Mrs Brighting then read an extract from "Fifty Doctors on Alcohol."

NELSON.

Monthly meeting October 13th, attendance fair, Mrs Field presiding. Special reference was made in the opening prayers to three members whose sons had gone to the war. It was resolved: "That we express our deep and heartfelt sympathy with our President in the death of her mother, and we also express our high appreciation of the life and work of Mrs Atkinson, one of the oldest members of our Union, and one who has always had its interests at heart, never sparing herself in any way when she could help on the Temperance and other social movements." His 3d was collected for the Salvation Army Self-Denial Fund. In reply to Dr. Frengley's letter to the Unions in reference to the compulsory detention of persons suffering from venereal diseases, it was resolved: "That we see no reason for not adhering to our previous resolution of dissent from clause 19 of the Act, which provides for such detention." Letters were read and received from the N.Z. President, the World's Vice-President, and the N.Z. Superintendents of the Race Medical Temperance, and Home Service Departments. Mrs Field urged members to hear Mr and Mrs Snowden. Resolved: "That a Garden Party and Sale of Work be held on November 11th."

Two Good Citizenship meetings have been held on September 25th and October 9th, the subjects being respectively "The Need of Women in Government" and "The Need of Instruction to Boys and Girls in Sex Hygiene." The attendance was not large on either occasion, but the discussion was animated and interesting, resolutions being passed in support of both propositions.

WELLINGTON CENTRAL.

Oct. 16. Attendance good at meeting. Mrs A. R. Atkinson presided. Mrs G. Wood led in prayer. A very interesting paper by Miss Powell was read. The following are the prize-winners for the temperance essay written by the children of the Maranui and Mount Cook Girls Schools:—Maranui School—Victor McDonald, 1; Fred. Gentry, 2; Annie McDonald, special. Mount Cook Girls' School—Roma Alexander, 1; May Kelly, 2. There was only six marks between the twelve girls who competed. Resolved: "That this Union protests against the failure of the Education Bill to provide equal pay for equal work, regardless of the sex of the workers, and points out to the Minister for Education that the payment of women on a lower scale on the ground that a man supports a wife and family is an injustice, and necessitates an inquiry into the number of teachers of each sex, and the payment of them on a sliding scale." Mrs Wright (Wellington District) and Mrs Griffiths (Wellington Central) were appointed visitors to the gaol.

WINCHMORE.

Much more interest created in the work. Ministers come out in turn from Ashburton, and give some splendid addresses. Three new members joined lately. In October Mrs Mowlem paid a visit to Winchmore. At the final meeting of Band of Hope the prizes won by the temperance wall sheet essayists are to be distributed. The prizes are given by the W.C.T.U. We are now working for the Sailors' Rest and Belgium Relief Fund.

OPOTIKI.

Oct. 8. Meeting held, 9 present, Mrs Murray presiding. The election was discussed, and members were urged to see all voters were enrolled. Mrs Goodall gave a report of another successful Band of Hope meeting.

Oct. 29. Special meeting held, 19 ladies present, Mrs Murray in the chair. Correspondence was read from Mrs Walker, Gisborne, also from Miss Dewar, Auckland, asking for a little help for a Sale of Work. A number of articles forwarded on to the Auckland Union. Resolved to send for 250 copies of the Gisborne pamphlet for distribution. Decided to provide refreshments for all No-License sympathisers on election day. Decided to hold a gift auction on November 25th in aid of the No-License campaign. One new member enrolled.

KAIKOURA.

Meeting held in St. Paul's Schoolroom October 6th, attendance good. Mrs McAra (President) in the chair. Miss R. Gibson elected sick and hospital visitor, owing to resignation of Mrs E. Gray through ill-health. Two new members were enrolled. Final arrangements were made for Mrs

Lee-Cowie's lecture, to be delivered on Wednesday, October 7th. Band of Hope Superintendent reported progress of her work. Meeting closed with the singing of the Temperance Doxology.

Mrs Lee-Cowie's lecture was delivered in the Drill Hall, and was well attended. The lecturer was accorded a very hearty vote of thanks.

Meeting held in St. Paul's Schoolroom on November 3rd. Mrs McAra (President) presided. One new member enrolled. Miss Gibson reported visiting hospital, and distributed flowers and literature. Mrs C. Parris reported progress in the Band of Hope; rally took place on October 22nd, to be addressed by Mr Herps, organiser of Prohibition League, but owing to his unavoidable absence, the evening took the form of a social. Meeting of the Band of Hope took place in St. Paul's Schoolroom on October 27th. The Superintendent read a paper entitled, "Beware of the Snare."

NGAIO.

Monthly meeting held October 9th at Mrs Darvall's residence, Mrs Peryman presiding. The resolutions sent by United Women's Committee, Christchurch, were discussed, and passed, with the exception of one. Decided to purchase White Ribbon Hymnal for use at future meetings.

MASTERTON.

Annual social held in Knox Hall on November 3rd. Mrs Devonport (President) presided. Attendance good. Apologies for absence received from Rev. A. T. Thompson, Rev. S. Serpell, and Mr J. T. M. Hornsby. The President referred to the work of the Union during the year, also to the loss sustained through the death of Mrs C. E. Daniell, whose willing help on behalf of the Union will be greatly missed. The Secretary read her report, showing the work and progress of the various departments. The Treasurer (Mrs Sutherland) read her report, showing a substantial balance to the credit of the Union. Mrs G. Ross (Supt. of Home Meetings) and Mrs J. Walker (Supt. of Flower Missions) read their reports of work done in their respective departments. Interesting addresses were given by the Rev. B. L. Thomas, Rev. Thos. Halliday, Ensign Newson, and Pastor Swinerd, interspersed by songs and recitations. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the managers of Knox Church for the free use of Hall during the year, also to the Press for reports, and to those who contributed items on the programme. Afternoon tea was provided by the ladies. One member was initiated.

MATAURA.

September meeting addressed by visitor from Dunedin. Her subject, "The Suffragettes in London." Our

Stocking League met at the residence of Mrs Menzies, and packed 290 garments (which they had made from cast-off stockings and clothing), to be sent to Dr. Barnardo's Home. Mrs Menzies entertained the League at afternoon tea.

Oct. 30. Meeting held, President (Mrs Landels) in the chair. Deputation from the No-License League to discuss plans of work for the forthcoming election. Decided to divide the town into sections, and two members to take a section and find out if all adults were on the electoral roll. C. S. Tape, evangelist, Church of Christ, gave a short address.

AUCKLAND.

Oct. Meeting held October 8th, Mrs Thorpe presiding; present, 30. A letter of sympathy to be sent to our President (Mrs Pudney) on the illness of her husband. A vote of sympathy was passed with Miss Atkinson, of the Nelson Union, on the death of her mother. Miss Evans reported that the names of volunteers for street canvassing had been forwarded to various organisers. Mr Lovell Smith presented the Union with a copy of his book, "Woman's Franchise in New Zealand." Decided to order some copies, if obtainable. Mrs Taylor, Mrs Thorpe, and Miss Dewar appointed to attend the meeting called by Mr McDermott, "Top Line Demonstration," and report. Rev. E. P. Blamires then gave an address on "Contagion of Personal Influence," and gave some valuable hints to No-License workers.

Wednesday, October 28. Meeting held, Mrs Thorpe presiding. Decided Miss Evans be released from her duties to work for the No-License League till after the election. Final arrangements made for the Sale of Gifts, to be held in St. David's Schoolroom November 5th.

NAPIER.

Oct. 15. Paper read by Mrs Neal on "Medicated Wines and the Awakening," by Dr. Wallace Smith, and was highly appreciated. Members hoped next Convention would ask the Government to legislate that medicated wines should have formula printed on label and percentage of alcohol stated. Suggestions were asked for striking wall sheets for the public schools; present ones have too much and too close printing for the children to read easily, and certainly too much for them to remember. Mrs Walter Fossey was nominated to stand for the coming election on the Hospital and Charitable Aid Board.

Nov. 4. Mrs Venables was congratulated on her husband standing for the Napier seat, as he was a warm friend of W.C.T.U. and a great Temperance advocate. Mrs Fossey was congratulated on being on the Hospital and Charitable Aid Board, she being the first woman in Napier to get on that Board. Members requested to attend a special Temperance Sunday service on November 15th at the Methodist Church,

FEILDING.

At the annual meeting a large proportion of our 40 members were present, Miss Moore in the chair. The following officers were elected:—Pres., Miss Moore; Rec. Sec., Miss Svendsen; Treas., Mrs Williamson; Cor. Sec., Mrs J. C. Thompson; Vice-Pres., Mrs Frost and the ministers' wives; Dorcas, Mesdames Walpole, Carr, Harford, Penny, and Thompson. Mrs Walpole, treasurer for the little girl in the Home, said the father sent thanks to those who had helped. The Secretary's and Treasurer's annual reports were read. Mrs Budd's kind invitation to hold a social at the manse was accepted with thanks.

Nov. 5. There were about 40 present at the manse social. £2 14s was raised by a collection, to go to the Dorcas funds. Members contributed solos. Afternoon tea was handed round.

NEW PLYMOUTH.

Sept. 10. The Union members were able to organise a monster tea meeting, the proceeds from which were handed over to the No-License League for campaign expenses.

Sept. 26. Franchise Day was kept by issuing special invitations. An excellent address was given by the Rev. A. B. Chappell on "Women's Franchise." New Zealand funds will benefit by £1. Mrs McIsaac presided. One new member.

Oct. 13. A very large meeting was organised for Mrs Snowden's visit, about four hundred being present. Six new members were initiated.

Oct. 25. We commenced weekly meetings on this day to organise campaign work.

Nov. 5. Home meeting held, when Mrs Cowie gave excellent address, "Encouragement," to workers.

Nov. 6. A home meeting at Oruata resulted in six new members joining our ranks. Mrs Cowie again gave a most telling address on "Motherhood."

OXFORD.

Oct. 15. Special meeting held in the S.A. Barracks, kindly lent free of charge. Attendance fair. Mrs Gainsford presided. The following resolution was carried unanimously:—"That this Union protests against the action of members of Parliament who recently voted in favour of an increase of facilities for gambling. It views with special indignation the attitude of the member for Kaiapoi, whose vote went in favour of this disgraceful measure. This Union holds that the interests of our young people should be the first consideration of our legislators, and we will work and vote at the coming election against the men who supported and passed this Bill."

Sept. 26. Mrs Lee-Cowie gave an earnest address in the East Oxford Town Hall. A snow storm responsible for small attendance.

Nov. Meeting held in Coronation Hall; attendance fair. Mrs Gains-

ford presided. Arrangements made to hold a rally Band of Hope on November 18th in the West Oxford School, at which the prizes won for essays on Temperance Wall Sheets will be distributed. Decided to send £5 5s to the Belgian Relief Fund. Decided to invite Mrs Brighting to organise at Cust. 12 having promised to join. Afternoon tea was handed round.

SOUTH DUNEDIN.

Aug. Members attended the evening church service in Presbyterian Church. Rev. Fairmand made special reference to the local work carried on by the W.C.T.U.

Monthly meeting was held in the Reid Hall, St. Kilda. Mrs Hancock presided. The hall well filled with members and visitors. Mrs Don, New Zealand President, gave a stirring address, and asked all women to make it a time of special prayer for peace from the dreadful war, and freedom from drink's curse. Three new members were enrolled.

Sept. meeting was held in the hall of the Baptist Church, Caversham. Mrs Hancock presided. Mrs Driver gave a very fine address, urging women to do all in their power to save humanity from the evils of drink.

Oct. Meeting held in the Presbyterian Church Hall at Anderson's Bay. Mrs Hancock presided. Prayers for peace and for the overthrow of the drink curse were offered up. Miss Bisson, from England, lady organiser of the Temperance Reform Council, told of her labours in the London slums, and urged those present to banish the drink from this young country before it gets too strong a hold.

Our meetings are in different localities, and we have thus been enabled to come in contact with many women and interest them in our work. Literature has been freely distributed. Our meetings have been small, as all our women have been so busy in patriotic work; still we have realised that "If you meet in My name, there will I be to bless you."

METHVEN.

Second meeting held in the Anglican Schoolroom on November 4th. This Union was organised about a month ago by Mrs Mowlem (Organiser), Mrs Watson, and Mrs Dent, from Ashburton. The meeting was small, but all those present agreed to join the Union, and office-bearers were appointed as follows:—Pres., Mrs McKee; Vice-Pres., Mrs Powell and Mrs Aitken; Sec., Misses Wilton and Livingstone; Treas., Mrs Barrett; "W.R." Agent, Mrs J. McD. Anderson. The increased attendance at the second meeting was very encouraging, and eight new members joined. Three Ashburton representatives were present, and addresses were given by Mrs Watson and Mrs Lill. At both meetings afternoon tea was handed round.

INVERCARGILL.

On October 20th there was a good attendance. The report of "Cradle Roll Party" was given by Miss Brown, Secretary; 8 new members were enrolled that day, making a total of 88 children on the roll. An address upon "Feeding the Baby" was given by Plunket Nurse O'Shea. Mrs Brown also spoke. Cards and literature were distributed, and afternoon tea handed round. Decided to again have the rest and tea rooms at the forthcoming Agricultural Show. The Union is also undertaking the oversight of the retiring rooms in the grand stand. An address upon "Prison Reform and Work Amongst Young People" was given by Mr McLean, City Missioner, and much appreciated.

Nov. 3. Meeting well attended. Rev. and Mrs Baird, examiners for the school children's essays on Temperance Wall Sheets, reported that 114 essays had been sent in. As so many of these were most excellent papers, it was decided to increase the number of prizes, £5 to be spent. Further arrangements were made for the conduct of the rest and tea rooms at the Show. Decided to donate two pairs of blankets to the consignment being sent by St. John's Ambulance for the soldiers. Most of our members are very busy preparing clothes for the needy Belgians. The Union is working in conjunction with the Reform Council in distributing Temperance literature.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

Nov. 5. Meeting held in the Constable Street Rooms. Mrs Evans, M.A., presided over a good attendance. Suggested that essays should be written by the school children from the lessons learned from the Temperance Wall Sheets, which were provided by the Educational Department. Mrs Boxall proposed—1st: "That the letter received from the Minister for Justice (Mr Herdman) be replied to, thanking him for what he has done re closing the shops on Sundays, yet calling the attention of the police to those shops in Wellington South and Island Bay which still do business on the Sabbath." 2nd: "That a letter be written to the Secretary of the Ministers' Association asking them to preach on 'Sabbath Observance' once a quarter, for the sake of the children, who are tempted to spend their pennies in the sweets shops which are kept open on that day." Mrs Glover, of the Salvation Army, addressed the meeting, giving pathetic instances of those who could not pass an open bar, and pleaded with all those present to help close them. Mrs Glover has a wonderful personality, and impressed all those who were privileged to hear her with her Christian charity and consecrated womanliness. In response to Miss Newcombe's appeal for relief for the poor children distressed through the war, 1500 garments have been packed to be sent. Everyone responded heartily to the request, es-

pecially Clyde Quay and Newtown Schools, and 12s 6d sent by scholars of the Newtown School for food for the Belgian children. In many of the children's garments Mrs Boxall had pennies sewn, with a little message to each one, and others had a handkerchief with a coin sewn in placed in the pockets as a pleasant surprise to the one receiving it.

WARKWORTH.

Meeting held in the Methodist Church on Thursday, October 29th. Arrangements were made for our final meeting for this year. All present agreed for a social afternoon tea and a competition. This Union has been very actively at work for the distress of Belgians and the London poor, resulting in several large parcels of clothing being conveyed to England. Women of the Dominion can help liberally the distress in the Old Country. We can deplete our winter's wardrobe for the sufferers.

NGAERE.

Nov. 3. Annual meeting at Mrs X. Jones', a good number present, Mrs Morison presiding. Reports and balance-sheet considered satisfactory. The following were elected officers:—Pres., Mrs Kennington; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Morison, M. T. Phillips, and Ellis; Sec., Mrs X. Jones; Rec. Sec., Mrs K. Tarrant; Treas., Mrs S. Witham. Miss Saunders was appointed organist. Superintendents of several departments were also appointed.

PAHIATUA.

Nov. 5. Usual meeting held, Mrs Ross in the chair. Resolved that a letter of sympathy be sent to Mr and Miss Hewat for the loss of Mrs Hewat, one of our members, who passed away since our last meeting. Resolved that a letter of thanks be sent to Mr W. S. Lovell-Smith for his kindness in sending us a free copy of his book, "Women's Franchise Movement in New Zealand." Resolved that a letter be sent to Mrs Falloon, sympathising with her in her son's accident. Reported that an afternoon tea had been held at Mrs J. D. Wilson's to bid farewell to our member, Mrs Punch, who is leaving Pahiatua to reside in Hamilton. A paper on "How Prohibition came to Tennessee" was read.

CHRISTCHURCH.

Sept. 23. Mrs McCombs presided. Mrs Mowlem, Dominion Organiser, gave an account of her work, and it was decided to organise in suburbs visited by her. Mr Voss thanked for his offer of help at the A. and P. Show. Letter of sympathy sent to Mrs Wicks. Eight new members.

Oct. 14. Arrangements made for luncheon booth at A. and P. Show. Donation of £5 received from Y.M.C.A. and C.E.M.S., both societies to be thanked for their generous gift. Mr W. S. Smith thanked for gift of his book, "Women's Franchise Movement in New Zealand"

GISBORNE.

Oct. 29. A social evening, organised by Mrs Malcolm, who has charge of Juvenile Department of our work. A varied programme, consisting of action songs, recitations, and songs, given by children and friends. An address delivered by Rev. J. P. Wainwright was much appreciated. The special feature of the evening was the presentation by Mrs Graham of a medal to Ernest Hambly and a book (second prize) to Helen Minnis, for best Temperance essays. These prizes were competed for by members of various Bands of Hope.

OTAMATEA.

I tu te mitini ate Roopu Wahine o Otamatea takiwa o Kaipara ite 11th Oketopa, ki roto ite whare ote Heke-tari o Mereana Peraniko. Ka hime-netia te himene ka inoi te perehitini ka mutu te karakia ka puare te whare monga take.

1. Kote kahi marama.

2. Kote tumuaki onga Roopu ko Miss F. Woodhead ka tomo mai hei mema mote Roopu Wamine o Otamatea. He nui to matou hari.

Nga whaka mihi kite tumuaki no Ngahuaia Tapihana. Kei te nui te aroha mete hari ote ngakau mo tou hoki oranga mai i tou mate. Kite Matua ite Rangi te whaka whetua mo Tona aroha nui i whaka hokia mai nei koe kia matou. Haere mai ete Tumauaki. Haere mai ki tenei o Roopu kite tohuaohu ia matou ienei o hoa mahi. Haere mai kote kupu nui ia kote Aroha kia koe. Kia Ora! Kia Ora ra koe. Ka tautokona engamema, nga mihi kite Tumauaki.

3. He whaka mihi ki ta matou kotiro kite mahita o etahi oa matou tamariki kia Mereana Kerehoma kua tomo mai nei ki tenei Roopu. He nui te hari mo tenei hoa mahi kua tomo mai nei hei awhina ia matou. Kia Ora ano nga mema hou.

4. He kupu whaka hoki nate Tumauaki monga mihi. Kia Ora koutou katoa ete Roopu o Otamatea. He nui ano tooku hari moku kua tae mai nei ki waenganui ia koutou e mahi nei i ta tatou mahi. Aha koa iau e ngaro atu ana hoki tonu mai aku mahara ki tenei Roopu mete ngakau inoi ano kia whaka kaha ngia koutou me era ahi Roopu ia poutou mahi pai. E mohio ana ano au he whawhai nui ta koutou kei waenganui o tenei marae kite turaki itenei mea ite waipiro kia maia, kia u. Kei ngoikore koutou. Mate Atua tatou e whakakaha. Kia Ora mai ano koutou!

5. Kei te whakaaro tenei Roopu o Otamatea kite whaka tu "tea meeting" hei awhine ito matou whare, karakia, ate wiki tuatahi o Tihena. Ka tae atu he whaka, mahara kinoa Roopu onga takiwa tata.

Ka mutu nga take ka whaka mutua ete perehitini kite inoi.

Hekeretari, Mereana Peraniko.

Noema 2, 1914. I tu te Roopu Karaitiana Otamatea ite tahi onga ra ote marama nei. Katu te (Perehi-

tini) Makereta K. Mu, Ka whaka-haere i nga take.

(1) Take tuatahi mote kahi ite marama tau tokona ana e nga mema.

(2) Tuarua he whakatu (tea meeting) mote whare Karakia Otamatea nei ate wiki tuarua o Tihema tau tokona ana e nga mema o tenei roopu; ma te Atua tatou e tiaki e manaaki i e ra katoa tae aroa kite tau hou e haere mai nei kia ora mai nga. Roopu Karaitiana.

ROOPU MAORI.

Batley, Kaipara Harbour.

Tena ra koutou, enga mema kaa onga Roopu Maori. He mihi kau atu tenei kia koutou. Kaore he korero hou, hai ano he whakaatu kia koutou kua tu he Roopu hou ki Orua-wharo. Na he whakamihi atu kite minita o tenei takiwa, kia te Rev. Te Tuihi mo tana kaha kite awhina inga Roopu wahine o tenei takiwa.

I tae au kite hui ate Roopu o Otamatea itera marama. Nui atu te pai o ta ratou roopu. Koanui ano te kaha kite pechi itenei mea ate waipiro. Nui atu te whakamihi kinga roopu o tawhiti e mahi ana, e whawhai ana ki to tatou hoariri, ara te wai e whaka porangi ana iatatau tamariki.

Ko nga roopu e nama ana kite Roopu matua mote kahi tau, kua hei wareware kite tuku atu inga hikipene kia Mrs Walker, Fox Street, Gisborne, ate wa e rite ai. Nga manaa-kitanga ote Atua kia koutou mete Aroha, Whakatangata, kia kaha.

Maari Woodhead.

WOMEN IN PARLIAMENT.

Before the session closed an amendment to the Legislative Council Reform Bill passed the Lower House to allow women to be elected to the Upper House. An amendment to allow them to be elected members of the Lower House was defeated by a small majority. On the first amendment being sent back to the Legislative Council they agreed to allow women to be eligible for the Upper House as soon as they are declared eligible for election to Lower House.

Will our White Ribbon women see that every candidate for Parliament is asked whether he is in favour of allowing women to be eligible for election to either or to both Houses of Parliament? The measure was strongly supported in the House, and we feel sure if women show they are in earnest to get this disability removed it will be done the first session of the new Parliament.

God looks not to see if the hands are full; He looks to see if they are clean.

PLEASE READ AT YOUR NEXT MEETING.

We heartily congratulate Unions who are sending reports for the first time, and we would make a special appeal to every Union to send a brief report of each meeting to the "White Ribbon." As there are over 100 Unions in the Dominion, each report must be brief. Send along any resolutions of general interest, also any new plan of work adopted, and send it in **as few words as possible.** We direct attention to instructions printed every month, which say "no newspaper cuttings to be sent in, and only one side of the paper to be written on." In both these cases the report has to be re-written before being sent to the printer. All reports must be in by the 8th of the month. We will be greatly obliged if the secretaries of our newly-formed branches will send us name and address of their "White Ribbon" agent. Only two new branches have as yet sent in subscribers to our official organ. We ask all White Ribboners to help us by circulating the "White Ribbon" as widely as possible. Many earnest women who live too far away to attend meetings will take the paper if asked, and so keep in touch with the work. Our list of subscribers numbers 2025. Can't we by the end of the year get another 75, and make it 2100? Who will help?

W.C.T.U.

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Of New Zealand.

Organised 1885.

"For God and Home and Humanity."

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The White Ribbon.

For God and Home and Humanity.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1914

Lord Kitchener, when speaking at the Lord Mayor's banquet, said that the British Empire is to-day struggling for its very existence. The Empire realises this, and to its remotest dependency is straining every effort, and making gigantic sacrifices to assist with men and money. And because of this willingness of every member of a united Empire to spend their last penny and give their last drop of blood in defence of the land we love, we have no doubt of the ultimate issue. Not lightly did our leaders enter into this struggle, but when the stern hand of Prussian militarism stretched out to grasp the little State of Belgium, then, because honour demanded that we stand by our treaty obligations to our less powerful neighbour, we entered the conflict in defence of a weaker brother. Terrific is the struggle, fearful the loss of life and destruction of property, yet the Empire, putting its trust in One who bids the strong

help the weak, faces the future with courage, calmness, and a certainty of ultimate victory. Our little Dominion, far from the scene of action, only feels the faint and dying ripples of the mighty waves sweeping over Europe. Yet before this year closes we shall be engaged in a life and death struggle with a deadly and unscrupulous foe. We often wonder do we fully realise the greatness of the issue at stake? Do we realise that the liquor trade threatens our very existence as a nation? Look at the combatants. For many years the Liquor Trade has cast its deadly shade over this land. It is a foe which spares neither age nor youth, kills the infant at its mother's breast; makes that mother sacrifice honour, home, children, life itself, to obey liquor's behest; takes the father and turns him into a raging fiend, at the sound of whose footstep wife and children fly; fills our gaols, our hospitals, our asylums, with a never ending stream of patients. Into the arena against this unscrupulous foe enters Prohibition, young, alert, vigorous, determined to rescue the weak and helpless from the dominion of the Liquor Trade. At first sight it seems as if he must win, but his hands are manacled with a heavy chain labelled "three-fifths majority," and he fights at a fearful disadvantage.

We appeal to all electors to help to strike the fetters from the champion's hands. Ask every candidate for your suffrage if he is in favour of striking off these fetters, and refuse to give your vote to any man who will not support fairer conditions for this great battle. If we vote for Prohibition with one hand, and with the other vote for a candidate who supports this handicap, we are rendering our vote useless.

The American Government lets every State fight the battle Prohibition v. Liquor Trade, and sees that it has fair conditions. Virginia went dry with a majority of 35,000. New Zealand, with a majority of over 55,000, still has this accursed traffic bound upon her. Will not the electors use their power at the ballot box and put in men pledged to give us fair conditions?

Seldom can the heart be lonely
If it seeks a lonelier still;
Self-forgetting, seeking only
Emptier cups of love to fill.

PROMOTED.

MRS BASIL TAYLOR.

On October 25th Mrs Taylor, of Wanganui, the mother-in-law of our Organising Treasurer, was called to higher service. The deceased lady was a native of Bath, England, and came out to the colony in 1863 to marry Rev. Basil Kirke Taylor, who was assisting his father, Rev. Richard Taylor, at the mission station, Putiki, Wanganui. She was an indefatigable worker and teacher among the Maoris, and did all in her power to help her husband in his work. She was left a widow in 1876, with five little children under 12 years of age. Although she supported and educated her family almost entirely by her own industry with music pupils, she did not cease her work among the Maoris. It was quite a common sight to see several Maoris seated upon the verandah of her house with their sick babies upon their backs, awaiting the services of "Mihi," as she was always known among them. During the Maori war, too, the deceased lady passed through many thrilling experiences, while her husband was away on his rounds and she was left alone. For several years she carried on the Sunday School at Putiki, when during all weathers she bravely toiled on foot to the pah and back. For 25 years Mrs Taylor carried on a weekly prayer meeting in her house in Campbell Street, which was attended by members of all the churches in Wanganui. Many to-day look back to those happy meetings as the place where they first knew the Lord Jesus as their personal Saviour. In all the varied work of Wanganui W.C.T.U. she was an earnest sympathiser and a liberal helper. The last thing she gave financial assistance to was our project for the Girls' Hostel. She was an earnest temperance worker, and has left behind her sons who are following in her footsteps. Personally, she was the sweetest little old lady, always so bright and looking so dainty. Loved by all who knew her, revered by those who knew her best, she was a striking testimony to the power of the indwelling Christ. Her courage was never daunted; through all the terrifying experiences of the Maori war her faith and trust carried her triumphantly. With all the cares of a widow left with a young family

to support, she yet found time to help others and to do the Master's work outside, as well as inside her own home. Her loving sympathy knew neither race, colour, nor creed, and Maori or Jew, friend or stranger, wherever there was the need of help, this "Mother in Israel" went to carry comfort and help in the name of her Master. Her heroic soul has passed "through Death triumphant home," and she hears the Master's "Well done. Inasmuch as ye did it to the least of these, My children, ye did it to Me."

MRS HUGHES.

We are sorry to record the death of one of the honoured and faithful officers and members of the Auckland W.C.T.U. Mrs Hughes passed away at her resident, Mount Eden, on Friday, November 6th. Our sister was for many years the Treasurer of our Union. Her zeal and devotion to Temperance and all works of reform were untiring, and though, through failing health, she has been unable to attend our meetings for some time, yet her interest in the work of the Union never lessened till her death. Mrs Hughes was for many years Superintendent of Literature in connection with the N.Z. Union, and of late years Superintendent of Maori Work, taking a deep interest in the Maoris. Her face was a familiar one at Convention, which she rarely missed attending.

She was a devoted mother, and has left a living monument to her memory in the members of her family. Her daughter, Mrs Anderson Hughes Drew, is a World's Missionary for the W.C.T.U.; two of her sons are in the Baptist ministry; other members are earnest Christian and Temperance workers.

A largely attended funeral service was held at the Mount Eden Baptist Church, of which Mrs Hughes was a member. Our sister was laid at rest in the beautiful Purewa Cemetery on Sunday afternoon, November 8th.

A number of our members attended the funeral of our late White Ribboner.

We pray that, through the influence of her devoted, earnest life, others may be called to fill the breach in the ranks.

"So He giveth His beloved sleep."

MASS MEETING FOR WOMEN.

ADDRESSED BY MRS SNOWDEN.

A woman's meeting was held in the Town Hall on the afternoon of Monday, October 19th, and was attended by about 2000. Lady Stout occupied the chair, and on the platform were also Mrs J. P. Luke, the Mayoress, Mrs A. R. Atkinson, and many other members of the various Women's Societies. Mr Bernard Page, the city organist, presided at the organ, and played the Marseillaise, the National Anthem, and Handel's "Harmonious Blacksmith."

Mrs Snowden, remarking that when a stranger comes claiming to be heard, it was only fair she should give her credentials, explained what first led her to take part in the Temperance movement. When studying in Liverpool for the teaching profession, she came under the influence of a prominent clergyman, who not merely taught the truths of Christianity, but also urged their practical application to life. On one occasion he gave an address before 3000 people on "Can a man be a Christian on £1 a week?" a question which he answered in the affirmative, but showed that it was not easy, and declared that those who were comfortably off ought not to rest so long as there were hundreds of thousands who had not even as much as £1, in many cases not more than 12s a week. Preaching of this kind fired many with the desire for social service, and Mrs Snowden began work in the slums of Liverpool, having for scholars little children with the faces of criminals, and with scarcely a decent stitch of clothing. Here she found women untidy, dirty, almost naked, criminal-looking, men in similar misery and degradation, houses with 5, 6, 10, 13 people living in one room; and naturally she wished to know why such things were so. She asked wise men and good women the cause of this criminality and degradation. Varied were the answers she received. Some said drunkenness was the cause, others laziness, others weakmindedness, but when she went into the question for herself, she found that some were there amid those wretched conditions who had never touched liquor; others who would have been glad to work if only they could have obtained it; and the weak-minded were born so as the re-

sult of crime. The solution of the problem was therefore not so easy as might seem, but she was soon convinced that the drinking habit, although not the sole cause of the misery, seriously aggravated it. She met one woman who cheerfully offered to sign the pledge, but, it appeared, she had already signed it twenty times. Asked why she could not keep it, she said she had to pass twenty-one public-houses going home from her work. She might get past the first and the second, and even the third temptation, but with such an awful mass of temptation, she was bound to succumb.

Continuing her study of the problem, Mrs Snowden soon discovered that to deal with the liquor traffic it was necessary to have political power; and for the last ten years she had worked for political emancipation. She would never forget the shock of surprise that came upon her when, at 20 years of age, she realised that her mother had no vote. Every organisation in Britain, she said, was now working for this cause, and every other cause would receive little or no support until this was gained. The National Union of Women Suffrage Societies, of which she was the Vice-President, dated back to John Stuart Mill, who had such deep conviction on the emancipation of woman that he refused to marry his wife until her property was secured to her. The Union now had 500 branches, with a membership of 55,000, and an associate membership twice as large. Its methods were constitutional, and on this point she wished to say that in this Dominion there was a great deal of misunderstanding. The idea of many here probably was that the militant suffragettes in Great Britain constituted a great army of women anarchists. The newspapers knew that people generally like sensationalism, and so they give it, and many untruths have been cabled out. Men and boys, in mischief, often committed deeds of violence and spread Suffragette papers around to fasten the guilt on the Suffragettes. For instance, a large house in Scotland was burnt down, and the blame laid upon the Militants. A few days after it was discovered that a number of boys had done it. Unfortunately, the papers that give publicity to the damaging rumours are not always so ready to contradict them when the truth is established. As a matter of

fact, in answer to a question put to Mr McKenna, it was stated in the House of Commons that the number of Suffragettes that had been imprisoned in Great Britain for positive crime did not exceed 60 or 70. There were about 2000 others, guilty of slight misdemeanours, e.g., refusing to leave the Houses of Parliament when they had come there for the purpose of interviewing some member or Minister, such actions as, if committed by men, would have been taken very little notice of. The lecturer disclaimed any desire to defend the methods even of these few, but she could at least admire their courage and sincerity; they believed their action to be right and necessary. She herself did not believe so, and after all, this small number formed a minute fraction of the 13 millions of women that were entitled to enfranchisement.

Women had been working for Temperance for from 50 to 100 years, and had made comparatively little progress; but the woman's cause in general had gone forward by leaps and bounds. The professions were opened to women; they could be doctors and lawyers, though in the case of the latter they were as yet unable to practise. As to the nursing profession, contrast the present time with that when Florence Nightingale first wished to go out nursing the soldiers, and the finger of scorn was pointed at her and her companions, and they were made the subject of coarse jokes and cartoons in "Punch." The women of 50 years ago had little opportunity of education; now almost every advantage was theirs; they could vote for every public body except Parliament, and they could be members too. There had been several women Mayors; a Royal Commission was now hardly ever appointed without women sitting on it; they entered the Civil Service as clerks and typistes, and many were in sole charge in their special departments. Less than 50 years ago married women could not hold property. Every achievement women had won for themselves had been won without having recourse to crime, through persuasion brought to bear on public opinion or on Parliament; a political enfranchisement would come too by the steady growth of public opinion. Let no one say the end justifies the means; that only opens the door to every kind of crime. But she re-

peated that she was not reflecting on the sincerity of those from whom she differed. Public opinion was with those who desired the enfranchisement of women, but the difficulty was with the political parties. The Liberals feared lest the woman's vote might go largely with the Conservatives; the Conservatives, to a great extent identified with the Brewers' party, feared it would go against the brewers, so their plan was to introduce Labour candidates, in order to split the votes, for the British politician was afraid of nothing so much as of losing his seat in Parliament. They had been hopeful of achieving something in the near future, then the war broke out, and all other questions had to be pushed into the background. She had said nothing as to the suffering of little children—the National Society for the Protection of Children had dealt with two million cases since its foundation. Every year hundreds of drunken mothers lay on their babes and suffocate them. Then there was the social problem with the thousands of our unhappy sisters—"fallen" she would not call them until the men were called by the same name—most of these women were brought to shame through the drinking habit. So necessary was it to get the vote, for the sake of men and women alike! "**You** have not to work as we have," continued Mrs Snowden, "**You** do not need to go and lock the door on yourselves lest you should go out and do the thing you don't believe in, and meet evil with evil. The things that our women have had to suffer are indescribable; but we can destroy evil only with good. **You** have not this struggle, **You** are not in danger of forcible feeding and of starving. In a little while you are to declare whether this traffic shall be stopped. You will be told about the revenue from the drink traffic, and **You** will have to pay to make it up. You have to pay now by keeping up the gaols and asylums, and all the cost of dealing with the crime and misery produced by the Traffic. But I do not see why you should have to pay. Four millions are now spent on drink to get one million in taxes. Spend this four millions on furniture and clothes, etc., from abroad and you will get extra customs duties for the revenue; spend it at home, and you will be so much stronger and better off that your men folks will earn more. This talk about

the revenue is simply a brewer's argument. The revenue can take care of itself."

"Or some one may say, 'The time is not ripe.' When will it be ripe? When all the evils that we have in Britain have got hold of you? The time is ripe **now**, before the evil is done. **Now** is the time to put your belief into practice. We in Great Britain want a spiritual stimulant from the example of what can be done by good men and women. You have one great advantage over us in this, that here men come more to your meetings. In temperance work in Britain 9 out of every 10 are women, in the Churches 6 out of every 7; but here the proportion of men and women is more even."

"The woman's cause is man's, they rise and sink
Together, dwarf'd or godlike, bond or free.

* * * *

For woman is not undeveloped man,
But diverse, could we make her as the man,
Sweet love were slain; his dearest bond is this
Not like to like, but like in difference.

Yet in the long years liker must they grow
The man be more of woman, she of man,
He gain in sweetness and in moral height,
Nor lose the wrestling thews that throw the world;
She mental breadth, nor fail in Childward care,
Nor lose the childlike in the larger mind.

* * * *

And so these twain . . . sit side by side.

* * * *

Self-reverent each and reverencing each,
Distinct in individualities,
But like each other even as those who love!"

"I pray that my efforts for my own land may be even more strenuous in the future, and that your efforts here may be such that this state of things shall speedily be realised in this your Dominion."

In answer to questions, Mrs Snowden said that the suffrage movement began to grow rapidly from 1906, because for more than 20 years an in-

dependent Labour Party had been working. The militant tactics were adopted, but not at first with crime, only by novel methods to arouse the public from indifference. The effect of the policy of crime and violence, that was afterwards adopted, had been to neutralise to a great extent the good already done, but the Non-Militants could not suppress militancy except by becoming Militants themselves.

Correspondence.

(The Editor is not responsible for opinions expressed by correspondents.)

OUR ORGANISING FUND, AND IS IT WORTH WHILE?

(To the Editor.)

Madam,—We know at times many of our Unions feel the need of more money to successfully carry on the many calls and demands made upon them from time to time, and when the appeal comes through the columns of our White Ribbon paper for financial help for our two lady organisers, perhaps some Union members feel it a tax to give, or even do not respond at all.

I want you to come away to one of our new settlements. We are in the Western District of Southland, surrounded by very beautiful scenery; the mountains are clad with heavy bush from base to summit; on every hand the bushman is busy with his axe, and those giants of the forest which take hundreds of years to grow are laid low in a short space of time. After a while, when the wood and branches are sufficiently dry, a fire is lit on a windy day, and the delicate ferns, climbers, and mosses are a thing of the past, and in those fresh wood ashes the sower hastens to sow seed of the grasses, etc., he wishes to cultivate for his stock, and after a "burn" there usually comes up a tall weed called the "fire weed"; it springs up and flourishes to the detriment of surrounding plant life. I often think, as I look at it, of another fire weed that so quickly gets a footing wherever the population seeks to mark out pastures fresh; it is surprising what enterprise some have, in the midst of sublime scenery and lonely grandeur. In a new district they spend a large sum erecting a large hotel and dealing with the fire weed that is to ruin our men and boys, and also some of our sisters. Into such a settlement about a year ago Miss Powell came to try and counteract some of the evil influences by organising a branch of our W.C.T.U. work. This was successfully accomplished. Also a Band of Hope was started. Only a few days in a busy Organiser's

life, but planted in love, and with God's blessing invoked. "And God gave the increase." The Union looks back on its first year's work, and the members are thankful to have been united in fighting hand in hand a common foe, and getting several young men to sign our pledge (and, thank God, they are keeping true). To meet the needs of a scattered district, and to try and keep in touch with some of its 37 members, different centres must be visited, and women who knew nothing of the W.C.T.U. work before now find the joy of service for humanity, and feel they have stepped into a larger life. The Band of Hope has grown to a bright, interesting meeting. Another centre now has its own meeting, and every child in that day school is a pledged abstainer. Five day school teachers have joined us, though two have since removed. One with us is the faithful secretary of the Union. Can you measure the influence of the work organised in a new district? Surely, sisters, wherever it is worth while for the man with the fire weed to do his deadly work, it is worth our planting the good seed side by side. Now, in the new places opened up in New Zealand there must be many places where there is great need for our Union to be implanted, and try and reach the young men and young women by arranging socials and letting them have good music, bright games, a helpful address, and supper, and try and influence all for good.

The name of Miss Powell will dwell long in the minds of many, and if this one place of work had taken much longer and cost the Unions much more money, would it not have been worth it all? So I trust, as our present Organiser goes on her work (that the angels might envy), although at times discouraging and unpleasant, rich results may follow that, if not seen in this world, may be revealed to us in His own good time.

Our Union hopes to send a donation shortly to the Organising Fund. We arranged for a social recently, but our young men were fighting bush fires, and could not attend. We hope to arrange another shortly, and send the proceeds along as we would like to help on the work that harnesses the latent power for good in so many of the New Zealand women in the quiet corners, as well as the busy centres. Wishing our Organisers much joy in their arduous labours of love.—Yours for God, Home, and Humanity.

L.H.

(To the Editor.)

Madam,—The W.C.T.U. has no party politics, therefore this moment is chosen to point out, without prejudice, what may prove to be our most important question to candidates in November, after the No-License majority. The Criminal Code Amendment Act, to raise the age of consent, and afford other increased protection to girls, which was promised by the Government, but shelved

last year, is still upon the provisional programme of Parliament. If it has been passed, in the form accepted by the W.C.T.U. and other women's societies, before these words are read, the Government has proved itself in earnest in making this promise, and deserves thanks from the women of New Zealand. If it has again been shelved, the Government has proved that on every social and humanitarian issue the country has merely been marking time for three years past. We know that this year is not as other years, but we know, too, that Parliament has had time or made time to pass many Bills of local and comparatively slight value, and one Bill of less than no value, namely, that to give the country thirty additional race days to gamble in. Want of interest will have been the cause if this needful and important Bill is not carried through.

One word more, should the Bill still be a matter of enquiry before the polls, the Unions should bear in mind the amazing clause introduced in this Government Bill, and strongly opposed by all the women's societies. It was proposed, in case of an offence against a girl under the prescribed age of consent, that no prosecution could be commenced without the written permission of the Attorney-General, a handicap on justice not imposed in the case of any other crime. The Unions are doubtless aware that this arbitrary Star Chamber clause was imported straight from England. It was one of the hostile "amendments" successfully employed in the House of Lords against the similar Criminal Law Amendment Bill of the Bishop of London. And it must never be grafted into any New Zealand statute. Of course it is trusted that, ere this reminder is in print, the Government has dropped the amendment, passed the Bill, and added another important page to the notable social legislation of our twenty-one years of emancipation.—I am, etc.,

JESSIE MACKAY.

Christchurch, October 16.

STEAD MEMORIAL FUND.

Further donations to this Fund are acknowledged as under, with thanks:—Ponsonby Union, 10s; Auckland, £1 5s; Blenheim, 4s; making in all £5 15s contributed by the N.Z. Unions. The money will shortly be forwarded to England, and will go towards the fund for the erection of an "Overseas Hostel," to be paid for by the contributions of the British colonies and Dominions.

M. JUDSON.

**BEST VALUE
IN THE
DOMINION.**



BEATALL KID GLOVES

In Brown, Tan,
Grey, and White,

1/11 per Pair.

WRITE FOR A PAIR TO

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ORGANISER'S REPORT.

Dear Sisters,—

The time left to our disposal before the great day of the poll is fast closing in, and but little now is left for us in which we may work. There is much to be done, and I regret that my work in the South Island was so limited. Continuing my work in the Canterbury district, on October 7th I left Ashburton for Timaru, calling at Geraldine for a meeting. Here, I believe, work could be done in the way of organising if time had permitted. Next day began the "big blow" that passed over Canterbury, huge monarchs of the forest being levelled to the ground or splintered off like matchwood. One goes through many miles of such as far as the eyes can reach. At Timaru was glad to see the kindly face of Mrs Fraser, and found her home a safe retreat during my stay there. A public meeting in Theatre Royal on Sunday evening, and a special meeting of the Union on Monday was all that time allowed. I was sorry indeed not to be able to visit the outlying district of this splendid town. Nevertheless glad to meet with Mrs Rule, Miss Avison, and the sisters here, who are determined to strive together for the abolition of the great evil. Coming back to Rakaia and Methven, my hopes were realised in that a Union was formed in each of those places, with splendid officers. Ashburton came in for quite a number of calls, as I made my way up and down the country. Tinwald was visited, and a meeting held, though for lack of officers at present, it was thought advisable to wait awhile, and those present became affiliated to the Ashburton Union.

My stay in Ashburton was made very pleasant by the kindly hospitality of Mr and Mrs Dent; also I wish to acknowledge our indebtedness to Mr Dent and his motor car, which was ever at our service; also to Miss Collins and Mr McArthur, who did similar service as we visited the vari-

ous outlying places; to Mr Ferriman for donation of literature, "Danesbury House," for sale for funds. Mrs Watson, Mrs Dent and myself lost no time doing all that seemed possible in the time we had at our disposal. I must not forget a visit to the gallant little Union at Winchmore, who, though in such a scattered farming district, covering a distance of 10 miles or more between the members, yet carry on quite a lot of work.

This, of course, can only be a very brief record of a busy time in this district, with much more that might be done if only one could go in a dozen different ways at once.

As I boarded the train to go North, I found myself in the midst of the newly called out Third Contingent, a great number of whom were having a merry (?) time, drink flowing freely, so much so that it became objectionable to many of them, who sought refuge in the carriage where I was. This gave me an opportunity to speak a word or two, which I felt I could not afford to miss, and I found I had quite an audience, who were not a little interested in the facts as given. As a result one young fellow signed the pledge, his officer witnessing to it, and as the train steamed into Christchurch hearty shake hands and good wishes for our work were expressed. I felt deeply sorry to think we had to leave those fine young fellows with such pitfalls in our land.

The time had come when I must return to the North, and I am now here once again, as per promise, in Taranaki. A plan of itinerary has been arranged, so that every moment will tell.

Last Monday and Tuesday I visited nearly every house in Mere Mere, Ohangai, going down to Patea on Tuesday night, in each place gaining new subscribers to the "White Ribbon." There are farms of miles apart, consequently it involves quite a lot of travelling, and to Mrs Scott, of Normanby, and the Misses Williams, of Mere Mere, I am indebted for making this part of the work possible. The

individual contact with the people, I am convinced, is a telling factor in our work for this campaign. Some of these people can never get out to a meeting, though a No-License meeting has been arranged in each of these places, in which I took some part, and they would never know facts if they were not taken to them.

On Wednesday, Rev. Ireland, of Patea, and myself visited all round Manutahi, gaining four members to the proposed new Union at Patea, and also four subscribers to "White Ribbon." In the evening Rev. Buttler, of Normanby, and self addressed a meeting. Next morning, in answer to an urgent request, found myself once more in Manaia to assist in special meetings. Met the Manaia Union; four members initiated.

On Saturday night a most successful open-air was held. A four-horse waggon, driven by our good friend J. J. Patterson, filled with children, and an organ, who each carried a flag, and effectively sang "Red, White and Blue" and "Hold the Fort." The meeting was addressed by Rev. Fee, and although much opposition was prophesied and expected, yet it passed off as a good typical open-air, and so another shot was fired into the enemy's ranks. My findings are that a strong vote will be cast for National Prohibition. Nevertheless it is necessary and important that not one muscle be relaxed in our effort at this time. There are yet many votes to be captured.

"The evil hosts are bidding too
These precious souls to gain."

What matters it if our house has not the latest shine on. Souls are in the balance. The shining can be done after this opportunity has gone for ever. Let us go back and reach the birth of our movement, and then catch up the spirit that then burned in the hearts of our sisters as they prayed and went forth—to Victory!—Yours for service,

ALICE L. MOWLEM.

Address for month—Care Mr L. G. Grace, Hawera.

Superintendents' Letters.

IMPORTANT.

Will local superintendents of departments kindly note that reports of work done should be forwarded to N.Z. Superintendents by December 31st, so that they can prepare reports for Convention, which must reach the printer by January 31st. If there is no local superintendent, the secretary should forward report of departmental work to N.Z. Superintendent for the department. Will Unions please see that all work is reported? At Convention, when superintendents' reports are being considered, it is quite a usual thing for delegates to say, "Our Union has done work in that department, of which no mention is made." Please remember that N.Z. Superintendents cannot report your work to Convention unless you first report to her. Please Report!

The following is sung to the tune of "Auld Lang Syne," and there are about five other verses, but for lack of space, we print but one, but trust our Superintendents will heed the call:—

Report, report, report, report,
Report, report, report, report,
Report, report, report, report,
Report, report, report!

HOME MEETING DEPARTMENT.

Would the Unions who have done any work in this Department during the year kindly forward their reports to the Superintendent as early as possible before the end of the year?

N. DEWAR, Supt.

4, Pompallier Terrace,
Ponsonby, Auckland.

PEACE DEPARTMENT.

Dear Co-Workers for God and Home and Every Land,—I am greatly distressed on account of the heart-sickening war now being waged in Europe. If left to its course it will doubtless retard civilisation for at least half a century. I am glad and thankful that the President of the United States and his Secretary of State are so imbued with peace principles that they have kept the United States of America from being drawn into warfare with Mexico, and, thus far, with any other nation. I wish you would do all you can to create peace sentiment in your country by securing the holding of public meetings for prayer, and also to discuss

the situation, its sadness, the folly of warfare, the hatred which it engenders, and the cruel destruction of life and property. Its effects reach all the world, preventing intercourse, commerce, and the proper cultivation of food products to sustain life. Surely it is only "righteousness that exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people."

Also have the blessings, beauties, and privileges promulgated by peace and peaceful pursuits and intercourses discussed. I suggest that "Coronation" and other appropriate hymns and songs be sung at the meetings. Only in times of peace and harmony can we expect to realise the promised blessing that "Then shall the earth yield her increase, and God, even our God shall bless us."—Yours for the peace of the world,

HANNAH J. BAILEY,
World's Supt.

Suggested Prayer for Peace.

Oh God of Love and Prince of Peace, over-rule the passion and the pain, calm the turbulent wills of men. Look in mercy on outraged womanhood, on maimed and mangled manhood, on burning homes and wasted fields, on hunger and want and woe, and send us peace, Oh Lord. Our hope is in Thee alone. Oh, hear our cry, and save the nations of the earth from murder and misery.—Amen.

B. Lee-COWIE, N.Z. Supt.

GOOD CITIZENSHIP.

Dear Sisters,—Now that the number of Unions in the Dominion is so large, it has become almost impossible to communicate with each one individually. I would therefore ask you, through the columns of the "White Ribbon," if you will kindly send in to me the annual reports of the Good Citizenship Department before the end of December, in order that the report for Convention may be prepared early in January. I should be very glad to receive a post-card from every Union stating whether or not a local superintendent has been appointed, and in either case reporting any work that has been done during the past year in connection with the department, and especially in connection with the elections, whether Parliamentary, Municipal, or for School Committees, Hospital Boards, and any other local bodies. Will you also kindly state how many women, if any,

have a seat on any such bodies, and whether they are members of the W.C.T.U.? Any information which can be given upon these points, or on any others bearing upon women's work as citizens, will greatly facilitate the making up of the report for Convention. I feel sure there is far more interest in these matters amongst New Zealand women than would appear from the reports sent in, and I would urge every Union, by reporting everything that has been done or attempted, to do its part towards increasing this interest.—Yours in the work,

MARION JUDSON,
N.Z. Supt. Good Citizenship Dept.
Van Diemen Street, Nelson.

LITERATURE DEPARTMENT.

Dear Comrades,—I thank you for the kind support you have given the Literature Department during this year, and now, at its close, shall be pleased to receive from all Unions by December 31st a report of the work accomplished in your sphere. There are a few accounts which I trust will reach me in time to close my books by that date with no arrears.

I have a goodly number of books and booklets in stock for parents, boys and girls, as well as W.C.T.U. literature, ranging from 1d to 2s. I hope next month to have the literature column in our "White Ribbon" revised, to which I would direct your attention.—Yours for service,

E. S. DEARLOVE,
N.Z. Literature Supt.

REST AND REFRESHMENT.

Dear Sisters,—As reports of work done in the various branches of our Union are expected to be handed in next month, as Superintendent of Rest and Refreshment Booths, I should be pleased to receive such at the earliest date possible.—Yours in White Ribbon bonds,

(MRS.) M. E. HOWARD,
Archer Street, Timaru.

Will all Unions who have done work in the following departments kindly send reports before December 31st to the Dominion Superintendent:—

Medical Temperance,
Cradle Roll,
Loyal Temperance Legion, or
Band of Hope.
MRS CLARA M. NEAL,
"Trocadero," Pahiataua.

THRIFT DEPARTMENT.

Dear Sisters,—I should like all Unions who may have appointed Superintendents of Thrift, and have done any work in connection with the department, however small, to please send in their reports to me before the end of December.—Yours in W.R. bonds,

(MRS) M. FLANAGAN,
N.Z. Supt. of Thrift.

SMILING CHRISTIANS.

I do wish that Christian people would smile more, sing more, letting the sunbeams play on their cheeks and shine in their eyes, doing what they can to scatter joy, peace, rest, content, wherever they go.

Yes, even those who have heavy trials and big sorrows! They are God's own dear children; their burden of sin is gone, their hopes are bright for eternity.

God loves them. Why should they not show all this in their daily lives, letting others see the joys of Heaven are keenly anticipated by them; and thus commend their position to those who have it not.

A morose Christian is quite a paradox.

Tune: "O, who will o'er the Downs
so free?"

O, who will come and help with me?

O, who will with me speed?

O, who will up to vote to help

Our fellows in their need?

King Alcohol has ruled the land,

And blighted Britain's race,

But neither Death nor Life shall stay

The coming Day of Grace!

We see the cruel Traffic stalk

Safe-guarded, strong and sure;

We hear the cries of ruined lives,

The moaning of the poor;

We see the homeless little ones,

With maimed and stricken soul;

We promise them our vote to cast

To save them at the poll.

We see the prisoners in their cells,

Deprived of liberty.

A gallant band, with power in hand,

We come to set them free;

We promise them, in Freedom's
name,

To put Strong Drink to rout,

For Home, and Love, and God above,

TO STRIKE THE TOP LINE
OUT!

—Mrs Harrison Lee-Cowie.

FROM THE DOMINION PRESIDENT.

Dear Sisters,—My attention has been called to a prayer pledge card issued by the Kaiapoi Union, from which I quote:—"We realise that all cannot work in the front ranks of this great Temperance battle. Some are God's suffering ones, some are aged, and some surrounded by home ties; but we can all do our part to help with our prayers, so we ask you to join our prayer band, and link yourself with others to overthrow, by Divine help, this great enemy of God's Own Country." It is not possible, nor is it necessary, for all our members to sign this card, but we can all covenant together to pray daily from now until the poll, for God's will is that we should ask. His promise is that He will do (John 14:14). "Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing, were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choosing, dost ask who that might be? Christ Jesus it is He, and He must win the battle." Whatever the issue of this election may be, let us see to it that we each do our part. Let us use our voice or our pen, give our money or our time, use our talents or our influence; but whatever else we do, do let us pray, and praying, believe that if we ask, He will do, and may His doing be the undoing of our enemy, the Liquor Traffic, is the prayer of yours, with loving greetings,

RACHEL DON, Dom. President.

ASHBURTON, 2nd Tuesday, 3 p.m., in Baring Street Schoolroom; Pres., Mrs W. K. Watson, Box 37; Rec. Sec., Mrs J. H. Dent, 112 Wills St. W.; Cor. Sec., Mrs E. Buchanan, Wills St. W.; Treas., Mrs W. T. Lill, Willowby; "W.R." Supt., Miss Butterick, Wakanui.

AUCKLAND District, 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 3 p.m., Central Mission Hall, Albert St.; Executive meets 2.30; Pres., Mrs Pudney, Wallace St., Ponsonby; Cor. Sec., Miss N. Dewar, Pompallier Terr., Ponsonby; Rec. Sec., Miss Evans, G.F.S., Wellesley Street; Treas., Miss Dewar, 4 Pompallier Terr., Ponsonby; WHITE RIBBON Agent, Mrs Gouk, Wallace St., Ponsonby.

BLenheim District, 1st Tuesday, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Grace, the Vicarage; Sec., Mrs Gordon Litchfield, "Glenalvon"; Treas., Mrs. Hay; Mothers' Meetings and Cradle Roll, Mesdames Brewer and Handcock; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs W. Parker.

CAMBRIDGE, first Tuesday in month, in Victoria Hall, at 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs W. D. Shepherd; Sec., Mrs A. T. Watson; Treas., Mrs Minchin.

CHRISTCHURCH DISTRICT, rooms corner Manchester and Worcester Streets. Second and fourth Wednesday; Pres., Mrs I. McCombs, Fendalton; Cor. Sec., Mrs R. Day, Milford St. St. Albans; Rec. Sec., Mrs B. Whyte, Warrington St., St. Albans; Treas., Mrs Seed, 44 Brittan Street, Linwood; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs Williams, 21 Philip Street, Linwood.

DANNEVIRKE, 2nd Wednesday, Wesleyan Schoolroom, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs W. F. Knight, Tahoraiti; Sec., Mrs Stokoe, Allardice St.; Treas., Miss Burdett, the Manse.

DEVONPORT, Fourth Thursday, Wesleyan Schoolroom, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs G. H. Mann, Parsonage, Church St., Devonport, Auckland; Vice-Pres., Mrs Veats, Hurstmere Rd., Takapuna; Sec., Mrs A. Little, 31 Church St.; Treas., Miss Le Roy, Waterview Rd., Stanley Bay.

DUNEDIN District, 1st Tuesday, Congregational Church Hall, Moray Place, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs H. H. Driver, "The Chalet," Newington; Cor. Sec., Miss Nicol, 16 William St.; Rec. Sec., Miss Mazengarb, 362 George St.; Treas., Miss Winnie Reed, Bishops court, Roslyn; Supt. Sailors' Rest, Mrs Pearson, corner Union and Castle Streets; Supt. WHITE RIBBON and Writing Pads, Mrs Anderson, 32 Duke St.; Press Cor., Miss L. Neil, 5 Park St.

FEILDING, 1st Thursday, 3 p.m., St. Paul's Hall; Pres., Miss Moore, c/o Mr W. H. Bain, Feilding; Rec. Sec., Mrs Burnley, Glasgow Ter.; Cor. Sec., Mrs J. C. Thompson, Denbigh St.; Treas., Mrs Williamson, The Hill; "W.R." Agent, Mrs Burnley; Railway Box, Mrs Shearer.

GISBORNE District, last Tuesday, 2.45 p.m., Presbyterian Schoolroom; Pres., Mrs A. Graham, Kaiti; Sec., Mrs N. F. Walker, Fox St.; Treas., Mrs Goffe, Ormond Rd.; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs J. Stewart.

GREYMOUTH District, last Wednesday, at 3 p.m., in Sailors' Rest Hall; Pres., Mrs Gaskin; Sec., Mrs J. Hayes, Tainui St.; Treas., Mrs Sweetman.

HAMILTON District, First Thursday, Wesley Class Rooms, 2.30 p.m.; Pres., Mrs W. Auld, Hamilton; Sec., Mrs J. M. Jones, Clandelands, Hamilton; Treas., Mrs Dempster, Selkirk St., Hamilton.

HASTINGS, 2nd Wednesday, St. Andrew's Hall, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Martindale, Raureka, Southland Rd.; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Boyle, Ramsay, Wallis, Clapham, and Barbour; Rec. Sec., Miss Ford, 206 Lyndon Rd.; Cor. Sec., Miss Manson, Mahora; Treas., Mrs Barbour, Karamea Rd.; Purity and Evangelistic, Mesdames Clapham and Stewart; Maori Supt., Miss McKeown; "W.R." Supt., Mrs Griffiths.

HUNTLY, 3rd Wednesday, Presbyterian and Methodist Churches alternately, 2 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Butler; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Sheeran and Edmunds; Sec., Mrs Gleeson; Treas., Mrs Leather.

INVERCARGILL District, 1st Tuesday, 3 p.m. and 7.30 alternately, Allen's Hall; Pres., Mrs J. Mackenzie, North End; Vice-Pres., Mrs Baird, Mrs C. H. Macalister, Mrs H. Lee-Cowie; Rec. Sec., Mrs R. H. Walker, 130 Don St.; Cor. Sec., Sister Moody Bell, Amethyst Hall; Treas., Mrs Hunter, 110 Don St.; WHITE RIBBON Agent, Mrs Allen.

KAIAPOI W.C.T.U. COFFEE ROOMS, open Daily. Union meets second and last Wednesday, 3 p.m. Pres., Mrs Brighting; Sec., Miss Blackwell, "The Willows"; Treas., Mrs T. G. Blackwell; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs Ward.

KAIKORAI, last Friday in month, Presbyterian Hall, Kaitorai; Pres., Mrs Pinfold, Meth. Parsonage; W.R. Agent, Mrs Somerville; Treas., Mrs Martin; Sec., Mrs Hamilton; Cradle Roll, Miss Osborne.

LYTTELTON, 1st, 3rd, and 5th Wednesdays, Methodist Schoolroom; Pres., Mrs Whitby; Sec., Mrs Bromley; Treas., Mrs Clark; WHITE RIBBON Agent, Miss Elsie Clark, "Waratah," W. Lyttelton.

MANAIA, 2nd Friday, Methodist Church; Pres., Mrs J. J. Patterson; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Prakinson and Hunt; Treas., Miss York; Sec., Miss Craig; Cradle Roll, Miss Ricketts; "W.R." Supt., Mrs Hunt.

MASTERTON, 1st Tuesday, Knox Hall, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Devonport; Sec., Mrs M. Flanagan, 4 Cole St.; Treas., Mrs Sutherland; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs Russell.

MATAKANA, 3rd Thursday, Presbyterian Church, 2.30 p.m.; Pres., Mrs W. Smith; Vice-Pres., Mrs Eyton; Sec., Mrs E. Roke; Treas., Mrs A. Roke; Cradle Roll, Mrs Eyton; "W.R." Agent, Miss Tindall.

NAPIER District, 1st Wednesday and 3rd Thursday, Willard Institute, Carlyle Street, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Oldham, France Rd.; Rec. Sec., Mrs Clatworthy; Cor. Sec., Mrs Ingram, Cameron Rd.; Treas., Mrs Dearlove, Lincoln Rd.; Legal and Parliamentary, Mrs Dodds; Home Meetings, Mrs Ball; Purity, Mrs Oldham; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs Clare, Farraday St.

NCARUAWAHIA, 1st Tuesday, 2.30 p.m., Presbyterian Church; Pres., Mrs Bycroft; Vice-Pres., Mrs Bell; Sec., Mrs W. A. Porter; Treas., Mrs Morris; Supt. Cradle Roll and W.R., Mrs Kendall.

NEW PLYMOUTH District, last Wednesday, 3 p.m., Good Templar Lodge-room; Pres., Mrs Allan Douglas, Pendarves St.; Sec., Miss Ambury, Gover St.; Treas. and WHITE RIBBON Agent, Miss Taunt, Victoria Rd.

NORSEWOOD, 3rd Wednesday, 2 p.m.; Pres., Miss Campbell; Vice-Pres., Mrs Oliver; Sec., Miss A. E. Olsen, "Willow Park"; Treas., Mrs S. Frederickson; "W.R." Agent, Miss M. Olsen, "Willow Park."

NELSON District, 2nd Tuesday, Methodist Schoolroom, 3 p.m.; Pres., Miss Atkinson, Fairfield; Sec., Mrs Knapp, Alfred St.; Treas., Mrs Grove.

OPOTIKI, 2nd Thursday, St. John's Hall, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs J. G. Murray; Sec., Mrs J. R. Sinclair; Treas. and Supt. "W.R.," Mrs Holman, Otara; Supt. L.T.L., Mrs Goodall; Cradle Roll, Mrs Pearson.

OXFORD, last Wednesday, 2.30 p.m., Coronation Hall; Pres., Mrs Gainsford (senr.); Sec., Mrs Comyns; Treas., Miss Caverhill; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs Hawke; Cradle Roll Supt., Mrs. G. A. Ryde, Cooper's Creek.

PALMERSTON N. DISTRICT, 1st Friday, St. Andrew's Schoolroom, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Crabb, Fitzherbert St.; Cor. Sec., Mrs Hills, Cuba St.; Rec. Sec., Mrs Hodder, 46 Ferguson St.; Treas., Mrs Clausen, Cook St.; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs Holbrook, 41 Waldegrave St.

PETONE, 1st Tuesday, Church of Christ, Sydney St., 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Rowse, Udy St.; Vice-Pres., Miss Kirk; Sec., Mrs Corner, Nelson St.; Treas., Mrs Donoghue; Cradle Roll, Miss Peach; Flower Mission, Mrs McPherson; Home Meetings, Mrs Ashby; WHITE RIBBON Agent, Mrs Wilson; Literature, Mrs Barrow.

PONSONBY, 2nd Thursday, 2.30 p.m., Queen's Hall, Paget St.; Pres., Miss Caley; Vice-Pres., Mrs C. I. Harris and Dr. Keller; Sec. and "W.R." Agent, Mrs S. A. Plummer, Coronation Rd., Epsom; Treas., Mrs M. A. Bailey, Ponsonby.

RANCIORA, last Friday, ante-room of Institute Hall, 2.45 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Cobden Cox; Sec., Miss Wadey; Treas., Mrs H. Taylor.

SHEFFIELD, 1st Wednesday, 2.30 p.m., Road Board Office; Pres., Mrs Mellraith, Annat; Sec., Mrs Pettit, Kiriwee; Treas., Mrs W. Kennedy, Annat.

STRATFORD, 1st Thursday, 3 p.m., Methodist Church; Pres., Mrs T. White, Juliet St. South; Sec., Mrs M. T. Phillips, Skinner Rd.; Treas., Mrs T. H. Birdsall, Antonio St.

TIMARU District, last Tuesday, 7.30 p.m., Arcade; Pres., Mrs Rule, North St.; Sec., Miss M. Avison, Victoria St.; Treas., Mrs Cave, Raymond St.; Evangelistic and Press, Mrs Lamb; Cradle Roll, Mrs Valentine; Maori Work, Mrs Butcher, Wai-iti Rd.; WHITE RIBBON Agent, Mrs Stead, Sailors' Rest.

TAURANGA, 4th Thursday, 3 p.m., St. Peter's Hall; Pres., Mrs Christian, 8th Avenue; Vice-Pres., Mrs Wedderspoon and Miss Sorley, Spring St.; Cor. Sec., Mrs P. Munro, Cameron Rd.; Rec. Sec., Mrs C. York, Morris St.; Treas., Mrs A. E. Hammond, 2nd Avenue; "W.R." Supt., Mrs J. W. Snelgrove, Willow St.

TUAKAU, monthly, Wesleyan Church, 7.30 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Hunter; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Bridge, Roberts, and Deeble; Sec., Mrs C. Bycroft; Treas., Mrs Oldham; Supt. Band of Hope, Miss Madill; Supt. Cradle Roll, Miss Burns; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Miss Dwen.

TANEATUA, 2nd Thursday, in Presbyterian Church, at 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Yeoman; Vice-Pres., Mrs Ravn; Sec., Mrs Johnson; Treas., Mrs Mairs; WHITE RIBBON Agent, Mrs Schofield.

WAIMATE, 2nd Wednesday, in Knox Church Hall, at 3 o'clock; Pres., Mrs W. J. Roberts, Willowbridge; Sec., Mrs George Dash, Box 27, P.O.; Min. Sec., Miss Strong, Lower High St.; Treas., Mrs S. J. Hitchens, "Te Rangi," Mill Road; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs G. H. Graham, Rhodes St.

WAIPAWA, 4th Tuesday, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Jas. Bibby; Vice-Pres., Mesdames McLean, Bott, and Maslin; Sec., Mrs H. McLean; Treas., Miss Johnson; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs S. Bott.

WANGANUI EAST meets alternately in Baptist and Presbyterian Churches last Friday, at 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Andrews; Cor. Sec., Mrs Hicks; Recording Sec., Mrs Duxfield, Okoia, Wanganui; Treas., Mrs McLeod, Wanganui E.

WANGANUI District, 1st Friday, 2.30 p.m., Trinity Church Parlour; Pres., Mrs J. Smith; Cor. Sec., Mrs J. McKenzie, 46 Wilson Street; Rec. Sec., Miss Macaniny; Treas., Mrs Siddells; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs Heatley.

WARKWORTH, last Thursday, 2.30 p.m., Schoolroom, Methodist Church; Pres., Mrs Blundell, The Manse; Sec., Mrs H. B. McKinney, Millburn; Treas. Mrs Tiplady, Hill St.; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs S. Morrison; Supt. Cradle Roll, Mrs Miller.

WINCHMORE, 1st Wednesday, 2.30 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Hanson; Vice-Pres., Mrs Prebble and Mrs Bean; Sec., Miss Muirhead, Winter's Road, Ashburton; Treas., Mrs Moore; WHITE RIBBON agent, Mrs Glassey.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT, 1st Thursday, 3 p.m., Rooms, Constable St.; Pres., Mrs Evans, M.A., Hiropi St.; Sec., Mrs Spearman, 6 Dawson St., Berhampore; Treas., Mrs Houlder, 108 Wallace St.; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs Webb, Hall St.

Girls' Association Rooms, Constable St., Newtown. Evening classes and socials. All girls invited.

WELLINGTON CENTRAL, 3rd Friday, 3 p.m., Alliance Rooms, Manners St.; Pres., Mrs A. R. Atkinson, Wadestown; Cor. Sec., Mrs McDonald 80 Pirie St.; Rec. Sec., Mrs Port, Pirie St.; Treas., Mrs Helyer, Oriental Bay; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs Port, Austin St.

WAIPIKURAU, 2nd Thursday, St. Andrew's Hall, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Hopkirk; Vice-Pres., Mrs Harding and Mrs Nicholson; Sec., Mrs Sowry; Treas., Mrs Robinson; Organist, Miss Moffat.

WOODVILLE, meets 4th Tuesday, 3 p.m., in Ormond St. Hall; Pres., Mrs Perkins, Ross St.; Vice-Pres., Mrs T. Jackson; Sec., Mrs Forrest, Woodlands Rd.; Cor. Sec., Mrs T. Cole, Woodlands Rd.; Treas., Mrs Davie, Station St.

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NOVEMBER 18, 1914.