

# The White Ribbon

FOR GOD AND HOME AND HUMANITY

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## A SERMON ON THE WAR.

Among God's children everywhere have been deep searchings of heart as to the why and wherefore of the terrible war which is now devastating Europe. We publish below the thoughts of a young soldier, Lieut. E. Guy Melland, an ex-New Zealander. He was the only son of his family who adored him—a very fine young man. He wrote this after he joined the Army in August, 1914. He went to the front in October, and had eight months' service in the trenches with the 1st Battalion, West Yorkshire Regiment, being killed in action in Flanders, 1st July, 1915, aged 26.

Every thinking human being in the world has been challenged, and no one can be at peace with himself again until he has taken up this challenge, thought this matter fairly out, and answered it (even at the cost of the sacrifice of cherished opinions, or of having to remodel his entire philosophy, or of having to find an entirely new base on which to stand). Man has been given a mighty conundrum; he has before ignored such others as the problem of the meaning of life, but this one is most self assertive, and man can hardly dodge it now.

This is the question:—

What is the meaning of it all?

What the sense? What the purpose?

Now, let us think coolly and calmly, and duly clear the ground first, and properly understand this question.

Firstly, some will say that there is no answer—it is fate; but this is opposed to the rules, for it is impossible

to discuss this question without one supreme postulate, and that is: the fact of the existence of God, and of course, of His infinite power and love for man. To those who deny this, I have no more to say. Everyone who is not an atheist, however, must have in his head, at the outset, a clear idea that this world is run for man's good by an all-powerful, all loving God. Once that postulate is granted, we can get on.

But secondly, there are those who say we are not meant to know the answer to the question. They have no divine warrant for saying so, they speak thus from their human intelligence, which is limited. I will answer them from my human will (which is free, and therefore unlimited), that I mean to find out, and that I **will** know.

Well then, what is the justification of the present state of affairs? I know that there is a justification, for that is a sure corollary from our postulate. There is a meaning, and a sensible purpose in it, and the whole thing is not only for our good, but it is the best thing possible for us (if it is not, then is God either not perfectly loving, or not omnipotent).

What is more (though I am not of the school that attributes the death of every sparrow directly to God), this catastrophe may surely be legitimately termed an "act of God." Does man want this war? No! Ninety and nine of every hundred men would have done almost anything they could to have averted it—and yet, here it is. This, to my mind, emphasises the whole matter strangely, and tells me there is some mighty reason, some overwhelming urgency.

Man has a great gift from God. It is (what I shall call) a sense of absolute good. It is not unerring, but we can rely on it as a rule; and it needs no finely balanced sense of good to declare this present war to be, in itself, an evil. Yet—it is the best thing for us, we know; so though not good absolutely (I use the word in a rather technical logical sense) it is yet good empirically, or relatively to some natural law, or set of conditions of which we are ignorant.

What, then, is this unknown factor in the equation? There is some influence which has been at work on the Earth, which has caused this wide divergence between God's will as done in Heaven (let us say, our concept of "absolute good"), and as done at present on Earth.

We pray that God's will be done on Earth, as in Heaven. It is done on Earth always, but as yet in a different way—for man has been allowed to decide on some large questions as to the method of its working; though he cannot frustrate the Will, yet he can turn it into evil channels.

Now how am I to proceed in order to find out God's purpose in making—or allowing—man to suffer, for suffer he will in the coming months as man has seldom suffered before. My God is an efficient God; and when He makes all this pother, He gains His end—which means that man gains something, for is it not all for our sakes? Then I propose to examine the ways in which we shall stand to gain by this war, and to see if amongst them there is not one reason worthy of all this horror.

Well, how shall we gain?

Here is one who says that in such markets as South America, we shall profit by Germany's misfortunes. Fool! was I talking of England's gain in commerce over the Continent? And what amount of wealth, I should like to know, is the price of one broken heart? (In any case, and on your own ground, what we gain from Germany, we lose—and more—to the States, and no gain of that sort would compensate us for the awful wreckage of our world's finance.) No—I mean the real gain of man.

Then come answers with more in them—that this war, being the last straw, will cause the peoples to rise; and that, with a bloody revolution, if necessary, they will sweep away the tyrants, and establish peaceful socialistic communities, managed by an educated democracy. I cannot think that this will be so, as yet. Bloody war or revolution has never brought peaceful freedom in its train. Hopes of such things are farther from realisation now than they were before. I reject this answer. God would not have recourse to so clumsy and contradictory a method of giving us peace.

It is said that this war is caused by our autocratic diplomacy; but God needs not to plunge the world in blood and tears, because its political machinery is rather stupid and out of date. (My God is a reasonable God.) These things are superficial; they may be the occasion—they are not the cause of the war.

They say too, that the war is useful in demonstrating to man the real unity of mankind (if only financially); and the need for effective government by man, so that his deeds follow, instead of thwart, his intentions. He who says that this war is to demonstrate everything, I do not reject, for his answer is included in mine.

Good for man, and enough to pay for all, will come thus. Starvation, torture, and death will be rampant in Europe, but worse than any physical agonies will be the torture of human hearts and souls. (Have you seen a woman crying yet, in these days?)

But now the crowning grace.

In these conditions (and apparently only in these conditions), the human soul, thrown back upon itself, turns to two things: first, to thought—deep, searching thought, and, ultimately, to prayer. When man acknowledges himself beaten, he can but turn to

God, and this is what it is for. Yes, that is all. I had no great secret after all.

Would no man stop to ask himself the meaning of his life? Now he must (and he is led by the Jester, Punch). Would no man really acknowledge his God? Now or soon—what else will be left?

There it is, so simple, so obvious, and yet so vitally urgent. This European civilisation, which in a few months may be in the throes of its death struggle, has men of mighty intellect—but they are materialists, and their thoughts dwell on superficialities. They are essentially atheistic; they do not believe in God. For man acts on his beliefs (if they be real), and one need not to have lived long in England or elsewhere in Europe, to realise that belief in God plays an almost negligible part in man's life nowadays. Some ignorant peasants still believe in God; of course they know no better. But we with our blood and iron, our sensuous indulgences, and our greed of gold, have passed all that. With man's natural leaders engulfed in materialism, the light of spirituality on Earth was growing dim, and so—

"So this is a divine punishment for atheism?"

The idea of punishment is utterly wrong. (If you choose, you may think of it, in one aspect, as a retributory or repurcussive action set in operation by some occult natural law.) God never punishes, unless you say you are punished for putting your finger in the fire, by getting it burnt.

It would seem that it is highly dangerous for man to try and live without God; and so He in His wisdom is giving us a lesson—not to serve us right, but to ensure that we shall not try it again. Let this lesson suffice, then.

Without wanting war, we are all at war. Desirous of preserving and perfecting our civilisation, we are straining our utmost to destroy it. We have failed in our self-imposed task of ruling this planet—without God. Let us own up—we were stupidly complacent, ignorantly self-sufficient. Let us get this new and really solid foundation, and start again. God's purpose will succeed; but we have power to modify the working of His will on Earth. On us, then, rests a responsibility. We must co-operate, and use our wills

with God's, and drive home this point. To make men think, and to make them turn to God (for their own sakes), for this has God allowed the war. The war is the lesser of two evils, and by it God strives to shield us from the greater. The greater is the victory of materialism over man's soul, and the extinction of the spiritual light.

Let us not rebel, but learn our lesson thoroughly and at once (lest a worse repetition of it be necessary).

We are late enough now—let us wait no longer.

### FILM CENSORSHIP CONFERENCE.

At the invitation of the N.Z. Catholic Federation, a very representative conference met in Wellington. Five Education Boards sent delegates, and four other Boards were in sympathy, but unable to send delegates. Six Educational Institutes were represented, and three more were in sympathy. 25 local bodies sent representatives, and 24 others expressed sympathy; while ten societies interested in moral reform sent delegates.

Councillor Frost, representing the Mayor of Wellington, presided. The following was carried unanimously:—"That this Conference of Local Government Bodies, Educational Authorities, and Organisations concerned with the social welfare of the people of this Dominion, whilst fully appreciating the useful and educational value of the cinematograph, is of opinion that the class of moving pictures at present exhibited in New Zealand constitutes a grave danger to the moral health and social welfare of the community, and affirms the necessity for a strict supervision, by the Government, of all films exhibited to the public in the picture theatres of this Dominion, and requests that an officer or board be appointed, whose duty it shall be to inspect all films before they are allowed to be exhibited, and that every film so licensed shall bear a certificate signed to that effect; and further, that a list of all films declared to be unsuitable be published weekly in the Police Gazette, and that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Minister for Internal Affairs, with a request that legislation be introduced to give effect to the same at the earliest possible opportunity."



## PALMERSTON NORTH HIGH SCHOOL.

### FORM VI.—PRIZE ESSAY.

"Happy the State whose people learn in youth

To conquer evil with the sword of truth."

How much happier we should all be if everyone learnt to conquer one of the worst evils in this world,—the evil of alcoholic drinking. How much sin, misery, poverty, and crime would be saved if the people all learnt to conquer the habit of intemperance! For that intemperance is one of the curses of mankind is well known. Therefore, if so much suffering is caused through this alcohol, why does not everyone strive to keep right away from it.

The evil effects of taking alcoholic beverages are easily discerned in the state of the human body. There is nothing which acts with more serious consequences than does the effect of intoxicating liquors. If only a small amount of alcohol is taken into the body, it can be oxidised and turned into energy and heat. Even so, however, it is valueless as a food, and must be considered as a poison.

First, let us consider how it impairs the digestive system. Alcohol taken into the stomach soon plays havoc. It causes an extra flow of gastric juice, which is of no use in digestion, because there is not sufficient food taken into the body for the extra juice to act on. It causes inflammation of the walls of the stomach, and the mucous lining of the stomach becomes ulcerated. Thus digestion is made more difficult. Then the effect of alcohol on the liver is just as serious. The action becomes slow, congested and torpid, so that digestion is difficult. Fatty substance collects round it, and after a time the liver becomes shrivelled and hard, so that it cannot aid in the process of digestion.

Let us now consider the evil effects of this alcohol on the brain. It becomes partly paralysed, with the result that the rapidity to receive external impressions, the discrimination of the senses, and the power of concentration is considerably lessened. With the continual use of alcohol, the effect is subsequent insanity.

Then there is the heart to be considered. Since the heart is one of

the vital organs of the body, should we not think of the danger we are incurring in taking in alcohol? The action of the heart is increased for a time, so that we are often under the impression that alcohol strengthens the heart. But this is a very wrong idea, for after a time fat collects round the heart, and the heart-beat is slackened, with the result that it cannot perform its work properly. How many cases of death from heart disease are due to the taking in of alcohol into our systems!

Again, continued use of alcohol causes deterioration of the tissues of the body. Thus the changes which old age brings about are hastened, and life is shortened. Consider also the serious effects on the corpuscles in the blood. The white corpuscles fight down the germs; therefore, if we take in alcohol, they lose their power, so that germs of disease find an easy entrance into the body. Then the red corpuscles are soon worn out, and the blood becomes impure.

When we drink alcoholic beverages, it deadens the nerves in the blood and in the skin, and causes flushing. This gives a sensation of warmth, but it is a mere fallacy, for the body really loses heat in this way.

Then there is the danger to the kidneys. The filtering power of the kidneys is lessened, and all kinds of ailments result. The kidneys are of much importance, and this alcohol impairs their work so much! How many people, as a result of this alcohol, suffer from Bright's disease!

Thus it can easily be seen how dangerous is alcohol to the system, and never has it been so clearly seen as it is now in the present war. Kitchener is earnestly entreating the people to give up this great curse. If the people would resist the temptation, poverty, sin, crime, insanity, and misery would be exchanged for a brighter and happier life. Thus we should all strive to leave alcohol entirely alone, and always bear in mind Lord Wolseley's saying, that "Drink kills more than all our newest weapons of warfare."

## IN THE FIELD.

My last notes were written just as I was leaving Gisborne for Tokomaru Bay, where we arrived after about five hours' steam on the *Mono-wai*—Auckland bound. It was certainly a novel sensation to be put into a basket, slung up on a crane like a bale of goods, being finally deposited upon the deck of the launch, which, if there is any sea on, is bobbing up and down like a cockle-shell. On the whole, though, in calm weather, it is preferable to the method at Gisborne roadstead, where you walk down the gangway, and when you reach the bottom are told to wait, and you hang suspended while the launch descends into the trough of a wave, and when she rises seize the critical moment and wildly precipitate yourself into the arms of a waiting sailor. In very rough weather the steamers do not call at either port, and the passengers are carried on, but, happily, such was not my experience.

Tokomaru is a most charming spot, the deep blue waters of the Bay backed by hills of an exceptionally vivid green, the cliffs at either end curving around protectingly. I never wearied of feasting my eyes upon the scene from my window at the Mission House, where I spent a happy week with Miss Davies, who is in charge of the Church of England Maori work there. Tokomaru Bay has the name of being a most drunken place, but a very strong temperance sentiment exists among the women, and, contrary to expectation, I organised a strong branch. The chief difficulty was a geographical one, the population being situated at the extreme ends of the bay, with a stretch of something like two miles between. However, we held a meeting at one end on the Monday afternoon, and enrolled several members, and on the Tuesday traps and motors were kindly placed at our disposal, so that most of the members were conveyed to the other end for the second meeting, where we organised. Miss Davies was already a member of the Napier Union, so she was elected President, with a Vice-President, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer at her end, and a Vice-President, Secretary, and assistant-Treasurer at the Freezing works end. The membership reached 20 before I left, and the new branch had decided to take up Cradle

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

Roll work, and a joint committee of White Ribboners and gentlemen was set up to immediately inaugurate a Band of Hope or L.T.L. On the Sunday I spoke to the Pakeha Sunday School in the English Church, and one morning to a large gathering of native children in the Mission Room. I called on Mrs Farleigh, President of the native branch, but was unable to have a meeting with them, but the Pakeha Union should be a great help to them, especially as the President is so thoroughly in touch with the Maori population.

Upon returning to Gisborne, I found various patriotic functions so absorbing the attention of the public that no work was possible either there or Te Karaka, so the telegraph was set in motion, and I sailed from Gisborne in the Palooa on Sunday (November 14th), arriving at Hastings the next morning in semi-tropical heat. Several days were spent in visiting, and I attended the Napier monthly meeting, and ran into town on Saturday to see Mrs Oldham, who, though much better for her long stay in Queensland, is still very frail.

On Friday, November 26th, the Hastings friends got up a social gathering in the Y.M.C.A., which was well attended, several new members being initiated, and the following Monday I travelled to Masterton, once more finding a happy home with my old friend Mrs Burton, and her family. The following Tuesday (December 7th) the Union held their last meeting for the year, at which the attendance was very fine. Officers and superintendents of departments were elected, and delegates for Convention, while several other items of business were transacted.

M. S. POWELL,  
Dominion Organiser.

#### MOURNING FOR SOLDIERS.

The Women's National Council of Canada is urging the people of that Dominion who have lost loved ones in battle not to wear black as mourning. They suggest the substitution of a purple band to be worn upon the arm. The wearing of black signifies that some friend has passed away, while the purple band would be a mark of honour, indicating that the one mourned for had given his life for his country.

#### PRESIDENT'S LETTER.

Dear Comrades,—As the Kaiapoi Union passed a resolution proposing "That the Dominion Convention be not held this year," it was necessary to put the matter before the N.Z. Executive. This was done, partly by letter through Miss Henderson, and by Mrs Cowie interviewing the members on her way to Auckland. Each have expressed themselves as strongly in favour of holding the Convention as usual. That there should be such unanimity of opinion not only augurs well for a successful gathering, but shows that our officers realise the need of continuous aggressive work against intemperance. I hope that every Union will make a special effort to send a delegate, and that each delegate will go eager to get all the good she can for the benefit of the Union she represents, and prepared to do whatever she can to inspire and help her comrades. Thus we may make the 31st Convention the best ever held in the Dominion. Because of the many lives given in defence of the Empire, this will be a painfully sad season in numerous homes throughout the Dominion, and under these circumstances it would be futile to wish you a Merry Christmas, but I do pray that every heart may be garrisoned with the Peace He alone can give.

With best wishes for Peace and Goodwill to all.—Yours cordially,

RACHEL DON, N.Z. President.  
54, Canongate, Dunedin, Dec. 6th.

#### THIS DAY.

O blessed hope, beyond the hope that lies beneath the sod;  
That gallant lads we love and lose go home to be with God!  
For "greater love hath none," Christ said, "Than his who for a friend lies dead."

"This day," said Jesus, "shalt thou be with Me in Paradise,"  
And He who died for sinful man, for man can still suffice,  
And close upon the field of strife wide open stands the Gate of Life.

O, souls that grieve! O, hearts that break o'er Death's untimely gain,  
Take heart of hope, for you shall see your loved ones all again;  
For, thronging up the great White Road your soldier boys sing home to God.

—"Quiver."

#### SUPERINTENDENT'S LETTERS.

##### EDUCATIONAL BUREAU.

Dear Fellow-Workers,—Will you please forward, as soon as possible, all reports in connection with the above department.—Yours for God, Home, and Humanity,

FLORENCE YOUNG.

##### NOTABLE DAYS.

Will the Unions who have any special items of interest to report concerning the celebration of Notable Days during the year, and have not already sent them on, kindly let me have reports as soon as convenient?

L. HARRISON,

Supt. Notable Days.

Tuatapere, Southland.

##### SABBATH OBSERVANCE.

Dear Fellow-Workers,—Will you please forward, as early this month as possible, any report of work done by your Union during the year on "Sabbath Observance"? Each Secretary whose address is in our "White Ribbon" has been written to; but you will note a number of Unions advertise their officers' names only, and no address. For the convenience of N.Z. Superintendents, who during the year often find it necessary to write, may I suggest that next year the addresses of President and Secretary be added to their names.—Yours in White Ribbon Bonds,

E. A. BOXALL.

"Te Maru," Pirie Street, Wellington.

##### MAORI DEPARTMENT.

May I call the attention of the Unions to the fact that reports of departments are now due? Work of any kind that has been done in any district is worth reporting. I know that this year it has not been possible to do as much as we would like, owing to the numerous calls upon us, but we must endeavour to keep our departments alive until the happier time when peace can be declared, for which we all hope and pray. Since my last report of donations, I have received: N.E. Valley, Dunedin, £1 13s; Invercargill, £1 10s; Kaiapoi, £1; Wellington District, £1; New Plymouth, £2; Palmerston North, £2. The thanks of the department are due to these Unions for their assistance.

N.F. WALKER, N.Z. Supt.

##### LEGAL AND PARLIAMENTARY AND GAMBLING.

Will all Unions kindly forward me, as soon as possible, a list of resolutions sent to Prime Minister or Ministers, with any other resolutions passed in this department of work, and also kindly indicate their nature?—Yours in White Ribbon Bonds,

J. ROBERTS,

Supt. Legal and Parliamentary and Gambling Departments.



## W.C.T.U. CONVENTION IN VICTORIA.

The W.C.T.U. in Victoria held their annual Convention last October, when the report of the work done was most encouraging. In spite of much time and energy being given to Red Cross and other kinds of patriotic work, their one peculiar work shows no signs of neglect.

Twenty-one new branches have been organised during this year, and their membership has increased 1000 for the year. Will New Zealand show anything like a corresponding increase?

We give a few extracts from the opening address of their President, Mrs Downing: "Our ideals of national patriotism consist in bringing our soldiers and civilians up to the highest pitch of national efficiency by giving to them that only which will make them able to think and act quickly, to shoot accurately, withstand disease and wounds effectively, and increase brain and nerve power, either for battlefield or workshop use. As members of the W.C.T.U. and loyal citizens of the Empire, we are engaged to fight the greatest foe that the world has ever contended against—King Alcohol. Are we going to make Victoria a safe home for our returned heroes? Australia might now lead the world in the matter of social reform if all her women were united to cast out the enemy within. Much of our duty as an organisation in the future will be to bring to bear upon the liquor war the same force of character and qualities of mind which our soldiers have exhibited on the battlefield."

Mrs Downing stated that the immediate objective of the Union was to forward a great national movement for the closing of hotels at 6 p.m., the abolition of the "shouting" evil, the abolition of the employment of barmaids, and the education of the electors of Victoria (the majority of whom are women) to vote for No-License in 1917.

For the first time in the history of Massachusetts, a woman, Mrs George Ladd of Sturbridge, has been appointed to membership in the State Board of Agriculture.

## ORGANISING FUND.

The following amounts have been received during the months of August, October, and November, 1915:—  
August—7th: Stratford Union (T. E. Taylor Memorial Day), 10s. 28th: Warkworth, £1. Per Miss Powell: Mrs F. White, Greytown, £1 1s; Mrs W. A. Tate, Greytown, £1 1s.  
October—7th: Lower Hutt, £1; President Lower Hutt Union (donation), £1. 15th: Per Mrs Lill: Donation from Canterbury Provincial Convention, 15s; donation from Mrs M. Combs, 16s 10d. 15th: Waimate Union, £2. 30th: Per Miss Powell: Collection (nett), 19s 3d.  
November—6th, Waipukurau Union, 13s; 7th, Woodville Union, £1; 14th, Wellington Central Union, £5 5s; 17th, Kaiapoi, £1; 26th, Wellington District, £5 8s; 27th, Wanganui East, 10s. Per Miss Powell: 27th, Mrs Lownley, Gisborne, £1 1s; Mrs E. Murphy, Gisborne, £2; Miss Elsie Williams, Hastings, £1; smaller donations, 2s 6d.  
December—3rd: Palmerston North, £3; Okoia L.T. Legion (per Mrs Duxfield), £3 4s 7d.

ALICE R. C. TAYLOR,  
Treas. Organising Fund.  
Address: Mrs H. R. S. Taylor,  
"Coveney," Balgownie, Wanganui.

## PAX VOBISCUM.

I thank Thee for the sunshine  
That floods the world to-day,  
I thank Thee for the promise—  
The promise of the May;  
But Oh! I thank Thee, most of all,  
That on our restless heart doth fall  
Thy word of peace away.

The earth is full of anger,  
Of bitterness and hate;  
The faith our fathers fought for  
Men say is out of date;  
With thunder all the air is charged,  
And hell her borders hath enlarged,  
And shut seems heaven's gate.

O, where shall men find comfort,  
Find comfort for their soul?  
The idols that they worship  
Can never make them whole.  
In vain they call them to their aid,  
When on the brink they stand afraid,  
And death demands his toll.

O Christ, 'tis Thou has given  
Our souls from death release,  
And only in Thy presence  
All enmity doth cease.  
Though earth dissolve and melt away,  
Thy love is our sufficient stay,  
Thy Word is still our peace.

—E.S.B.

## Correspondence.

(The Editor is not responsible for opinions expressed by correspondents.)

### 1916 CONVENTION.

(To the Editor.)

Dear Editor,—I have been in touch with officers of several provinces about our next Convention, and now feel led to write to urge every Branch and every member to make this the greatest Convention we have ever had. Our workers everywhere are unsparing in their labours for the soldier boys, and patriotic efforts; but we have never worked under the name of our own organisation, and so we have lost the credit of the invaluable work and thousands of pounds given by our members. Could not we all unite and give £500 to ambulance work from our Convention, or to a hospital bed for soldiers, or a Y.M.C.A. canteen for Egypt, or some one of the great efforts to bless and benefit our boys? If every member collected twenty shillings, or gave that amount, what a magnificent sum would stand to the credit of the W.C.T.U. in their own name for national needs.

Sisters, make Wanganui notable for the most magnificent Conference and magnificent sacrifice the W.C.T.U. has ever enjoyed. "Our God is able to do exceeding abundantly, more than we can ask or think." Shall we ask £500? Shall we think £3000? I will give my portion. Will you give yours?—Your loyal sister,

BESSIE LEE-COWIE,  
World's Missionary W.C.T.U.  
Amethyst Hall, Invercargill,  
December 11, 1915.

### THE ANNUAL CONVENTION.

(To the Editor.)

Madam,—I am greatly surprised that any White Ribboner should suggest dispensing with our Annual Convention in 1916. My own feeling is that the necessity for this is even greater than usual. Our minds are so occupied with the war and kindred topics that we are in danger of forgetting that other foe—drink—which Lloyd George declares to be a more deadly one than the Austrians or Germans, and more to be feared than the submarines of our enemies. The District President of Palmerston North is planning a campaign for the weeks immediately after the holidays, especially with a view to working up the Convention and promoting a good representation from the little branches in the neighbourhood of Wanganui. This plan commends itself to me as an admirable one, and I shall be glad to fall in with it. We have some very big plans afoot, and our best brains will need to confer as to the methods most likely to ensure success. We shall not relax our efforts on behalf of our boys at the front (they lie

too near our hearts!), nor shall we forget our obligations to the distressed Belgians, Poles, and Serbians, but the attention called by the war to the menace of the liquor traffic furnishes an unparalleled opportunity for our work. This is the opportunity of our lives. We are on the top of the wave, and shall we turn back? I heartily agree with the letter of Mrs Crabb in your last issue, especially with the suggestion that an organised effort be made to enlist the women of the different churches. I find numbers of them quite willing to join us, and when asked, "Why do you not belong to the Union?" the reply is, often, "I don't know; I've never been asked." Numbers, too, are standing outside because they cannot regularly attend the meetings. We must convince these that the additional membership is a strength to us; that their occasional attendance adds to the enthusiasm of the meetings; and that the inspiration they get when they can attend can be passed on to other women they may meet. When the N.Z. officers waited upon Sir Joseph Ward (then Premier) and asked him to remove the C.D. Acts from the Statute Book, he said: "I recognise that your organisation is a power in the country," and these Acts were repealed at the next session of Parliament. Year by year this sense of the power of the W.C.T.U. is growing stronger in the minds of the public. Only last week a Minister speaking of a great social danger, said to me, "It's of no use for an isolated body here and there to take action; the movement must be a Dominion one, and only an organisation like the W.C.T.U., with branches all over New Zealand, can make it." But, I ask, how can this be done unless we meet together and arrange it?—Yours, for a record Convention,

MARY S. POWELL.

P.S.—As to the fares, well, we need not grudge the money to the Government; they need it badly enough!—M.S.P.

Miss Powell's address until further notice will be "Isca Mount, St. Clair, Dunedin."

### "ANGELS AT MONS."

(To the Editor.)

Madam,—I see the "White Ribbon" is passing on that ridiculous and discredited story re "Angels at Mons." It has been refuted time and again. The origin of the story is that a novelist in England named Machen wrote a story with somewhat similar bearings as the Mons myth, and by some means the fiction, in slightly different garb, now is paraded as the reality. Apart from all this, the evidence for it is shockingly inadequate. No names are ever mentioned, except in one instance, and he, it was proved by the military authorities, had not left England at the time of the alleged occurrence. All this is absolute fact, and I will give £5 to any charity if sufficient evidence for the

alleged affair is forthcoming that would convince an ordinary jury. Extraordinary happenings require stronger evidence than ordinary ones, and yet, it seems to me, that the bulk of the world accepts on most inadequate testimony, events that require a tremendous corroboration before they should be accepted. This applies more especially to the various religions; and the fact is that the more unusual or miraculous the event, the less is the evidence for it.—I am, etc.,

"TRUTH."

(Our correspondent is in error in saying no names are mentioned; in at least two exchanges names of men and officers were given as authority for the statement, and one exchange gave evidence of the truth of the story furnished from the German side.—Ed. W.R.)

### NOTHING AND SOMETHING.

It is nothing to me, the beauty said,  
With a careless toss of her pretty head,  
The man is weak if he can't refrain  
From the cup you say is fraught with pain—

But

It was something to her in after years,  
When her eyes were full of burning tears,  
And she watched in lonely grief and dread,  
And started to hear a staggering tread.

It is nothing to me, the mother said,  
I have no fear that my boy will tread  
The downward path of sin and shame,  
And crush my heart and darken his name—

But

It was something to her when that only son  
From the path of right was early won,  
And madly cast in the flowing bowl  
A ruined body and sin-wrecked soul.

It is nothing to me, the merchant said,  
As over his ledger he bent his head,  
I am busy to-day with tare and tret,  
And have no time to froth and fret—

But

It was something to him when over the wire  
A message came from a funeral pyre;  
A drunken conductor had wrecked a train,  
And his wife and child were among the slain.

It is nothing to me, the young man said,  
In his eye was a flash of scorn and pride;  
I heed not the dreadful things you tell,  
I can rule myself, I know full well—

But

'Twas something to him when in prison he lay  
The victim of drink, life ebbing away,  
As he thought of his wretched child and wife,  
And the mournful wreck of his wasted life.

It's nothing to me, the voter said,  
The party's loss is my greatest dread,  
Then gave his vote for the liquor trade,  
Tho' hearts were crushed and drunkards made—

But

It was something to him in after  
When his daughter became a drunkard's wife,  
And her hungry children cried for bread,  
And trembled to hear their father's tread.

It is nothing for us to idly sleep  
While the cohorts of death their vigils keep.  
To gather the young and thoughtless in—  
And grind in our midst a grist of sin—

But

It is something—yes, all for us to stand,  
And clasp by faith our Saviour's hand—  
To learn to labour, live and fight  
On the side of God and changeless right.

The liquor traffic has defenders but no defence.—A. Lincoln.

"I do not care so much for the vote for myself or for men," said Julia Lathrop head of the Children's Bureau, in a recent speech at Boston. "My great test is whether it will be useful in the hands of our 13,000,000 mothers in their business of rearing our 30,000,000 children. I believe it will," and she added, "Which is more womanly, to vote for clean water for the whole city, or to sit at home and buy costly bottled water for your own children, not caring for others?"



## WAR, 1914-15.

A soul inflamed with bitter hate,  
A kingdom made so desolate,  
A lust of greed and passion loose;  
And a great reeking charnel house  
Where demons belch the poison breath;  
And a grim shadow broods, called  
death.

A darkened sky, yet often riven  
With shafts unlike the bolt of heaven,  
A goal for sport where children play,  
And age and beauty end their day.  
A raid with Neptune and a thrust  
Beneath those billows that we trust.

A shattered liner in a day,  
And fiendish gibes and mockery,  
A scattered sea, remorseless, wild,  
A long good-bye to parent, child.  
A song of death and agony  
And rich and poor together lie.

O, earth; O, sky, that this should be,  
O, man that every day should see  
The pale horse lurking everywhere.  
That bitterness should turn our care,  
Our hope our love, and everything  
That gilds the life to which we cling  
To desolation and despair.

Is this the lot, is this the share  
For those at home who sit and wait  
For love and duty to the state,  
This roll of honour for the brave  
At home, on battle-field, or wave?

O parents, brothers, sisters, all,  
To save a nation from a fall,  
Deny not those, in manhood's prime,  
Who fain would seek that other clime,  
Where martial music and the roar  
Of battle deafens more and more.  
Though language fails and hearts are  
wrung,

And slow to utter with the tongue,  
The sad assent, "Go, comrades, go  
To vindicate a nation's woe."  
Yet gird your souls with courage true,  
The God of battles is with you,  
And as they gather, one by one,  
From city streets and cottage lone,  
Let gladness beam from every eye  
To cheer them all as they pass by.

Ye Spartan mother, weep those tears  
O'er withered hopes of coming years,  
Yours is a great, unselfish love,  
That lives again—again to prove  
It was for us you sent your boy  
Responsive to a nation's cry.  
And when at last the foe is driven,  
And records of his deeds are given,  
With the great phalanx 'twill be he  
Who fought and won the victory.

—L. A. Griffin.

Morrinsville, Waikato,

May 22, 1915.

## A REAL LIVE L.T.L.

The L.T.L. of Okoia, Superintendent, Mrs Duxfield, has just completed a splendid session's work. They opened their session last April, and held weekly meetings for six months. They have 60 members on the roll, and 17 honorary members, all pledged abstainers. An address or object lesson on alcohol is given every week, either by Superintendent or a friend. Interesting pieces from the "Vanguard" or "White Ribbon" are read. The children themselves provide the social part of the programme, which is always much appreciated by the adults, who regularly attend. An elocutionary contest was held during the session. A local paper says:—"It is questionable whether a finer band of children working under the banner of the L.T.L. can be found in New Zealand than that located at Okoia. By perseverance, this happy band, under the leadership of Mrs Duxfield, has reached a state of efficiency, and a great work in the cause of temperance is being accomplished in the district." Under the auspices of the Patriotic Committee and the Wanganui East W.C.T.U., the children journeyed to Wanganui East and gave a grand patriotic entertainment. The President, a boy of fifteen, presided, and opened the meeting, and at the close the children proposed votes of thanks, and the boy President put them to the meeting in a manner that amazed and delighted the audience. The sum of £4 10s 6d was taken at the door, and handed over to the Patriotic Fund.

At the final meeting, the residents of Okoia made a presentation to Mrs Duxfield as an acknowledgment of the interest she has taken in their children and the skill with which she has trained them.

The balance-sheet showed a credit balance of £3 4s 7½d, which was handed over to the Organising Fund of the W.C.T.U.

Every Union should have an L.T.L. and do work of this class for the rising generation.

## BANQUET WITHOUT BOOZE.

At Philadelphia last July no liquor of any kind was supplied at their Independence Day banquet. A good sign of the times when Governments supply funds for banquets and provide no liquor.

## THE ANTIS.

She was an anti-suffragist from somewhere up the State,  
Who thought it was her duty to offset the coming fate.

So, although she was a spinster, she went lecturing here and there  
On "Wife and Mother—Home and Child,

The Nursery and Prayer."

Another of the antis—a mother of thirteen—

Saw votes for women coming, and stepped boldly on the scene;

She packed her little carpet bag and went from Troy to Rome,

Just preaching to creation that "A Woman's place is Home!"

And there was still another—with a husband meek as sand—

She used to tell the neighbours "she could train him with one hand!"

She said "he didn't know as much as their old Texas mule,"

And the best of all her lectures was, "Wives, let your husbands rule!"

The next one was a widow who would gladly wed again;

To her the weighty question was not altogether plain;

But throughout her lengthy lecture all the subject matter ran

That she **wouldn't vote for women**, but she **would vote for a man**.

The last had done the housework and the farmwork all her life,

Although there was a farmer, and she was this farmer's wife,

She'd churned and hayed and garden-ed, paid the taxes—saved the farm—

But she lectured on "**The Comfort of a Man's Protecting Arm.**"

—By Laura W. Sheldon.

How can women care properly for the home unless they have something to say in the politics that affects the home in more ways than most people ever dream of? What keeps the streets filthy in the neighbourhood of the home? Politics. What puts the saloon on the corner near the home? Politics. What protects the nuisances of the streets? Politics. Who is it feels the affects of all these things in her home, and on the lives of the children? The women who have no say in politics.—Jennie Lietman.

## BRITISH DOMINIONS WOMAN SUFFRAGE UNION.

### WAR RELIEF WORK.

A public meeting and exhibition of gifts and clothing from the British Dominions Woman Suffrage Union to sufferers from the war in the Homeland and Belgium, was held in London last July. Miss M. C. Newcomb, Hon. Secretary, B.D.W.S.U., read a report of the war relief work of the Union. She told how in the first days of the war the Women's Suffrage Societies had stopped their own special work and devoted their offices, their resources, and their army of trained voluntary workers to the care, mainly, of women and children in distress through the war. Miss Newcomb had appealed to the British Dominions over sea, and she told how nobly they had responded to her appeal. The part of the report telling of New Zealand's answer to that appeal is specially interesting to us. Last January our gifts started to arrive in the Homeland, our Government taking them in transports free of charge, and defraying all the expenses of delivery in London. Lady Stout sent much beautiful clothing. The Wellington District Union, per Mrs Boxall, sent warm and useful clothing, also 1000 dainty bags, each containing a handkerchief and a coin. The boys and girls of two schools had assisted with these gifts, and sent charming messages and letters with them. Christchurch also sent cases of warm clothing, one being from the W.C.T.U. The following money contributions were sent from New Zealand:—Lady Stout, £10; Miss Ellis Wilkinson, £1; Mrs D'Arcy Hamilton, 10s; Mr and Mrs Ensom, £5; Miss Lovell-Smith, 5s; Miss Bishop, £1; Kaiapoi W.C.T.U., 26s; Invercargill, proceeds of a concert given by girls and boys of the Southland High School, £86.

### LITTLE BY LITTLE.

In 1907 the women of Denmark were granted a vote for educational and charitable boards. In 1908 taxpayers and the wives of taxpayers were given all votes but the Parliamentary one. On June 5th, 1915, the King of Denmark signed the new Danish Constitution, which made the women not only eligible to vote, but also to sit in the Parliament of that country.

(Dedicated to the Mothers of all Nations.)

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**Christian Temperance Union**  
**Of New Zealand.**

Organised 1885.

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"The White Ribbon."

Editor: Mrs Peryman, Johnsonville,  
 Wellington.

Associate Editor: Mrs Evans, M.A.

Business Manager: Mrs Peryman,  
 Johnsonville, Wellington.

**The White Ribbon.**

For God and Home and Humanity.

WELLINGTON, DECEMBER 18, 1915

**RUM RATION AT THE FRONT.**

In spite of every protest from King and Kitchener, from Bishop and Army officer, from physician and social reformer; in spite of petition from wife and mother; in defiance of every dictate of reason, and every demand for efficiency, the rum ration still continues to be issued to our boys at the Front. A letter received from a boy at Gallipoli, a sapper, tells how, on returning from a day's heavy toil in the trenches, he was handed out a biscuit and a tot of rum. This young man is only twenty, and left New Zealand a life abstainer. Now, we ask is it fair to these boys, is it fair to the mothers who have given them to their country's service, that they should be compelled to drink rum or go without any liquid refreshment? And this in

a country where water is one of the scarcest things.

Is the British Government deliberately trying to manufacture drunkards for the benefit of the brewer and distiller? It looks very much like it. Do they know that when a man is faint and weary, and physically exhausted, then to give him rum, with its false feeling of warmth and comfort, is the best way to create an appetite and foster a craving for this deadly drug? Just as to the man in pain opium is given, that pain may be lulled, then at every return of the pain comes the craving, with ever-increasing force for the magician who can deaden that pain, so to the man faint with toil comes the false stimulant, rum, and with every return of the fatigue comes the craving for the rum. If the British Government does not know this, in the face of modern scientific research, then its ignorance can only be described as criminal.

The wives and mothers of Canada, through their Prime Minister, have sent a petition of over 63,000 signatures to the Imperial Government protesting against the rum ration. Shall not the wives and mothers of New Zealand ask our Defence Minister to request the Imperial authorities that "our boys" shall not be compelled to drink rum or nothing, but that some nourishment, such as cocoa or soup, shall be provided for them in place of rum. That the drunkard's appetite has been formed "at the Front" the experience of one poor mother proves. The mother of a wounded soldier writes: "My boy has been wounded in the trenches, and is invalided home. That is not the worst. He has been more sorely wounded by false friends in public-houses. He has not come home sober a single night since his return, and he will not be twenty-one years of age for some months."

Why is it that rum is still given to mar the efficiency of our soldiers and to make drunkards of our young men? Because influential men in Great Britain are making money by the sale of this nation-destroying poison, and for the salvation of their Empire they are not willing to forego their unholy gains. The "London Evening News" says "that eight dukes, seven marquises, fifty-three earls, eighteen viscounts, seventy-seven lords, 880 knights, 1000 army and navy officers, and over 1200 minis-

ters and clergymen are shareholders in the liquor business. On May 10, 1905, the "Daily News" gave the following summary table of "Brewery holdings of clergymen and ministers: Personal. Trustee.

Church of England—

|        |     |     |     |     |
|--------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Home   | ... | ... | 850 | 862 |
| Irish  | ... | ... | 74  | 45  |
| Abroad | ... | ... | 16  | 3   |

Total ... 940 310

Roman Catholic—

|                    |     |     |    |    |
|--------------------|-----|-----|----|----|
| Home               | ... | ... | 30 | 12 |
| Irish              | ... | ... | 74 | 81 |
| Church of Scotland | ... | ... | 16 | 3  |
| Wesleyan           | ... | ... | 5  | —  |
| Congregational     | ... | ... | 2  | 1  |
| Baptist            | ... | ... | 2  | —  |

On April the 20th, 1905, the "Daily News" published the names of 296 members of the Houses of Commons and Lords who had brewery holdings.

Some restriction of this traffic has had to be enforced, or the Empire would have gone down in utter ruin, but what shall we say of the Cabinet which cowers at the whip of the brewer and distiller, and dare not deal drastically with the liquor traffic because its friends are making money out of national disgrace?

Thoughtful women, in view of the great sacrifices asked of them for the defence of the Empire, are beginning to ask, "Is the Empire, which cowers like a pack of whipped hounds at the crack of the lash, wielded by the unpatriotic brewers, worth the sacrifices it is asking for its salvation?" In other words, "Is the Empire lying under the heel of the brewer worth saving?" Mothers of New Zealand! You have votes. Use them to save your boys from the rum ration, the first step on the way to a drunkard's grave.

**SECRETARIES TAKE NOTICE.**

Will all Unions who advertise in the "White Ribbon" kindly see that the names of their newly-elected officers are sent along to the Editor, that is if there is any change. We like our advertising columns to be up-to-date, and shall be glad of your help in this matter. If the names of your officers are not correctly advertised you have only yourselves to blame, as the Editor has no authority to change your advertisement till you send along a change.

**THIS INHUMAN MONSTER.****DEMOCRACY FLOUTED.**

The following is from the "Diocesan Magazine" of Victoria.

"Fifteen months of war have cast a searchlight upon conditions of social life and revealed to the eyes of many, things to which they were hitherto deliberately or unconsciously blind. Among the evils of social life perhaps none has been made to stand forth in its naked ugliness more clearly than that which arises from alcoholism. The menace to body and soul from this evil is now understood by many who before would not be convinced. Its anti-national and anti-social character is made manifest. There is strong tide of fierce indignation rising against this traffic, and tens of thousands will never forget the suffering and degradation it has brought upon us in our days of peril. If only the will of the people could have its way it would tear from its tyrant throne the foul leering despot that mocks our griefs and enfeebles our patriotism. But this inhuman monster, smeared with the blood and tears of women and children, with throne reared upon the ruins of once happy homes, has its purchased minions who bludgeon or beguile victims—to prop up its tottering kingdom, that it may still enjoy its banquets of human flesh and blood.

**Enemy of the Human Race.**

"Every principle of science, reason, prudence and humanity condemns the enemy of the human race to execution and extinction; but how shall science, reason, prudence, and humanity avail against swollen profits, vested interests, political pull, and the swaggering pride of many motor-cars upon election days? Sometimes we may almost despair of it all, and feel inclined to admit that Governments that cringe and crawl before the lash of the beer and whisky magnates, and peoples who acquiesce in the same deserve the judgment of God and that judgment cannot be long delayed.

"We not only allow our own people to be devoured by this insatiable monster, but where the line of Empire marks its advance amongst the chimeras of the world we carry the cruel curse with us and bring upon them incredible misery and degradation. In vain do our noble, gallant big-hearted frontier-makers warn us that we are murdering whole races, and that

upon the appearance of the whisky bottle consumption, infantile paralysis, imbecility sweep away millions of lives. The indignant voices of these great sons of Empire must not be allowed weight in the Councils of Empire. Distillers must be provided with new markets for their wares, and what matter that a million lives be lost if in exchange a new millionaire be added to the titled nobility of England and the House of Lords be graced by the presence of another successful man of commerce. 'Yet for all these things shall the judgment of God come upon you.'

**A Slur on Democracy.**

"Or let us turn to the Honorable House of the Legislature of New South Wales. Have they not been elected for the good government of the people? Do not their hearts grieve over social evils? Surely they are the bold and valiant leaders of an enlightened and progressive democracy. Is not the Labour Party committed so far to the principle of democracy that it believes in the Initiative and Referendum? They would never dream of thwarting the will of the people at the bidding of the enemy of the people! Oh, no! Oh, No! Yet though the evil has been manifested for twelve months and every free and open conscience has condemned it we see this Government and Party, so responsive (?) to the popular will, inventing every delay to avoid dealing with this question. There is ample time for all kinds of 'silly season' twaddle, but no time for that which may arouse the ire of the 'Trade.'

"And now the public is to be further insulted. When in spite of all their intrigues a majority of the House did declare in favour of nine o'clock closing, a fresh intrigue is begun, strange things happen behind the scenes, the Caucus is engineered, and this marvellous mountain of our Parliament after twelve months of labour is to bring forth the mouse of a Ten O'Clock Closing Bill! The 'Trade' has cracked its whip. The Caucus has cracked its whip. Now must the time come for the public to take a hand in whip-cracking. Chicanery and intrigue may win the victory of a day; but as sure as day follows night the reckoning will come and the forces of light, truth and sanity will overcome the powers of evil—even if the Labour Caucus debases itself to join into alliance with them."

**SOCIAL REFORM.****ALCOHOL AND VENEREAL DISEASES.**

The question of the relation between drink and disease is not new to any of us; but we have lately had striking and repeated evidence of the close connection between alcohol and some of the most terrible scourges which afflict humanity. Before the Royal Commission on Venereal Disease which sat recently, many of our leading medical men, with expert knowledge and widest experience, have testified that the use of alcohol "multiplies the number of venereal patients, aggravates their maladies, and makes them more difficult, and in some cases almost impossible to cure."

**Sir Thomas Barlow**, President of the Royal College of Physicians, declared that alcoholism brings out the latent forms of these diseases, making their treatment much more difficult; that salvarsan, used as a remedy, is a most dangerous one for alcoholic patients, and that if you entirely stop their alcohol you often have more satisfactory results. "From first to last," said Sir Thomas Barlow, "the influence of alcohol with regard to these venereal diseases is most dangerous."

**Lieut-Col. Gibbard**, Head of the Military Hospital at Rochester Row, London, said that most of the patients admitted, if asked, that they became infected after having taken too much drink; he also expressed the opinion that increased temperance in the Army was a great cause of the reduction in venereal disease.

**Major L. W. Harrison**, Pathologist to the same hospital, attributed the decrease to the provision of occupations and amusement other than canteens, which, he said, tends to make them better soldiers.

**Sir Victor Horsley** pointed out that alcohol diminishes the power of resistance to disease in the human body, and therefore not only renders a man more liable to infection, but aggravates the disease when incurred. A total abstainer is less likely to become infected, owing to his higher power to resist.

**Mr F. W. Mott**, Pathologist to the London County Council's Asylums, stated that men so often took some drink, lost their judgment and then went astray. Alcoholism makes them more liable to disease, and much less likely to be cured.



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Christchurch

Dr Armand Routh, Consulting Obstetric Physician to the Charing Cross Hospital and the Samaritan Free Hospital, declared that alcohol will sometimes revive an old complaint that is supposed to have been cured for years and years.

Other doctors testified to the same effect and it was said that after very extensive enquiries made in many countries, there was good reason to believe that eighty per cent. of the men who fall victims to these diseases have done so under the influence of some kind of alcohol.

It should be remembered that these are preventable diseases, the result of immorality, which goes hand in hand with intemperance, and the lesson is plain, that we must look to absolute purity of life, both of men and women, reinforced by total abstinence from intoxicants, for an untainted parenthood, which alone can produce a healthy and virile race, resolute in will, clear of brain, steadfast to purpose, and capable of high ideals for the progress of humanity.—S.B.

—"White Ribbon," England.

## ANNUAL REPORTS.

The following Superintendents of Departments ask for a report of the year's work to be forwarded to them by December 31st:—

Home Meetings: Miss Dewar, 4, Pom-pallier Terrace, Ponsonby, Auckland.

Press: Mrs Duxfield, Okoia, Wanganui.

Y's and Medal Contests: Mrs Peryman, Johnsonville.

As Mrs Moody will be absent from the Dominion for some time, she asks that all reports for Y's and Medal Contests be sent direct to the Editor of the "White Ribbon."

## "IN THE DAWN."

(V. Jane Sutherland.)

Dinna ye heart it? God's pibroch  
loud-sounding,  
For woman, long silent, in servitude  
dumb,  
Has heard, and has answered, her foe-  
men confounding—  
Jehovah's redemption of woman has  
come.

Is woman the "weak one"? Let  
those her disdaining  
Remember what God to the Serpent  
has said—  
"Oppose thee shall woman, My will  
her constraining,  
Her seed shall in victory trample  
thy head."

Soul-fettered, and silenced by priests'  
admonition,  
The ages have passed in one long  
travail-pain;  
Denied education, God gave intuition,  
To hear, see and know what man  
cannot attain.

And though 'mid the pots they have  
toiled for long ages,  
Dishonoured; degraded by foemen  
of old,  
Their wisdom and courage adorn  
Scripture pages,  
Though soiled, the doves' feathers  
flash silver and gold.

The word of the Lord has gone forth  
to His daughters,  
A great host of women-proclaimers  
has He.  
The power of Evil, their children that  
slaughters,  
Shall end its career in the fiery sea.

The march of events tell of coming  
salvation,  
Not only for women, but all of the  
race,  
For only "free" women can bear a  
free nation,  
Whom war shall not slaughter nor  
vices debase.

"Dinna ye hear it?" O ye, that are  
sleeping,  
Awake, and like Deborah, utter a  
song;  
Jehovah to woman His promise is  
keeping,  
He will "lead her captivity captive"  
ere long.

Jehovah! "His name unto each  
generation";  
Deliverer! Come down the woman  
to free;  
We stand in the dawn of Christ's  
reign for salvation,  
"And all flesh together God's glory  
shall see!"

## WORLD'S W.C.T.U.

My Dear Comrade,—

We have been earnestly hoping that the awful European war cloud would lift in time for us to call the Tenth Triennial Convention of the World's Women's Christian Temperance Union, to meet here in 1916.

With inexpressible regret, the general officers have decided to notify all our auxiliaries that the Convention, which ought to be held in 1916, must be deferred.

We are unitedly working, and fervently praying for the coming of international peace. We praise God for the fellowship of White Ribboners the world around, and thank Him that our precious bond of unity cannot be broken by the exigencies of this most terrible conflict.

With love, sympathy and best wishes.—Affectionately,

ANNA A. GORDON,  
AGNESE E. SLACK,

Hon. Secretaries World's W.C.T.U.

The second Vice-President of the Florida State Medical Association is a woman, Dr Mary Freeman.

## 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.)

### WAIMATE.

Nov. 10. Annual meeting, Mrs Stewart in the chair. Mrs Dash read her report, which showed a good year's work. Individual members had done much Red Cross work without neglecting their own Union work. Resolution re Public Health Amendment and Gaming and Lotteries Amendment Acts had been forwarded to the Ministers. Petitions circulated in favour of 6 o'clock closing and of more effective dealing with men guilty of offences against women and children. Open letter to Moderate League published in papers of our own and adjacent towns. Two women elected on School Committee. Prizes offered for essays on Temperance Wall Sheets. Kest tent at Belgian and Red Cross Carnival. Distribution of literature, especially at Territorial Camps. In conjunction with other Temperance bodies, successfully combated efforts to establish liquor booth at Queen Carnival at Timaru. 95 sandbags collected and forwarded to the front. Mrs Hichens (Treasurer) read the balance-sheet. The officers were re-elected. £2 was voted to the Organising Fund, and £1 to the N.Z. Fund. Miss McCarthy gave a resume of Miss Roberts' paper, "A National Peril."

### ASHBURTON.

Nov. 9. Mrs W. K. Watson presided over an average attendance. Decided to postpone annual meeting until December 13th. £2 4s was voted to the Organising Fund, and £1 1s to the Trustees of Baring Square Church. Miss Bisson (Manchester W.C.T.U.) delivered a helpful address from Nehemiah iv. 6, "Let us rise up and build." A collection was taken up.

On November 16th our Union provided the farewell tea to the Ashburton County members of the 10th Reinforcements going into camp. Tables were laid in the Drill Shed, and presided over by members of the Union. About 80 sat down to a very tempting spread. Beside each soldier's plate was placed a packet of chocolate and a dainty button-hole. The ministers of the town and the local officers of the Defence Department were present. Before dispersing, Rev. W. C. Blair delivered a short address, brimful of good advice. On behalf of those present, he wished the guests honour and success in defence of home and Empire, of freedom

and liberty. Hearty cheers were given for the speaker, the ladies, and all who had taken part.

### TINWALD.

Oct. 8. The President (Mrs Stevenson) presided over a fair attendance. Mrs Brown, one of the Ashburton delegates to the Timaru Convention, gave a very interesting report of the Convention, which was much appreciated. Mrs W. K. Watson (President of the Ashburton Union) gave a short address on the "Evils of Drink." The meeting closed with prayer.

Nov. 10. The President (Mrs Stevenson) presided. Owing to the very poor attendance, it was decided not to hold the annual meeting until December 8th. A paper, "National Peril," was read by the President. One member was transferred from the Winchmore Branch. The meeting closed with prayer.

### TIMARU.

Nov. 30. Annual meeting held. The late caretaker's report showed the Sailors' Rest had been well attended and appreciated by the sailors. Some of the rooms have been renovated. Decided to have the outside and roof painted. Four members, Mrs Harris, Mrs Valentine, Mrs Pallerson, and Mrs Liddle, each gave most interesting reports. The hospital has been visited regularly by two members. Mrs Kavanagh supplies flowers for the hospital. Cradle Roll has made splendid progress; about 60 new names enrolled. Mrs Valentine is Superintendent, and Miss Green Assistant-Superintendent; Mrs Rule, President; Miss Avison, Sec. and Treas.; Mrs Cave, assistant; Mrs Brooker, 11, Mere Mere Street, "White Ribbon" Agent.

### HAWERA.

Meeting held November 18th. The Rev. Grant Cowen, of the English Church, gave a spirited address on "Woman's Individual Responsibility in the War on Intemperance," which was much appreciated by a fair attendance. Later arrangements were completed regarding the rest tent at the Show. This was held the week following, when relays of volunteers took charge of the tent, also collecting for the Red Cross. Decided that no further meeting be held till February, when each member would be expected to bring one garment for patriotic purposes.

### OKAIWA.

Meeting was held in the Mission Hall on Wednesday, 17th November, 7 members being present. The President occupied the chair. Sister Nellie afterwards occupied the chair, and the election of office-bearers resulted as follows:—Pres., Sister Nellie; Vice-Pres. (2), Mrs Green and Miss Hicks; Sec. and Treas., Sister Whaitiri; Supt. Cradle Roll, Mrs

Laney; "White Ribbon" Reporter, Mrs Betts; Supt. Literature, Mrs Lees; Supt. Sunshine Work, Miss Betts. After the business part of the meeting was accomplished, prayers were offered up to God for the members who were absent because of sickness.

### KAIKORAI.

The annual report of work done during the year was read and adopted, also the Treasurer's report. The election of officers was also taken. Mrs Driver spoke on the temperance teaching which is to be taught in schools, also the necessity for improvement as regards picture films for the young. Afternoon tea was passed round. A vote of thanks was passed to Mrs Driver, also to Rev. R. M. Sutherland and office-bearers for use of class-room.

### PONSONBY.

Meeting held November 11th, Miss Cailey presiding. Regret was expressed at Mrs Carter's illness. Miss Cailey gave information re the appalling drinking habits among the men at the firing line. Meeting closed with the Benediction.

Meeting held December 2nd, Mrs Harris (Vice-President) presiding. We listened to a very faithful address from Miss Henderson, of Christchurch, dealing with the awful crimes in the Dominion through drink, and urging the necessity of women police and women on juries to deal with girls. Much pleasure was expressed at Mr Hanan's willingness to have Temperance taught in the schools. A resolution was forwarded to the Hon James Allen protesting against the drinking going on among the soldiers. Mrs Plummer read an encouraging report of the work done during the year.

### FEILDING.

There was a good attendance at our annual meeting. The following officers were unanimously re-elected:—Pres., Miss Moore; Treas., Mrs Williamson; Rec. Sec., Mrs Bridge. Regret was expressed at the resignation of Miss Svendsen; Cor. Sec., Mrs J. C. Thompson; Vice-Pres., Mrs Beatie, with the ministers' wives. Arrangements were made to send donations and a box of goods to the Palmerston P. and A. Show for patriotic funds.

### WOODVILLE.

Nov. 30. Annual meeting, attendance very good. Mrs Perkins (President) read a report of the work done during the year. Owing to the war, we have not been able to hold socials of any kind on notable days. President regrets that so many of the members do not attend the meetings. During the year prizes were given to the 5th and 6th Standard school children for the best essays on the Temperance Wall Sheet. Mrs Davie



kindly gave the prize money. We have decided to give prizes each year for this work. Mrs Cole (Superintendent Cradle Roll) reported that the Cradle Roll at the end of the year 1914 had 52 members. This year 132. Last February a picnic was held for the mothers and children. The election of officers took place, and resulted as follows:—Pres., Mrs Perkins (re-elected); Vice-Pres., Mrs Jackson (re-elected); Sec., Mrs Thompson; Treas., Mrs Davie (re-elected); Cradle Roll, Mrs Cole (re-elected). A vote of thanks was passed to all those who had helped to carry on the work during the year.

#### GISBORNE.

Nov. A social afternoon was held in St. Andrew's Schoolroom to meet Miss Powell. Between 50 and 60 were present, including several new members. These were the result of personal contact during Miss Powell's visit. Miss Powell gave a talk on the Union, its work and influence. Decided that Tokomaru Bay be visited, and a collection of £3 was taken up for the expenses. Songs and recitations were given.

#### PAHIATUA.

Nov. 11. Members met at the home of Mrs Wilson to bid farewell to our member, Mrs McLennan, who is leaving us to reside in Napier, on account of the health of her youngest son.

Dec. 2. Annual meeting. Report shows eight new members gained. Work done in 14 departments. Donations made to N.Z. Union, Maori Fund, and World's Missionary Fund. Full levy paid to Organising Fund, also an extra sixpence capitation to N.Z. Fund, as suggested by our N.Z. Treasurer at Convention. Officers elected:—Pres., Mrs Neal; Sec., Mrs H. Godfrey; Treas., Mrs W. W. McCardle; Cradle Roll Supt., Miss Thurlow; "White Ribbon" Supt., Mrs Eager.

#### AUCKLAND.

Nov. 10. Mrs Cook (President) in the chair. Decided that we give, as a Union, a fortnightly distribution of literature supplied by the No-License League. Proposed the following resolution be sent to the City Council:—"That the Auckland Women's Christian Temperance Union protests against the proposed running of trams during church hours on Sunday." Resolved: "A letter be sent to the Hon. J. Allen (Minister of Defence) drawing his attention to the fact that the shouting system had been dealt with by legislation in other lands, and that the New Zealand Defence Department has the power in its own hands to deal with the matter." A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mrs Lambourne for her address, "The Sword Invisible."

Nov. 24. Mrs Cook presiding. A number of visitors from other Unions were present. Mrs Lee-Cowie gave an address, choosing for her subject, "Temperance in Other Lands." It was much appreciated. Miss Henderson and Miss Maunder spoke a few words of encouragement and cheer.

Tuesday, Nov. 30. A very successful lecture was given by the Rev. G. Budd, of Devonport, on "The Panama Canal," in aid of the Auckland Women's Christian Temperance Union.

#### GREYTOWN.

Meeting held, at which there was a good attendance. Mrs Quin read a most interesting paper, which was much appreciated by all present. A letter of thanks for old linen was received from the Secretary of the Military Hospital Guild.

#### NELSON.

Nov. 9. Miss Atkinson presided. Two new members were initiated. Resolved that the annual meeting be held on the 7th December, and the members' business meeting on the Friday previous, December 3rd. Arrangements for the annual meeting and Sale of Work were made. The Annual Sale was held on November 3rd in the Temperance Hall. The afternoon proved very wet, and the attendance smaller than usual, but the business done was satisfactory. In the evening a programme of songs and recitations was given, and the sale was continued on the following afternoon.

The monthly meeting at Richmond was held on November 10th, Mrs Watson presiding. One new member was initiated. Decided that the meetings should be continued next year, beginning on the second Wednesday in February.

#### BIRKENHEAD.

An enthusiastic gathering of W.C.T.U. members and friends met at the Birkdale Methodist Church on Thursday, November 11th, at a Red Cross luncheon. The afternoon meeting was presided over by our President. Mrs Cook, President of the Auckland Union, gave an interesting address on W.C.T.U. work, its aims and objects. Essays written from the Temperance Wall Sheets by the school children from Abany and Glenfield were handed in. These will be judged and the promised prizes awarded. At the close of our meeting six new members were initiated. Collection for R.C.F., £3 13s.

#### MOSGIEL.

Annual meeting held November 9th. Good attendance. Balance-sheet and report adopted. Small balance in hand. Mrs Bedford presided. Election of officers resulted:—President, Mrs Pinfold; Sec., Mrs Wilson; Treas., Mrs Accersoll; "White Ribbon" Agent, Mrs Morton.

#### WANGANUI.

Nov. Monthly meeting held, fair attendance. Election of officers took place; all officers were re-elected. The Secretary and Treasurer's reports were read and adopted. A helpful address was given those present by Mrs Blamires, President, on the "Hand-Pull," especially suiting these hard and trying days. A letter of sympathy was sent to Mrs Sewell owing to the death of her mother. Owing to Convention being held here March, 1916, a lot of business was gone into. Committees formed and matters brought forward to ensure a good and helpful conference.

#### CHRISTCHURCH.

Nov. 8.—Arrangements made in connection with Luncheon and Tea Rooms at Show Grounds. On Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday tables were set, and luncheon provided, several thousands being served in the three days. Collection boxes were put on the tables, and the sum of £10 14s 7d was obtained for buying wool and material to work up for the soldiers.

Nov. 23.—Mrs J. McCombs presided over a good attendance. Correspondence received from the Secretary of Red Cross thanking the Union for a bolt of flannel given to the Hospital Ship, and a donation of £5 towards Nurses' Relief Fund. Mrs J. McCombs was appointed delegate to a deputation to wait on managers of Picture Shows re the retrogressive tendency of picture films of the present day. A resolution was passed expressing satisfaction at the decision of the City Council in deciding to enforce the by-laws re boys under 12 selling newspapers. The Union has refused to take any part in the River Bank Carnival unless committee will give an assurance that no gambling in any form will be indulged in. Decided to try and arrange with the United Council of women for a deputation to wait on Hon Dr McNab on several matters affecting women and children, especially those pertaining to assaults on young children, and the detaining on farm colonies of degenerates committing these offences.

#### Red Cross Report.

10 vests; 16 pair pants; 3 pair socks; 1 bottle cover; 1 pair mittens; 2 scarves; 1 night shirt. A bolt of white flannel was given to the Red Cross for the Hospital Ship, to be made into bandages.

#### WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

Dec. 2.—Annual meeting; Mrs Peryman occupied the chair. The minutes of 1914 annual meeting were read and confirmed. The Secretary read reports from branch unions in connection with work done. Our members worked well in getting signatures to the petitions for 6 o'clock closing of hotel bars, and regret it was not granted, but all intend to keep "pegging away" until public opinion expresses itself so strongly that they are bound to listen and carry into effect the wish-

es of the people. The Dominion organiser, Miss Powell, spent some weeks in the district, and was mainly instrumental in the revival of the Lower Hutt Union, which now numbers thirty-one members, and also the formation of a new Union and Band of Hope at Greytown, and at our Home meetings the new members gained were due to her untiring efforts. The balance sheet was read, showing a small credit balance. Rev W. Shirer, Treasurer to the Building Fund, read the balance sheet in connection with the Girls' Association, for which he was heartily thanked, and elected again. It was with great regret that we were compelled to accept Mrs Evan's resignation, owing to her absence from Wellington, but our President recognised, "That any Union to be successful needs a President who can devote a considerable proportion of her time and thought to its affairs, who can come into personal touch with its individual members, and thus learning the special capabilities and bent of each, can prove a true leader by assigning to each that place in the battlefield where she will use to the best advantage her particular gifts and powers." The election of officers resulted as follows: President, Mrs Houlder; Secretary, Mrs Spearman; Treasurer, Mrs Bingham; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames Boxall, Wright and Cummings.

#### NEW BRIGHTON.

Dec. 2.—Annual Meeting held, attendance good; President presiding. Mrs Lopdell gave a short spiritual address. The Secretary and Treasurer read their reports. The following officers were elected: President, Mrs Hall; Secretary, Mrs Smith; Treasurer, Mrs Nicholas. Mrs Spratt spoke on the successful year our Union had just completed, and thanked those who had held office during that time. One new member joined our Union.

#### MASTERTON.

Nov. 7.—Election of officers. Miss Powell in the chair. The following officers were elected: President, Mrs Devonport; Secretary, Mrs Flanagan; Treasurer, Mrs Sutherland; Vice-President, Mesdames W. H. Hosking, J. Millar, D. Donald, and Miss Thomas; Supt. of Dept., Home Meeting, Mrs Ross; Flower Mission, Mrs Walker; Back Blocks, Mrs Millie Millar; Cradle Roll, Miss Thomas; Purity, Miss Wingate; "White Ribbon" Agent Mrs Ross. Rechabite Tent invited the members to a social to meet Miss Kennedy of Invercargill. Mrs Ross elected delegate for the Wanganui Convention. Votes of thanks were passed to the retiring President, Mrs Ross, also Miss Powell.

#### NAPIER.

Nov. 18. Meeting held in Baptist Sunday School. Miss Powell visited Union unexpectedly, and had a talk on the work accomplished, and urged that all members should wear their badges always. It was reported that

925 more sand-bags had been sent away, and that there were still more to make up. Decided to lend Willard Hall to Miss Austen, who was visiting Napier the following week, to give "Purity Talks."

December 1. Meeting held in Willard Hall, when nominations for annual meeting were made, and it was stated that Mrs Venables had consented to be nominated for President, also the different reports were discussed, and it was urged that all reports for Convention number should be sent off by December 31st. Willard Hall was to be lent to Rev E. Falgrave Davy for Children Mission for three evenings.

#### SOUTH INVERCARGILL.

Nov. 30. The President (Mrs Paisley) presided. Special mention was made of the papers by Mrs Cooper, which were read at the last meeting, and were very interesting and instructive and practical. The President said the year's work had been most encouraging to the members. The Secretary (Mrs Parkins) gave a review of work done. We hope to be able to undertake more next year. Union reassembles in February, 1916.

#### INVERCARGILL.

The annual meeting was held on December 7th with a fair attendance, Mrs Baird presiding. A splendid report of work done during the year was read by Sister M. Bell. Mrs Hunter (Treasurer) gave a good report of the finances, and a vote of thanks was passed to Mr Hunter for auditing the balance sheet. Our membership is now 142. Final arrangements for conducting the Rest and Tea Rooms at the Agricultural Show next week were made. Dissatisfaction with the kind of pictures shown at the picture shows, which so many children attend, was expressed, and efforts are being made to have them more carefully censored. A resolution was passed: "That a programme suitable for children should be given on Saturday afternoons," and a deputation appointed to interview the managers. The question, re postponing Convention, was brought before the meeting, and it was unanimously agreed: "That there is more need than ever to do all in our power to combat the liquor traffic, and that we are in favour of holding the Annual Convention." Officers elected: President, Mrs Macalister, Hollywood Terrace, Gladstone; Secretary, Mrs F. Lillicrap, Earn Street; Treasurer, Mrs Hunter, Don Street.

#### NELSON.

Dec. 3. Annual meeting, Miss Atkinson presiding. The Annual report was read by Mrs Knapp, Secretary, and the balance sheet by Mrs Brown, Treasurer. Reports of the Y Branch, and of the Good Citizenship Dept. were also given. Mrs Emmett, Librarian, stated that the library was well patronised. The election of officers resulted as follows: President, Miss Atkinson; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames Mackenzie, Lambert, Dickson,

(ex-officio), Field, Watson, and Hockey (elected); Secretary, Mrs Knapp; Asst. Secretary, Mrs Judson; Treasurer, Mrs A. Brown; Asst. Treasurer, Mrs Edmonds; "White Ribbon" Agent, Mrs Whitford; Librarian, Mrs Emmett; Superintendents of Departments—Literature, Mrs Field; Good Citizenship, Mrs Judson; Station Box, Mrs Hayes; Back Blocks, Mrs Moyes. At the close of the meeting a resolution of deep regret and sympathy was passed for the late Cradle Roll Supt., Mrs J. Robertson, who had passed away that afternoon.

Dec. 7. Public meeting; a good attendance of members and friends. Annual reports were read; the Treasurer's report showing a satisfactory balance. Three new members initiated. A short programme was given, and an address by Mrs Butler, wife of the Congregational minister, bearing upon the spirit in which women should meet the sorrows and anxieties connected with the war. A letter was also read from a N.Z. soldier, expressing appreciation of correspondence by members of the W.C.T.U. Collection amounted to £1 6s 5d.

#### DEVONPORT.

Nov. 23. Discussion on "camp work." Report from member of Congregational Church; about 50 of the Islanders from camp attend worship there on Sunday mornings, the sermon being interpreted. Mrs Lee-Cowie gave an interesting address, with words of cheer to our members, also pinning our White Bow on two new members.

Dec. 2. Annual meeting. Report of year's work was read. Early part of year President was ill, but returned to work in July. Six new members have been enrolled in our "Win One Campaign," and we have secured 3 new subscribers to "White Ribbon" paper. Our President emphasised the Noon Prayer as a strengthening bond to all members. Following officers elected for 1916: President, Mrs Mann; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames Cranch and Shephèrd; Secretary, Mrs Little; Treasurer, Miss LeRoy; Organist, Mrs Cranch; "White Ribbon" Agent, Miss LeRoy; Superintendents of Departments—Home Meetings, Mrs Johnston; Scientific Temperance, Miss Lilliwell; Notable Days, Mrs Jenkins; Christian Citizenship, Mrs Armitage; Look-out Committee, Mesdames Fraser, Kinnear, LeRoy. This committee is to welcome visitors to our meetings, specially look-out new members, and visit any who are absent from more than one meeting. Resolutions to send to Convention: "We will support vigorous campaign against treating," also for "6 p.m. closing of hotel bars," also urge Unions to "Educate without ceasing for Christian Citizenship" that our land may be a purer place for our men to come back to.

#### GREYMOUTH.

Dec. Annual meeting was not too well attended, owing to the very severe weather. Satisfactory yearly reports were read. Our mid-monthly prayer



meetings have been well attended, and also the united prayer meetings for peace, organised by our Union. Officers elected as follows: Mrs Gaskin, President; Mrs J. Hayes, Secretary; Mrs Sweetman, Treasurer, and Superintendents of other departments were appointed. Notable days have been kept, usually by open-air meetings, and have been well attended. Our Sale of Work (Sailors' Rest) came off mid bad weather, but nevertheless we did very well. Our special thanks are due to Mrs Whitcombe of Dunedin, Mrs Jamieson, Mrs McAllister, and the Ashburton Y's. Our Sailors' Rest is in good hands, and is appreciated by many sailors while in port.

#### WANGANUI EAST.

Nov. Monthly meeting held in Baptist Chapel; small attendance. The reports and balance sheet for the year were presented. Ten shillings was donated towards Organising Fund, also the Supt. of the Okoia Loyal Temperance Legion reported that the Legion had donated the sum of £3 4s 7d towards Organising Fund. The following officers were elected for the year: President, Mrs Duxfield; Secretary, and Treasurer, Mrs Andrew.

#### WHANGAREI.

Nov. 2. President in chair. President said she had received a letter from Hikurangi President stating that the Organising Secretary, Miss Evans, would pay them a visit at their first meeting in the New Year. Decided to let the matter rest for the present regarding the writing of essays in the various standards. All members, whose subscriptions were owing, were requested to pay up so that the Treasurer can balance accounts.

#### INVERCARGILL DISTRICT.

Nov. 2. Mrs Baird presiding. Purity literature received to be circulated among members. Mrs Lee-Cowie reported having sent £7 to Miss Slack (World's W.C.T.U. Secretary) for sand-bags. Three judges were appointed for Temperance Essays. Decided to send special letters of sympathy to Mrs W. A. Waugh, Mrs John Stead and Mrs Sutton, three members who had recently suffered sad bereavement. Mrs Cowie, Evangelistic Supt. reported that the Temperance Pleasant Sunday Afternoon meetings had been held regularly on first and third Sundays in each month. Also a "Band of Service" for children on alternate Friday evenings, a prayer meeting on behalf of the Empire each Friday afternoon, and a Bible reading on Saturday evenings—all at Amethyst Hall. Two new members received.

#### OTAMATEA.

I tu ane he mitini ma te roopu Karaitiana wahine Otamatea i te 5 o nga ra e Hepetema. I te here Aotea-rea na te Pirihi-tini karakia ka kime-netia 23 o nga himene a na te Pirihi-tini ano te inoi, whakapua-reta te whare mo nga take.

Kohi marama, Mihimihikito Pirihi-tini kia ruteria Karena i runga itemea ke kei runga ia i te pourianga o noho i te wehenga atu o tana kotiro o Parani Karena i tona aroaro kua riro nei ia i te matua nui i te rangi na konei nui atu te aroha o nga hoa roopu mete mihi atu hoki. E pai ana e hoa. Kote whakatauki hoki tenei ate karaiti tukuna mai nga tamariki ma nga hoki te rangatiratanga o te rangi, heoi Tatatou karakia he wha-kapone kiaia kite matua nui i te rangi me kahone tatou e whiwhi kitenā orkoia kite kainga hoki o te okioki-tanga. Kaati i whiwhi ano te roopu kia whaaturia tektahi ngahau fairwell i te 6 o nga ra o te Hepetema wha-kaaetiana o nga mema katoa mo James Paul raua ko James Tepene itemea e haere ana raua kote whawhai with the second Maori reinforcement. Kaati i te tunga o taua taakro ra mo raua nui nga mihi mo raua eo raua whanaunga meo raua hoa Pakeha heoi kohia te moni taake ha e nga Maori. Pakeha i taua no puae te moni i kohia £3 3s. Na Andrew Wiapo i tukku atu taua moni kia raua mete whai korero atu kitana tokerua ahakoa e tamama i ti tenei moni katu-kuatu nei e toke rua iwi tae atu hoki kiokorua hoa Pakeha me tango e korua tenei moni. Erangi kote wha-kaaro tenei ate iwi me tano e korua he paipera. Kiaua moni hei whaka maharatanga ma korua kia matou kaati nga mihi mate matua kui korua emanaki.

Mr Woodhead, school teacher, he tuaketenei nakku he whakepai atu kia korua. E James Paul E James Tepene kahaere nei kite whaiwhai mote kingi mote motu hoki. Kaati maku e penei atu, me whakarite o korua ngakau kite te Ingarihi kia kaua e kite i te wehi i nga hoa riri ahakoa kotehea ahuatanga kaua e wehi. Erangi he an English kaati nui te mihi o toku ngakau kia korue it emea he tamaiti taku e haere omane hoki kote whawha kei te Train-ing Camp inainei kaati nei waku mihi atu kia kowa.

I tu ano he mitini mate roopu Karaitiana wahine Otamatea i rote i te Hooro Aotearoa i te 5 o nga ra o Tihema. Na te Pirihi-tini te karakia ka himenetia te 23 o nga himene. Ka mutu ka inoi te Pirihi-tini ka puare te whare mo nga take, i 1. Take tuata ho koohi marama. k 2, take ruarua he whi whiriwhiri na te Pirihi-tini mo nga take raruraru i waenga nui i te roopu mete whaka takaoto tikanga eora ai nga moni kua mate. 2. Take na te roopu kia whaatu tetahi takoha he whaka mahatanga mate roopu wahine Otamatea kia kohi tatana Hamana i mua o tona hokinga kite whawhai kaati te whiriwhiri. Kapahi tia nga take ka inoi te Pirihi-tini.

In Kansas, U.S.A., last September, the Court panel for the first time contained the names of women eligible to sit in the jury box.

#### A GOOD SUGGESTION.

All the good ideas do not come from District Unions, or even from our larger Unions. The Treasurer of a small Union, like many other Treasurers, has a difficulty in collecting subs. from members who do not attend the meetings. She suggests that printed slips should be furnished to each Treasurer, so that she could send a slip out when the sub. is due. We think it a good idea, and commend it to Convention. If the N.Z. Union printed the slips in quantity, the cost would be very small.

In an address before the Massachusetts Association of Boards of Health, Charles W. Eliot, president emeritus of Harvard University, after advocating the public treatment of tuberculosis as a potent means of exterminating that ancient foe, said "The next evil which should be attacked with the utmost vigour by all boards of health is alcoholism. It should be brought home to the entire population that the habitual use of alcohol beverages reduces in a serious degree the productive efficiency of the community. The entire annual bill of the white race for alcoholic drinks is worse than wasted expenditure. Recent experiments on the nerves and glands of the human body have demonstrated beyond a doubt that alcohol invariably does harm, and never any good either in health or disease. The use of alcohol as a defence against exposure or fatigue has been given up by all sensible persons. The habitual use of alcohol is the prolific source of a great variety of diseases and disabilities in the human body, causes many frightful disasters in human reproduction, and contributes to produce in innumerable instances family poverty and distress. Degradation through the use of alcohol is the greatest evil the white race is suffering from."

**Ashburton.** 2nd Tuesday, 2.30 p.m., in Baring Square Schoolroom; Pres., Mrs W. K. Watson, Box 37; Rec. Sec., Miss Trevurzon, 169 Peter Street; Asst. Sec., Miss Wise, Short St.; Treas., Mrs W. T. Lil, Winowby; "W.R." Supt., Miss Butterick, Wakatui.

**Auckland District.** 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 2.30 p.m., Central Mission Hall, Albert St.; Pres., Mrs Cook, Point St., Mt. Eden; Cor. Sec., Miss N. Dewar, Pompallier Terr., Ponsonby; Rec. Sec., Miss Evans, G.F.S., Wellesley St.; Treas., Mrs McLean, Princeps St., Grey Lynn; Org. Treas., Miss Dewar, 4 Pompallier Terr., Ponsonby; "W.R." Agent Miss Pudney, 16, Wallace St. Ponsonby.

**Blenheim** District, 1st Tuesday, 3 p.m.; Pres. Mrs. A. Jackson; Sec., Mrs. D. P. Sinclair, Box 27; Treas., Mrs. Hay, Stephenson St.; Mothers' Meeting and Cradle Roll, Mesdames Brewer and Hancock; "W.R." Agent, Mrs. W. Parker, Grove Rd.

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

**Christchurch** District, Rooms at Manchester and Worcester Streets. Second and fourth Wednesday; Pres., Mrs. I. McCombs, 26, Tui Street, Fendalton; Cor. Sec., Mrs. R. Day, Milford St., St. Albans; Rec. Sec., Mrs. Stewart, 514, Madras Street; Treas., Mrs. Seed, 44, Brittan St., Linwood; "W.R." Supt., Mrs. Williams, 21, Philip St., Linwood.

**Dannevirke**, 2nd Wednesday, Wesleyan Schoolroom, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs. W. F. Knight, Tahoraiti; Sec., Mrs. Wiseman, High St.; Treas., Miss Burdett, The Manse.

**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 Reid, Bishopscourt, Roslyn; Supt. Sailor's Rest, Mrs. Pearson, Corner Union and Castle Streets; Supt. WHITE RIBBON and Writing Pads, Mrs. Anderson, 82, Duke St.; Press Cor., Miss L. Neil, 5, Park St.

**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, Water-view Rd., Stanley Bay.

**Feilding**, 1st Thursday, 3 p.m., St. Paul's Hall; Pres., Miss Moore, c/o Mr. W. H. Bain, Feilding; Rec. Sec., Mrs. Bridge, Manchester St.; Cor. Sec., Mrs. C. J. Thompson, Denbigh Street; 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, 469 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 Sailor's 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. Harrison, 202 Gray's Rd.; Hon. Sec., Mrs. Griffiths, Market St.; Treas., Mrs. Collinge, Riverslea; Evangelistic, Mrs. Stewart; Purity, Mrs. Martindale; Maori Work, Miss McKeown; "W.R." Agent, Mrs. Gray.

**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 3rd Tuesday, 7.30 p.m., 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, Crican St.; Treas., Mrs. Hunter, 110, Don St.; "W.R." Agent, Mrs. Hunter, 110, Don Street.

**Kaipoi 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, Kaikorai; Pres., Mrs. Pinfold, Methodist Parsonage; "W.R." Agent, Mrs. Somerville; Treas., Mrs. Martin; Sec., Mrs. Hamilton; Cradle Roll, Miss Osborne.

**Lytelton**, 1st Wednesday, Methodist Schoolroom; Pres., Mrs. Whitty; Sec., Mrs. Bromley; Treas., Mrs. Clark; "W.R." Agent, Miss Elsie Clark, "Waratah," W. Lytelton.

**Manaiia**, 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 Street; Treas., Mrs. Sutherland; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs. Russell.

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

**Mosgiel**, Meets in Presbyterian Hall, 2nd Tuesday at 2.45 p.m. Pres., Mrs. Pinfold; Sec., Mrs. Wilson; Treas., Mrs. Accersoll; "W.R." Agent, Mrs. Morton.

**Napier** District, 1st Wednesday, Willard Hall, 3rd Thursday, Baptist Church, Napier St., 3 p.m.; Pres. Mrs. Fossey, Nelson Cres.; Rec. and Cor. Sec., Mrs. F. Freeman, Latham St.; 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 Lodgeroom; Pres., Mrs. Allen Douglas, Pendarves St.; Sec., Mrs. W. Brace, 251 Molesworth St.; Treas., and W.R. Agent, Miss Taunt, Victoria Rd.

**Normanby**, Second Wednesday, 2 p.m., Social Hall; Pres., Mrs. Scott; Vice-Pres., Mrs. Butler and Mrs. Clement; Sec., Mrs. Saunders; Treas., Mrs. Lynn; Cradle Roll, Mrs. K. Hall; WHITE RIBBON, Mrs. Dickson; Literature, Mrs. Hayward.

**Norsewood**, 3rd Wednesday, 2 p.m.; Pres., Mrs. Oliver; Sec., Miss A. E. Olsen, "Willow Park"; Treas., Mrs. S. Frederickson; "W.R." Agent, Miss M. Olsen, "Willow Park."

**Nelson** District, Second Tuesday, Temperance Hall, 3 p.m.; Pres., Miss Atkinson, Fairfield; Sec., Mrs. Knapp, Alfred St.; Treas., Mrs. A. Brown, 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 Tuesday, 2.30 p.m., Coronation Hall; Pres., Mrs. G. Ryde, Cooper's Creek; Sec., Mrs. Coravns, 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, 87 Cuba St.; Treas., Mrs. Donoghue; Cradle Roll, Mrs. Barrow; 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., Dr. F. Keller; Vice-Pres., Mrs. C. I. Harris, Mrs. C. R. Vickers, and Miss Caley; Sec., Mrs. Plummer, Coronation Rd., Epsom; "W.R." Supt., Mrs. Plummer; Treas., Mrs. M. A. Bailey, Ponsonby.

**Pukekohe**, Methodist Church, 1st Thursday, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs. Frost; Sec., Mrs. Haslem; Cor. Sec., Miss Usher; Treas., Mrs. Comrie; "W.R." Supt., Miss Goldsworthy.

**Rangiora**, 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, Kirwee; 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.

**Takapuna**, 1st Thursday, 2.30 p.m., Takapuna Methodist, and Milford Baptist, alternately. Pres., Mrs. Fulljames, East Coast Rd.; Sec., Mrs. Carter, Lake Town Rd.; Treas., Miss Rushbrook, Milford.

**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, Sailor's 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 Ave.; "W.R." Supt., Mrs. J. W. Snelgrove, Willow St.

**Tuakau**, 2nd Thursday, Methodist Church, 2.30 p.m. Pres., Mrs. Hunter; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Madill, Lee, Long and Graham; Sec., Mrs. C. Bycroft; Treas., Mrs. Goldsmith; Supt. Band of Hope, Miss Worthington; 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. Raven; 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, Willow Ridge; Sec., Mrs. Geo. Dash, Box 27, P.O.; Min. Sec., Miss Strong, Lower High St.; Treas., Mrs. S. J. Hitchens, "Te Rangi," Mill Rd. 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; Rec. 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 St.; Rec. Sec., Miss McAreney; Treas., Mrs. Siddells; "W.R." Supt., Mrs. W. Grant.

**Warkworth**, last Thursday, 2.30 p.m., Schoolroom, Methodist Church; Pres., Mrs. Atwood, 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, Mrs. Blair and Mrs. McIlroy; Sec., Miss Shearer, Ashburton; Treas., Mrs. Moore; WHITE RIBBON Agent, Mrs. Glassey.

**Wellington District**, 1st Thursday, 3 p.m., Rooms, Constable St.; Pres., Mrs. Evans, M.A., Hiroki St.; Sec., Mrs. Spearman, 6 Dawson St., Berhampore; Treas., Mrs. Houlder, 103 Wallace St.; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs. Webb, Hall St.

Girl's 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. Evans, Abel Smith St. Rec. Sec., Mrs. Port, Pirie St.; Treas. Mrs. Helyer, Oriental Bay; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs. Port, Austin St.

**Waipukurau**, 2nd Thursday, St. Andrew's Hall, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs. Hopkirk; Vice-Pres., Mrs. Harding and Mrs. Nicholson; Sec., Mrs. H. French, Main St.; 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., Miss B. Galbraith, Gladstone Rd.; Treas., Mrs. Davie, Station St.; Cradle Roll, Mrs. Cole; "W.R." Agent, Mrs. Thompson, Fox St.

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