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Dear Fellow-Workers,—

By the list given above you will notice that our World's Superintendent has prepared several new leaflets. I ask each member to do her utmost to put these into circulation. The commercial world has at last awakened to the fact that alcohol drinking lowers the efficiency of the individual, but we still have to fight the old idea that alcohol is needed in illness.

People who believe that alcoholic liquors are helpful in sickness are not likely to vote against the manufacture and sale of such liquors.

From hospital statistics we learn that alcoholic liquors are being used less each year in the best hospitals,

because physicians have found that their patients are more likely to recover from disease if no alcohol is given. We learn, too, that alcohol is no longer regarded as a heart stimulant, but is classed as a depressant, and that instead of being ranked as a Food, as it was formerly, it is now classed as a narcotic poison by close students of its effects.

As one medical writer puts it: "There is no use in studying the action of alcohol on ourselves, as it blunts our perceptions, and renders us unable to depend on our feelings. People feel that alcohol warms them, and yet the thermometer shows that they are really colder. People feel that they are doing more work when they are taking alcohol, yet the result shows they are doing less. People feel that alcohol improves their sight, hearing, and other senses, yet experience proves that it really injures them all. Alcohol not only checks healthy growth, predisposes to sickness, lessens the length of life, awakes hereditary cravings, and weakens the mental powers, but also deceives, making the injury an apparent improvement."

It is only by education and agitation that we can hope to win the people to favour the annihilation of the traffic in alcohol as beverage and medicine. The two must go together, for as long as liquor is allowed to be sold as medicine, so long will there be drunkards, for alcohol creates craving, no matter what name it is called by.—Yours in White Ribbon bonds,

CLARA M. NEAL, Pahiatua,
 Dom. Supt. Medical Temp. Dept.

PRISON REFORM DEPARTMENT.

Dear Sisters,—My department appears under this brief heading in the Convention number, and I receive very meagre reports at the end of the year. By studying the World's Annual W.C.T.U. Report, I find that the following are included in Mrs. Barney's statement (she is the World's Superintendent of this department):—Charitable work, including hospitals, asylums, infirmaries, almshouses, benevolent institutions, Police Court work, prison gate assistance, visiting of prisons and released prisoners; efforts to displace beer in Christmas festivities in public institutions, by gifts of fruit, eggs, cake, etc.; tea or milk; rescue work, homes for inebriates, reformatories, besides any effort to gain abolition of death sentences, and also to secure the modern scheme of indeterminate sentences; also all meetings in the interests of prison or charitable reform.—Yours faithfully,

SISTER MOODY BELL,
 Supt. of Prison and Reform Work,
 etc.
 Amethyst Hall, Invercargill.

(According to our N.Z. departments, charitable work is included under "Flower Mission and Relief Work," and not under Prison Reform Department.—Editor "W.R.")

NOTABLE DAYS.

Unions are reminded that "Franchise Day" is September 19th.

Articles contained in the special Franchise number of the "W.R." will be useful for reference; also original papers on such subjects as "Women as Citizens," "How We Won the Franchise," etc., etc.

At our last Annual Convention it was forcibly brought before the Delegates' notice the need there was for funds for the N.Z. Treasury, much important work having to be left undone for lack of the necessary funds.

On Franchise Day we are all asked to take up a collection, which is passed over to the N.Z. Treasury. Can we not delight the heart of the Treasurer (who is also a treasure) by each remembering her postal address sometime in September.—Yours in the work,

T. HARRISON,
 Superintendent Notable Days.

THE MAN AND THE WOMAN.

In primal times the brute man subdued his mate with fist or club, and he made her his slave. In later days he has held her to bondage with his approved customs and his laws—laws that deny her self-government and do not permit her a voice in the government that commands all the interests and environments of her children.

God has visited all the pains and all the chains of maternity upon the female. Shall man add to her misery by refusing her the liberty he demands for himself?

Nature bound the female to her child with an umbilical cord before it was born, and has chained her to her child after its birth with an unbreakable maternal instinct that is never missing, even in the female tiger.

Speaking generally, woman has never failed in self-sacrificing devotion to her child. Man has mostly failed of his duty; he has obviously, directly, and miserably failed to equip his child's mother with legal power to perform her rightful part in determining the surroundings and conditions that go to make the character and point the fate of her offspring.

What a miserable impertinence it is to demand that woman constantly keep within the yard-square limitation that surrounds the cradle—a man's demand—directed to the womb-man, mother of the race, who, under God, is the creator of the wombless man.—E.S.D., in the "San Francisco Star."