

WOMEN'S Christian Temperance Union Of New Zealand.

Organised 1885.

"For God and Home and Humanity."

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The White Ribbon.

For God and Home and Humanity.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1915.

WET CANTEEN.

There is great regret felt in Canada and much indignation expressed at the action of the Home Government in allowing the wet canteen to be introduced into the English camp of the Canadian soldiers.

The mothers and wives of Canada are presenting a petition to the Canadian Government begging them to obtain an assurance from the War Office that the wet canteen will not be permitted in the ranks of the Canadian troops when they send forward more contingents.

The mothers point out that what they want to do is to make the encampment, which is the Soldiers' Home, a safe place for the thousands of boys who have never touched liquor, to prevent the treating habit from

dragging these young recruits into the toils of the drink habit.

The Canadian Minister of Militia promised the mothers of Canada that their boys should not be subjected to the temptation of the wet canteen, and that he would guarantee they would "return home as clean and as manly as they went." On this definite understanding many mothers allowed their boys to go. We can understand their grief and indignation when, as soon as the first contingent crossed the water, General Alderson introduced the poison which the mothers dreaded far more than the German bullet.

Is the British Government so contemptibly weak that it dare not offend the brewers? In spite of the example of the King, of the protests of Kitchener, of the complaints of Lloyd George that manufacture of munitions were delayed, and the efficiency of soldiers destroyed by strong drink; in spite of the assurances of responsible officers that transit of troops is delayed by drunken firemen, though the Government is spending time and thought to do away with the effect of drink on the men, they will not forbid the sale of liquor. The brewer and liquor-seller are allowed to go on their way selling their deadly poison, and proving themselves Germany's best ally.

Will our White Ribboners here join with those of Canada and all parts of the Empire, and pray daily that the Mother Country may have strength given her to conquer her greatest enemy, and that she may cease to act the temptress to the boys that the Dominions are sending to fight for the Empire.

PROTECTING THE ILLEGITIMATE CHILD.

The Norwegian Parliament enacted a law, March 7, 1915, which aims at protection of the interests of illegitimate children, upon whom hitherto in most countries has fallen the heaviest part of the burden of the parental act. The law grants State aid to the mother during the latter part of the prenatal period, and for a time not exceeding six months after the birth of the child; it grants the child the right to bear the father's name where paternity can be established, and the inheritance right to the father's property in the same proportion as that of the legitimate child.

A WHITE RIBBONER'S FAREWELL.

Dear Comrades,—

It is impossible for me to write you individually, so I have asked permission to bid you all "Au Revoir" through the pages of the "White Ribbon." I expect to leave New Zealand by the s.s. Remuera on the 30th, and have volunteered for service at Home recruiting. I return to tell the members at Home that I have proved to the fullest extent the loving link of membership, and all our badge stands for. I came to your shores a stranger, but a fellow-comrade. I leave it carrying with me precious memories of united service and love. I have visited nearly every Union in the North Island, and several in the South, and new members have been gained. I have never been permitted to become home-sick, because I have been "mothered" everywhere. Links have been forged that can never be broken, and I shall often think of you and pray for you also. Will you pray that Miss Allman, of Palmerston North, who has also volunteered for service, and I may be spared to reach home in safety. I have one request: if any member has any loose pictures, cuttings from Auckland or other papers, giving photographs of N.Z. soldier boys in training, or route marching, etc., will you send them to me, care Rev. J. Dawson. I am getting slides made of as many interesting phases of our boys here, to show at Home what the N.Z. troops are like, that will assist in the recruiting. I hope also to visit some of the hospitals, and may see some "mother's" boy whom I have met here. Farewell, Comrades, I take with me, and leave with you, Mrs Don's message, "Bring the women up to the colours." May they be there in 1917.—Your loving comrade,

EMILY M. BISSON.

OUR OLD FRIEND MARY.

Mary had a little lamp,
It was well trained, no doubt,
'Cause every time that John came in
That little lamp went out.

Mary had a little lamb,
You've heard this fact before;
But have you heard she passed her
plate
And had a little more?