

The White Ribbon

FOR GOD AND HOME AND HUMANITY

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CRIMINAL NATIONS.

History repeats itself. So we have often been told, but who, in reading the history of Attilas' invasion of Europe, ever expected it to be repeated in this enlightened 20th century. Yet the callousness of the atrocities inflicted on noncombatants by Germans in Belgium to-day equals and surpasses Attila, while the destruction of historic buildings recalls the Vandals and the Goths.

A peaceful nation was overrun by Germany. To save the smaller nation, Britain, true to her treaty obligations, entered the arena. Germany mad with the lust of power, drunk with the blood of the slain, must be conquered, and taught to observe the conditions imposed by "a little bit of paper." When a criminal runs "amuck" on a large scale we never say, let him alone, we must not fight him; bushrangers are chased, captured, and brought to justice to secure the safety of the public. At present we have no international tribunal at whose bar criminal nations can be tried, but they cannot be allowed to murder, pillage, outrage, and overawe a continent, and the appeal to arms has been made, the final appeal for international disagreement. Even the peaceloving Quakers speak not against this war, but decide to help, as far as non-combatants can do so.

Women are ever the greatest sufferers in war. Starved babes, outraged girlhood, tortured motherhood, mark the path of the foe. Therefore women of every nation must oppose not only war, but the spirit of militarism, which is anti-Christian, because it is

the spirit of hate, and not the spirit of love.

In ancient times every family avenged its own wrongs, and blood feuds were common, and lasted for generations. Then followed a long course for the education of public opinion, and a long conflict before law reigned supreme and every criminal was brought to trial in a law court. Now the man who avenges his own wrongs becomes himself a criminal in the eyes of the law and of public opinion. Criminals escaped to other lands, extradition laws followed; now, with our wireless messages and swift means of transit, he is a very clever criminal indeed who escapes.

Every nation punishes criminals by legal means. Apply the same to nations. Let the nation which attempts to avenge itself, instead of appealing to international tribunal, become itself a criminal.

Surely when this war is over the nations will see militarism in all its ugliness. Cannot several large nations agree to have an international Court of Appeal? Have we not statesmen who could draft its constitution? Let representatives be elected by each nation in the compact. Instead of each nation having its own army and navy, as each little baron had his own in times past, have a police navy, and as every individual in nation is answerable to national law court, so make every nation answerable to world-wide international court. Enforce obedience to this Court. Just as by length of usage men have almost forgotten any way to avenge personal grievances save by legal means, so as centuries roll on nations will forget that they ever set-

tled differences by the sword, and will appeal to international court.

Our Empire is now fighting for its very life. It is upholding the right of small nations to exist and govern themselves. A man who enters the house of a less powerful neighbour and takes what his fancy dictates is a criminal and a robber. Is the nation any less criminal which attempts to steal a passage through a weaker nation against their consent? Germany is out for universal dominion to rule the world, to make Berlin a second Rome, and its Kaiser as absolute as any ancient Caesar. We would not allow any bushranger or robber gang to overcome our land; every man, if necessary, would turn out and bring the criminal to the court of justice. Still less can we allow any nation to overawe and terrify all others. Germany has got to be beaten before a solid peace can be secured. We must be prepared to give to the last penny to the Empire, and not to grudge her every help in her struggle.

The United States washed the Stars and Stripes from the black stain of slavery in the blood of her bravest and best, and we pray that the rivers of blood which have been shed, and the streams of tears which have fallen, may wash the ensigns of Europe clear from the crimson stain of militarism.

Surely, in a crusade to secure arbitration, instead of war, women should lead the way. Over 18 centuries have passed since the coming of the Prince of Peace, and war, ugly, ghastly, cruel, inhuman, sparing neither age nor infancy, is devastating the fairest provinces of

Europe. Mr Asquith says: "To talk of peace now is like the twitting of sparrows in a tempest which is shaking the foundations of the world." We realise this now, and as true patriots are prepared to do all to assist in driving back the menace of German militarism. But it is equally the duty of patriots to strive that in future international arbitration take the place of war. To create such a world-wide spirit of peace and brotherhood that the nation which sins against the spirit of brotherhood becomes an outlaw and a criminal, every nation against it. The Fatherhood of God, if a reality to a nation or individual, means the brotherhood of man. How far we are from realising this ideal the blood-soaked plains of Belgium and Poland could tell.

But let us hold fast to our ideal, and some day, if we work and pray, it will be realised. Then nations will settle disputes by arbitration, the great armaments will be a thing of the past. Criminal nations will be tried at the bar of international justice and punished by a world-wide court, as individuals are sentenced by national court.

A CHRISTMAS PRAYER.

O'er Bethlehem's sky Thy splendour
spread,
And shepherds sought Thy lowly bed!
Oh, Son of God,
Come Thou again
And speak Thy peace,
To hearts of men!

Chain warring demons, roaming wild,
And prove that Thou art Bethlehem's
child!
Oh, Son of God,
In might arise,
And speak Thy peace
From storm-swept skies!

The travail-pain of all the years
Is holding womanhood in tears!
Oh, Son of God,
Speed Thou the birth—
Peace unto men
O'er all the earth!

—Mrs J. P. Nye.

Shenandoah, Iowa, U.S.A.,
December, 1914.

IN THE FIELD.

On Tuesday, February 8th, I travelled to Gore, being kindly entertained by the President. We had a nice little meeting and a talk over plans for the 1917 poll. Having no engagement for the following day, I went to Mataura for a day's visiting. However, about 11 a.m., the rain commenced, and after dinner a perfect deluge descended, and there was nothing for it but to sit and wait until four o'clock, when a short pause ensued, during which I made with all speed for Mrs Anderson's quiet home, where I was to spend the night. Next day I took the early train for Edendale, and spent the morning in visiting. Here I was the guest of the Secretary, Mrs Niven, who has initiated a new departure by promising a prize to the member who brought in the largest number of new members during the year. I had the pleasure of pinning the little white bow on two recruits, who had driven in for several miles. Another was expected, but was prevented doubtless by the wind, which amounted almost to a gale. That lady will be the fourth. (Who will imitate Mrs Niven's example? If a few more branches adopt this method there will be a close contest for the Dominion membership banner in 1916.) Next morning I was again early at the station, and spent the morning in visiting in Mataura. In the afternoon a really fine audience gathered, very creditable for a branch only eighteen months old. At all these meetings the proposed amendments to the Constitution were discussed, and N.Z. officers nominated.

That night I returned to Invercargill, and spent the Saturday afternoon in visiting at the south end. On Monday (15th) I travelled to Otautau, Mrs E. Harrington kindly providing hospitality. The next morning was spent in visiting, and in the afternoon a special meeting was held, when a number of members were present and two or three strangers.

Communication with Nightcaps elicited the fact that the Union was dead. Two or three members had striven bravely to prevent this, but failed; indeed, the conditions are impossible. So at the request of the District Union a meeting was called, and on 17th I went up and formally disbanded it.

Friday, 19th, a nice little company assembled at Bluff for a special meeting, enlivened by the cheerful cup of tea. One new member was initiated.

With the exception of Nightcaps, the whole of the Invercargill auxiliaries were found to be in a healthy state.

On Saturday, 20th, a combined Cradle Roll and Union picnic was held in the water-tower grounds at Invercargill. The weather was somewhat bleak, but the little folks had a real good time, which proved somewhat embarrassing to the Organiser when trying to deliver a short address.

All spare time since arrival in Invercargill had been spent in visiting at South Invercargill, and on Tuesday (23rd) a nice little audience gathered in the Parish Hall, and a branch was organised under favourable auspices. Several new members were initiated, and others were transferred from the parent Union, among the latter being Mrs Lee-Cowie, who has thrown in her lot with the youthful Union. Mrs Pasley was elected President, Mrs Robb Secretary, and Mrs Cowley Treasurer. This completed my Southland campaign, during which, although the weather had been often wet and stormy, I had addressed ten meetings, every one of which was favoured with fine weather.

On Thursday, 25th, I addressed the Union at N.E. Valley, Dunedin. A fine audience of fine women gathered, who, although handicapped by the unavoidable absence of their President, have made an excellent start for the new year. An inspiring note was struck by Mrs Gray, Vice-President, and emphasised in the 15 minutes prayer meeting which followed. This Union meets at 2.45, presumably that the extra quarter of an hour might be spent in devotions, a practice which might well be followed by other branches. After I had given an address upon plans of work, a delegate was elected for Convention and N.Z. officers nominated.

The next day the young Union at Kaikorai Valley was visited. Though small, it has done good work. Upon this occasion the members said a sorrowful farewell to their President, Mrs Pinfold, at whose instigation the Union was organised.

The following week was spent in visiting at Sawyer's Bay, where I hope to organise almost immediately.

M. S. POWELL, Dom. Organiser.
St. Clair, March 8, 1915.

LETTER FROM ANNA A. CORDON

Rest Cottage, Evanston, Illinois,

February 10, 1915.

Beloved Comrade,—As I work at my desk, attend public meetings, or pray for our world-wide W.C.T.U. work, my heart continually throbs with deep sympathy for our White Ribboners whose homes are desolated by the European war, and whose nearest and dearest are at the front. Reports coming from the countries involved in the war all tell the same sad, heart-breaking story. We have also been shocked and saddened by the appalling suffering and loss of life in connection with the terrible earthquake in Italy. In many localities our W.C.T.U. activities are practically at a standstill, and everywhere our women are busy with relief work. White Ribboners in this neutral land are generously aiding the Red Cross Society in its manifold ministries, and in a thousand ways are striving to relieve the awful suffering and privation in Europe.

Russia's prohibitory law is an amazement to the whole world, and is already a striking proof of the enormous benefit of prohibition.

Japan, I regret to say, is to lose the inspiring help of Miss Ruth Frances Davis, who in the spring will marry Professor Stevens, of Chicago University. Miss Davis has our affectionate good wishes and heartfelt gratitude. Until someone can be found to take Miss Davis' place in Japan, we are financing the organising work of our dearly beloved Madam Yajima for the W.C.T.U., Mrs Sugimoto for the Young Women's Branch, and Miss Azuma Moriya for the Loyal Temperance Legion—a trio of truly remarkable Japanese White Ribboners.

Miss Flora E. Strout, in Burma, is proving herself a leader of unusual executive ability, winning many laurels for the W.C.T.U., and gaining many influential friends for our cause.

Our work throughout the Orient is going forward encouragingly. We must soon reinforce our capable Mrs Goodrich in China, giving to her helpers who will reach China's young people before they enter other open doors, and our organisation thereby misses its greatest opportunity in China. India's President, Mrs Denning, after a furlough in the United States, is homeward bound. It does not seem expedient to send a resident White Ribbon missionary to India

during present war disturbances, but meantime we ought to financially reinforce India's White Ribbon leaders.

Several South American States are reporting decided temperance gains through the public schools. The untiring efforts of Miss Hardynia K. Norville are showing splendid results.

We rejoice with our Iceland comrades, whose homes are now protected by a prohibitory law, this law going into effect January 1, 1915.

We sorrow with our comrades in Ireland, and mourn the loss of our gifted, consecrated White Ribbon leader, Mrs Richard W. Booth, whose passing onward to the Heavenly life is another sad break in the ranks of our National Presidents.

Our department work in countries directly affected by the war cannot, under these adverse circumstances, be vigorously pushed. When the day of peace again blesses us, we must redouble our efforts to aid the rebuilding of the nations upon the strong foundations of peace, purity, total abstinence, and prohibition, helping establish that "righteousness which alone exalteth a nation."

We in the United States have many prohibition and suffrage victories to encourage us. During the year 1914, State-wide Prohibition laws were secured in Virginia, Colorado, Arizona, Oregon, and Washington. Within a few weeks, Alabama and Arkansas have been added to the list. We now have sixteen Prohibition States and twelve States where women vote. Today 56 per cent. of our population live under Prohibition laws, in 76 per cent. of our area.

There is harmony of action among leading temperance organisations and the churches. The admirable machinery of the W.C.T.U. and the marvellous self-sacrificing devotion of its members make it a mighty factor in securing victorious results in local and State-wide campaigns, as well as in the fight for a national prohibitory law. We consider our majority vote in our Lower House of the United States Congress a great victory.

Our next National W.C.T.U. Convention will meet on the Pacific Coast in Seattle, Washington, October 9 to 14, 1915. Immediately following the Convention a large delegation of White Ribboners will visit the Panama Pacific Exposition at San Francisco, California. The exhibit of the World's and National W.C.T.U. has been given the best thought of a very

competent committee. Its location in the handsome Palace of Education is most fortunate. It will, we believe, be extremely instructive to our visitors, and a credit to both organisations. The polyglot petition, representing 7,000,000 signatures and attestations, is to be a prominent feature. The "Union Signal" will give many descriptive details. There will be electrical and other devices to attract the throngs of visitors, and to quickly impress them from scientific, medical, economic, social, legal, and organisation standpoints.

We fear the Anti-Alcohol Congress, scheduled to meet in July in Atlantic City, New Jersey, must, because of the war, be deferred.

These are days when we realise in their fullness the strength and sacredness of the W.C.T.U. bond—a bond that can survive the strain of war and hold closely together all our hearts.

Thinking ever with inexpressible gratitude of our great leaders of the past, and unitedly holding up the hands of our beloved President, Lady Carlisle, let us with steadfast hope and with earnest prayer continue our God-given work.—Yours for peace and for victory,

ANNA A. GORDON.

A WHITE RIBBON HYMN.

The battle cry is ringing;
It is ringing from afar;
It is ringing right around us;
Where the bannered armies are.

It is ringing to the echo
Where, with fearless front we stand,
A great white-ribboned army
Of the mothers of the land.

Have you listened? Have you heard
it?
Have you thought on what it saith?
"For God, and Home, and Country,"
For our firesides and our faith.

For all on earth that's holy,
For all that's high we stand,
A great white-ribboned army
Of the mothers of the land.

Jehovah is our Leader,
The Lord of Hosts is He,
And His name upon our banners
Is the pledge of victory.

Our trust is in His presence,
So with steadfast hearts we stand,
A great white-ribboned army
Of the mothers of the land.

Isabel Sinclair,
British Columbia.

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.)

CHRISTCHURCH.

Feb. General meeting held. Mrs McCombs presided. Decided to donate five guineas to the Belgian Harvest Festival, also that the Union give the use of their luncheon booth, attend to the afternoon tea, and give every assistance possible. A vote of appreciation was passed of the action of those members of the Tramway Board who recently voted against the proposal to make all open seats on cars available to smokers. The Union is pleased to learn that some members of the Board recognise the fact that the trams should be run in the interests of the citizens, and not merely for a section of the public. The following department officers were approved:—Evangelistic, Mrs McKee and Miss Gainsford; Legal and Parliamentary, Misses Roberts and Henderson; Home Meetings, Mesdames De Renzie Newton and Derrett; "White Ribbon," Mesdames Williams and Napier; Peace and Arbitration, Mrs McFarlane; Librarian, Miss W. Lovell-Smith; Press, Miss McKay; Purity, Mrs H. Lovell-Smith; Domestic Science, Mrs T. E. Taylor; Unfermented Wine, Mrs Pedler; Scientific Temperance Instruction and Non-Alcoholic Medication, Mrs Patterson; Educational Meetings, Miss W. Lovell-Smith. It was resolved that a message of sympathy and warm appreciation of past work be sent to Mrs Wise.

The Union met on February 24th. Mrs J. McCombs presided. Francis Willard Day was celebrated. Miss Henderson, B.A., gave an address on the wonderful influence of the life of Francis Willard on the women of America, the total increase in membership last year being 30,780. Miss Roberts gave a short address on work amongst the young people. The following ladies were appointed superintendents of departments:—Anti-Gambling, Mrs Richardson; Good Citizenship, Miss Bishop. The following resolution was passed:—"That in view of the acute distress prevailing in Belgium, this Union urges the Government to provide a generous contribution, to be forwarded monthly, towards its relief, and also to take steps to ensure that by means of taxation every citizen throughout New Zealand contribute thereto according to their means. Committees were set up to collect for the tea booth at the Belgian Harvest Festival.

NELSON.

The first meeting for the present year was held on February 9th; about

20 members were present, Miss Atkinson presiding. The principal business was the passing of accounts, the discussion of the motions to be brought forward at the Convention next month, and the election of delegates. Mesdames Field and Edmonds were chosen to represent the Union. Plans were also discussed for giving systematic help to the soldiers at the front, and to the mothers and babies who were in need of it at home.

NGAERE.

Meeting held at home of Mrs Ellis. Six members present. One new member initiated, and one new subscriber to "White Ribbon."

WOODVILLE.

Meeting held on February 23rd. The chief business was to elect a representative to attend the Christchurch Convention. Mrs Perkins (Vice-President) was chosen. The Union nominated N.Z. officers as follows:—Pres., Mrs Don; Cor. Sec., Miss Henderson; Rec. Sec., Mrs W. A. Evans; Treas., Mrs Bendely.

N.E. VALLEY.

Feb. 25. First meeting for 1915 held; attendance good; Mrs H. B. Gray presided. Our President (Mrs G. B. Elliot) resigned, as she is leaving the district. Regret was expressed by many on losing such a capable leader. Resolved no appointment be made just now. Officers re-elected: Vice-Presidents, Mesdames H. B. Gray, Carlisle, Wright, and Begg; Sec., Miss M. U. Begg; Treas., Mrs H. Sanders; Supts. of Departments to form the Executive. Miss Powell, Dominion Organiser, was present, and suggested plans for work in various departments. Mrs Peart was appointed delegate to Convention, Mrs Mears substitute.

TIMARU.

Feb. Monthly meeting at the Sailors' Rest. Mr Stead reported a quiet month at the Rest.

On Thursday, February 11th, a picnic was given in the Park to the members of the Cradle Roll and their mothers. There were between 60 and 70 children present, from babies a few weeks old to children seven and eight years. The Plunkett Nurse (Miss Cameron) very kindly attended, and gave some well-chosen words of advice to the mothers, at the same time congratulating them on the fine healthy appearance of the children. Afternoon tea was dispensed and much enjoyed. Business in connection with the forthcoming Convention was transacted. Visitors to the Hospital were appointed, and it was decided to ask Miss Powell if she would be able to pay a visit to Timaru while in the South Island. Collection had been made among the members for a family in very sad circumstances through the illness of the father.

STRATFORD.

Feb. 11. Meeting held in Methodist Church; attendance fair. Business in reference to the Convention was discussed. Resolved to ask for a proxy to represent the Union at the Convention in March re election of N.Z. officers and the proposed amendments by Miss Dewar, Mrs Scanlon, Miss Powell, and Miss Henderson. The President suggested that Frances Willard Day be celebrated by an afternoon gathering at the President's home, which was agreed to. Resolved that the President send occasional reports of meetings to "White Ribbon."

On February 17th Willard Day celebrated at the residence of Mrs Reeve. The attendance was marred by rough weather. A very pleasant afternoon was spent. Musical items were rendered by friends, and a competition was keenly contested. A vote of condolence was passed to our Secretary and family in their recent bereavement. Afternoon tea and collection.

NEW PLYMOUTH.

July 27. Election of officers for this year: Pres., Mrs Allan Douglas; Cor. Sec., Mrs Skitrop, Mill Road; Rec. Sec., Mrs Bruce; Treas., Miss Taunt. Much regret was expressed at Miss Ambury's retiring from the Secretaryship. All recognise that the Union owes its general efficiency mainly to our late Secretary's untiring zeal.

Feb. 24. Willard Day was kept by holding a social afternoon and a small Sale of Work and Produce at the same time. Members brought saleable goods, which realised a nice little sum. Tea, music, and recitation by Miss Winnie Tichbon made a pleasant hour.

FEILDING.

Feb. Monthly meeting held, attendance good, Miss Moore in the chair. Mrs Budd (Vice-President) opened the meeting. Apologies were read from absent members. The following resolutions were passed:—To keep the delicate child in the Home as long as funds permit; there is a sum of £2 in hand, and donations were handed in by members. A resolution of sympathy was sent to Mrs F. Lethbridge, one of our oldest members, in her recent sad bereavement. The proposed resolutions for the coming Convention, to be held in Christchurch, were discussed and approved; a delegate to be sent if possible. The advisability of holding young people's meeting, also the matter of holding scientific temperance essay competitions. Other business was done, completing a profitable meeting.

March 4. Our usual meeting was held. The following resolutions were passed:—"That a public social be held at Mrs Pennys West on Saturday, 13th, to celebrate Francis Willard Day"—funds in aid of an invalid child. It was decided to order 12 copies of the W.R. Convention

number to distribute amongst those who do not subscribe to it. Two new members were added to our Union, and it was decided to visit absent members.

WAIPUKURAU.

Monthly meetings were resumed on Thursday, February 11th. Attendance fair. It was decided to inaugurate quarterly open meetings, when good programmes will be submitted, and the social interchange will be stimulated by the cup that cheers but does not inebriate. Financially the Treasurer is not overburdened with the care of riches, for such things as we did possess in silver and gold were spent in aiding the Maori work and the No-License League. Our spending barred our desire to send delegate to approaching Convention, but next year, God willing, our branch will be represented by one of our members.

AUCKLAND.

Feb. 17. First meeting of 1915, Mrs Thorpe presiding. Vote of sympathy with the relatives of the late Mr French, an honorary member of our Union. Appreciation of his faithful services in the Temperance cause expressed. Mrs Stainton and Mrs Ogilvie were appointed to represent the Union on the No-License electoral body. N.Z. officers nominated.

Feb. 24. Meeting presided over by Mrs J. Cook. Superintendents of departments were appointed as follows:—"White Ribbon" Agent, Miss Pudney; Maori Work, Miss Wilson; Evangelistic Work, Mrs Jamieson; Backblocks Literature, Mrs Thorpe; Purity Work, Miss Evans; Notable Days, Mrs Dick; Bible in Schools, Miss N. Dewar; Cradle Roll, Mrs Ogilvie; Peace and Arbitration, Mrs Pudney; Sabbath Observance, Mrs Stainton; Home Meetings, Mrs Wright; Press Work, Mrs J. W. Taylor; Visiting Sister, Mrs W. Taylor; Mrs Cook, Miss Dewar, and Mrs Scanlan were appointed delegates to the W.C.T.U. Convention, to be held at Christchurch. Unanimously decided that we invite Convention to Auckland next year. Arrangements were made to commemorate Frances Willard Day at the next meeting. Meeting closed with prayer.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

Meeting held in Constable Street, Mrs Cummins presiding. Attendance fair. Mrs Weston gave a very beautiful address on the parable of the ten talents. She also spoke of her temperance work among the telegraph boys in England, and pointed out that much was to be done among the young people.

PETONE.

Meeting held, Mrs Rowse presiding. Nominations, etc., for the coming Convention, were dealt with. Cradle Roll Superintendent reported several more babies for enrolment. Decided

to hold a combined social this month between the Cradle Roll Department and the Monthly Social Department. One new member was initiated.

Feb. 17. The monthly social was held in the Sydney Street Church, Mrs Rowse in the chair. Very enjoyable and encouraging addresses were given by Revs. Bruce, Todd, Lascelles, and Mr Grinstead, inter-spersed by songs by Misses Cody, Rowse and Boshier; Mrs Braddock, pianoforte solo. Afternoon tea was handed round.

GREYMOUTH.

March 2. Monthly meeting held; well attended, and full of interest. Mrs Sweetman appointed delegate to Convention. Our President also will attend.

Feb. 17. Willard Day: We had a most successful and interesting afternoon. The Sailors' Rest Hall was most daintily arranged and decorated by Mrs Leggæ, and was well filled by members and friends. The Rev. Ashcroft gave us a fine address on Women's Work and Influence. The Rev. Rogers also addressed the meeting. Recitation, song, and afternoon tea, and the Benediction closed a very pleasant time.

WARKWORTH.

The monthly meeting was held in the Methodist Church on Thursday, February 25th. Mrs Attwood presided. Attendance fair. Mrs E. Morrison was proposed and seconded as a delegate for the Annual Convention, but was unable to accept the honour. It was decided that the members should have an all-day meeting once a month for knitting for the soldiers and sewing for benevolent purposes.

MOSGIEL.

Annual meeting held in December. Mrs Elliott, of N.E. Valley, presided. Annual report read by the Secretary, Mrs Moor, which showed that the departments taken up by the Union had done good work. Regret was expressed that Mrs McDonald (President) had to resign owing to ill-health. The Union is extremely thankful to Mrs Elliott for acting President during Mrs McDonald's illness, also to our N.Z. President and other Dunedin members for their help during the year. The Union, which is a little over twelve months of age, shows a good increase in membership; the roll stands at 33. Special mention was made of the good work done in connection with the Band of Hope, under Mr J. W. Smellie, the membership being 81. The Treasurer's statement, which showed a credit balance, was adopted. The following officers were elected:—Pres., Mrs H. D. Bedford; Vice-Pres., Mesdames McDonald, Kinmont, Blair and Aitken; Sec., Mrs Moir (re-elected); Treas., Mrs Wilson (re-elected).

Monthly meeting held March 9th, Mrs Bedford presiding. The meeting took the form of a social, afternoon tea being supplied by the members. Visitors from Dunedin were

present. Miss Powell, who gave an inspiring address on our work, and Mrs Don, our N.Z. President, gave a helpful address, which was greatly appreciated by all present. It was unanimously agreed that our President, Mrs Bedford, represent us at Convention. Mrs McDonald was elected Reporter and "White Ribbon" Superintendent. We were sorry to say good-bye to one of our faithful members, Mrs Chas. Blair, who is leaving for the North Island, and wish her and her husband God-speed in their new field of labour. We are looking forward to Mrs Pinfold coming amongst us, and feel that Kaikorai's loss will be our gain. It was decided to order one dozen copies of Convention number for distribution and to try and increase the subscribers to our "White Ribbon" paper.

HAMILTON.

Sixteenth anniversary meeting held March 4th in Wesley Hall, Collingwood Street. President Mrs J. M. Jones presided. There was a very good attendance, and after a very helpful address from the President, we listened to addresses from the Rev. Clover, Mr Milner, and Mr Tidd, which were very encouraging. Miss Stewart contributed two solos, and afternoon tea was served.

NELSON.

Monthly meeting March 9th, 1915, present, Miss Atkinson presiding. Mrs W. Hockey was appointed delegate to Convention, in place of Mrs Field, who is unable to attend. Letters were read from Miss Harriett Newcombe, advocating the subscribing to the women's papers in other countries, and from the Ngaere Union, with regard to the wearing of the Union badge by members. Miss Atkinson spoke strongly on the latter point, and the importance of it. Two resolutions were passed, to be forwarded to Convention, one recommending that the law relating to prohibition orders should be annulled, so that they should not lapse at the end of the year unless the applicant applied for a release, and the other asking that women police should be appointed in New Zealand, and especially women patrols in the neighbourhood of the camps for the training of the Expeditionary Forces.

LYTTELTON.

Meeting held Wednesday, March 3rd, twelve members being present. The President, Mrs Whitby, occupied the chair. Mrs G. Wilson was appointed to attend the Annual Convention to be held in Christchurch this year.

WANGANUI.

Meeting held on Friday afternoon in the Wesleyan Church Parlour. 18 members present. Letters of apology for absence were read from Mesdames Bassett and Blyth. Mrs Blamires, President, presided over the meeting. Business in connection with the Con-

vention was dealt with. In connection with the No-License League, a Social Committee of ladies from the W.C.T.U. was formed to manage the supper arrangements. After business, our President addressed those present on working in unity of spirit, which was most encouraging and helpful.

BLENHEIM.

The usual monthly meeting was held in Wesley Hall on February 2nd, Mrs Jackson (President) in the chair. Attendance fair. Mrs Jackson, in well-chosen words, thanked the members for electing her as President. Letter was received from the Superintendent of Sunday Observance. Resolved to write to the different ministers to hold open-air meetings on this subject. Mrs D. Sinclair was appointed delegate to the Convention. A vote of deep sympathy was passed to Mrs Rose and family in their recent sad bereavement.

PALMERSTON NORTH.

Meeting held on the first Friday in February. Mrs H. Mowlem addressed the meeting on the state of Prohibition at the present time. The members were pleased to see their one time President amongst them. Mesdames Young and Allman were elected delegates to the forthcoming Convention. Our membership now stands at 107.

Meeting held on Friday, February 19, fifty present. Reports were read, viz., Mrs Ritchie (re-elected), Scientific Temperance Instruction, Temperance Sunday, and Temperance Essays by school children, prizes given for same. Mrs A. E. White, head Cradle Roll Superintendent, 50 on the roll; Miss Sturmeley elected, Miss Astbury Secretary for Relief Work. Two cases of clothing, containing 140, had been sent for the relief of the Belgians; 15 families had been clothed, the same receiving 112 garments. As the result of a street collection, £25 was got for Dr. Barnardo's Homes. Mrs Allman was elected President for the coming year, Vice Nurse Carter, former President. Nurse Carter (re-elected pro tem) Loyal Temperance Legion. There are about 40 young members in this branch of our work. Reports were discussed. A new member initiated, and afternoon tea handed round.

The March meeting was held on Friday, 5th. Mrs Crabbe occupied the chair. Mrs Ritchie brought forth a resolution re holding a mass demonstration of Sunday School children and all societies of young people. Several superintendents of departments were elected, and the Misses Dewar and Henderson's resolutions voted upon and agreed to.

OXFORD.

Feb. 25. Monthly meeting held in the Coronation Hall, Mrs Ryde (President) in the chair. Attendance good. A letter was received from

the A. and P. Association asking the Union to cater for the Annual Show. Decided to undertake the work, and hand all profits to the Belgian Fund. A branch of the Women's Service Corps was formed, with Mrs R. H. Gainsford as leader, and Mrs Kippenberger as Secretary. One woman kindly offered to knit caps and socks for the soldiers if the Union found the wool. The offer was accepted with thanks. Mrs Kippenberger read a paper on "The Life Work of Francis Willard," which was most interesting. A collection was taken up to help on work Francis Willard loved so well. Mesdames Hawke and Ryde were elected delegates to the N.Z. Convention, to be held in Christchurch. Afternoon tea was handed round.

OPOTIKI.

Feb. 11. Usual meeting held, nine present, Mrs Murray presiding. Correspondence was read from Miss Henderson re delegate for Convention, also from Mrs Neal re forming a Band of Mercy. Mrs Neals' letter in January "White Ribbon" was referred to, and it was left to the Superintendents of L.T.L. to introduce a Band of Mercy amongst the young people. Decided to send a delegate to Convention. Mrs Evans kindly donated a guinea towards expenses. Decided that Mrs J. Thompson should act as delegate.

NGARUAWAHIA.

March 2. Meeting held in the Library, Mrs French (President) in the chair; 24 members present. Business was carried on for first half-hour, after which we were delighted with an address given by the Rev. W. A. Porter on "A tour through the No-License areas of the South Island." It inspired all present, and made us feel we must work hard to achieve the success we want. Afternoon tea was provided. Mrs Hult, one of our members, received congratulations, it being her birthday. The meeting closed with hymn and Benediction.

WANGANUI EAST.

Meeting held February 26th. Mrs Andrew (President) occupied the chair. A vote of sympathy was passed to our Treasurer, Mrs McLeod, who is laid aside through illness. Nominations for election of N.Z. officers resulted as follows:—Pres., Mrs Don; Vice-Pres., Miss Powell; Rec. Sec., Mrs Mitchell; Cor. Sec., Miss Henderson; Treas., Mrs Bendely. The Union is unable to send a delegate to Convention this year. The Secretary was instructed to convey the sympathy of our Union with Elder and Mrs Wilhide in being so unjustly persecuted whilst working in the interests of humanity. It was announced that a Bazaar in connection with the Raetihi (Waimarino electorate) No-License League was to be held on Easter Monday. Members were asked to forward a parcel. All promised to help.

PAHIATUA.

Feb. 17. Frances Willard Day commemorated by a meeting at the home of Mrs H. Godfrey. Recitations, songs, and pianoforte solos were given. A paper on the life of Frances Willard read by Mrs J. D. Wilson. Mrs Cheekley, of Hinemoa, 14 miles distant, joined our Union. She was initiated in Christchurch when Mrs Leavitt visited New Zealand in 1885. Collection for World's Missionary Fund, 12s.

March 4. Usual monthly meeting, Mrs Neal (President) in the chair. Mrs H. Godfrey appointed a delegate to Convention. Letters read from Mrs Don (Dominion President) and the District Union. Announced that our President occupied the chair at Mr Bligh's meeting for women and girls, and spoke on our Purity work. At the close of the meeting the distributed Medical Temperance and White Slave leaflets, and gained three new subscribers for the "Purity Advocate." Resolved that we purchase more Purity books. Mrs W. W. McCordle and Mrs J. D. Wilson were elected Vice-Presidents, and Miss Thurlow Cradle Roll and Purity Superintendent. Resolved that we place on record our appreciation of the good work done by Miss Wilton as Cradle Roll and Purity Superintendent, our regret at losing her services, and that we wish her success in her chosen sphere of work. Mrs J. D. Wilson read a paper on "The Responsibilities of Women as Citizens."

GISBORNE.

February 25th was our first meeting of the year. Attendance good. Mrs Walker's resignation as Secretary was accepted with regret. Mrs Wilkes was appointed Cor. Sec., and Mrs Malcolm Rec. Sec. Mrs Walker was then elected to fill the vacancy among the Vice-Presidents. It had been previously arranged that each member should bring to this meeting something in the way of linen to go towards the local Salvation Army Home. The result was a large bundle of sheets, pillow-slips, and towels, which will no doubt be very acceptable to the "Haven." The Treasurer's report showed we had 64 paid-up members, and that £94 had passed through her book for the year. (That included Convention expenses for us.) Eight departments of work were taken up for the coming year. Our delegate (Mrs Goffe) then read the resolutions which are to come before Convention, so as to get the mind of the meeting thereon.

KAIKORAI.

Monthly meeting held in Presbyterian Hall. Miss Powell occupied the chair. A brief report of temperance demonstration held on December 1st in Wakari Hall was given. Mrs Pinfold (President) is leaving the district. We much regret parting with her, and shall miss her kindly presence in our midst. Mrs Martin was elected President. Business in con-

nection with Convention was ably disposed of by Miss Powell, and meeting closed with afternoon tea.

MATAURA.

First meeting of the year held on February 12th, attendance good. The officers for the year were elected:—Pres., Mrs Bird; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Landels and Lowden; Rec. Sec., Mrs Brown; Cor. Sec., Miss Stenning; Treas., Mrs Abernethy (re-elected). The Union Organiser (Miss Powell) was present, and gave some useful hints re future work, also a patriotic recitation. We are very sorry to lose Mrs Landels as President, but as her home is in the country she found it very inconvenient to attend all the meetings. Our next meeting will be held the last Friday in Mar. L. The meeting closed with singing the National Anthem and prayer.

ASHBURTON.

We resumed our meetings in 1915 on February 9th. Mrs W. K. Watson presided. Attendance fair. Mrs Watson referred to the offer made by the A. and P. Association in connection with the Rest Tent on the Show Grounds on March 17th and 18th, and Mrs Lill reported that the Association had offered the sum of £2 10s towards the expenses of same, and permission to again erect our W.C.T.U. colours. Received with acclamation. Mrs Lill also reported that matters in connection with the rest room in the Borough had advanced a step further, and would soon be an accomplished fact. The election of delegate to Convention was held over till next meeting. Rev. W. C. Blair (Presbyterian) was present, and spoke on the necessity of Christians exercising a vital faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. From 2 Cor., 5-15, he gave a helpful and inspiring talk to those present. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the speaker, and the meeting terminated.

NAPIER.

Feb. 3. Mrs Fossey (President) occupied the chair. Discussion was held re starting a sewing meeting in the evenings for making new clothing for the poor of Belgium. Decided to try and get an able worker to start the L.T.L., several being willing to help. Arrangements were made for a picnic for the children on the Cradle Roll and their parents on February 13.

Feb. 18. Mrs Fossey in chair. Report by the Superintendent of the Cradle Roll re Cradle Roll picnic. A very enjoyable outing was held in the Botanical Gardens, over 80 being present. Refreshments, lollies, etc., were provided, and games were enjoyed by the children. Mr W. S. Smith's book on "Women's Franchise Movement in New Zealand" was lent out for reading. One of the circulars sent out by the friends of Mr Elder Wilhide was read, and a letter was sent to Mrs Peryman saying we strongly object to the decision on the so-called indecent literature distributed by that gentleman, for which he

is now being imprisoned. Next meeting postponed, owing to the Agricultural Show, for which W.C.T.U. caters, falling on same day. A vote of thanks was passed to the Hastings Branch of the W.C.T.U. for offers of help on that day.

RIPOATA MAORI.

Ite 7th onga ra o Pepuere i huihui tahi matou kote Roopu o Otamatea. Kotahi te mema hou i whakauru un ngia e matou, ko Mereana Kerehoma. I kite iho matou i he te perehitanga otaku ripoata o tera marama. Na Otamatea te tea meeting i whiwhi kite £14, e hara ia Oruawharo. Ite 13th onga ra i haere atu maua ko M. Kerehoma kia kite ite Roopu o Aropaoa. Ita maua taenga atu ki Kawhi-tiroa, te kainga o Mei Wikiriwhi, e huihui ana nga mema. I muri ite kai ka hui matou. Nui atu te pai. I mihimihi matou ite tuatahi, kamutu, ka tahuri ahau kite whakamarama kia ratou monga mea kua whakatikaia i roto inga Turei onga Roopu. Whakaaengia e nga wahine tena take. Ka mihi hoki matou kite hekeretari tawhito, kia Kohi Hemana, kua wehe atu ia ratou kua haere ia kite wha-whai. Naku i whakapuare kite inoi, na Mei Wikiriwhi i whakamutu kite inoi, mete himene. Nui atu te pai o tenei Roopu, te maia kite whakahaere inga take, mete u onga mema 19. E tuhono ana ratou kote taunihera Marae Mihi atu au kia ratou mote manaaki ia maua ko taku hoa. Ite 23 onga ra i haere atu au kite Roopu o Pouto. I huihui matou kite kainga o Kawhi Kena. Tino pai atu a matou take i whakahaeretea e matou. Kotahi te tamaiti tane i haina kite Baari kia kore ia e inu waipiro. Kei te tino pai nga mahi o tenei roopu meta ratou u kinga tikanga katoa. Kanui taku hari kite Roopu o Oruawharo, me te Roopu o Aratapu kua timata ano kite tuku ripoata kite White Ribbon. Ite tahi onga ra o Maehe itae mai au ki Paki Paki kite kainga ote Perehitini. Na kei nga ra o Aperira, kia mutu nga raru o tena takiwa kia ratou hui, ka haki ano au kia kite i ena roopu, kamutu ka ahau atu ki Nuhaka. Ko nga roopu e turei ti ana kite tuku inga kohi tau, kia horo ra. Me tuku kia Mrs Walker, Fox Street, Gisborne. Mate atua koutou e manaaki.

Maari Woodhead.

POUTO.

I tu te huihui a te Roopu wahine karaitiana o Pouto ia Pepuere 22 o nga ra o tenei marama. Na Masefield Kena i karakia hime 23 o nga himene Weteriana. Perehitini. Kia ora te Tumuaki me nga mema i hui mai ki tenei mitini. Nga kupu au mihi kite Tumuaki haere mai kia ki te i to Roopu maua nga tikanga hei maramatanga kite roopu i runga aso i tou mate kia ora te tuaki (Miss Woodhead). E mihi e te Perehitini e mihi e te roopu o Pouto tenei nga take kei au e aroha ana ano ahau kinga mea o koutou kua mate kua riro atu ratou kite matua nui tenei ano te take hei korero maku kia kouto ko te ture V. o nga Paero e ki ana te rima kapa kahaere hei awhina

i nga takutu i nga neehi i nga kura Maori mera atu katoa. E he ana e nga e penei ana ko taua 5d kapa kahaere hei awhina i te kai whaka haere i te taha Maori ara penei i au nei. Tetahi o aku take mo ta koutou kohi tau ara te 6d i te mema kotahi kahore ano i tae kite tumuaki. Torohia ate te Pukapuka kitea ana kua oti taua moni te wehe i te 11 o nga ra o Aperira, 1914. I te huihuinga o te Roopu i tu ki Pouto kua oti taua te hoatu kia Rev. Eru Te Tuhi from 1914 to 1915. Kate niate tumuaki tenei take. Erini kite tino tumuaki a kawha-katu mai kite Roopu Peheate tatutanga. Tenei te tahi kia mohio anau e hia mema o tenei roopu i tenei wahi i temea he nui nga mea kua puta kua haere. Ko nga mema tuturu inaianei 9 members nga mea kua haere 5 member gone. Hoi kia ora ano koutou katoa. Whiuwhiu—Kia onga nga kupu ate tumuka mote taha kite 5d kapa koia ano tena kote ahua onga take mote 5d kapa. Kati i tenei wahi kua pena te takatorango tino pai taua takatoranga kua riro ano te 5d. Hei awhina ia koe i to matou tumuaki kia ora. Tautokotia ana e nga ote roopu o Potua tenei take mote 5d. Tumuaki Kia Kaha te tono e te roopu kia homai he mana kia koutou kia ahei koutou te pooti. Hei turaki i te waipiro me tino tonu kite kawanatanga aha koe e kore e homai me tonu tonu kia ora me he patai ta koutou he maunga maku kite hui i te Waipennam romi e patai ana ahau kite timuaki e pehea ana te tou ate roopu e pai ana ranei e he aranei ka ki te Tumuaki kei te pai te toa ate roopu. Hei pai ano hoki moto koutou marae. Nga moni awhi Perehitini 6d, Tumuaki 2s, Whiuwhiu 6d, Pepehi 6d, Wata 6d, Rere 6d, Mari 6d, Ata 6d, Romi 6d—6s 6d. Ka hiki te hui kia ora ano e nga tuahine aroha iroto i te roopu karaitiana kia maia kei whaka raru tatou e nga matauranga maha o te ao. He whaka wai nei i te tangata tenei te kupu o te karaiputere. Kia maata ara kia maata popore kei te haereere hoki te hoa riri meto raiona e rapu ana i te tangata, hei horomanga mana. Kati te okiokinga motatou kei to tatou kai whakaora kei ate Karaite kia ora.

Masefield Kena, Hon. Sec.

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For living a pure life.
For doing your level best.
For looking before leaping.
For hearing before judging.
For being kind to the poor.
For thinking before speaking.
For harbouring clean thoughts.
For standing by your principles.
For stopping your ears to gossip.
For being generous to an enemy.
For asking pardon when in error.
For being square in business dealings.
For giving an unfortunate person a lift.
For promptness in keeping your promises.

MAORI ORGANISER'S REPORT.

On February 7th I met the Otaurite Union, and explained to them the error in Rule 5. I was received satisfactorily. We also added a new member to our ranks. On February 13th I rode, with a member, to visit Aropaoa Union. At Whakapirau we left our horses, and crossed by punt to Rawhitiroa, the residence of Mei Wickliffe, where all the members were gathered. We held a grand meeting, opening with a hymn and prayer. The President, Hera Hemana, welcomed me, and then we went through the business. Their old Secretary, Hohi Hemana (male), has resigned and left with Maori Contingent, Heoni Parapara taking his place. There are 19 members left out of 26. One having died, and the others left the district. The Maori Council is working hand in hand with the women. The members of this Union, except, of course, the Secretary, have never had any schooling, but their standard of Christianity is high, as they work with Godly inspiration, and their work is really splendid. They were all satisfied re Rule 5 and its alteration. Mei Hemana closed with prayer. We returned the following day, feeling sorry to say good-bye to such kind and generous hostesses. On the 23rd I called a meeting of the Pouto Union at the house of Mrs Kawhi Kena, the President. We had an excellent meeting all through, and it was pleasing to see the number of girl members. The only young man who was there came forward and took the pledge. Since then I have been in the Hawkes Bay district. I had hoped to have held many meetings there, but owing to a great many gatherings in neighbouring districts during this month, I found it impossible to hold a meeting, but have been able to arrange for meetings all around there after Convention, when they will be returned and settled down again. On my arrival at Napier Mrs Dearlove met me, and was most kind in giving me helpful information re work in this district. Hoping to meet you all at Convention.

FLORENCE WOODHEAD.

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.**GOOD CITIZENSHIP DEPT.**

Dear Sisters,—I would remind all N.Z. Unions, and especially the Superintendents of the Good Citizenship Department, of the Municipal and School Committee elections next month, that they may adopt all possible means to arouse public interest and a sense of responsibility, particularly amongst women electors, and to secure the appointment of the best and most suitable men and women for these important positions. I would also specially suggest that the co-operation of the ministers of all churches should be invited on the Sunday preceding the elections, by making it an occasion for calling the attention of their congregations to the duties and responsibilities of citizenship.—Yours in the work,

MARIAN JUDSON,
N.Z. Supt. of Good Citizenship.

STEAD MEMORIAL FUND.

The following additional contributions to the above fund are acknowledged with thanks:—Port Chalmers Union, 17s; Invercargill, 8s; Gore, 3s; Ponsonby (additional), 3s.

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The White Ribbon.

For God and Home and Humanity.

THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 1915.

PRO PATRIA.

"Dulce et decorum est mori pro patria." So said the ancient Roman, and to do him justice he never grudged to give his life for the defence of his fatherland. The spirit which animated Horatius burned with equal intensity of the humblest of his countrymen—

"For how can man die better

Than facing fearful odds,

For the ashes of his fathers

And the temples of his gods?"

And so it has ever been, and to-day is with every nation that has attained to anything like a world empire or a

world supremacy. Such superiority has ever been won by the perfect willingness of every citizen to shed the last drop of their blood for their country. As our modern patriotic poet sings—

"If blood be the price of Admiralty,

Lord God we ha' paid it all."

All around us to-day is stirring the same spirit. From Canada's snow-clad forests to India's steaming plains, all across Australia's mighty continent, even to New Zealand's sea-girt isle, young men and old are offering their lives to defend their country. Our Empire is passing through a fiery trial, and her sons and daughters, fiery Gall and stolid Saxon, Canada's sturdy sons, Australia's fair daughters, the citizens of self-governing dominions, the soldiers of protected native States, are all standing shoulder to shoulder as a mighty brotherhood to defend the justice and freedom which British rule stands for.

We honour them for their devotion. We do not doubt their loyalty, their courage they have proved upon many a well-fought field. But we think that there is one thing which calls for an even loftier courage than to die for country, i.e., to live for it. By that I mean to live worthy of a fatherland and a heritage such as ours. So many sons of the Empire willing to fight her enemies are not willing to discipline themselves for greater efficiency. What a pathos attaches to the short terse sentences which tell us that these young men who have gone forth so eager to meet the foe have returned unfit to do battle for their country because they have fallen victims to their lower and baser selves.

It was openly stated in the House of Commons that between 30 and 40 per cent. of the men then in training were unfit to go to the front "through what in military language is called preventable disease, and that in plain English means wine and women." A telegram in our papers from an Australian State speaks of soldiers returned incapable from the front because of "certain diseases."

Think of it! While our Empire is fighting for her very existence, 30 per cent. of its defenders drop out of the ranks because they were unable "to hold the sceptre human soul, and rule thy kingdom of the brute."

Even here the military camps have to be weeded from wasters, those who by indulging passion become unfit to

fight. How are we helping these men? Public opinion is their greatest enemy. It is openly taught that wine is a necessity. Many say, "If you declare hotels out of bounds you must give soldiers a wet canteen at camp." Why? Does alcohol increase a soldier's efficiency? The heads of army and navy don't think so. The late Lord Roberts said, "13,000 abstaining soldiers will do as much and more work than 15,000 drinkers." Captain Ogilvey, a noted gunner instructor, says he has gone carefully into statistics, and found that the shooting efficiency of the men was 30 per cent. worse after the rum ration than before it, the ration being only one-eighth of a pint. Lord Wolseley, in speaking of the splendid health of troops in Soudan, said it was due to the fact that from the time they entered until they quitted it they were not supplied with spirits. Sir Francis Grenfell says the campaign in the Soudan was a teetotal campaign, and at its close "in no other part of the world have I seen a force of men so fit and so well." Admiral Lord Charles Beresford said: "I do not believe that alcohol in any form ever has done or ever will do anybody any good." Yet in spite of all this weight of evidence from army doctors and leaders, we still treat it as necessary that our men should have strong drink. Russia has forbidden vodka, and France absinthe, and is England, the other ally, so dominated by brewery interests that she dare not forbid the liquor which is marring the efficiency of her men. Mr Lloyd George, speaking recently, said that the Government had great powers over the liquor trade, and would use them if necessary. Employers said that engineers turned out 30 per cent. less work because of the drinking habit. Our country requires every man at his best. We do not doubt the Government's power, but we do doubt its willingness to offend large vested interests.

In regard to the other evil, impurity, that, too, is treated as a necessity. Public opinion is not yet quite ready to endorse the W.C.T.U. formula, "A white life for two." The commandant at a garrison town in England recently, when waited upon in regard to an attempt to revive the C.D. Acts, said he was not concerned to prevent vice, but to prevent disease. That cannot be done. All army experts agree that all attempts at regulation of vice are only ghastly

failures, and if the young man wants to be fit he must obey the injunction, "Keep thyself pure."

There is yet another aspect of this case. When every other nation permitted the sale of liquor we all stood upon an equal footing. But now Russia has forbidden it, the United States is more than half dry, and the other half rapidly becoming so.

If alcohol lessens efficiency, the nation to abjure its use must become the most efficient. When other nations become sober, when their artisans, their leaders, their statesmen all work with increased efficiency, assuredly we shall be left behind. If the British Empire wants to hold the front rank, she too must banish this evil, this race-destroyer. It will tell much even now, as Russia is proving, but what of the next generation. When children are born of sober parents, when they inherit no alcoholic taint, how much must they excel in the industrial world the nerve-racked, inefficient consumer of strong drink.

These are things that all true patriots should deeply study. National sin brings national deterioration. We talk of the evils of trusts and ask for legislation against them. The deadliest monopoly, the most gigantic trust, is the Liquor trade. May our Empire arise in its strength, and cast off this "old man of the seas."

CONVENTION.

When this issue reaches our readers Convention will be in session. All indications point to a record Convention. Two afternoons are devoted to plans of work. We pray that this Convention may inspire every member with a determination to work harder than ever before.

The Convention number of "White Ribbon" will contain a full report of all sessions and public meetings, also President's address and reports of officers and superintendents.

Any Union will find it the best literature they can give away, and an expenditure on Convention numbers will be a good investment. The papers only cost 3s per dozen, and we hope Unions, in addition to copies which they take to sell, will invest in as many as they can afford and freely distribute them. We know of no literature which gives a better idea of the numerous activities of the W.C.T.U.

EUROPE DISCOVERS ALCOHOL A WASTE.

(From an Exchange.)

The war is shedding a flood of light on the advance of temperance sentiment in the world through the modern knowledge of the true nature of alcohol. The British troops were sent out with Kitchener's warning against intoxicants ringing in their ears, in preference to a flask in their knapsacks.

When the Canadian Government had to meet the contingency of war it is not found classing alcohol either as a food or as a necessity, but as a luxury that stands to be heavily taxed.

Thanks in a major degree to the persistent agitation of the W.C.T.U., the law against a wet canteen is being rigidly enforced at the Valcartier Camp.

Kaiser William, the Wholesale Butcher, when addressing his naval cadets said:

"I know very well that the pleasure of drink is an old heritage of the Germans, but we must by self-discipline deliver ourselves from that evil. The Navy which drinks the least alcohol will be the winner; and that, gentlemen, should be you."

He was viewing the results of alcohol-drinking from but the lowest motive for abstinence, that of perfect physical efficiency.

But it remained for little Norway to give rum the greatest coup de pied that has yet been given to it in Europe; a stroke that will leave Norway dry when the present stocks are depleted.

That alcohol has no food value need never again be demonstrated. The problem of the hour and the immediate future is the conservation of food stuffs. Norway, taking time by the forelock, is forcing the distilleries and breweries to hand over their stocks of grains and potatoes, at cost price, to be saved for food, food, food.

Norway's action is sure to prove contagious in Europe in the face of food supplies running low.

If Canada is wise in her day and generation she will forbid the present stocks of grain being diverted from wholesome food into poisonous, paralyzing slops from which a pig will turn.

If God brings out of the present butchery in Europe the annihilation of

a traffic that has more victims than war, pestilence and famine combined, the world yet may be the gainer from what seems an irreparable loss.

DR. DAVIS STOPS PRISON MUTINY.

Woman Commissioner Wins Response by Striking Human Note in Penitentiary.

A short time ago there was an uprising among the 1400 prisoners in the penitentiary in New York. The new "dope law" had gone into effect, and 500 men, deprived of their customary drug, were crazed. All eyes of the public were centred on Commissioner Katherine Davis. What would she do? Would she prove out? She did a very simple thing. She moved into the penitentiary. She met the prisoners personally, and listened to their individual grievances; she corrected a few injustices; she listened to 1400 men give their ideas about how a prison should be run. In all the history of prisons no one ever heard of such a thing before. One man had so many ideas about kindness that she asked him to submit it in writing. The Commissioner gave the ideas to the newspapers, so that everyone might learn from the philosophy of a prisoner in the penitentiary.

Sunday came, and she preached three times; one sermon to the Jews, one to the Catholics, one to the Protestants. There was no one to play the organ, so she played it herself; there was no one to lead the singing, so she led it herself. The following day 1200 men went back to work; quiet and order were restored.—"The Woman's Journal."

ICONOCLASTS.

(By Henry Bailey Stevens.)

"I hear the crash of ruined glass
In London. Fools! You earn your gyves!"

"Ah! Do you then make gods of windows?
We hear the crash of ruined lives."

"I see an acid eat the mails,
Wild women seeking useless goals."
"And do you then think but of letters?
We see the scraps of eaten souls."

A POLITICAL JUDGMENT DAY.

By Daniel A. Poling, National Citizenship Superintendent of the United Society of Christian Endeavour.

(Conclusion of an address delivered in St. Louis, Missouri, January 15, 1914, at a Union meeting of temperance and religious organisations held in the Washington-Compton Presbyterian Church, under the auspices of W.C.T.U.)

No local, state or national law, nor the sum of all anti-liquor laws alone, can ever solve the gigantic liquor problem. We who insist that the United States Government shall assume a proper attitude upon this vital national question; that she shall go out of partnership with the liquor traffic, and that in the last analysis she shall settle with organised alcohol upon the high moral plane of righteousness and patriotism, know that mandatory law is a tool, an opportunity, a fighting chance, and that it does not enforce itself. A tool calls for a labourer; a fighting chance calls for a warrior; an opportunity calls for a man.

Prohibition is not an automatic machine. Prohibition is not "permissive law." Prohibition is mandatory law. Prohibition does not, can not enforce itself. "Prohibition does not prohibit." But Prohibition is prohibitable. Prohibition is subject to enforcement. Prohibition can be made effective. We who here declare for national constitutional Prohibition and for the passage of the Sheppard-Hobson Bill, must be thoroughly aroused to the fact that, should Congress pass the measure and should the Legislatures of the necessary three-fourths of the States declare for Constitutional Prohibition, thus amending the organic law of the land, we will still have failed of accomplishing our high purpose unless we elect to power political administrations openly committed to the safeguarding and enforcing of this national anti-liquor law. More clearly than ever before we see the folly of entrusting worthy laws to unworthy political demonstrations. Out of a multitude of past bitter defeats we have learned political wisdom. It would be a monumental tragedy to achieve national Prohibition by an amendment to the Constitution of the

United States without capturing for the administration of that law the executive department of Government. We are fully determined that no splendid enthusiasm shall in these fateful days become our undoing. To-day the united army of temperance commands:

"Our laws shall declare Prohibition, and our political administration shall be held accountable for the enforcing of Prohibition." Worthy government is not by law alone, for government by law is anarchy; worthy government is not by administration alone, for government by administration is tyranny. Government is by law and administration.

For some months the conviction has grown upon me, that we stand in the morning of a great political judgment day—a day when men shall be made; a day when men shall be unmade; a day when political parties shall be weighed in the balances of a quickened political conscience, and when those found unworthy shall be abandoned. Not as a prophet, but as a humble assembler of facts, I am bound to declare that the despised political John the Baptist of this Republic's forty-four great rum years has not cried in vain. In this national day of prayer proclaimed by the incomparable White Ribbon host, the political fighting lines of the on-sweeping enemies of the liquor traffic more nearly converge than at any time since the rum war began. And this is the morning of the judgment day.

Since the 4th of July, 1913, my eyes have seen, my ears have heard, and my mind has testified to incidents and developments in the anti-liquor fight, many of which twelve months ago would have found no place in my farthest hope.

I have heard five thousand men with upraised hands, clenched into fists, say in a voice that sounded like the ominous rollings of a great thunder: "God helping me, no political candidate or party, not declaring for the destruction of the liquor traffic, can have my support or vote."

I have heard the Anti-Saloon League sweeping on from ten thousand victories declare for national constitutional Prohibition, and in one of the greatest reform gatherings of history, say, "On this issue we fight—when ever a politician, or executive office, or a political party, prefers the liquor traffic above public morals, such men

must be set aside and such parties abandoned."

I have seen the united church of Jesus Christ under the leadership of her consecrated, organised youth, become militant for the political regeneration of the nation, and write upon her cross-crowned banners the inspired words, "A saloonless nation by 1920, the three hundredth year from the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth."

I have looked into the glorified faces of the women of the land, as they sat under their white standards and far-visioned leadership at Asbury Park. I have heard them say again as through all these wilderness marchings they have ever declared, "Total Abstinence for the individual, Prohibition for the State and Nation."

I have turned to an ever-increasing number of great periodicals to hear them prophesy, with Norton of Maine, with Collier's, and the Philadelphia North American, the setting aside of men and parties unwilling to declare themselves upon the liquor question. To-day the Christian Endeavour World thunders editorially:

"The voters of the country are coming to see that a party, any party, that either actively or passively allies itself with the liquor interests, is not fit to live."

Only a month ago I heard the lion-hearted Hobson challenge his colleagues of the Lower House of Congress, and in the presence of crowded galleries say:

"We ought to have our party understand now, while the war is on, that it was never intended for an alliance with the liquor interests. Yet there is a great Democrat, a great Alabamian, who is present to-day, who recently announced—at least that is the way I read it in the reports—that if Prohibition continues to be injected into Democratic politics, either Prohibition would be ground to powder or the Democratic party must die. I take second place to no man who loves his party, and let me tell you that if the Democratic party can only live by joining with the liquor interests to debauch the American people, then in God's name let it die!"

I am violating no confidence when I tell you to-night, just a few days in advance of the official public announcement, that a group of men, nearly all of whom are national and international figures—a United States

Congressman, four ex-Governors, and a gentleman who has twice been a candidate for the Presidency, among the number—beginning in November of this year, will go into every State capital city and into every other great city of the nation with an epoch-making political challenge. I fully believe that before the elections of 1916 this movement will have enlisted millions of voters pledged to make their ballots count effectually for the destruction of the liquor institution.

Slowly but surely we are coming to see the fundamental and vital relation of the political party to our unique governmental system. Slowly but surely the great political truth that the political party is the efficient tool by which the people rule, by which they make effective in government the principles for which they stand, has been possessing the minds and consciences of all "forward-looking" citizens. To-day the finger of human welfare is writing upon the wall of liquor-controlled politics, the political "tekell." "Where there is no vision the parties die." We stand in the morning of a great political judgment day!

Men and women, we are comrades in a great fight, a holy war. We have been a long time marching, and the road is blood-marked, but marvelously has the pace quickened in these latter days.

This new zest and heartening courage found everywhere is the fruit of a new realisation of brotherhood in a common cause. We do not forget the past, for out of it come knowledge and inspiration for the present. But we have forever burned behind us the bridges of partisan hate, and forever behind us is the field of fratricidal strife. There is fighting and glory enough for all. Each organisation in its own place, faithful to its fundamental politics and principles, must do its own peculiar work. No worthy organisation will be superseded; no worthy organisation can be spared.

But the goal is a common goal. There is everywhere and always one and the same end in view. The many are parts of a mighty whole. And when in the fullness of time the final assault is marshalled against entrenched, blood-smeared, age-old liquordom, the broken quicksteps of divisions will become the rhythm of a united army.

On the 10th of December, 1913, a great committee went down to Wash-

ington and petitioned Congress. Two thousand men and women swept up historic Pennsylvania Avenue and Capitol Hill, a living appeal for the submission to the several States of the question of national constitutional Prohibition. I marched in that parade.

In front of me, in the Pennsylvania delegation, marched a gray-haired bishop, of my church. Erect, fine of face, with the spring of youth still in his step, his was a presence to which my eyes often turned. Once when he turned to me, I saw that there were tears in his eyes. It was not the first time that he had marched up Pennsylvania Avenue! In 1865, a boy of 19, under the battle-rent flags of his regiment, fresh from Appomattox, he marched up Pennsylvania Avenue in the grand review. And this was the greater march of the two. Not the triumphal procession of a stupendous bloody strife, but the prophetic marshalling of a new and greater freedom in a land that knows no north and no south.

And, as though to bind forever the hearts of brothers once estranged, this new declaration of emancipation was given into the hands of an honoured son of Texas and an heroic Alabaman. Surely if ever the spirits of the departed return to the scenes of their earthly struggles and triumphs, God must have sent the soul of Lincoln to sanctify the consummation of that day. For as Lincoln died for a country united, he dreamed of a nation without a saloon. Lincoln's dream is coming true. "The mills of the Gods grind slowly," but they grind. "They are coming, they are coming like the gathering of the clans, They are coming like the billows of the sea, And the bugle sounds reveille from the midst of all the lands, With the battle cry, 'Saloons shall cease to be.'"

WEDDING BELLS.

On February 1st Miss Wadey, Secretary of Rangiora W.C.T.U., was married to Mr Herps, of the N.S.W. Alliance, and leaves this month for Sydney. The Rangiora Union presented Miss Wadey with two beautifully bound volumes of poets. We offer hearty congratulations and best wishes to our White Ribbon sister.

AN APPEAL.

(By Canon J. Howard B. Masterman, M.A.)

We gave our sons to England
With pride and secret tears,
With all the hope and promise
Of their untarnished years,
That they might do her bidding,
That they might know her worth,
And hold the troth of England
Above all gain on earth.

And she, how has she guarded
The men who heard her call,
Cast off their ease and pleasure,
And gladly gave their all,
Lest, while young knighthood watches
Its armour, like a snare,
Some foul fiend of the darkness
Creep on it—unaware?

Her drink-shops reek around them,
Her vice entraps their way,
Before they face the battle
Their souls are hers to slay,
Too blind to see her duty,
Too weak to guard her trust,
She leaves the lives we lent her
The spoil of drink and lust.

O England, we have given
Our best to serve thy need,
Not for a brewer's profit,
Not for a harlot's greed,
Fair in their life's first promise,
Earth's foul ways yet unrod,
Their lives are thine, O England,
But guard their souls for God.

THE LITTLE LAD'S ANSWER.

Our little Ned came in one day
With dusty shoes and weary feet,
His playtime had been hard and long
Out in the summer's noontide heat.
"I'm glad I'm home," he cried, and hung
His torn straw hat up in the hall,
While in a corner by the door
He put away his bat and ball.

"I wonder why," his auntie said,
"This little lad always comes here,
When there are many other homes
As nice as this, and quite as near?"
He stood a moment deep in thought,
Then, with the lovelight in his eye,
He pointed where his mother sat,
And said, "Why? here she lives,
that's why."

With beaming face the mother heard:
Her mother-heart was very glad.
A true, sweet answer he had given,
That thoughtful, loving little lad.
And well! know that hosts of lads
Are just as loving, true and dear,
That they would answer, as he did,
"Tis home, for Mother's living
here."

**BEST VALUE
IN THE
DOMINION.**



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A PAGE FOR Y's.

Extracts from "Union Signal," Young People's Branch.

"It is glorious to man the lifeboat, but better to build a lighthouse."

Gain for 1914, 3857 members; goal for 1915, 5000 new members.

The year is closed, the record made, The last deed done, the last word said;

The memory alone remains Of all its joys, its griefs, its gains; And now, with purpose full and clear, I turn to meet another year.

Already we have turned to meet another year, and, as I think, back over the encouraging progress of our young peoples branch during the one just past, the new year seems bright with promise of things yet to be done by the great band of enthusiastic young people eager to do them. I am quite sure that every one of us who has had even so small a part in the campaign thus far carried on is rejoicing heartily over the vote recently taken in the House of Representatives (this applies to America), which shows us clearly that our cause is marching on.

The plans we have laid for the new year are as good as we can make them, and with every State Y.P.B. Secretary, and every individual Branch, and every individual member working in the place appointed, and with the help of Jehovah, our Leader, they shall be accomplished. Word has come from almost every State in the Union of the desire to push the young peoples work this year. The reason for this is that we are realising the great need of fresh young soldiers in our holy conflict—soldiers who will dare to fight in the very forefront of the battle for God, and Home, and Every Land, taking always new recruits with them. And so the call goes up for more and more young men and women who, being total abstainers themselves, are willing and

anxious to discourage the use of and the traffic in alcoholic liquors. I want to give to our young people everywhere a few words of John Bright.

"You are perhaps waiting to do some great things; you would bleed and die for your country. Citizenship does not demand such act of heroism. Do the small things, and the first one that comes to you, and a second will immediately come."

Let us each do the small things and the first things as they come to us in this great work, that we may be ready for the things which will follow another year. May not our individual watchword for 1915 be—"Others?"

Miss Amy Swankie-Cameron, in a beautiful letter of greeting to the Y.P.B. Conferences, made a request of the American young people, which can be equally applied to our Y's of New Zealand. "Will you," she writes, "ask the young White Ribboners, for me, if they will definitely resolve to pray, to talk, to work, during the whole year, so that the young life of your land may be influenced for peace? For if those who come after us grow up in the strong determination that wars shall cease, never again will the war-demon be allowed to raise its head, and peace will reign throughout the whole wide world. May God grant it!" Let us not forget this heartfelt appeal from the World's Y. Secretary, who has given of her very best efforts to the promotion of our work among young people the world over.

Among the many plans laid down by our American comrades for their years' campaign are one or two that might easily be copied by our Y's here, or will at least offer suggestions that will satisfy the oft-repeated cry, "Please tell us what to do."

That each State not already engaged in Branch work be urged to appoint a Y.P.B. Secretary, and appropriate a sufficient sum of money to enable her to visit and organise Young People's Branches.

That each Branch present prizes or other honours to the individual secur-

ing the greatest number of paid members during the year.

That April, the birthday month of our first Y. Secretary, Mrs Francis J. Barnes, be especially recognised as Y.P.B. campaign month, that all through the month an especial effort be made to secure new members, and a new organisation, as a birthday offering to the Y.P.B. of the W.C.T.U., and that as an aid to this membership campaign, "birthday post-cards be prepared and circulated to all Secretaries, who will urge each to secure at least one new member, and in order to push the plan still further, that April 14th, our Y.P.B. Red Letter Day be observed by an especially prepared programme and social meeting, and that at this meeting "I Won One" buttons be presented to all who gained new members during the month, a button for each new member.

That all Branch members, wherever possible, enclose campaign literature in personal correspondence, and that they use the "Liquor Traffic **Must Go**" on such correspondence.

That a Glee Club be organised for specific purpose of helping in all meetings, held either by W.C.T.U. or their own Branch work, and that they obtain "outside" young people to help.

That Branches everywhere render special aid to the W.C.T.U. in placing posters, parades, and other spectacular demonstrations, setting aside a special poster day.

I trust these notes may be helpful to our young people. I would like to urge them to follow their American sisters. Set a goal for 1915, and gain it. At the Worlds Convention Mrs Peterson told how she asked the Lord for just 300 dues-paid Y.P.B. members in Texas, and then started out, and worked night and day to this end. The Lord gave her twice that number 757. Wake up, Y's, the Lord wants you, we of the Mother Unions want you, the people under the heel of the Liquor Traffic want you. There is much to do. Up and do it NOW!

WAR AND THE SOCIAL EVIL.

(By Mrs A. J. Webbe.)

Owing to the war, many centres all over the country have large numbers of men massed together, thereby bringing into greater prominence and giving greater publicity than in ordinary times to the most difficult of all our social problems, the prostitution of women for men.

In one of our big towns in the South of England the Town Council had before them the following minute to discuss:—

"That in the opinion of this Committee it is desirable that the provisions of the Contagious Diseases Act of 1866 to 1869 should be re-enacted."

What are these Acts, which every civilised State is slowly but surely abolishing, as the power of the women's movement is being felt?

"At the Woman's Expense."

The Contagious Disease Act, or its equivalent State Regulation of Vice, is simply this: That a man is helped by the State to live an immoral life, with what he believes to be safety to himself against venereal disease, at the woman's expense. The prostitute (only where poor and friendless) is put on a police register, and from that day she is treated as belonging to a class apart.

The thing can be best expressed in the words of a French Sister of Mercy, who works in the St. Lazare Prison in Paris, where these women are sent as "*La chaîne du Diable*." When the woman is registered, the first and foremost condition is that once or twice a week she has to be medically examined (it is impossible here to enter into the horrors of this examination) to see if she is diseased or not. If free, she has a card, which is a license by the State to continue her trade; if diseased, she is sent to a hospital in Paris as to prison, and is a prisoner till cured. After perhaps weeks of enforced imprisonment she comes out, only probably to be reinfected the next day, as no provision whatever is made by the State to protect the woman from infection, the man who is disease being allowed to spread infection at will.

Let no one compare this state of things with treatment of ordinary infectious diseases, as is often done, because both sexes are subject to the same restrictions.

The Economic Injustice of Regulation.

Economically it is unjust, as it "snaps the last weak thread that ties the women to decent occupation," and makes her from henceforth a social pariah of the lowest order. Rescue of these women and girls in countries where vice is not licensed is possible and hopeful? rescue in countries where State regulation exists is a hundred times more difficult, because, say what we will, the law to many must always be a teacher, and it is the law that sets before many the standard of right and wrong. Therefore, how is it possible with one voice to preach continence and at the same time to license vice? In Germany at one time slot machines were placed in barracks and on board ships, where for a small coin could be purchased protective remedies; and Germany was not the only country where soldiers were taught by those in authority that, though continence was wisest, if this was impossible remedies for safety could be bought.

Has any State the right to make indulgence easier, the saving of the women more difficult, especially when there is overwhelming evidence to show that the question of prostitution is for women largely an economic one?

Wherever regulation exists you have one-sided legislation such as the following:—If a woman prostitute is seen with a young man under eighteen she is punished by imprisonment, but in most of these countries the age of consent for girls is twelve or thirteen!

The Medical Futility of It.

Innumerable are the opinions of experts on the uselessness of the Contagious Diseases Act as a preventive measure of venereal diseases. The last Medical Congress that was held in the summer of 1913 condemned it as useless, and the Local Government Board published a pamphlet in 1913 on Venereal Disease, which every man and woman should read, giving shortly the reasons of the uselessness of regulation, the first and foremost being that the patient must come in the earliest stages of disease to be cured, and that every facility must be given to make this possible. If any kind of penal treatment is in force it has been proved that no one will come to be treated till obliged, and that recourse is more often than not had to quack doctors.

Therefore, could anything be stronger against Regulation than the following:—

"If early recourse by the venereal patient to skilled treatment could be made the rule instead of the exception, I do not hesitate to say that in view of the great discoveries and improved methods of the last few years there is a prospect of stamping out venereal disease.

Such is the opinion of Dr. Johnson, the writer of the Local Government pamphlet.

Why Suffragists Oppose the C.D. Acts

Why, in fine, should women who stand for the woman's movement be against Regulation? Because more than perhaps anything else, State regulation of vice helps to keep alive the subjection of women; because it helps to keep alive an unequal moral standard, which more than anything else makes possible the White Slave Traffic; because it helps to keep alive the statement made over and over again by officials in countries where regulation is in vogue that the woman prostitute is always bad, though for man prostitution is a necessity; and, lastly, it helps to make possible statements such as were made at the Town Council mentioned before by one of the committee, who strongly urged the re-enactment of the Contagious Diseases Acts, adding that "the opposition came from women, women, women, who knew nothing of the world"!

And why is it imperative that every woman should know all that there is to be known in connection with these subjects? Simply because in the interest of our great humanity woman is going to see that her child shall have the right of being born into the world strong and healthy. Man has not seen to this, so now the motherhood of woman is coming to the rescue, and she will try to do her part in teaching man the beauty of responsibility in fatherhood such as up to the present has been unknown to him.

"There are three kinds of people in the world:

"The wills,
"The won'ts,
"The can'ts.

"The first accomplish everything, the second oppose everything, and the third fail in everything."

WHY WE OPPOSE POCKETS FOR WOMEN.

1. Because pockets are not a natural right.
2. Because the great majority of women do not want pockets. If they did, they would have them.
3. Because whenever women have had pockets they have not used them.
4. Because women are expected to carry enough things as it is without the additional burden of pockets.
5. Because it would make dissension between husband and wife as to whose pockets were to be filled.
6. Because it would destroy man's chivalry toward woman if he did not have to carry all her things in his pockets.
7. Because men are men and women are women. We must not fly in the face of nature.
8. Because pockets have been used by men to carry tobacco, pipes, whisky flasks, chewing-gum, and compromising letters. We see no reason to suppose that women would use them more wisely.—"New York Tribune."

THE STEADY SUBSCRIBER.

"How dear to our hearts is the steady subscriber,
Who pays in advance at the birth of each year;
Who sends in her money, and does it quite gladly,
And casts round the office a halo of cheer.
She never says 'Stop it,' 'I cannot afford it,'
Nor, 'I'm getting more papers than now I can read';
But always says, 'send it,' 'the family likes it,'
'In fact we all think it a real household need.'
How welcome she'd be if she stepped in the sanctum,
How 'twould make our hearts throb,
how 'twould make our eyes dance.
We outwardly thank her, we inwardly bless her,
The steady subscriber who pays in advance."

—"Union Signal."

THE KEY.

All that I craved belonged to me,
God held the gifts and I the key;
He held them waiting my command,
And yet I would not understand.
In petulance and discontent
Full many a wasted year was spent.
I cried, "How cruel is the fate
That bids me work and weep and wait,
For things that make life worth the living,
Nor rob the giver in the giving.
A little joy, a little wealth,
Result from toil, abundant health;
A chance to do, a chance to be"—
And then I looked and found the key.

Right in my heart I carried it,
Divinely fashioned, formed to fit
The lock of God's great reservoir
Which held the things I hungered for.
The key was Love—pure gold acrust
With glittering gems of faith and trust.
It fits all doors, it turns all locks;
It leads the way through walls and rocks;
It lifts all bolts, unbars the gate,
And shows us where life's treasures wait.
Oh, are there heights thy feet would press?
Seek LOVE, the key to all success.
—Selected.

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

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

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

CAMBRIDGE, first Tuesday in month, in Victoria Hall, at 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs W. Hogan; Vice-Pres., Mrs P. Smith and Mrs Gow; Sec., Mrs A. T. Watson; Treas., Mrs C. H. Rycroft; Cradle Roll, Mrs M. Robert.

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., Miss Svendsen; 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; Cor. Sec., Mrs F. J. Wilkes, 466, Gladstone Rd.; Rec. Sec., Mrs F. S. Malcolm, Aberdeen Rd.; Treas., Mrs Goffe, Ormond Rd.; "W.R." Agent, Mrs D. W. Coleman.

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 J. M. Jones, Clandelands; Sec., Mrs H. W. Milner, Clandelands; Treas., Mrs J. P. Mason, 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.

LYTTTELTON, 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 Prakinson and Hunt; Treas., Miss York; Sec., Miss Craig; Cradle Roll, Miss Ricketts; "W.R." Supt., Mrs Hunt.

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

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

NAPIER District, 1st Wednesday and 3rd Thursday, Willard Institute, Carlyle Street, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs 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 T. E. French; Vice-Pres., Mrs L. Bycroft and Mrs Vincent; Sec., Mrs W. A. Porter; Treas., Mrs S. Whitburn; 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., Mrs Skitroph, Mill Rd.; Rec. Sec., Mrs Bruce, Molesworth St.; Treas. and "W.R." 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. Erown, Weka St.; "W.R." Agent, Mrs Whitford, Mount 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 Thursday, 2.30 p.m., Coronation Hall; Pres., Mrs G. Ryde; Cooper's Creek Sec., Mrs Comyns, East Oxford; Treas., Miss Caverhill; "W.R." Supt., Mrs D. Hawke; Cradle Roll Supt., Mrs Gainsford, senr.

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., 2.30 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 Coley; Vice-Pres., Mrs C. I. Harris and Dr. Kelier; Sec. and "W.R." Agent, Mrs S. A. Plummer, Coronation Rd., Epsom; Treas., Mrs M. A. Bailey, Ponsonby.

RANCIORA, last Friday, ante-room of Institute Hall, 2.45 p.m.; Pres., Mrs May; Treas., Mrs H. Taylor.

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

STRATFORD, 1st Thursday, 3 p.m., Methodist Church; Pres., Mrs Reeve; Vice-Pres., Mrs P. H. Cameron and Mrs L. Lily; Sec., Mrs J. McAllister; Treas., Mrs Birdsall.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

WANGANUI District, 1st Friday, 2.30 p.m., Trinity Church Parlour; Pres., Mrs Blamires; Cor. Sec., Mrs J. McKenzie, 46 Wilson Street; Rec. Sec., Miss McAnemy; 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., Mrs 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 Blair; Sec., Miss Muirhead, Winter's Road, Ashburton; Treas., Mrs Moore; WHITE RIBBON agent, Mrs Glassey.

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

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

WELLINGTON CENTRAL, 3rd Friday, 3 p.m., Alliance Rooms, Manners St.; Pres., Mrs A. R. Atkinson, Wadestown; Cor. Sec., Mrs Griffin, 98, Ellice St.; Rec. Sec., Mrs Port, Pirie St.; Treas., Mrs Helyer, Oriental Bay; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs Port, Austin St.

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

WOODVILLE, meets 4th Tuesday, 3 p.m., in Ormond St. Hall; Pres., Mrs Perkins, Ross St.; Vice-Pres., Mrs T. Jackson; Sec., Mrs T. Cole, Woodlands Rd.; Treas., Mrs Davie, Station St.; Cradle Roll, Mrs Cole; "W.R." gent, Mrs Thompson, Fox St.

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MARCH 18, 1915.