

WOMEN'S Christian Temperance Union Of New Zealand.

Organised 1885.

"For God and Home and Humanity."

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The White Ribbon.

For God and Home and Humanity.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1914.

NATIONAL PROHIBITION.

For the second time the electors of the Dominion have voted upon the question of the National Prohibition of the manufacture and sale of alcoholic beverages. The smoke of the battle has hardly cleared away, returns are still incomplete, yet we know that we have not won the fight; nay, more, it appears as if we have not polled a bare majority. For the first time since the vote has been taken on No-License, the temperance vote has failed to make any advance. We have lost no electorate now dry, but we have failed to gain any new territory, and our vote for National Prohibition, which last election was 56 per cent. of the electors, will not be more than 50 per cent. Are we disappointed? Yes, we had hoped for another advance. Are we downhearted? No! certainly not. We realise that the circumstances are exceptional; our

Empire is at war, and faint-hearted ones feared that this was not the time to risk the disorganisation of our finances, which they think will follow National Prohibition. A fine spirit pervaded the meeting of temperance workers held the day after election to say farewell to Mr and Mrs Snowden. One veteran worker said he had that morning started work for next election. Mr Snowden reminded us that a fight against such forces of evil could not be won by three months' work before election. We are realising to-day how much educating a people take before they will get rid of ancient feelings and prejudices. Let us start at once on a grand educational crusade against King Alcohol. Let us aim to get Temperance Hygiene not an optional, but a compulsory subject in our schools. Let us organise young people's societies, and see that those who will come of age in the next three years are won to our side.

The enemy considers we have received a permanent set-back, but we know different. We know our cause is a real live cause to-day, and that it is bound to conquer. The forces of righteousness never suffer ultimate defeat; the fight for freedom, though baffled oft, is ever won. We have to buckle on our armour for another three years of hard labour. We do not fear that there will be any laggards in our ranks. God's bugle never sounds a retreat. His command is ever "Forward." The fight may be long, but victory is certain.

For right is right since God is God,
And right the day must win;
To doubt would be disloyalty,
To falter would be sin.

Rev. Charles M. Sheldon played a prominent part in introducing the idea of women policemen into his own State of Kansas, U.S.A. The city of Topeka, in Kansas, has now two policewomen on duty, and so successful has the system proved that it will shortly be adopted by Toronto and other large centres. Mr Sheldon declares that policewomen are better than policemen for working among children, to say nothing of their work among other women. He sees nothing in their sex to render them unfit for the work; on the contrary, he believes them to be specially adapted for it.

BRITISH DOMINIONS WOMAN SUFFRAGE UNION.

The following proposal has reached the Hon. Secretary from one of the delegates of the Women's Enfranchisement Association of the Union of South Africa:—

"That a day should be set apart by the women of the Dominions overseas for prayer for enlightenment on their true work in the present world-crisis, and even more in the coming period of social reconstruction, that counsels may prevail that, in the peace which will follow this war, the woman's voice may be heard, and that spiritual and permanent interests may prevail over those which are material and temporary."

"For so the whole round earth is every way

Bound with gold chains about the feet of God."

The day proposed for this year is December 31st.

H. C. NEWCOMB, Hon. Sec.
Care International Women's Franchise Club, 9, Grafton Street, Piccadilly, London, W.

MOTHERHOOD.

A partnership with God is Motherhood;

What purity, what strength, what self-control,

What love, what wisdom, should belong to her

Who helps God's fashion an immortal soul.

We are beginning to realise that all reforms must begin before the cradle, in the pre-natal life. Mothers are waking up to the extreme importance of care and system in the rearing of their children, the future men and women.

Dr. Albert Wilson has shown by investigation that want of nutrition fosters an evil nature. Where the body is stunted, the brain will be even less nourished, the rule being, Body first, Brain after. Problems of "unemployables" and "degenerates" are largely the result of the neglect of child life in the past.

Children have a right to be born healthy, and the right to the care and nourishment necessary for the proper development of body and mind. It belongs to parenthood to help to prepare a worthy temple for an immortal soul.

Let mothers, and prospective mothers, strive to impress upon themselves and others in the duties and responsibilities of motherhood. Children should be taught by their parents to keep themselves pure and in honour.