

The White Ribbon

FOR GOD AND HOME AND HUMANITY

VOL. 20.—No. 234.

WELLINGTON, N.Z., DECEMBER 18, 1914.

2s 6d Per Annum, Post Free.
Single Copy, 3d.

CHILD LIFE IN GREAT BRITAIN.

Address delivered by Mrs Philip Snowden at a meeting held in the Concert Hall of the Wellington Town Hall, on Wednesday afternoon, October 28th, 1914, under the auspices of the Society for the Protection of Women and Children.

Many may perhaps be disappointed this afternoon if they are looking for entertainment. Some things that will be said will doubtless sadden, but I shall speak with the spirit of the optimist. There is no revolution so wonderful as the change that has taken place in the last 50 years in the attitude of the public mind towards little children. The old notion was that "the child was created for the parent," and in his home, "the Englishman's Castle," the British man, seeing the usefulness of the child as a wage-earner, ruled with tyranny. "What was good enough for the parent when a child is good enough now" was the common saying, and very few tried to give their children better opportunities than they had had themselves. Though the old idea still prevails among some classes, and in some parts of the country, among most it has been completely reversed. The parent, it is generally admitted, was created for the child, and each generation should be better than that which preceded it. Perhaps the most striking example that can be given is the enactment, in 1906, of the "Feeding Necessitous School Children Bill." It was proposed by the Labour Party, 40 in number, to levy a rate of $\frac{1}{4}$ d in the £ for the purpose of feeding starving school children; and though on both sides of the House there were a few adverse

critics of the Bill who protested against interfering with the liberty of the parent, and with parental control, yet it finally passed the third reading with almost complete unanimity. I had often asked one of my socialistic friends which part of their political programme would be the last to be achieved, and they always gave this of feeding the school children, because of the strong British sentiment against interfering with the responsibility of the parent. Yet this measure met with hardly any opposition, certainly no party opposition. Why this in a country so conservative as Great Britain? Because for many years preceding propagandists of every party, Sir John Joist, for example, and many other statesmen and reformers, had been engaged in a crusade on behalf of children. The Chief Educational Inspector of the London County Council, investigating in the schools in the London C.C. area, found there were 122,000 children going to school seriously underfed, mostly without breakfast. In another large town the same was true of 37 per cent of the elementary school children, and it was the same in every industrial city. When these facts were brought to light, and when simultaneously the Medical Inspection clause was passed, and it was discovered that 60 per cent of the elementary school children were suffering from some complaint, and this due chiefly to malnutrition, all parties united to remove this disgrace, and "The School Children Feeding Bill" became the law of the land. Unfortunately it is only permissive, like many other Acts of similar purpose, e.g., those for Better Housing of the Poor, or Town Planning; they merely give

the local authorities permission to carry out the reforms, but many have used the permission. Over 100 large County Councils have adopted the system for the feeding of the children, and the Labour Party is trying hard to make the Bill compulsory, that the carelessness of a County Council may not stand in the way of the children's best interests. One thing especially strikes one, and that is the great waste of public money through being spent in the education of children who, from insufficient feeding, accompanied with defective memory, are unable to benefit by it. Hence the importance of making the system universal.

It may be of interest to say a little as to the Educational system. At one time Education depended on the activities of the religious bodies, and the denominations all provided schools for their children. This was much better than nothing. There were also the old Dames' Schools, and the Ladies' Academies, where girls were taught how to behave prettily in company, and how to crochet antimacassars, and such like amiable accomplishments. Still we owe something to the old ladies and gentlemen who tried to supply a want; for previous to 1870 there was absolutely no means of free education. Then was established the system of public free, compulsory education, and there are now fine elementary schools, with magnificent buildings. Still there is not yet enough attention paid to education in Britain, for Germany and America are far in advance.

There are fine Universities, but there is a weakness in the system of Secondary Education, because it does not fit on right at either end. Some

from the Elementary Schools may go into the Secondary Schools, but they are looked down upon. The classes in the Elementary School are enormous, 60 is supposed to be the maximum, but often there are nearly 100; consequently individual attention is impossible. The teachers, too, in many cases do not possess very high qualifications, and the apparatus is poor. These defects are not so common in the Secondary Schools, where the classes are much smaller, and the teachers better equipped; but still there is no "educational ladder" whereby the poorest child with brains may attain a University degree.

The chief cause of difficulty in connection with the Elementary Schools is the expense, for they are maintained principally with local money, though there are Government grants for excellence in special subjects. So when more teachers are asked for, there is an outcry as to the rates going up. I feel sometimes I should like to go over the country and conduct a campaign about rates, and try to show people what benefits they receive from them, and what they would have to pay for these benefits if they had to pay for them out of their own pockets. Think of the roads, parks, libraries, schools, gas, electricity etc., etc. To hear people talk, one might think these had all dropped from Heaven! Lives have to be sacrificed to secure these blessings; ideas have to permeate mankind for generations before inventions can be perfected. We get these things collectively, and we pay for them collectively out of the rates; and our cry should rather be "Up with the rates and down with the death rate, and ignorance and crime and misery!"

Great efforts are being made to get all the charges of Education placed on the National Exchequer. It would be in every way more satisfactory, and also fairer, because boys, when grown up, often go to other places and so pay back to them the debt that they owe to their birthplace.

There is a decided tendency to improve educational methods and to get rid of cram, payment by results, and the overcrowding of the syllabus. When the teacher's salary depends on his getting the child up to the required standard, one may expect to find children of tender years, who cannot do mental arithmetic, kept in after school or otherwise punished. But such things will disappear, and some of the less necessary subjects be

replaced by Arts and Crafts that help to make the child useful to the community, and teach him how to make home happy.

During the last few years, excellent progress has been made in the direction of saving infant life. It is estimated that six millions of children died in the last 50 years, the majority of whom ought to be alive and strong now. In some parts of the country the death-rate among infants is 350 per 1000; more die in the working class than in the middle class and the upper class. There was an amazing difference—over 100 per cent between the death-rate in Hampstead, which is on a hill, and Bethnal Green, where the houses seem to be on top of each other, rows upon rows, with scarcely any outlet for air, or inlet for sunlight. Drink is largely responsible for the high mortality, but still more the poverty of the surroundings, material, mental and general. Many do not earn more than £2 a week; there are two million adult men that do not earn over £1 per week, and they have to pay 6s or 7s for a house, or 4s or 5s for a room, so no wonder there is starvation, especially among the mothers, who will live on dry bread and tea, that their husbands may have the scanty morsel of meat available; yet they go on bearing children that die as infants or grow up stunted in body and mind. This poverty **must** be removed, and all over the country institutions working to this end, voluntary organised schools for mothers, where they are fed on good wholesome, but cheap meals, for which, if they can afford it, they pay 1d, and where they are taught to look after their babies and not to give them hard eggs or fish and chips. These schools will probably be municipal concerns. The politicians too are helping, but they move slowly. But only a few months ago Lloyd George promised £2,000,000 for the purpose of establishing in industrial centres clinics to teach prospective mothers. Visitors are appointed also, to go and instruct the mothers in their homes. Where such reforms can be carried out we shall save the nation a million children, but alas, everything of the kind is indefinitely postponed through the war. Another reform that has materially helped is the improvement of the public milk supply through placing it under the control of the municipal authority resulting from which the deathrate of infants was reduced in Finsbury from 165 to 60 per

1000. An enlightened Mayor of Huddersfield offered mothers in one district £1 for every baby born, if it was well at age of 12 months, and the deathrate soon fell considerably. There is now sitting a Royal Commission on Venereal Diseases. The sexual immorality of men and women is due in large measure to the false idea that the standard of morality for men must be lower than for women. It must be equally high for both, and many mothers are to be blamed for not requiring that the husbands of their daughters should be as pure in outlook and life as the wives of their sons. Why should a young man "sow his wild oats" any more than a young woman? A healthy, pure race can be built up only on pure fatherhood as well as pure motherhood; and girls should be solemnly warned not to marry men corrupt as to morals, nor to marry drunkards in the hope of saving them. They **may** be saved mentally and spiritually, but the sacrifice of the girls is not justifiable.

With reference to the child worker, great changes have been made since the Industrial Revolution. Those were dreadful days—days of which Mrs Browning wrote in the "Cry of the Children"—when four-year-old children from the workhouses worked for 12 or 14 hours a day, picking up fluff in the cotton factories, or when half-naked women dragged truckloads of coal in the mines. But good men and women, like Lord Shaftesbury or Robert Owen, the cotton manufacturer, have worked, and got factory laws improved. Now no child works under the age of 12 years, and no young person under 18 years works at night, or more than 54 hours per week. Boys and girls between 12 and 14 years are allowed to work half time, attending school the other half, but there is nothing to be said for the system. Recently a ballot was taken for raising the age to 13, but the vote of the workers was against raising it. The system is bad; the children neither work well nor learn well. If they attend school in the afternoon they are too tired to learn; if in the morning, they are fresh but impudent, and "won't be bossed over by a woman." One argument has been raised in favour of the system that so many splendid M.P.'s have been half-timers. May it not rather be, in spite of being half-timers, they have risen to leadership? Will Crooks began work at eight years

old, but he says himself he would have done greater things had his early years been attended with less suffering.

No woman nor girl may now go into the mines to work, and no boy under 14. But there are still 100,000 little children engaged in street trading in their spare time, selling papers, running errands, and so on, often till late at night. It ought to be prevented by legislation, for they show signs of nerves—and little children ought to be nerveless—or they develop spinal curvature; they do not sleep enough, for every child under 12 should be in bed at seven and up again at seven. Efforts are being made to abolish this street trading, and very few girls are now engaged in it.

We still have immense problems to face: the reduction of the saloons, for instance, but we are working hard, and had it not been for the war, the next two or three years would have seen great reforms. Lloyd George is keenly interested in the condition of women and children; Mr John Burns has devoted himself to the question of pure milk supply. But though reforms will certainly be delayed through the war, I am optimistic, for the great crisis has stirred all hearts. All over the country organisations of men and women are looking after the women and children. The Suffrage Associations have all given up their time and their offices for this purpose, some for British specially, some for all nationalities. One is trying to find out how many working women are out of work; another to secure work for the workless. About a dozen of our women have been invited to join Queen Mary's Committee. Does anyone say, "Why should I worry about posterity? What has it done for me?" We realise that we cannot pay our debt to those in the past generations to whose noble efforts we owe so much, therefore we will pay it to those coming after us, and do our utmost to make the world a safer and brighter place for the little children to be born into it in the years to come.

HAMILTON DISTRICT CONVENTION.

The fourth annual District Convention of the Hamilton W.C.T.U. and its auxiliary Unions was held on October 23rd, in Wesley Church, Hamilton, President Mrs Auld presiding. Convention opened with the singing of the Union hymn, "All Round the World." The Crusade Psalm was read in unison. After prayer, the minutes of last Convention were read and confirmed.

The following Unions were represented: — Cambridge, Morrinsville, and Ngaruawahia.

The President heartily welcomed the delegates, and in giving her address, thanked God for His goodness to us during the year. We celebrate this year the coming of age of the women's franchise. It was a long and dignified struggle, in which our Unions largely shared for over 15 years. The name of Mrs Sheppard would always be honoured in this Convention. The W.C.T.U., composed of 45 Nations, have always advocated total abstinence for the individual, and prohibition for the nation. The President spoke of the sad calamity which had happened at Huntly, our sympathies going out to the women and children who were the sufferers. Also this great and terrible European war, which we greatly deplore. We believe it to be a righteous war, and pray that God will bring it to a speedy and successful issue. We express our sympathy with gallant little Belgium, who so valiantly withstood the unjustifiable incursion of the German army. We regret to notice that the totalisator permits are increased by 31 days, although they have already over 200 days. This year we are fighting the foulest evil that curses and degrades man. Once more we have the opportunity of ending the drink evil. We specially pray that statesmen may be led to see the great mass of misery, degradation, disease, and death produced by the liquor traffic, and the urgent need for its entire abolition. We regret the defeat of Mr Massey's Bill to reduce the three-fifths handicap, but which shows us again the necessity of returning men to Parliament who are on our side.

Mr Mason welcomed the delegates on behalf of the No-License Council, and gave an account of its work, urg-

ing all present to co-operate in canvassing.

Hamilton reported having three hospital visitors, who visited regularly every week; 300 names on the Cradle Roll; literature collected and sent to the back-blocks and hospital, also jams, jellies, eggs, fruits, etc., to patients. The sum of £25 promised to No-License Council, partly raised; members assisted in the equipment of our Expeditionary Forces, also in making and collecting clothing for needy families in Huntly and Belgium. One Union member on School Committee.

Cambridge reports: Monthly Band of Hope well attended; 31 names on Cradle Roll; collected for Dr. Barnardo's Homes.

Ngaruawahia reports: Good Band of Hope meetings; donation sent to "Home Journal"; collected for Dr. Barnardo's Homes; held a gift auction and concert in aid of the No-License campaign, realising £24 5s.

Morrinsville reports: Meetings lapsed for some months, owing to removal of officers. A fresh start has now been made; new officers elected.

Resolutions.

"That this Convention views with great displeasure the attitude the present Government has taken in the increased number of racing days, and that the Waikato and Raglan members of W.C.T.U., who represent a good proportion of voters, strongly protest against it."

"This Convention strongly protests against the three-fifths No-License majority Bill being thrown out."

"This Convention tenders its heartfelt sympathy and condolence to the sufferers through the Huntly mine disaster," all members standing.

Mrs Horne read an open letter from Mrs Pethick Lawrence to the Bishop of London.

Evening Session.

Mrs Auld presiding. Addresses were given by the following:—Mesdames Hogan and Brown, Mr Foster and Dr. Waddell. Solos were given by Misses Gaulton and Stewart.

Hearty votes of thanks were carried by acclamation, and a very profitable Convention closed with the Benediction and National Anthem.

The "White Ribbon" will be posted to any address on receipt of 2s 6d, payable to Mrs Peryman, Johnsonville.

Politics is not a dirty game, but a human science, and it is our duty to use it.—Beatrice Forbes-Robertson,

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.)

RANGIORA.

Annual Meeting held November 27. The following officers were elected: President, Mrs May; Secretary, Miss Wadey; Treasurer, Mrs H. Taylor; Vice-Presidents, Mrs Darling, Mrs Robinson, and Mrs Metherell. The retiring President, Mrs Cox, was heartily thanked for her splendid work. The Secretary gave an encouraging report; special mention made of the Rest Room, lately opened by the Borough Council, and of the kindness of the A. and P. Association in lending the Room free of charge. Our women are to take turns in minding the Room. The Cradle Roll Supt reported 23 names on the roll. Treasurers report held over. Votes of sympathy to Mayor and Mayoress in the loss of their daughter, and to Mrs Savers in her illness. Our Union has donated two first and 10 Consolation Prizes for Temperance Essays written by pupils of the Borough School. A third first prize was donated by a member.

WELLINGTON CENTRAL.

Mrs Atkinson presided. Mrs Palk led in prayer. Mr Miller appealed to the Union for help in making flags for the Temperance Demonstration to be held on Saturday, 5th December, and for biscuits for children. A committee was formed to make the necessary arrangements, Mrs Farquhar, convener. Mrs Port and Mrs Atkinson reported seeing the Secretary of the Kelburn Tramway Coy. re liquor advertisement on tickets. He said it was a matter of business, not morals, and expressed his willingness to have another advertisement substituted if satisfactory arrangements could be made with any other advertiser. Resolved to send a letter of sympathy to Mrs Gooder on account of her sister's death.

PETONE.

November 1. Annual Meeting held. Mrs Rouse in the chair. Reports of work done during the year were read by Mesdames Corner, McPherson, Doneghue, Carrow, Ashby, and Miss Peach. The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted in the following: President, Mrs Rouse; Vice-Presidents, Miss Kirk, Mesdames McPherson and Corner; Secretary, Mrs Burd, 37, Cuba Street, Petone; Treasurer, Mrs Doneghue; Press Reporter, Mrs Murgatroyd; Home Meetings, Mrs Ashby; Cradle Roll Supts.,

Mrs Barrow and Miss Peach; "White Ribbon" Agent, Mrs Wilson; Sick Visitors, Mesdames McPherson and Crowther; Literature, Mrs James. All promised to help on election day.

MOSGIEL.

November 9. Meeting held in the Presbyterian Church Hall. Attendance good. Mrs Eliot of N.E.V. occupied the chair. After the ordinary business Mrs Don, of Dunedin, gave a very stirring address, and appealed to all in the cause of No License that every woman should do her part at the coming election. Miss Kirk sang very sweetly "The Cry of the Children."

HAWERA.

September. Mrs Blamires presided. Mr L. A. Bone addressed the meeting on "No License," and a special committee was set up in connection with this matter. A motion was carried to rescind a previous resolution which was adverse to the Bible in Schools League. A vote of appreciation of the Government's action in prohibiting liquor on the troopships was passed unanimously.

October. Attendance good. Mrs Blamires presided. Business of a formal nature. Decided to conduct the usual W.C.T.U. Tent at the A. and P. Show.

November. Annual Meeting. Mrs Blamires presided. All the officers were re-elected. The Annual Report shewed a successful year's work. 61 members on the roll, and 137 children on Cradle Roll. Attendance at the Monthly Meetings good. Annual Provincial Convention held in Manaia (an Auxiliary Union) in August, was a great success. On Franchise Day collection was taken up on behalf of the No License League. The following departments of work had all been successfully carried on during the year: "Cradle Roll," "Home and Mothers' Meetings," "Literature," "Press," "Rest and Refreshment Booths," "Scientific and Temperance Instruction." The Balance Sheet for the year was satisfactory. Decided to give all the takings at the "Rest Tent" to the Poor Relief Fund. Decided to ask Sister Nellie to give a lecture; proceeds for Maori Work. Arrangements made to take charge of infants on behalf of those voting.

OKAIAWA.

Annual Report. During the year four meetings were held—two at the residence of Mrs Lees and two at the Mission Hall. The attendance might be much better. Two new members have joined. Sister Nellie and Sister Waitiri have been absent since June. Subjects dealt with: "The Art of seeing the Beautiful in Life," by Sister Waitiri. "The Ideal Member," by Miss Hicks, and the "The Struggle for Women's Franchise," by Mrs Lees. Sister Julia gave an address on her work in New Guinea and Miss Maunders a Report of Gisborne Convention. Following officers were elect-

ed: President, Miss Hicks; Vice-Presidents, Mrs J. Joll and Mrs Green; Secretary and Treasurer, Miss Joll; Supt. Cradle Roll, Mrs Blair; Supt. Maori Cradle Roll, Sis. Nellie Hayes; "White Ribbon" Agent, Mrs Green; "White Ribbon" Reporter, Mrs Betts.

OPOTIKI.

November 12. Usual meeting held, thirteen ladies present; Mrs Murray presiding. Mrs Holman read a newspaper cutting on Russia's prohibition; and this Union expressed its appreciation of Russia's splendid example in sacrificing £90,000,000 revenue after experiencing good results during a temporary prohibition. Details of our "Gift Auction" were discussed and arranged.

November 25. A successful "Gift Auction" held in St. John's Hall, in aid of the No License funds. Opened by the Mayoress, and a musical programme rendered. Over £25 was realised. Many thanks are due to the Torere Maori Union for their liberal gifts of kits and kumeras, which sold very well.

November 26. Meeting held, ten ladies present; Mrs Murray presiding. Decided to hold our annual meeting on December 17th. Details of providing refreshments on Election Day were discussed. Decided to have collection boxes on the tables, and at the door of Hall; proceeds in aid of Belgian Relief Fund.

MANAIA.

November 6. Monthly Meeting held. Arrangements made for meetings by the Rev. Fee. Attendance very good. Hearty welcome extended to Mrs Mowlem. Rev Rowe reported great activity on the part of our opponents, 68 votes having been secured in 4 days. All members were requested to make sure their names were on the roll, also those of all sympathisers of the cause. 4 new members were initiated, and a quantity of literature handed round for distribution. Meeting closed with the Benediction.

BLUFF.

November 6. Annual Meeting held; Mrs Moody presided. Attendance good. Superintendents' Reports read showing good work done during the year. The Treasurer read the Balance Sheet. £2 was donated to our Building Fund, and 10s. to the N.Z. Organising Fund. Reports and Balance Sheet were adopted. Following officers were elected: President, Mrs Moody; Secretary, Miss Mitchell; Treasurer, Mrs Barber; Vice-Presidents, Mrs E. Walker and Mrs W. Johnston; Band of Hope Superintendent, Mrs Johnston, Assistant, Mrs Forrest; Legal and Parliamentary Superintendent, Mrs Donaldson; "White Ribbon" Agent, Mrs Matheson. Afternoon tea was dispensed, after which the President gave a paper on "The Work of Our Union in the Different Countries all over the World." Monthly Band of Hope meet-

ings brought to a close on October 16th by a successful gathering. The Rev Ready from Invercargill gave an excellent address. Prizes were distributed for attendance, also to those who brought most new members. Invercargill friends who came and addressed our Band of Hope meetings heartily thanked. Our Hall was lent to the ladies of Bluff, who were sewing for the equipment of the Expeditionary Force, also for the Belgium Relief Fund. Several large cases were sent from the friends in Bluff.

N.E. VALLEY.

Sixth Annual Meeting held November 26th in the Young Men's Institute; Mrs Elliot presided. Attendance good. Miss Begg, Secretary, read the Annual Report, which showed number of paid up members seventy-five (75), an increase of seventeen (17) for the year. Mrs Sanders, Treasurer, presented her report showing income for year to be £31 6s 4d, and expenditure to be £27 0s 4d. Musical items rendered and a stirring address was given by Mrs Don, illustrated by her famous chart. Miss Peart gave a very touching recitation, "The Cry of the Children." Miss Manson gave greetings from local Rechabites, and short addresses were given on behalf of the Churches by Revs H. B. Gray, and J. Carlisle, and Mr T. Arnold.

GREYMOUTH.

October 28. Meeting well attended. One new member joining our Union. Mr James Marion, who has been sent down to the West Coast (by the New Zealand Alliance) to organise gave a most encouraging address, which will be a help to us during the next few weeks.

November 25. Annual Meeting held at the Sailors' Rest. Attendance good. The President gave a short address, after which the reports of the Secretary and Treasurer were read, both showing good work throughout the year. 13 new members joined. Our Sailors Rest is still doing its good work under the capable management of Mr and Mrs Leggoe. Following officers were elected: President, Mrs Gaskin, re-elected; Secretary, Mrs Hayes, re-elected; Treasurer, Mrs Sweetman, re-elected.

AUCKLAND.

November 11. Meeting held. Mrs J. W. Taylor presiding. Vote of sympathy passed (the members standing) with the relations of Mrs Hughes (our late Supt. of Maori Work) her presence and help will be greatly missed by our Union. Reported that the Sale of Gifts was very successful. The Rev Millar gave an inspiring address to temperance workers. Meeting closed in the usual way.

November 25. About thirty present. Hearty welcome given to our President Mrs Pudney. Date of Annual Meeting altered to December 16th. Resolv-

ed that the Union take part in "Top Line Demonstration" to be held Saturday, December 5th, and send decorated lorry. Decided to donate £2 to Central Mission for use of Hall, and 10s to the caretaker. Mr Bissett, of the Central Mission, gave an interesting address. Five new members were initiated.

KAIKORAI.

November 27. Annual Meeting. Attendance fair. Reports of work done were read and adopted. All officers re-elected, excepting Cradle Roll Supt., Mrs Martin now occupying that position. President announced that a Temperance Demonstration, under our auspices, would be held on December 1st. Reports on Local Canvass Work were given, and vote of thanks to the Rev. Richard Sutherland and office-bearers for the use of room.

NAPIER.

November 19. Meeting held in Willard Institute, Carlyle Street. Paper read by Mrs Neal on "How Prohibition was Carried in Several States of America, especially Kansas." Letter to be sent to the six schools in Napier asking the headmasters to have essays written on Temperance Wall Sheets. W.C.T.U. offering a prize in St. VI., and one in St. V.

December 1. Annual Meeting. Mrs Oldham welcomed by meeting after her long illness. President urged members to support the temperance candidate. The following officers were elected: President, Mrs Fossey, Nelson Crescent; Recording Sec., Mrs Chatworthy; Cor. Sec., Mrs Ingram, Cameron Road; Treasurer, Mrs Dearlove, Lincoln Road; Home Meeting, Mrs Ball; Flower Mission and Cradle Roll, Mrs Walker; "White Ribbon" Supt., Mrs Dearlove; Purity, Mrs Oldham. Decided to ask the ministers to hold a prayer meeting on Election Day, from 2 to 4 p.m. Afternoon tea was provided and two members were initiated. The Secretary read reports from Napier, Waipukurau, Waipawa, Hastings, and Norsewood. The Treasurer submitted Balance Sheet, and Superintendents read their reports. Building Committee stated that the Willard Institute is now paid for, and also part of the land. This the result of the efforts of the W.C.T.U. and friends catering at the Agricultural Show.

GISBORNE.

Mrs Harrison Lee-Cowie addressed a crowded meeting in the Scottish Hall. Rev. F. W. Chatterton occupied the chair. Mrs Lee-Cowie, as a citizen of Invercargill, bore testimony to the good results of Prohibition there, and stated it was eight years since a citizen of that town had been arrested for drunkenness. The speaker regretted that, owing to the lack of business ability among our statesmen, we of New Zealand are forced to wait for four years for the traffic to go out, while in America it goes out immedi-

ately. Mrs Lee-Cowie concluded by saying she was confident of a steady vote for Prohibition at the coming election.

There was a large attendance at the Annual Meeting held on November 24th. Reports of Departments were received, also the Secretary's Annual Report and Treasurer's Report. Mrs Walker proposed a resolution of sympathy with the relatives of Mrs Hughes, an old and valued member of the Union, and one who had given to it loyal and faithful service for many years; this was carried all standing. The election of officers resulted: President, Mrs Graham; Secretary, Mrs Walker; Treasurer, Mrs Goffe; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames East, Chatterton and Wilkes; Executive, Mesdames Malcolm, Oakley, Hoare, McLeod and Miss Morice. Voting was carried out by ballot. The resignation of Mrs J. Stewart, Supt. of "White Ribbon" Department, was received with regret, and Mrs D. W. Coleman was appointed in her place.

ASHBURTON.

November 3. Annual Meeting held. Mrs W. K. Watson presiding. The Secretary read the Annual Report, which was adopted. The President referred to the work done by Mrs Mowlem, branch unions being formed at Methven and Rakaia. Read Balance Sheet showed a credit balance of £3 3s 5½d. Membership 54, an increase of 7 for the year. The Winchmore Union report was read shewing a splendid year of keen work. Superintendents of Departments gave in their reports, and a special vote of thanks was accorded Miss Butterick ("White Ribbon" Supt.) whose report revealed 72 paid-up subscribers, while the membership stood at 54. Decided to nominate the present N.Z. officers for re-election at Dominion Convention. Election of Officers resulted as follows: President, Mrs W. K. Watson; Secretary, Mrs J. H. Dent; Treasurer, Mrs W. T. Lill; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames Miller, Elliott, McArthur, Hughes and Lill. Superintendents of Departments were appointed as follows:—"Literature," Mrs McEwen; "Social," Mrs Leadley and Miss Wise; "Scientific Temperance Instruction," Mrs Buchanan; "Rest Tent," Mesdames Sage and Sutton; "Evangelistic," Mrs Elliott; "White Ribbon," Miss Butterick; "Legal and Parliamentary" and "Press," Miss Trevurza; "Maori," Miss G. W. Andrews; "Notable Days," Mrs Brown; "Hygiene" and "Sabbath Observance," Mrs W. T. Lill. Ten of the members present expressed their willingness to donate a book each as prizes for essays on "Temperance," to be competed for by the scholars in connection with the county schools.

NGAERE.

November 30. Mrs Mowlem gave an interesting address in the Ngaere Hall. Musical items and readings given by friends. Hearty vote of

thanks was passed to Mrs Mowlem for her address. Monthly Meeting December 1st in Mrs Morrison's residence. Mrs Kennington presiding. Reports were read from Miss Mackie, Supt. of Hospitals. Flowers and Magazines had been distributed, and were gratefully received. Superintendents were appointed: Evangelistic and Flower Mission, Mrs Morison and Mrs N. Jones; L.T.L., Miss Mills and Mrs Lambert; Mothers' Meetings, Mrs Ellis; Maori Work, Miss Saunders. Arrangements for refreshments at polling booth be left with Mr Morrison. Afternoon tea handed round. Mrs Mowlem gave a stirring address. Friends present from Tariki, Stratford and Eltham.

SHEFFIELD.

December 2. Annual Meeting held at Sheffield. 9 members present. Mrs Neutze presiding. Reply received from Hon. Allen re Women Teachers' Salaries. Mrs Bromley, Lyttelton, asked for Comfort Bags for Sailors at Xmas. 6 members promised a bag each. How to Vote papers received from the N.Z. Alliance and distributed. Treasurer's and Secretary's Reports for the year were then read and adopted. Election of Officers resulted in Mrs McLraith being re-elected President, also Mrs Kennedy re-elected Treasurer. Election of Secretary left till January meeting. Present Secretary to keep books until next meeting on January 6th, 1915.

INVERCARGILL.

December 1. Annual Meeting held on December 1st. Attendance good. Mrs McKenzie, President, in the chair. Secretary read the Annual Report, which told of a year of active work in many departments, including important legislative resolutions, and the distributing of a most successful scheme of prize giving for temperance essays on the wall sheets in the four public schools (114 essays having been sent in and £5 12s 6d spent in prizes). The reports of superintendents of various departments were read, also report of District Convention held in September. The Treasurer's report was most satisfactory, also those of the Rest and Tea Rooms, and a vote of thanks was passed to Mr Hunter for auditing the same. Final arrangements were made for the carrying out of the work of the Rest Room, Tea Rooms, and Ladies' Retiring Rooms at the forthcoming A. and P. Show. The election of Officers resulted as follows: President, Mrs J. McKenzie; Vice-Presidents, Mrs Baird, Mrs Cowie, Mrs Macalister, and all Ministers' wives who are members; Treasurer, Mrs Hunter; Secretary, Sister Moody Bell; Assistant Secretary, Mrs T. W. Walker.

ONEHUNGA.

This Union re-organised by Miss Dewar and Miss Evans of the Auckland Union. The following Officers were duly elected: Mrs Logan, President; Mrs Wilding, Treasurer; Mrs

Ball, Mrs Breeze, Mrs Biles, Vice-Presidents; Mrs Yockney, Secretary; Mrs Guyan "White Ribbon" Agent; Mrs Sutherland, Superintendent of the Cradle Roll. Meetings held fortnightly with an average attendance of 9 members. 14 members on our roll. Meetings held in the different churches, turn about. Decided to assist the Manukau No License League in the forthcoming election. Decided to meet once a month.

LYTTELTON.

November 4. Annual Meeting held. Reports and Balance Sheet were read and adopted. Officers were elected as follows: President, Mrs Whitby; Secretary, Mrs Bromley; Treasurer, Mrs Clark; Vice-Presidents, Mrs Millar, Mrs Smith and Mrs Hatchwell; "White Ribbon" Agent, Miss Elsie Clark. Four members of the Union assisted at the luncheon booth at the A. and P. Show, Christchurch. It was resolved that a letter be sent to Mr W. S. Smith thanking him for the gift of his book, "Women's Franchise Movement in New Zealand."

December 2. Decided to hold the meetings in future on first Wednesday in the month, to open the meetings with responsible reading from W. R. Hymnal. One of our members undertook to organise united Prayer Meeting for women, to be held during the War, from 2.30 to 3 p.m. on Wednesdays. Two members were heartily welcomed to our Union; Mrs Mitchell from Kaiapoi, and Mrs Jones from Bluff. Resolved that a letter of sympathy be sent to Mrs Blackwell and family, of Kaiapoi, in their recent sad bereavement.

WOODVILLE.

November 24. Annual Meeting held. Attendance good. Several new members present. President read the report of the year's work, and gave some interesting extracts from the "White Ribbon," and other papers. One Honorary Member spoke on No License and the coming election. The same officers were re-elected for ensuing year. Two ladies were initiated as members, and the Temperance doxology sang. At the close, afternoon tea was kindly provided by the President.

TIMARU.

Monthly Meeting held at the Sailors' Rest. Mrs Rule presided. Election of officers resulted as follows: Mrs Rule, President; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames Brooker, Trott, Wallace, Liddle, Howard and Bruce; Treasurer, Mrs Cave; Secretary, Miss Avison; Cradle Roll, Mrs Valentine, Assistant, Miss Evans; "White Ribbon" Reporter, Mrs Stead; Flower Mission, Mrs Kavanah; Maori Work, Mrs Butcher.

WARKWORTH.

November 26. Annual Meeting held in the Methodist Church. Mrs E. Morrison presided. The following officers were elected for 1915: President, Mrs

Attwood; Vice-presidents, Mesdames Boose and Hamilton; Secretary, Mrs McKinney; Treasurer, Mrs Cox; "White Ribbon" Agent, Mrs S. Morrison; Backblocks Superintendents, Mesdames Geo. Civil and W. Wilson; Flower Mission Work, Mrs Jones and Miss Eyton; Superintendent Cradle Roll, Miss Millar, assisted by Miss A. E. Morrison; Press Correspondent, Miss A. E. Morrison. One new member was initiated. Mrs E. Morrison gave a short address. Afternoon tea handed round, and a competition took place.

ASHBURTON.

December. Special Meeting held. Arrangements made for catering for No License workers on Election Day. Resolved that £2 be donated to the No License Council. The following was passed, all members standing, "The members of this Union desire to place on record their deep sorrow at the death of Mrs Hughes, and their appreciation of the noble work performed by her as a member and officer of the N.Z.W.C.T.U. By her zeal and devotion to Temperance, and all works of reform, she has left behind her a bright and inspiring example. To Rev B. H. and Mrs Hughes we extend the heartfelt sympathy of the members of the Union in their sore bereavement." The Secretary was instructed to forward a copy to Rev Hughes.

WANGANUI EAST.

November 6. Mrs Andrews occupied the chair. Seven members present. Leaflets "To the Women of New Zealand" were distributed to members, who were asked to use them freely before polling day. The Cer. Sec. (Mrs Hicks) read a most interesting paper, by Mrs Bendely, entitled, "The Work of the W.C.T.U. Women."

November 27. Mrs Andrew in the chair. Owing to very boisterous weather attendance was consequently small. The Annual Meeting postponed to December 11th. Sincere regret was expressed at losing Mrs Robinson (nee Miss Neilson, M.A.) from our Union. We commend our sister to Riverton Union. Mrs Neilson (Supt. Cradle Roll) read a letter from Mrs Neal, Pahiatua, re the Cradle Roll Department.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

Annual Meeting held on December 3rd. Mrs Evans, M.A., occupied the chair. Secretary read a brief outline of the year's work, which was adopted. The Balance Sheet showed a balance in hand of £8, and a membership of 108, 17 new members gained during the year. The Rev W. Shirer read the Balance Sheet in connection with the building fund, for which he received a hearty vote of thanks, and was unanimously re-elected. Donations have been contributed to the Missionary Fund, N.Z. Alliance Convention Tea, Organising Fund,

and Maori Organiser's Fund. The Union have celebrated White Ribbon Day, Franchise Day, and T. E. Taylor Memorial Day. In connection with Good Citizenship, two of our members are on the School Committee, and a lady also was nominated for the Education Board, but her name was withdrawn before the election. A debate was held on "Should the Franchise be Limited." Two of our members were delegates to the N.Z. Alliance Convention. Letters were written to the Ministers' Association re Citizen Sunday, and members of the Union were allotted districts in connection with checking the roll. Several "Home" meetings have been held, including one to welcome Lady Holder, President of the South Australian W.C.T.U., The Sabbath Observance Supt. has been instrumental in getting a number of shops closed on Sundays. The laundries and match factories have been visited, and flowers and texts given out. Parcels have been sent to the backblocks, and the Alexandra Home and the Home for the Aged Needy have been visited. Deputations re appointing official lady visitors to the Gaol; in preventing the soldiers in the city getting so much drink; Sunday trading, and the Criminal Amendment Bill; waited on the Hon. Mr Herdman (Minister of Justice). Sabbath Observance Literature, 500 leaflets on "Appeal to the Men of New Zealand from W.C.T.U.," 1000 copies of the Gisborne pamphlet have been distributed, and also 50 marked Testaments sent to the troops. Votes of sympathy were passed to the relatives of the late Mrs Hughes, and also to Mrs Keene and Mrs Rose of Blenheim who had both lost loved ones. The officers of the Union were all re-elected, but owing to want of time the election of the Supt. of Departments was held over.

NELSON.

Sale of Work on November 11th, in the Temperance Hall. Miss Atkinson was welcomed back a few days before the sale, and pleasure expressed to have her amongst us again, much better for her stay in Wellington. Net profits of Sale were about £29. Attendance good, both afternoon and evening. Programme of vocal and instrumental music and recitations in the evening. The Mayoress, Mrs Lock, in opening the Sale, spoke of the good work done by the Union, and expressed her entire sympathy with its aims.

October 27. Good Citizenship Meeting. An animated discussion took place as to whether any artificial restrictions should be imposed upon the employment of married women. The meeting decided that there should be no such artificial restrictions, but that every woman, whether married or single, should be free to live her own life in the way that seemed to her best.

November 27. Annual Meeting held. 20 present, Miss Atkinson presiding. Arrangements made for the

Public Meeting on the following Tuesday. Secretary read her Annual Report, showing a year of quiet, but steady work. The reports of Departments were also read. The Cradle Roll Department reported 131 names on the roll. The Good Citizenship reported eleven meetings held during the year, and the Literature, including the Library, and Magazines, had been well patronised. The Treasurer's Report, read by Mrs A. Brown, showed a balance of £24 13s in hand; £17 10s being in the Bank. The election of officers resulted as follows: Miss Atkinson, President; Mrs Knapp, Secretary; Treasurer, Mrs A. Brown; the Vice-Presidents and Superintendents of Departments were also re-appointed. "White Ribbon" Agent Mrs Whitford.

December 1. Public Meeting. Attendance good. Chair occupied by the President. Mrs Crump wrote expressing her disappointment at being unable to be present, and it was resolved to send her a letter of sympathy from the meeting. Rev Wm. Baumber gave an address upon the work of the Union. He said that the Union stood for purity of life in all its relationships, and although members had a strong foe to fight in the liquor traffic, yet victory was certain if they kept their faith in God unshaken, for He was ever on the side of the forces that make for righteousness. He concluded by urging members to give their vote both for National Prohibition and for Local Option, and to use their influence with others to do the same. A song, recitation, and afternoon tea provided.

PATEA.

Nov. 10. Inaugural meeting held in St. George's Schoolroom, Mrs Lacombe (Mayoress) presiding. After Mrs Mowlem (Organiser) had told what the W.C.T.U. stood for and of the far-reaching results of alcohol, she asked all who were willing to join the White Ribbon Army to stand. Almost every woman stood. The election of officers resulted in: Pres., Mrs Robbie; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Ireland and Bridgman; Treas., Mrs Ireland; Sec., Mrs Bridgman; "White Ribbon" Agent, Mrs Harrison.

A second meeting was held in the Municipal Chambers on November 18th, Mrs Robbie presiding, and after a preliminary meeting, the Rev. K. S. B. Hammond gave a very helpful and inspiring address; and the President, in a few choice sentences, voiced the feelings of the meeting in proposing to our distinguished guest a very hearty vote of thanks.

WANGANUI

Annual Meeting held. Mrs Upton, Vice-President, presiding. A strong committee was formed to work at the W.C.T.U. Tent on election day, and all members requested to pray on that day for success. Mrs Herbert Taylor wrote acknowledging letter of condolence sent from this Union. Mrs Walker wrote thanking the Union for

its donation towards the Maori Organising Fund. The Secretary, Treasurer, and Evangelistic reports read and adopted. Feeling reference was made to the departure of Mrs Smith, our late beloved President, all joined in wishing her health, peace and prosperity in her new home. Election of officers: President, Mrs Blamires; Secretary, Mrs McKenzie; Vice-Presidents, Mrs Bassett and Mrs Upton; Treasurer, Mrs Siddells; Recording Secretary, Miss McAneny; Press Reporter, Mrs Bott. Superintendents of Departments: "White Ribbon," Mrs W. Grant; Evangelistic, Mrs J. Grant; Purity, Dr Dunn and Mrs Blythe; Christian Citizenship, Mrs Sydney Butler; Literature, Miss Little; Legal and Parliamentary, Mrs Bassett; Librarian, Miss Brechin; Organists, Mrs Craig and Miss Little.

KAIPARA.

Nov. 30. Tena ra koutou enga mema onga roopu wahine Maori. Kanui te pai onga mahi onga roopu ate takiwa o Kaipara. Kei a Tihema ka tu teteahi tea meeting ki Otamatea, hei mahi moni mate whare karakia. Ko te Roopu ano kei te whakahaere itenei ngahau. Kati, ko te tino kiahia inaeanei, e nga hoa, kia kahlia tatou kite rapu oranga mo a tatou hara Maori. Ko nga mea e whai whanaunga i waenganui inga tai tamariki e haere ana kite tiaki ita tatou motu, kia kaha kite inoi kia tiakina ratou inga mate. Kia kaua hoki a tatou tangata e tahuri kite inu. Kate take kia tino kaha ano te tinana, kia kaua he mea hei whakangoikore ia ratou, katahi ano ratou e hoki ara mai ano kia taou. Kaua rawa tatou e ngaikore kite inai kite Matua inga ra katoa, kia tiakina ratou, kia arahima ratou a tae noa kite mutunga otenei whawhai. Hai ano te kupu atenei wa. Mate Atua ano koutou e Manaaki.

Maari Woodhead.

THE WEAKER SEX.

"Look at her," said the ironmonger, indicating a departing customer. "She sent her wringer here to be repaired. I promised it her for this week provided that I could get a certain new part in time from the makers. I couldn't get it. Now she wants me to pay a charwoman who came unnecessarily—half-a-crown and twopence tram fare. Then she wants me to pay the laundry bill for the clothes." The ironmonger paused to breathe heavily. "But that's not all. Her husband dines out on washdays, and as he dined out on a washday which wasn't a washday—you understand?—she says that I ought to pay for his dinner. No, she doesn't ask anything else. And they call 'em the weaker sex!"—"Manchester Guardian."

L.T.L.

Yet another Union, the Invercargill, offered prizes for essays on Temperance Wall Sheets. A splendid response was made by the four schools. 114 essays were sent to examiners, and many others were written. We publish below the prize essay. A Union can do no better work, none that will have a more lasting result, than to encourage the children of this Dominion to learn the evil effects of alcohol upon their minds and bodies.

INJURIOUS EFFECTS OF LIQUOR.

Ina McNeil, Standard 7, Queen's Park School.

Drink such as beer, wine and brandy are not stimulating foods like milk and soup are. These build up the body, but drink does not. It is the cause of stunted growth. It rather wears it away. Most of these liquors contain a substance, very dangerous to the body, called alcohol. Alcohol belongs to a class of drugs known as narcotics. Chloroform, opium, and strychnine all belong to the same class. These are all poisons, and if taken in large quantities will cause death. Alcohol does not help the digestion, but spoils it. It causes an excessive flow of digestive juice in the stomach and therefore causes an unnatural appetite which is of no benefit to healthy persons.

The lungs become weak and cannot resist disease germs. This is a very serious matter. The liver becomes slow and torpid. Alcohol draws water to itself and draws the juice out of the liver and other tissues, causing it to shrivel up and become hard. It then cannot do its work properly. The kidneys become seriously impaired and do not perform their proper functions. Therefore all the waste matter is kept in the body and so makes the blood impure. This is often the cause of illnesses such as consumption and cancer. The brain and nervous system become impaired and cannot control themselves.

Alcohol does not permanently strengthen the pumping of the heart but weakens, and tends to stretch it considerably. It does not quench the thirst, but rather helps to make a person more thirsty. Water is a better drink. Alcohol also lowers the powers to endure fatigue and hardships. The white corpuscles which guard the body, and fight for us against disease become inert and so the germs find an easy entry. Even

small quantities of alcohol reduce the efficiency of the red corpuscles, which carry oxygen to the tissues and removes carbon dioxide from the blood.

Drink stains the character of a person. Anyone given to drink slowly drifts downwards. He becomes less particular as to the comrades he associates with, as to his language and his dress. He is given to slang and will be often found lingering around street corners, out of work. Children and young folk should not take alcohol except by doctor's special orders. Drink is often the cause of poverty, accidents, insanity and many crimes. A judge once said: "If England could be made sober three-quarters of her jails could be closed." Prolonged drink often leads to paralysis and many other diseases.

Money that is spent on drink is money wasted, or thrown away. In New Zealand 5 years ago the amount spent in drink amounted to £4,000,000 for the year, and to about £12 per man. All that money was simply wasted. This amount would have paid for more than the imports, such as boots and clothing for the year. From 35 to 40 per cent of the people who are sent to the asylum have caused their insanity through excessive drinking. Drink is a great enemy to mankind, and once he starts he doesn't know when to stop. An intoxicated person is a public nuisance. What a happy world this would be if everyone was sober.

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WOMEN'S Christian Temperance Union Of New Zealand.

Organised 1885.

"For God and Home and Humanity."

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TREASURER:

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Official Organ:

"The White Ribbon."

Editor: Mrs Peryman, Johnsonville,
Wellington.

Associate Editor: Mrs Evans, M.A.

Business Manager: Mrs Peryman,
Johnsonville, Wellington.

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.

A PAGE FOR Y's.

A GIRL'S INFLUENCE.

By Annie M. Vail.

(Continued).

Mabel was her own mistress. Plenty of people would have been happy to interfere with her affairs through her orphanage, but no occasion ever presented. She had always seemed naturally inclined to do the most desirable thing. She had chosen the best schools, she had exquisite taste in dress, housekeeping, literature and art; she was a delightful girl and a very devout and conscientious one. Her guardian managed her property. Her grandparents were her guests; nobody had entertained an anxious thought about her for years. Alice Santly experienced the very first one. She was several years Mabel's senior and her great resource. Only a strip of lawn separated their homes. Neuralgia had prevented her seeing much of the revival meetings; exhaustion from long-continued religious exaltation kept Mabel rather quiet; she had seen her friend every day, but Alice had guests, and there was no opportunity for being confidential, otherwise the very first mistaken move would have been analysed for her.

Mabel greeted her warmly when she came in for the first time for several days, and wondered how she would manage to tell her news.

"I am better, dear. I felt like putting you on your guard a little about young Clifford. I'm afraid of his getting too much interested in you. When these young scapegraces set out to reform they always expect everybody to stand around and admire, and the first thing most of them do is to offer exclusive attention to the nicest girl at hand—when they have no business to embarrass any girl with special devotion until they make a record. Of course this seems perfectly preposterous," she ran on, wondering why she did not feel entirely at ease; "but the less does not comprehend the greater, you know; he does not perceive his own deficiencies and he wouldn't naturally comprehend the hopelessness of the idea."

Mabel did not look up. "Don't you think he has a nice face, Alice?" she asked, her friend thought a little irrelevantly.

"Well, yes, that is, it might be," she answered slowly; "if there was

more behind it—intellect—ambition, and so on, as it is, it is a kind of *beaute de diable*, bears marks of dissipation, his tastes are low, he likes vile company. I, myself, have often seen him with—what makes you look at me that way, Mabel?"

"Oh, Alice, you don't know how he is changed," she said, "how manly and earnest he is since he has been trying to be a Christian. He turned to me from the very first. Along every step of the way I was the only one who could understand and help him; he has risen from such depths he must be helped and held—he depends on me—he says if I fail him he will be lost. I believe it has been given to me to stand by him and with him always!"

Alice listened aghast. "Mabel Armitage!"

"Alice, I have been so plainly led, I look back and cannot see any mistake, nor any point where I could have done differently."

Alice groaned. "I can," she said. "Just when that flattering sense of special influence and ownership began—that was the place. He depends on you—that is his religion, not Christ, and sweet and dear as you are, it will not do."

"God uses human means," she said serenely.

"But, Mabel, it is not a fit alliance if he is ever so sincere. You can't be happy with him—he doesn't know the first thing about the subjects which interest you—he's illiterate—you will be ashamed of him."

"I have always thought," said Mabel, sweetly, "that I could lay all at the foot of the cross; if the sacrifice is to be my pride of intellect, I can make it. It will be made enough for me to understand the language of the Kingdom."

Alice could endure no more; she went home dismayed. Neither did she worry Mabel with any more attempts to change her determination. It was too late for her counsel to be any use. But relatives and friends of the family did their whole duty. There was no halo of interest about Ed Clifford in their eyes. Grandfather and Grandmother were fairly broken-hearted. Her guardian tried to remonstrate. Aunts and Uncles made her extremely uncomfortable, but, if anything, more determined. Even the minister tried to undeceive her, but she pretty nearly convinced him against his judge-

ment. It was too late for anything but a special providence.

Through the influence of a wealthy member of the church, Clifford was offered the position of freight conductor by the company which had discharged him for drinking and misconduct. He was loath to leave the scene of his enchantment, but he could not gainsay his mother's logic. "She had slaved to maintain him in dissipation and idleness—now, if he had turned over a new leaf, he would show it by doing something to help along. Going with a rich girl was not earning a living."

His "day off" gave him every third evening, and Mabel looked forward to his coming. His beauty and tenderness were pleasing to her. He was so worshipful and presumed so little, and everybody else was finding fault with her.

It was strange how little apparent to Mabel had been her lover's mental and educational deficiencies, but the language of passion and religious fervor has an eloquence of its own, and they talked of little else. When she led off beyond his depth his tact did not fail him. He would say with perfect frankness, "I don't understand much about that, Mabel, you will have to be my teacher as well as my safeguard," and then it was easy to glide back to the theme on which he could be eloquent, her goodness and all she was to him. An occasional fault of diction made her wince, for she was nice and critical, but she told herself she was glad she had a sacrifice to make. She began to understand pretty clearly the narrowness of their mutual ground, but she had not tired of it. There were flowers along the path of duty. If time had been given for it to grow an older story she might have heled release, but so long as she believed in her divine commission she never would have faltered.

Clifford's train was due on the afternoon of the last day of the year. They were to go together to "watch-meeting" and "see the old year out." He had talked of the new year holding a different meaning from any other of his life—said that his life had grown so full of joy he thought his heart would burst with it, and then—if such inconceivable folly were not an everyday affair, if we did not continually see men sacrifice everything of value to a vicious impulse, what happened would be an incredible thing to relate.

(To be concluded).

AVOID ALCOHOL FOR HEALTH AND EFFICIENCY.

(By Dr. F. Keller.)

According to Professor Irving Fisher's report to the United States Government, 600,000 lives are sacrificed annually in the United States, and these deaths, he says, can be prevented by preventive measures.

The National French League against Alcohol, with headquarters in Paris, makes a special appeal to the industrialists, on the ground that the habitual use of alcohol lessens the skill of the workman. By depriving him of self-control, he becomes clumsy in his movements, whereby the tendency to accidents is augmented, not only for himself, but for his fellows. Alcoholism attacks all the organs of the body, especially those which have the least power of resistance. The workmen who indulge in the use of alcohol are more liable to tuberculosis and disorders of the nervous system. Alcoholism takes away money which should go for food, clothing, and shelter of the family. It is, therefore, in the interests of the workman, his family, industry, and society that the evils of alcoholism should be combated. As means to this end, the League recommends: Verbal hints and suggestions to the workmen; anti-alcoholic posters in the workrooms; annual lectures in the factory itself for the workers; prohibition of all alcoholic drinks during the hours of labour; sale of low-priced, non-alcoholic beverages; establishment of temperance societies among the workers; and the provision of temperance restaurants.

Every year the State of New York receives into its State asylums 6000 lunatics, a large percentage of whom are the victims of alcoholism.

Healthy family life is the basis of a sound nation, State and community. That this is being accepted universally is shown by the various measures for the promotion of healthful living. At first efforts were made for the restoration of the sick; now **prevention** is the rule of action.

When the strength is used up it is not enough merely to add to it, but reserve force must be stored up. This is best accomplished by periods of rest for mind and body. Only a comparative few recognise this, and have the means to do it. The great

majority of the community do not appreciate this, and are in no position to avail themselves of periods of rest and recreation.

Mr Carnegie, when speaking to students of Aberdeen University, said:—

"There is, no doubt, among you a class which intends to enter the domain of business to win Dame Fortune's golden smiles by assiduously waiting upon her—would-be millionaires. This was the class in which I toiled, not at the University, unfortunately, but in the home of poverty; which, however, was never inclined to hang its head, I assure you. My experience with young men pursuing their careers soon led me to the conclusion that the use of liquor was the rock upon which more were hopelessly wrecked than on any other. The rule for the young men of Scotland—'Touch not, taste not, handle not'—I hope is becoming more popular each succeeding year. One rule I have often suggested to youth, 'Remain teetotallers until you have become millionaires. Certain am I that this would greatly accelerate the victory. Believe me, the young man who drinks or smokes voluntarily handicaps himself in the race of life. That he does either or both shows that he lacks something; he does not know how best to train himself for the race. The coming man leaves nothing to chance; nor, mark you, does he spend his slender means foolishly; certainly not if he is to prove the coming millionaire. You find him stripped for the race, carrying no superfluous weight in the day of trial. Trifles these, no doubt some of you may be thinking—especially smoking—but, remember, we have seen it is almost impossible to know what are trifles. In the race of life a foot ahead wins the race; a pin turns the scale."

Davies, in the "British Medical Journal" of August 8th, 1908, asserts that, as an article of food, alcohol cannot be considered necessary, or even from a dietetic point of view. There are some special conditions that need to be considered in regard to its use, especially from a military service standpoint. These are:—

- (1) Extremes of heat and cold.
- (2) Excessive labour, bodily or mental.
- (3) The peculiar fatigues and exposures incident to war.

(1) **Extremes of Cold.** Sir John Ross wrote: "The most irresistible proof of the value of abstinence was when we abandoned our ship, and were obliged to leave behind us all our wine and spirits. It was remarkable to observe how much stronger and more able the men were to do their work when they had nothing but water to drink." Dr. John Rae maintained that "the greater the cold, the more injurious is the use of alcohol."

Extremes of Heat. The amount of disease ascribed to intemperance was described by Dr. J. Maclellan as "something appalling." One-tenth of all the admissions to hospitals for sickness in Bombay were on account of delirium tremens or drunkenness; the numbers admitted for these causes were greater than for any other disease, except fever; and as to deaths, "alcohol destroyed more than either fever, hepatitis, or diarrhoea, and nearly as many as cholera."

(2) **Excessive Labour.** A German observer, Schneider, has recently (1907) examined 1200 mountain climbers, and found that, according to their testimony, as long as continuous efforts and difficulties are to be expected no alcohol should be taken.

(3) **Fatigues and Exposure Incident to War.** The experiences of the British forces in Egypt in 1800, when a body of troops under Sir David Baird marched across the desert from the Red Sea to the Nile (Kossier to Kenh): Of the Red River expedition in Canada in 1870; of the Ashanti campaign in 1874; and of the Nile expedition in 1885—the three latter under Lord Wolseley—all prove that very great exertion and exposure to extremes of temperature can be better borne without alcohol than with it, and that arduous campaigns can be carried on without the use of alcoholic drinks of any kind.

CHIVALRY.

It's treating a woman politely,
Provided she isn't a fright;
It's guarding the girls who act
rightly,
If you can be judge of what's right;
It's being—not just, but so pleasant;
It's tipping while wages are low;
It's making a beautiful present,
And failing to pay what you owe.
—Alice Duer Miller, in the
"New York Tribune."

LAST WORDS OF MR AND MRS PHILIP SNOWDEN IN NEW ZEALAND.

On Friday afternoon, the 11th December, a small gathering of Temperance workers met at the Y.M.C.A. building in Wellington, by the invitation of the N.Z. Alliance, to bid Godspeed to Mr and Mrs Snowden prior to their return to the Homeland.

Rev. W. J. Comrie briefly expressed to the distinguished visitors the hearty good wishes of all their New Zealand friends, after which Mr Snowden spoke feelingly of the kindness they had received throughout their visit, which he said would remain with them all their lives as a very pleasant memory. The meetings throughout had been good, and well attended; sometimes at first almost painful through the intensity of attention, they had grown more inspiring and enthusiastic as the tour proceeded.

Referring to the elections just past, he said though the results were not just what we should have liked, we must not be despondent, bearing in mind the stupendous character of the task and the great difficulties to overcome. Success in any great reform was never unbroken, but always had a forward and a backward movement. In some districts advance had been made, and it was possible that the percentage of electors voting was not so high as three years ago. As the result of experience in working for various reforms in the Homeland, he emphasised the necessity for sustained effort, so as to educate public opinion and remove prejudice. Wherever they had gone, they had found in New Zealand that people had the idea that No-License was a failure, and that things were actually worse than under License. He was quite convinced that this was not the case, and on this point public opinion must be educated. If he might make another suggestion without being impertinent, he would urge that the Temperance party must not confine their efforts to energetic propaganda work for a few weeks before the election. Public meetings had their limitations; they did not reach the people that required reaching. In their tour they had probably reached about 100,000, but there were 600,000 electors, so some means must be devised of reaching the rest. They

would have gone back with lighter hearts if the results of the poll had been different, but as it was, no one must be discouraged. It was impossible to have defeat in a good cause; though progress might be arrested for a time, it could no more be stopped than a stream could be stopped by a pebble thrown into its waters. Quoting from the famous Reform speeches of W. E. Gladstone in 1867, the banner might droop, but it would rise on the breeze again, and be carried to victory, for the great social forces were on the side of right, and the cause of righteousness could never be ultimately defeated.

"God's in His heaven!

All's well with the world."

He had seen wonderful changes in his time, and all in the right direction, and he was convinced that the day would come when the universal reign of righteousness should be established on the earth.

Mrs Snowden wished also to emphasise the fact that they had had a delightful time, and would always remember the friendships they had made, which she hoped some day would be renewed. During the visit she had noted many things, and she would like to suggest that special attention be paid to combating the tendency to loose thinking on the part of women. She thought it was one of the saddest things that a woman, especially a mother of boys, should vote for liquor. One argument that a woman had urged at one of her meetings was that it was best to keep the public houses open so as to make the boys strong. She did not suppose there were very many who thought this, but she was surprised to hear it from any mother. Another thing she noticed was that there were many who so much admired the Old Land that they would take as gospel anything that came thus labelled. She hoped that before next election it would be possible to send out such information as would counteract the evil effect of misleading quotations. She concluded by once more thanking all who had shown them so much kindness, and they would always be proud to feel they had so many friends on the other side of the world.

After Mrs Snowden had spoken the meeting was thrown open for social intercourse, and the friendly cup of tea. Our reporter took the opportunity of asking our distinguished visitors a few questions. In reply to

the question as to whether she considered the average English woman would make as intelligent a voter as the average Englishman, Mrs Snowden said that class for class the English woman was quite as intelligent as the English man, in fact among the working class the women were more intelligent, as they had to bear the burden of expending the income and "making both ends meet," for politics rested largely upon a common sense basis. Asked in what degree the professions were open to women Mrs Snowden said that women could practise as doctors. They could not enter the church, and could not practise as lawyers. They might pass the exams. and take high legal degrees, but the profession would not allow them to practice. Mr Snowden (who for 2 years sat on the Royal Commission, enquiring into the Civil Service, was asked what opportunity women had of entering and rising in the Civil Service. He stated that many women were employed as typists, and in mechanical branches, also there were women clerks in the General Post Office, in Money Order and Saving Bank branches, where they do accountants' and clerks' work. They commence at £60 per annum and rise to £110, and even some of them to £180 per annum. They are employed largely as sub-postmistresses and also as postmistresses, and receive up to £300 per annum as salary, and even some towns of 15,000 inhabitants have women postmistresses. But the great clerical branch of the Civil Service is not open to them to any degree, and when there they are segregated, do not work with men or enter in the same way. Women are employed as Medical Officers and Inspectors under the Insurance Act, and some with special qualifications are employed in British Museum and in other technical posts. The Royal Commission has made several recommendations in regard to equal pay for equal work, and other matters which may tend to increase women's opportunities to rise to more responsible posts.

As to being prepared for defeat, I certainly am not. Any man who is prepared for defeat would be half defeated before he commenced. I hope for success, shall do all in my power to secure it, and trust to God for the rest.—Admiral Farragut.

**BEST VALUE
IN THE
DOMINION.**



BEATALL KID GLOVES in Brown, Tan,
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WRITE FOR A PAIR TO

Beath & Co., Ltd., Christchurch.

Superintendents' Letters.

HYGIENE DEPARTMENT.

Dear Sisters,—

Will you kindly forward to me before the end of December, earlier if possible, all reports for the Department of Hygiene. I have a number of copies of "Woman and her Possibilities," by Dr. W. Ramsay Smith, also "Race Culture" by the same author, which I will send free of charge to any Union sending penny stamp postage.

Yours in the work,

(Mrs) MAY McDONALD.

N.Z. Supt. Hygiene,

80, Pirie Street, Wellington.

EDUCATION BUREAU.

To Superintendents or Secretaries.

Dear Sisters,—

Will you kindly forward to me, without delay, information as to what has been done in your Union under above heading, whether in the way of addresses, original papers, or papers loaned by the Department. Also please look through your papers and forward any which have been read and put aside or forgotten.

Kindly note that my address until Convention will be: M. G. Powell, Isca. Mt., St Clair, Dunedin.

Yours in the work,

M. G. POWELL,
Dominion Superintendent.

Okoia,

Wanganui,

Dec. 5th, 1914.

Dear Sisters,—

Will all local Superintendents of "Press Dept." kindly let me have their reports by the end of the year, so that I may have my report ready for Convention?

Yours in the work,

ANNIE DUXFIELD,
New Zealand Superintendent
"Press Department."

PURITY DEPARTMENT.

Dear Sisters,—Having received the appointment of Purity Superintendent to the Dominion W.C.T.U., I should be pleased to receive the yearly report from your local Union as to the Purity work done during this year, or perhaps report of plans for future work.

Leaflets and booklets can be obtained from Mrs Dearlove, Lincoln Road, Napier. A recent leaflet was published, "An Appeal to the Men of New Zealand from the W.C.T.U." This, I know, must have been issued at various centres to the Expeditionary Forces and others. This modern world of ours is confronted with the necessity of receiving not only some knowledge on the various social evils, but persuasion to live pure, well-contained lives.

Let us make this Purity Department an active, useful adjunct to our W.C.T.U. movement.

Thanking you for your report and any suggestion. Each Union no doubt has its local Purity Secretary.—Yours faithfully,

FLORENCE KELLAR.

225 Ponsonby Road, Auckland.

MAORI ORGANISER'S REPORT.

There is very little fresh news to be reported this month. The Maori women are deploring the fact that their vote cannot be of help to us in the coming election, so that though they are most keen to have prohibition, they can help us but little. I am hoping that the East Coast Unions, though only new to the work, will stick to their guns again this year, and keep their district prohibited, as before. I feel sure that if my request to the No License Council, a few months back, to have a strong worker sent among the European population of that Coast, has been granted, the place should carry prohibition easily. I have been appointed scrutineer for the No

License, for Batley, on the 10th inst. On the 17th of this month all the four Unions, Maori, of this district will meet at Otamatea, and I hope to be able to visit them later on in the month, in their own settlements.

My correspondence with other distant Unions is progressing favourably, many asking for instructions. While in Auckland a few days back I visited the Maori Contingent at Avondale, and you will be glad to hear that a great many of these brave boys are White Ribboners from some of our Unions in all parts of the North Island.

FLORENCE WOODHEAD.

CHRISTMAS.

From the sickness of sin and the darkness of doubt,
From selfish pleasure and sullen pains,
From the Frost of Pride and the Fever of Envy
God save us everyone this day.

In the health of Purity and the calm of Mutual Trust,
In the sharing of Joy and the bearing of Trouble,
In the steady glow of Love and clear Light of Hope
God keep us everyone this day.

By remembering our kinship with all men,
By well-wishing, friendly speaking and kindly doing;
By cheering the down-cast and adding sunshine to day-light,
By welcoming strangers, poor shepherds, or wise men;
By keeping the music of the Angel's Song in this house
God help us everyone to spread the blessing of Xmas.

The Lord gets his best soldiers out of the highlands of affliction.—Spurgeon.

ORGANISER'S REPORT.

The next place that called for my attention was Patea. Here I was able to organise quite a promising Union having for its officers, Mrs Robbie, President; Mrs Bridgeman, Secretary; Mrs Ireland, Treasurer; Mrs Harrison, W.R. Agent. A systematic visitation of the town was carried out, several of the newly formed Union assisting. Arrangements were made for Rev R. B. S. Hammond to hold a meeting for ladies in the afternoon of his visit to the town. Three new members being initiated. A visit to Whenuakura for the morning service, addressing Presbyterian S.S., when 24 boys and girls signed the pledge in the afternoon. Taking service at Methodist Church in evening completed a full Sunday's work. After a few more days work here then left for Manaia, calling in at Normanby for their Union meeting. This Union is proving itself a very useful and strong influence for good in this district, and it was very gratifying to see so many busy women gathered together, especially so at this busy season when every minute is of such value on the farms.

It was thought advisable to visit Kapuni. Accordingly on Sunday afternoon addressed a united S.S. gathering, when every boy and girl signed the pledge. Coming back to the home of Mrs Ricketts, held a little meeting in the Dining Room, when 3 new members were initiated in W.R. work, and became members of Manaia Union. Also a pleasant little time and talk was given to the members of this family. Next day Mrs Ricketts drove me out to make some calls which resulted in securing 12 new members for the Union. It is hoped that Home Meetings will be held at this place at no distant date.

Returned to Manaia to be at their Annual Meeting. Letters having come from Stratford and Ngaere for 26th and 30th and Dec. 1st, it was decided to go for these dates and return again to the field. Arriving at Stratford, I was met by the retiring President, Mrs Withy; became the guest of Mrs Reeve. Unfortunately the weather came up very stormy, and wet, during my stay here. I was able to meet with the Union members and speak with them, at the close they desired me to stay for Sunday and to give them a public meeting in the afternoon, which was done, when one

new member was initiated, and the collection taken up resulted in £1, which was given to relief fund.

Early next morning Mr and Mrs Morrison, who were accompanied by Mrs Kennington, drove for me to go to Ngaere, and on our way made several calls. Arriving there, through much rain, were glad of the home welcome of the indefatigable Secretary, Mrs Jones. In the evening a public meeting was held, when a goodly attendance greeted us and a pleasant and profitable time was spent. The newly-elected President of the Union, Mrs Kennington, presided. This capable, active and earnest old veteran in the cause, whose years vie with the allotted span of life, still presents as good a fighting front as ever, and we sincerely wish for her a bright, happy and prosperous term of office.

Next afternoon the Union met at the home of Mrs Morrison, ex-president, where I had the privilege of speaking with these fine lot of workers. The work in this district entails quite a lot of travel, chiefly by driving, or cycling, and to many kind friends I am indebted for making it possible to get from one to the other of these various places.

My work is not yet finished in this district, and will have to wait my next report. Every moment of the precious time now left us in which to work is being availed of, and hope by the time this reaches you the great day will have come and gone. Let us hope and trust all will recognise the importance and sacred responsibility attached to the ballot box.

Yours with prayers that God's will may be done at this time and ever,

ALICE L. MOWLEM.

My address: No 10, Walters Road,
Mt. Eden, Auckland.

TEMPERANCE AND THE WAR.

(By Miss Agnes Slack.)

From every part of England I am receiving letters asking how the sale of intoxicants can be best lessened during this serious time. Our country is engaged in the greatest war the world has known, and is facing the most serious crisis our nation has known during the last 100 years.

The National British Women's Temperance Association is urging our

165,000 members to use every effort to show that the expenditure in alcohol is a criminal waste; it has no food value. Lord Kitchener's appeal to our soldiers to abstain from wine indicates a new era in British warfare. The highest physical and mental fitness is attained by teetotallers.

Native princes in India questioned me about the alcoholism of Great Britain, and pointed out the teaching of their religion prohibited it. Canada, Australia, New Zealand; every part of our Empire is giving us a lead on this question, and our wonderful Imperial Army will endure as no army has previously done, largely owing to its enforced teetotalism. The B.W.T.A., through its branches, is urging chief constables on city, borough, or county, by deputations or petitions, and the Licensing Bench, to take action. On September 9th, at the Thames Police Court, the number of charges for drunkenness was reduced from 78 on the previous day to 26, owing to the earlier closing just adopted in that area.

We are urging the distribution of temperance drinks and water to troops passing through railway stations. Our nation gives £1,000,000 in **one** week to the Prince of Wales' Relief Fund, but the Nation **wastes** £3,000,000 **every** week on intoxicating drinks. I am greatly cheered by the article in the "Times" on September 21, showing so clearly that our Allied Army have clean hands. Their march is not signalised by "myriads of empty bottles."

Russia has given the whole world an example. Never in history has any country taken such a great stand in prohibiting the sale of spirituous liquors and beer throughout its immense domains. It is good for us to realise, owing to the work of Temperance Societies and the enormous advance of scientific experiments, that for the first time in history, on the side of the Allies, this is a teetotal war. Our men are being taught that their eyesight, aim, and power of endurance can be best maintained by entire absence from all intoxicants.

I saw on Waggon Hill (Ladysmith), on the bare, stony veldt, a huge narrow trench, in which were buried so many men of the Manchester Regiment. This trench is enclosed by a barbed wire fence. At the end a monument gives the long list of

names of the men; and has an inscription as follows:—"Take heed all ye who pass by. We died fighting for our country, for whose cause we cheerfully gave our lives and died content." What makes our men now cheerfully "give up their lives"? What is it? What are the thoughts flickering before them as they face death in those trenches? Some of them must lie face upturned to the great silent sky, as they sink away into the vastness of eternity. Our army is composed entirely of volunteer men. Not one man there fights under compulsion. The greatest secret of this wonderful fighting power is—they know for what they are fighting—for freedom—for justice—for happy homes—for Children—for a liberty-giving, just country, with great ideals; something we call England. This makes men go into battle—not driven there by bayonets; but freely giving their lives for love of country.

Let our nation at home—every man and woman, take their share in fighting our great home foe, and in resolutely, at any rate during the war time, in the name of truest patriotism, cease to waste money and strength on intoxicants. The great test of every life must always be self-sacrifice—here lies truest love of country.

AGNES E. SLACK.

MAORI ORGANISING FUND.

I desire to acknowledge and thank the following Unions for further donations to our Maori work: Opotiki, Manaia, East Oxford, Nelson, Wanganui, Napier, and Palmerston North. I hope to publish a full list of all Unions who have contributed to this fund in next "White Ribbon" number. Out of 48 Unions, 21 have contributed, some twice over, leaving 17 Unions that so far have contributed nothing. This Branch of our work is an important one, and it would be encouraging to feel that we have the sympathy of all our Unions even if it can only be expressed in a small sum. Will all Unions who have done work in this Department kindly report as soon as possible to:

Mrs N. F. WALKER,

"Gortgowan,"

Fox Street, Gisborne.

ORGANISING FUND.

The following amounts have been received for the Organising Fund during November, 1914:—

- 1st—Wanganui Union (Gift Sale), £10.
- 2nd—Waipukurau Union, 11s.
- 3rd—Hawera Union, £2 17s; Ashburton Union, £2 10s; Napier Dist. Union, £1; Pahiatua (Franchise Day), £1 3s 3d.
- 4th—Winchmore Union (second donation), 5s.
- 5th—Waimate Union (second donation), £1 1s.
- 6th—Tuatapere, Southland (new Union, first donation), £1 10s.
- 7th—Auckland District, £3.
- 8th—Lyttelton Union, £1 1s.
- 9th—Dunedin District, £5 2s 7d; Mr A. C. Begg, Dunedin (per Dunedin Union), 17s 5d.
- 10th—Wellington Central Union, £3 5s 6d.
- 11th—Palmerston North Union, £2 11s.
- 12th—Bluff Union, 10s; Blenheim Union, £2 4s.

ALICE R. C. TAYLOR,

Treasurer Organising Fund.

Money orders payable to Alice Taylor.

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

"If Molly Donahue wint to vote in livery stable, th' first thing she'd wud be to get a broom, sweep up the floors, take th' harness from th' walls, an' hang up a picture iv Niamh be moonlight; chase out th' catcatchers an' polis', remove th' sears, make th' judges get a shave, an' p'raps invalydate th' illiction. It's a job f'r her, an' I told her so."—Mr Dooley (F. P. Dunne).

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

ACKLAND District, 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 3 p.m., Central Mission Hall, Albion St.; Executive meets 2.30; Pres., M. Pudney, Wallace St., Ponsonby; Cor. Sec., Miss N. Dewar, Pompaier Tr., Ponsonby; Rec. Sec., Miss Evans, G.S., Wellesley Street; Treas., Miss Dar, 4 Pompaier Terr., Ponsonby; WHITE RIBBON Agent, Mrs Gouk, Walla St., Ponsonby.

BLENHEIM District, 1st Tuesday, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Grace, the Vicarage; Sec., Mrs Gordon Litchfield, "Glenalva"; Treas., Mrs Hay; Mothers' Meeting and Cradle Roll, Mesdames Brewer and Handcock; WHITE RIBBON Supt., M.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, Bishopscourt, 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 Tuesday, 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, Clandlands, 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; Sec., Sister Moody Bell, Amethyst Hall; Assistant Sec., Mrs T. W. Walker, Crinan St.; Treas., Mrs Hunter, 110 Don St.; "W.R." Agent, Mrs Hunter, 110 Don St.

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 Wednesday, Methodist Schoolroom; Pres., Mrs Whitby; Sec., Mrs Bromley; Treas., Mrs Clark; "W.R." Agent, Miss Elsie Clark, "Waratah," W. Lyttelton.

MANAIA, 2nd Friday, Methodist Church; Pres., Mrs J. J. Patterson; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Prankinson 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 Fossey, Nelson Crescent; 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; "W.R." Supt., Mrs Dearlove.

NGARUAWAHIA, 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 A. Brown, Weka St.

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, Mesdames Corner and McPherson; Sec., Mrs Burd, 37 Cuba St.; Treas., Mrs Donoghue; Cradle Roll, Miss Peach; Flower Mission, Mrs McPherson; Home Meetings, Mrs Ashby; WHITE RIBBON Agent, Mrs Wilson; Literature, Mrs James.

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.

RANGIORA, 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, 2 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 V. J. Roberts, Willowbridge; Sec., M. George Dash, Box 27, P.O.; Min. Sec., Miss Strong, Lower High St.; Treas., Mrs S. J. Hitchens, "Te Rangi," M. Road; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs G. I. Graham, Rhodes St.

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

WANGANUI EAST meets alternately 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 p.m., Trinity Church Parlour; Pres., Mrs Blamires; Cor. Sec., Mrs J. McKenzie, 46 Wilson Street; Rec. Sec., Miss M. Anemy; Treas., Mrs Siddells; "W.R." Supt., Mrs W. Grant.

WARKWORTH, last Thursday, 2.30 p.m., Schoolroom, Methodist Church; Pres., Mrs Attwood, Hepburn Creek; Sec., H. B. McKinney, Millburn; Treas., Mrs Cox, Schoolhouse; "W.R." 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., Mrs 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, p.m., in Ormond St. Hall; Pres., Mr Perkins, Ross St.; Vice-Pres., Mrs T. Jackson; Sec., Mrs T. Cole, Woodland Rd.; Treas., Mrs Davie, Station St.; Cradle Roll, Mrs Cole.

Printed for the W.C.T.U. of N.Z. by Wright and Carman, 146, Featherston Street, Wellington.

DECEMBER 18, 1914.