

WOMEN'S
Christian Temperance Union
Of New Zealand.

Organised 1885.

"For God and Home and Humanity."

PRESIDENT:

MRS. DON,
 54 Canongate, Dunedin.

VICE-PRESIDENT:

Miss Powell, 15a Ada Street,
 Palmerston North.

RECORDING SECRETARY:

MRS. MITCHELL, Methodist
 Parsonage, Lyttelton.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:

MISS HENDERSON, 26, Tui Street,
 Fendalton, Christchurch.

TREASURER:

MRS BENDELY, Aratonga Avenue,
 One Tree Hill, Auckland.

Official Organ:

"The White Ribbon."

Editor: Mrs Peryman, Johnsonville,
 Wellington.

Associate Editor: Mrs Evans, M.A.

Business Manager: Mrs Peryman,
 Johnsonville, Wellington.

NOMINATIONS FOR N.Z.
OFFICERS.

Napier, Kaiapoi, and New Plymouth nominate:—President, Mrs Don; Cor. Sec., Mrs Henderson; Rec. Sec., Mrs A. R. Atkinson; Treas., Mrs Bendely.

We regret to state that, acting on her doctor's advice, Mrs A. R. Atkinson has been reluctantly compelled to decline nomination.—(Ed. "W.R.")

Invercargill nominates:—Pres., Mrs Don; Cor. Sec., Miss Henderson; Rec. Sec., Mrs Mitchell; Treas., Mrs Bendely.

The White Ribbon.

For God and Home and Humanity

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1915.

PROXY OR DELEGATE.

At the Gisborne Convention a notice of motion was given to alter the Constitution by abolishing the word "proxy," and allowing the Unions to elect as delegate any member of the W.C.T.U. Now this resolution, if carried, would entirely de-

stroy the representative nature of our Convention. Instead of a gathering of delegates, each one a representative of **her own** Union, and proxies, each one instructed by the Union she represents how to vote on all important matters, we should become a gathering of members of the W.C.T.U. each one representing only her own opinion.

Now, while we admit that a member of one Union might know the opinions and needs of a Union a few miles away, there is no limitation of this kind in the notice of motion. It does not even say any member of the W.C.T.U. in this Dominion. Should this notice of motion become part of our Constitution, any Union could select an Australian, American, or English White Ribboner as their delegate.

So far from benefiting small Unions who cannot send one of their own members, this notice of motion would inflict a grave injury upon them. It would take away from them their right to vote for N.Z. officers, also for alterations to Constitution. At present, when a Union cannot send one of their own members to Convention, they say, "We will apply to the Recording Secretary for a proxy, and send along **our** vote by the proxy." But if they appointed a delegate from the other end of the Dominion they could not tell her how to vote, and consequently the vote would be **her** vote, and not necessarily their vote.

There is not the slightest inferiority in the position of a proxy. But if a member has the welfare of a small Union at heart, and consents to act as their proxy, she would naturally desire to be instructed by them how to vote on all important matters, and whom to vote for as N.Z. officers.

We hope all Unions will discuss this matter thoroughly. It is by their vote that this will either be added to the Constitution or rejected therefrom. But we think all Unions should understand the serious change this notice of motion would make in our Constitution, and the great injustice it would inflict on Unions unable to send a delegate, by depriving them of their vote.

TAKE NOTICE.

Will all Unions kindly note change of address of Cor. Sec.? Miss Henderson's address is now 26, Tui Street, Fendalton, Christchurch.

ANNUAL CONVENTION, 1915.

The Convention will be held in the Y.M.C.A. building.

The evening meetings are as follows:—

Wednesday, March 17, 7.30 p.m.—Reception of delegates, Concert Hall, Y.M.C.A.

Friday, March 19, 7.30 p.m.—Public meeting, Concert Hall. Papers by Mrs Field and Miss McCarthy.

Sunday, March 21, 8.15 p.m.—Public meeting, Grand Theatre, Cathedral Square. Speakers: Mesdames A. R. Atkinson and Lee-Cowie, and Dr. Florence Keller.

Wednesday, March 24, 7.30 p.m.—Concert Hall, Y.M.C.A. Lessons from the 1914 Poll, Rev. J. Dawson, Secretary N.Z. Alliance.

Mr John Howell, Director of the Technical School, will also give an address dealing with the schools and school systems of America. The date of this meeting has not yet been fixed.

On Tuesday, March 23rd, there will be a dedication service in connection with the memorial stone for the late Mrs Cole. Linwood Cemetery, 3 p.m.

On Saturday afternoon, March 20th, the Christchurch W.C.T.U. will have charge of the refreshment booth at the Harvest Festival in aid of the Belgian Fund, and delegates will have an opportunity of attending the Festival.

THE PANAMA EXHIBITION.

Mrs Carvosso, World's Superintendent of the Department of Fairs and Exhibits, writes that space has been granted and arrangements made for a W.C.T.U. exhibit at the Panama-Pacific Exhibition, and asks that New Zealand shall be represented. She suggests photos. of W.C.T.U. buildings and officers, copies of our papers, and of posters and literature printed by our Unions. Will all Unions please note this request, and forward to me, as soon as possible, photos. of buildings owned by Unions, also copies of leaflets and other literature printed for circulation.

C. HENDERSON,

Corresponding Secretary.

26, Tui Street, Fendalton, Christchurch.