

The White Ribbon

FOR GOD AND HOME AND HUMANITY

Vol. 22.—No. 256.

WELLINGTON, N.Z., OCTOBER 18, 1916.

2s 6d Per Annum, Post Free.
Single Copy, 3d.

THE COST OF FREEDOM.

Courage is of two kinds—active and passive—the courage that does great things, which at its lowest is closely allied to foolhardiness, but which follows an upward path through all the manifestations of bravery, until it reaches the heights of conscious and deliberate self-sacrifice; and there finds that

"The toppling crags of duty scaled
Are close beside those shining table-lands,
Of which our God Himself is moon
and sun."

Also there is the courage which endures greatly, that sounds every note of an ascending scale from the calm fatalism that endures because it must, and touches lightly each tone of Patience, till it reaches the clear ringing note of Victory, when self-subdued, it cries with triumphant faith, "I delight to **endure** Thy will, O, my Father."

During the past two years thousands of young men in this Dominion have shown us one kind of courage—courage in action. They, when Duty sounded her bugle-call, "rescue the oppressed"; when Freedom tapped her drum and cried, "Save me," flew to obey the call. When the German War Lords set out to teach the world that "Might is Right"; when they solved to overturn the effect of centuries of Christian civilisation; to reduce Europe to a condition of barbarism, where force is the only law, where terrorism is reduced to a sys-

tem; to set at defiance every international law; to decorate the murderers of innocent women and children; to break every law, human and Divine, and to justify the use of every means by which Europe could be brought beneath the iron heel of Prussian militarism; when Germany resolved to win the world even at the price of her soul; then little Belgium threw herself across the track of the invading horde, and looking across the "narrow streak of blue" to "Freedom's own little island," cried, "Help, or I perish." The British Lion lay dozing in the sun, the Germans thought him sleeping, but at the first sound of distress he sprang to his feet with a roar, and "from the four corners of the earth the lion's cubs came tearing forth." We in these far-off isles heard the call, and our boys responded nobly to it. They came from farm and orchard; from lonely bush and city desk; from the plough and the loom; from school and college; from the teacher's desk and the professor's chair; from pulpit, and from printing-press; leaving home and loved ones, they went to the camp, to the troopship, and the battlefield. Many have gone to hospital, some to death, and some have returned to us bearing witness, by their scarred bodies and their shattered nerves, to the fierceness of the ordeal through which they have passed.

But courage as lofty in quality, though of a different kind, has been shown during this long period by wives and mothers. Mothers gave their boys to fight for freedom; mothers who knew the value of the

gift (for no one knows the cost of human life as mothers know it). Brave boys have gone to fight; brave women have stayed at home to work and pray for them. Never has this courage been tested as in this last two weeks. Not even in the darkest days at Gallipoli have we had to scan such long lists of casualties, containing the names of hundreds who died on the field of honour, and of thousands who lie wounded and broken in the hospitals of Northern France. Our deepest sympathy goes out to all those bereaved ones. The boys left us with all the light-heartedness of youth, their letters show not only how the crucible of suffering developed the best in them, but also a depth of feeling and breadth of view that surprises even those who knew them best. What were they fighting for? The British Empire? Ay, and more than this. The British Empire stands for all we hold most dear: freedom; righteousness; justice to weaker nations; protection to the dark-skinned races.

With all its faults—and they are many and grievous—yet the British Empire approaches more nearly than any other to the Christian ideal. The boys who went from our churches and Sunday Schools felt that they were fighting for the upholding of God's cause on earth. "Whoso layeth down his life for My sake and the Gospels," said the Great Master, and many a life is as truly laid down for God on the battlefield as on the mission field. "I came not to send peace on earth, but a sword," words from the same Divine lips, teach us

truly that peace is not the highest good. While evil exists, let the sword smite it; when evil is conquered, then a peace founded upon righteousness shall reign. We pray "Thy kingdom come." Had German materialism and selfishness conquered the world would it have hastened the coming of Christ's kingdom? "War is red horror. But better war than the utter crushing out of liberty and civilisation under the heel of Prussian or **any other** militarism." When it became a choice between war or allowing German standards of conduct to dominate the world, Britain chose war, and her Dominions ratified that choice and sealed it with their blood.

The death toll is heavy. Shall we mourn for those who have died the hero's death? Nay, rather let us rejoice that they have been translated from the church militant below to the church triumphant above. Wrote one to his mother: "I always go into battle under the cover of the 91st psalm." He went into battle on September 15th, and died of wounds two days later. In life he abode "in the secret place of the Most High," and now his spirit freed from earthly fetters abides in God's more immediate presence. May that thought comfort all sorrowing mothers.

When Hood in the Invincible threw himself between the damaged Lion and the German cruisers and drew their fire upon himself, he saved his damaged consort but not himself. Admiral Beattie, on coming ashore, burst into tears and cried: "Hood gave his life for mine." The boys in Northern France died for us, to save New Zealand women from the fate that German soldiers inflicted on Belgian women. Could they have died more nobly than in defence of mothers and sisters?

Many White Ribboners have lost sons and husbands. Shall we sit down and mourn for them with folded hands? Shall we not rather work for their ideal—a righteous nation to rule the seas? They fought to make Britain supreme; may we not fight to make her righteous? Does not our Empire seem more to us now that we have given our boys to die for it? They died to save it from a foreign foe; 'tis ours to save it from the deadlier foes within. They died that Britain might still send out the missionary to heathen lands, we live that the mis-

sionary may go unaccompanied by that devil in solution, gin. They died to save women and girls from the power of the savage German soldiery; we live to save our sister women from the power of the white slave trade.

Oh! beareaved one! Your boy is safe in his Heavenly Father's keeping, but many boys and girls in this land are still in danger from the twin demons of intemperance and impurity. It is ours to make our Empire worthy of the brave men who are bleeding and dying for her. They have fallen in the fight, but they hand their banner on to us saying, "we fought for freedom, you carry on the battle to free the slaves of sin."

"For freedom's battle once begun,
Bequeathed by bleeding sire to son,
Though baffled oft is ever won."

Why do politicians bow down before the liquor vote? Because it is a solid vote. Ours be the work to make the woman's vote a solid vote for righteousness.

Beyond the war-clouds and the reddened ways,
I see the promise of the coming Days!
I see His Son arise, now charged with grace
Earth's tears to dry and all her woes efface!
Christ lives! Christ loves! Christ rules!

No more shall might,
Though leagued with all the forces of the night,
Ride over right. No more shall wrong
The world's gross agonies prolong.
Who waits His time shall surely see
The triumph of his constancy:
When, without let, or bar, or stay,
The coming of His perfect day
Shall sweep the Powers of night away—
And Faith, replumed for nobler flight,
And Hope, aglow with radiance bright,
And Love, in loveliness bedight,
Shall Greet the Morning Light.

GATE OF HELL.

Mr Justice Burnside observed that over every public house should be written Dantes' inscription for the Gate of Hell, "All hope abandon, ye who enter here."

SCHOOL COMMITTEE ELECTIONS AND THE EDUCATION ACT, 1914.

At the last Convention of the W.C.T.U. I endeavoured to explain something of the regulations of the Education Act, 1914, as they affect the election of School Committees, and the changes made possible in the method of conducting such elections; and I was then asked to repeat what I had said in the "White Ribbon" later on. These regulations do not affect elections in the smaller districts, having a population of less than 8000, which continue to be conducted as heretofore, at a meeting of householders called for the purpose, the vote being restricted to householders, including both husband and wife, and the parents of children attending the school. Any householder resident in the district is eligible as a candidate, and nomination may either be sent in a week before the election, the nomination papers being signed by the nominator and the candidate, or may be made at the householders' meeting (sections 1, 2 and 4, sub-section 3, of the third schedule).

But for the large centres provision is made by this Act for changes in the method of election and in the qualification of the voters, giving a much more extended franchise. The Act gives power to the Education Board to combine all the school districts within any city or borough into one, which then becomes an Urban School District (section 40, sub-section 2), to be governed by the School Committee, the separate committees automatically ceasing to exist. It is open to the various School Committees in the large centres to request the Board to form such an Urban School District, and if two-thirds of the Committees concerned are agreed on the matter, the Board shall forthwith establish it. Such request must be sent to the Board before January 31st, 1917, or any second year after, in order for it to take effect at the next election (section 40, sub-section 6). In such an Urban School District, where the governing committee has jurisdiction over a population of more than 8000, the election will take place at the same time and place, and by the same methods as the Municipal and other elections held every second year (section 41, sub-section 3, and Part II. of the Third Schedule, sections 1 and 4); all those whose names

are on the Municipal Roll being entitled to vote. In this case it is of course essential that nominations should be sent in seven days before the election, the papers being filled in and signed according to the instructions thereon (Third Schedule, section 2). It may be noted that any householder resident in the district is eligible as a candidate, even if the name is not upon the Municipal Roll, though not as an elector.

There are obvious advantages in the new regulations, both as regards the method of election and the wider franchise; the bringing of this election into line with the others, and placing it under the same control, tends to obviate some of the illegalities which are liable to creep in under the old system, and to minimise the effect of personal influence and petty jealousies, which are apt to make themselves felt, thus giving freer and fuller expression to the wishes of the community as a whole. The education and general well-being of the children should be a matter of interest and grave importance to every member of the community, and it is only right that all should have a voice in the appointment of those who are more or less responsible for the conditions under which instruction is given.

I believe Nelson City is the only district in which the new regulations have yet come into force; the six schools in the city having, through the existence of side schools, always been under the jurisdiction of one committee, and the population being over 8000, all that was necessary eighteen months ago was for the Secretary of the Board to place the district under the new regulations, and the last election was conducted accordingly. This course was fully justified by the results, both as regards the quiet and orderly way in which it was carried on, and the placing of suitable members on the Committee, more particularly in the success of our two women candidates. The introduction of this change is of course in the hands of the School Committees of any district, but there is work which should be taken in hand at once by our Unions wherever such a change is desired. There is first the arousing of general interest in the matter, spreading the idea first by individual work, and later on by means of home and public meetings,

when the subject will be discussed; at the same time seeing that the names of all who are eligible as electors are placed upon the Municipal Roll; and then the bringing of influence to bear on members of School Committees, endeavouring to gain their support in favour of the change. Success may not come immediately, but we must remember that in this reform, as in so many others, the main factor is public opinion. It is in the education of public opinion that the hope of success lies, and it is this on which we have mainly to rely in all our efforts for social reform.

MARION JUDSON,

N.Z. Supt. Good Citizenship Dept.

"THE SOLDIER'S LAMENT."

These lines were taken from the body of a New Zealand boy by one of his mates, and sent to us.

Sing me to sleep where bullets fall,
Let me forget the war and all;
Damp is my dug-out, cold are my feet,
Nothing but bully and biscuits to eat.

Sing me to sleep where bombs explode,
And shrapnel shells tear up the road,
Over the sandbags helmets you'd find,
Wounded in front of you, wounded behind.

Far, far from France I want to be,
Where German snipers can't pop at me;
Think of me crouching in rain and sleet,
Waiting for orders, but not for retreat.

Sing me to sleep in some old shed,
While all at home are snug in bed,
Stretched out upon my waterproof,
Dodging the raindrops through the roof.

Sing me to sleep where camp fires glow,
Dreaming of friends I used to know,
Dreaming of home, and night in the West,
Somebody's hob-nailed boots on my chest.

Far, far from France I want to be,
Lights of New Zealand I'd rather see;
Think of me crouching in rain and sleet,
Waiting for orders, but not for retreat.

Parliamentary Candidate: "Gentlemen, you twit me with being a 'turncoat.' Years ago I supported this measure. Then I had a reason. But now, gentlemen, I have lost my reason." And he wondered at the deafening roar that pervaded the meeting.

NOTES OF PAPERS READ BEFORE THE CONFERENCE OF THE WELLINGTON DISTRICT CONGREGATIONAL UNION, AUGUST 16th (Continued).

The second paper was read by Mr C. J. Nicklin on "Social Reconstruction after the War." After pointing out that this problem was one that would seem ridiculously easy or profoundly difficult according to the point of view taken up, he enumerated some of the outstanding conditions, social and economic—the awakening of men's minds during the last half-century through the spread of education, the unrest in the industrial world, the inequalities between rich and poor, the apparent powerlessness of the churches—that combine to make our time one of the most critical in the history of the world. Society will have to be reconstructed out of the old materials, much of which will be the worse for the war. Just as the tillers of the soil will have to free the land from the debris of conflict before they can sow for harvests, so those who attempt to reconstruct the whole national organisation after the dislocation caused by these years of war, will be confronted by a task more complex than that of simple rebuilding. As one result of the war, there will surely be serious deterioration of the national character in many of its phases, both among those who have gone to fight and those who have stayed behind. To be a part of a great military machine, where individual thinking is incipient mutiny, does not conduce to the development of traits that make for Social Progress; while those who stay behind have in some ways a harder task to fulfil. All honour to the men who have gone to the Front in response to their country's call, but no less honour to those—too rare, alas!—who on principle refuse to make profit out of the war, who in times of popular clamour dare to utter what they conceive to be the truth, in the face of public hysteria, and who have learned that in God's purpose the way of life is not to be ministered unto, but to minister!

Perhaps the most serious menace to the national life arises from the fact that on the strength of the shibboleth, "We must win the war, nothing else matters," the Government have induced the people to acquiesce in the jettisoning of every popular liberty

that has been wrung from privilege from the time of Magna Charta until now. Trial by Jury, the Freedom of the Press, Habeas Corpus Act, the Right of Assembly, Bill of Rights, etc.—all have been suspended, or may be suspended at the dictum of the military authorities. True, such suspensions are, presumably, only for the period of the war, but when we remember at what cost these liberties have been achieved, we are justified in doubting whether it may not prove harder to reinstate them than people imagine. Most precious of all the legacies from the past is the public and legal recognition of the inviolability of the individual conscience; yet the New Zealand Government has practically made it illegal for a citizen of military age to possess a conscience other than the official conscience of the religious body to which he belongs, as specified in its published tenets. Thus have we allowed to be filched from us the very essence of Protestantism, the fundamental principle which justified Nonconformity.

Turning now to consider what the war has added to the national character, barriers between class and class have to a great degree been broken down; fashionable butterflies of fortune, ashamed of their useless lives, are finding in duty and in work a robustness of character that will not end with the war, and in devoting themselves to the care of others, are developing that latent maternal instinct that dwells in every woman worthy of the name; thousands of men that have responded to Lord Derby's call for recruits, now for the first time in their lives decently clothed and humanly fed, walk with head erect because they have at last a place in the economy of the nation's life; a thousand and one touches of nature, the many unpublished acts of chivalry and self-sacrifice, not only along the trenches, are making the Allies kin, but often across the trenches are making the enemy kin too. All this will do much to bridge the gulf between class and class, but the gulf must be removed to secure the permanent well-being of the community, and to remove it we must recognise that it is a real conflict of interest. In a state of society based upon Justice, the interests of all are identical, but society as we know it is based on injustice. Hence the conflict of interest between Capital

and Labour, between the millionaire owner of half a province or the member of syndicate coolly pocketing the unearned increment and the landless tramp who finds everywhere land unused but nowhere land unowned. These things could not be if our corporate life were based on social Justice, and as the Hebrew Prophet interpreted the will of the Lord to the Israelites of old, to understand what Social Justice involves, we must look to the Church, the **real** Church where God's witness is, by whatever name we may be pleased to call it. For the quality of the political, social, or corporate life of a community is determined by the quality of its spiritual life, and therefore if society is to be reconstructed, endowed with newness of life, the Church itself must first undergo the same process. It must not try to live on the glory of the past, but get fresh conceptions of the truth for every new crisis and problem of life. To-day life is not the simple problem it was two or three centuries ago; temptations and difficulties that confront the Church to-day are infinitely more complex and more subtle.

If anything is wrong with a structure, you examine first its foundation, and "The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord." But an institution does not become founded upon Jesus Christ by indulging in an infinite amount of talking about Him, but by endeavouring to discover what was the purpose of the Christ life, and making that the basic purpose of the life of the Church. The purpose of the Christ life was to reveal the Father; and the principal attributes of Fatherhood are Responsibility, Protection, and Sustenance. This is stamped as an abiding instinct on every finite form of Fatherhood, through the human, down even to the brute creation. Every civilisation which has a written legal code makes the father responsible for the sustenance of the child, and it is an unwritten law of all savage states under normal conditions. Whence but from the land comes, in the final issue, the sustenance of the vast majority of mankind? "The earth hath He given to the children of men." And we claim to sell it at as big a profit as may be to the other children of men whom we have disinherited, in disregard of that other Divine utterance, "The land shall not be sold for ever, for the land is Mine, saith the

Lord." Just as great estates ate out the heart of Rome, so will disobedience to God's law eat out the heart of every nation thus disobeying, for the heart of a nation is the belief spiritual, social, physical, in the Fatherhood of God. The writing is on the wall; it was on the wall before the war, but the war has made the coming change one of months instead of years or decades, revolutionary instead of evolutionary; and if the Church is going to play the rôle of the Hebrew prophet, it must stand true to the Divine Law that it is its function to guard, and prove itself the bringer of Good Tidings, the publisher of Peace, and the Witness of the Fatherhood of God.

HOW DID YOU DIE?

Did you tackle that trouble that came
your way

With a resolute heart and cheerful?
Or hide your face from the light of
day

With a craven soul and fearful?
Oh, a trouble's a ton, or a trouble's
an ounce,

Or a trouble is what you make it,
And it isn't the fact that you're hurt
that counts,

But only how did you take it?

You are beaten to earth! Well, well,
what's that?

"Come up with a smiling face.
It's nothing against you to fall down
flat,

But to lie there—that's disgrace.
The harder you're thrown, why the
higher you bounce,

Be proud of your blackened eye!
It isn't the fact that you're licked that
counts;

It's how did you fight—and why?

And though you be done to the death,
what then?

If you battled the best you could,
If you played your part in the world
of men,

Why, the Critic will call it good.
Death comes with a crawl, or comes
with a pounce,

And whether he's slow or spry,
It isn't the fact that you're dead that
counts,

But only, how did you die?

—E. V. Cooke.

WOMAN'S WORK.

Miss Kathryn Clarke has been chosen State Senator in Oregon, and is the first woman to hold this position; Mrs Helen Ring Robinson, of Colorado; and Mrs Frances Willard Munds, of Arizona. Mrs Munds presided at Arizona Senate during consideration of a Bill.

WELLINGTON PROVINCIAL CONVENTION.

The Convention was opened at Woodville in September. Eighteen delegates were present. Mrs Perkins welcomed on behalf of the local Union, and Mrs Crabbe replied. Reports were received from the various Unions, showing good work done in various departments, as well as hard work for six o'clock closing petition and collecting for Patriotic Fund. Several Unions have done splendid work in helping to circulate the "White Ribbon." Lady Stout addressed Convention on "The War Regulations Bill as Affecting Women and Children." The following resolutions were passed:—(1) "That we respectfully ask the Hons. Allen and Herdman and members of the Ministry to listen to the prayer of the women of New Zealand that any restrictive measures concerning the conduct of women be effected by statute, and not by order of the Governor-in-Council; and in the circumstances of our not having women in Parliament, with full opportunity for obtaining the opinion of representative women thereon." (2) "That we would respectfully draw the attention of the Premier and the members of the Ministry to the fact that women ask for equal laws for both sexes. If the sale of intoxicating liquor is to be prohibited to women, it should also be prohibited to men; if to any class of women, to a similar class of men." (3) "That we desire to point out to the Hon. J. Allen that we most earnestly deprecate any return of the C.D. Acts or to regulation in any form, as being directly contrary to all the findings of the British Royal Commission, and of all the latest international conferences for the suppression of venereal diseases." (4) "That we would respectfully urge upon the Premier and members of the Ministry that in view of the fact that wherever women police and patrols have been employed, their presence in the streets and about the camps has had a restraining influence over the conduct of the young of both sexes; that therefore the Government consider the advisability of engaging women police in connection with the camps and in the city of Wellington." (5) "That, as wherever women cooks have been employed in camps, their employment has resulted in better cooking and greater economy, we would urge that

the Government consider the advisability of appointing women cooks in all camps. We would also suggest that it is desirable that all women for the positions of police or cooks in camps be selected by women." (6) "That we suggest to the Government that where women are convicted under existing laws for solicitation or similar offences, all punishment be of a reformatory character, and that for this purpose an island or farm colony be provided, to be conducted on similar lines to the 'George Junior Republic,' in which such women may be detained until able to maintain themselves respectably."

A vote of deep sympathy was passed with all W.C.T.U. members who have lost relatives during the war, and have husbands and sons away "at the Front."

The following officers were elected:—Pres., Mrs Crabbe; Sec., Mrs Neal; Treas., Mrs Houlder.

A public meeting was held in the evening, at which Lady Stout gave an address on "The Liquor Traffic and the War Regulations Bill."

THE LION.

"The Lion is asleep," they said,
"Tis safe to start on France,
For should the Lion hear our tread,
He will not raise his stupid head
To question our advance.

Through Belgium we will wend our way,

She will not dare resist,
If promises will not persuade,
And threatenings leave her unafraid,
We'll try the mailed fist.

With France and Russia beaten down,
Our little bill sent in,
We'll turn upon the Lion bold,
And lay him out, all stiff and cold,
Before he can begin.

The Lion rested in the sun
(They thought they heard him snore),
When through the air they heard the cry
Of Belgium, "Help us, or we die!"
Then came the answering roar!

The Lion sprang with mighty strength
To where the need was sore,
And from the corners of the earth
The Lion's cubs came tearing forth,
To join him in the war.

And is the British Lion old?
The sun about to set?
Is he feeble? as they said.
Is he dying?—nearly dead?
NOT YET, my boy, NOT YET!
"Toronto University Gazette."

FRANCHISE DAY.

LECTURE BY LADY STOUT.

Franchise Day was commemorated by holding a meeting in Trinity Church, Newtown, when an inspiring address was given by Lady Stout on "Woman's Opportunity." After a brief musical programme and a few introductory remarks by Dr. Platts-Mills, who was supported on the platform by Mrs Evans, M.A., Dr. Edith Huntley, and Mrs Houlder, Lady Stout commenced her lecture by saying that although women in this country had possessed the Franchise for 23 years, they had not yet realised their responsibilities or their power. The work that women were doing in every direction in Great Britain was reviewed, including that of the women police. Of all the countries that were engaged in the war, said the speaker, New Zealand was practically the only one that had done nothing, or next to nothing, to protect its soldiers against drink. In England the Government had taken over the control of numbers of hotels and distilleries, where a non-intoxicating liquor was supplied. Why could not the same thing be done here? In France there was not only restriction of the sale of liquor, but it was prohibited altogether. What a difference here! Women here in truth were asleep, or else had forgotten their homes and their children, or they would not have allowed other countries to have set the pace and not follow themselves. At the close of the address, a resolution was proposed by Mrs A. R. Atkinson to the effect that this meeting of Wellington women urges the Minister of Justice to appoint immediately women police to visit the railway stations and wharves, to patrol slum areas, and the vicinity of military camps, to keep a watchful eye upon houses of ill-fame, to visit public parks, to prevent young women from being molested, and also to put detectives on the track of persons suspected of endeavouring to decoy young girls for immoral purposes. Dr. Edith Huntley seconded the resolution, which was passed with enthusiasm. Mrs Wright moved a hearty vote of thanks to the lecturer, and also spoke to the resolution.

A deputation, consisting of Lady Stout, Dr. Edith Huntley, Dr Platts-Mills, Mrs Evans, M.A., and Mrs Houlder, will wait upon the Minister of Justice to present the resolution.

SUPERINTENDENT'S LETTERS.

WORK AMONG SEAMEN.

The Superintendent wishes to thank the following Unions for their gifts to the mine-sweepers, received last month:—

Masterton—1 pair underpants.

Hastings—30 pairs socks, 7 Balaclavas, 17 scarves, 4 pairs mittens, 12 singlets.

Normanby—3 pairs socks, 1 pair bed socks, 2 pairs mittens, 2 Balaclavas.

Money Donations.—Dannevirke, 5s; Normanby, 12s 6d.

MILITARY CAMPS.

Dear Sisters,—Will you please draw the attention of your Union to the subject of Military Camps, and before the end of the year send me a report of any work done in that connection by your Union?

Some of the directions in which work can be done are:

Inducing soldiers to sign K. and K. pledges.

Distributing literature to soldiers in Camps and Hostels.

Arranging for addresses to be given to soldiers.

Writing to lonely soldiers.

Yours very sincerely,

E. HELYER,

Superintendent of Military Camps.
"Wharenu," 13, Tonks Grove,
Wellington, 25th September, 1916.

Dear Sisters,—

I hope all the Unions are taking advantage of the recommendations of the Education Department to teachers to instruct the children in Scientific Temperance, by promoting the writing of essays and instruction on the effects of alcohol. Let the teachers know you are observing; many will be encouraged thereby.

Please send records of work done in this department.

J. E. MAUNDER,

Supt. Sci. Temp. Instr.

For you,—you, too—to battle go,
Not with the marching drums and
cheers,
But in the watch of solitude
And through the boundless night of
fears.
And not a shot comes blind with
death.
And not a stab of steel is pressed
Home, but invisibly it tore
And entered first a woman's breast.

MEDICAL JOURNAL OF AUSTRALIA.

THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST VENEREAL DISEASE.

"We have been informed that the Commonwealth Government has decided to assist the State Government in the endeavour to control the spread of venereal diseases. The sum of £15,000 has been ear-marked this year for the purpose of subsidising on the £ for £ basis the work undertaken by any of the States on certain general conditions. A maximum has been fixed for each State. The sine qua non of this offer is that compulsory notification of venereal diseases on lines similar to those obtaining in Western Australia must be introduced. The Commonwealth Government will require evidence that the work has been efficiently planned, and that it will be carried out thoroughly. Facilities must be provided for educating medical students and graduates in modern methods of research and clinical observation. The work will be subject to regular inspection by the Commonwealth authority. In addition to the subsidy, the Commonwealth Government proposes to institute investigations through the Quarantine Bureau, and to embark on an organised research in connection with some of the problems dealt with by the Departmental Committee."

"It will be noted that no attempt is made to render this work federal. The Commonwealth Government does not propose to interfere with the action of the State Governments in their individual attempts to exercise a complete control over syphilis and gonorrhoea. Each State will be free to carry out its own programme. There are indications that some movement will be made in each State. In Victoria, the introduction of a special Bill in the coming session will probably place this State in the same position as Western Australia. The matter has been occupying the attention of the Health Department of New South Wales for a considerable time. In view of the fact that the proposals contained in the Act of Western Australia are to a large extent experimental, it is probably a wiser expedient to leave each State free to adopt such legislative measures as it deems advisable. At a later date, after the experimental stage has passed, uniformity in con-

trolling the spread of infection should then be adopted by all the six States. In the meantime, the various States will be well advised to accept the conditions of the Commonwealth Government, and to provide night clinics in connection with the hospitals, laboratories, and other facilities. The cost of installation will be borne by the Commonwealth, provided that the work is undertaken in a manner reasonably promising of good results."

THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN HEALTH ACT.

"The various forms and pamphlets have now been issued to medical practitioners. In Form A. the nature of the venereal infection and the sex and age of the patient has to be stated. This form is for use in all fresh cases, and the duty devolves on the practitioner to explain to the patient the communicable nature of the complaint, and to hand him or her a pamphlet issued by the Department of Public Health. The pamphlet contains a short, elementary description of syphilis, gonorrhoea, and soft sore; a paragraph setting forth that prompt, expert, and persistent treatment is required to ensure cure; a paragraph pointing out that sexual intercourse is not necessary for health or essential to manhood; and lastly, a paragraph giving sound advice, with the object of avoiding infection, and also of informing the individual, should infection have taken place, what his legal obligations are."

Form B. has to be used when the patient absents him or herself from treatment for a period of more than six weeks. In this certificate, the name and address of the patient has to be disclosed. Form C. is for use by a practitioner who is called upon to treat a patient previously under the care of another practitioner. Form D. is a certificate to the effect that, to the best of the practitioner's knowledge, the patient is not at the time suffering from venereal disease in any form. In a note attached to this certificate, it is specially pointed out that it does not constitute a guarantee of cure. It merely indicates that the practitioner can no longer detect signs or symptoms of venereal disease. Patients suffering from syphilis are warned that they should not regard themselves as cured unless active treatment has been continued for at least two years. In the case of gonorrhoea, the sufferer is told that

the disappearance of visible discharge is not definite evidence of the absence of infectivity."

"Circulars explaining the uses of the various forms, etc., and calling attention to the provisions made by the Department of Public Health for the carrying out of laboratory aids to diagnosis, are also sent to medical practitioners. A second circular is addressed to every chemist (i.e., pharmacist) enclosing a copy of the Act, and explaining the provisions contained therein in regard to the position of unqualified persons treating these diseases. The pharmacist is appealed to to assist the Department in carrying out the provisions of the Act faithfully."

INSANITY IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

(Extract). "Heredity was noted as a predisposing cause of insanity in 47 patients admitted during the year, senility in 28 patients, and venereal disease in 18 cases. Alcohol was regarded as the exciting cause in 70 cases, epilepsy in 10 cases, and puerperal factors in 8 cases."

PERTINENT QUESTION.

A young man in a neighbouring county seat was fined for intoxication, and the fine was remitted on condition that he stay sober until July 4. Is it fair to a man who has acquired the drink appetite to put saloons in his way and then demand that he stay sober? Every time he sees a saloon or smells the odor that comes from one he has an uncontrollable desire to go in and fill up. Is it fair to set traps to create the desire, inflame it to the point of desperation, and when he falls, to punish him for it? Is it not true that if you vote for saloons you are to blame for the shame and misery they unload on the community?—Uhrichsville Chronicle.

Norway, in many things the land of pioneers, has quite recently appointed its first woman member of a Board of Guardians, and the woman who has been admitted to this post of chief is Miss Ragna Bugge, and her district will include 760 persons in receipt of relief.

KARITANI BABIES' HOSPITAL.

Statesmen cry out against a declining birth rate. Women exclaim against the increasing and preventable infant death rate. They ask for more babies, we demand greater care for the babies born. They want an increased birth rate, mothers a decreasing death rate.

New Zealand occupies the proud position of having the smallest infant death rate in the world. Dr Truby King is to be thanked largely for this. At the head of one of our large mental hospitals he saw the connection between malnutrition in infancy and brain failure in later life. Through his endeavours, and under his direction, Karitani Home was founded. It saves the lives not only of hundreds of babies who are nursed there, but of many more through the agency of the nurses it trains and sends forth, and by means of the mothers whom it instructs in the care of their babies.

The Karitani Home is beautifully situated upon the slope of a hill. It has a magnificent view away over our southern ocean, and is near enough to be swept by the life-giving sea breezes. It is a palace of comfort for its wee inmates, though of luxury there is no trace. Simplicity is the keynote everywhere, nothing that an intelligent mother of very moderate means could not provide for her own baby once she has been taught what to do. Fresh air in abundance, scrupulous cleanliness, light, warm clothing, and intelligent care are given to every baby. The Karitani babies live indeed the simple life and flourish on it. The Matron, bright and cheerful, an enthusiast in her work, loves her babies, and they greet her with smiles and coos as she moves amongst them.

The nursery contains two baths, set like a sink, here babies are washed, without mothers having to stoop over them, and are lifted on to a flannel-covered board to be dried. Each baby has its own basket, containing its toilet requisites, and towel. Upon the floor of the nursery a rug is thrown, and round it a close boarded fence about a foot high, and there the baby is left to kick, free from draughts, for twenty minutes.

Their little beds are most comfortable. First, a blanket is thrown over the cradle, the upper mattress and little pillow are of chaff. Upon the mattress a blanket, then mackintosh and sheet. The baby is placed on the

sheet, another sheet over it, and the blanket drawn up over it and pinned with a safety pin to the bottom blanket. Every mattress has a hot water bottle beneath it, and the little hands have mittens over them. They sleep with open windows and no fires, so must be kept warm. A baby boy of ten months slept on the verandah all night, even when it snowed, and woke up rosy and warm in the morning. Ignorant folk exclaim that it will kill an infant to sleep out like this, but Matron knows that fresh air never harms her babies if they are kept warm and out of draughts. The clothing is loose, warm and comfortable. Karitani babies have no tight bands and rollers. All garments are made magyar style. No woollen is worn next its delicate skin, but a shirt of light open-woven cotton cloth, and over this the woollen singlet for warmth. Any lady can get a pattern of a babies' rational wardrobe by sending to the Matron, Karitani Home, Anderson's Bay, Dunedin. Paper patterns of the garments are supplied at the modest cost of 1s., plus postage. But the most wonderful of all is the kitchen and dairy. Here is made the humanised milk. Karitani encourages all mothers to breast-feed their babies, but when this is impossible the humanised milk is used. The bottles are boiled in a large boiler, and then baked in the oven to become thoroughly sterilised. Each baby has several bottles, as they are only used once, and then cleansed again. The teats are carefully washed with salt in hot and cold water, and each baby's kept in its own little cup, bearing a ticket with baby's name on it.

The babies are scientifically fed. Every week the food values given are worked out, and next week's supply arranged. All food left over is kept and measured, and so much less given next time.

Altogether to the baby-lover, Karitani is a fascinating place. Puny babies perishing from malnutrition are taken in and in a short time become models of healthy, happy babyhood. Mothers are kept there, and shown how to treat baby in their own home, and Plunket nurses are trained there. These go all over the Dominion, and give advice and instruction to mothers on the care of babies. And so our babies here grow up into healthy children, and the death rate among them is the lowest in the world.

CANTERBURY PROVINCIAL CONVENTION.

Met at New Brighton on September 6th and 7th.

A preliminary Executive meeting on Tuesday arranged the business.

A reception was held, presided over by the Mayor, on Tuesday evening.

On Wednesday morning Mrs Trott led devotional proceedings. A letter of sympathy to be sent to the relatives of the late Mrs Oldham. Reported that 19 women were on the School Committees in Canterbury.

Mrs Frost read a paper on "First Impressions of a No-License District." Miss Roberts spoke on recent legislation. The following officers were elected:—Pres., Mrs Watson; Sec., Mrs Lill. Decided to hold next Convention at Ashburton. The following resolutions were passed:—

"That this Convention desires to protest against the refusal of Parliament to give effect to the protests made by women's societies throughout New Zealand against giving the Governor-in-Council power to make regulations for the treatment of venereal diseases, and preventing prostitution. The Convention is of opinion that in a matter of such importance the measures to be taken should have been stated in an Act of Parliament."

"That, as the nature of the films exhibited by the picture shows is of the utmost importance to mothers, this Convention urges that some women should be appointed on the Appeal Board that is being set up in connection with the censorship of picture films."

"That in this time of world-wide stress and sorrow, when all belligerent nations, including most parts of the British Empire, are imposing the most stringent restrictions upon the liquor traffic, with a view to preventing waste and maintaining national efficiency, this Convention desires to express its indignation that the New Zealand Parliament has refused the request of all sections of the community that legislation be framed providing for 6 o'clock closing of the liquor bars."

"That in a Bill for the protection of the youth of both sexes this Convention of the W.C.T.U. Canterbury Unions reiterates the demand for the appointment of women police."

"That in view of the representations made at various times in respect to the increase of criminal and indecent

assaults, and the consequent necessity for more drastic punishment of offenders, this Convention deplores the apathy of Parliament in regard to such matters, and recommends the New Zealand Executive to urge the matter upon the attention of all branches of the W.C.T.U., in order that action may be taken when Parliament meets next year."

"That this Convention records its intense satisfaction over the fact that Newfoundland has carried total prohibition of the liquor traffic, being the first Sovereign State in the British Empire to do so. While congratulating Newfoundland, it deeply regrets that the action of our legislators, in imposing upon New Zealand the unjust handicap of the three-fifths majority, which has deprived New Zealand of the honour of leading the Empire in such a magnificent reform."

"We also congratulate those three great provinces of Canada which have during the past year carried prohibition of the liquor traffic. We deeply appreciate their patriotic devotion to the best interests of their country."

N.Z. TREASURER'S REPORT.

ORGANISING FUND.

The following donations to the Organising Fund have been received since the last report:—Wanganui East Union, £1; Cambridge Union, £1 8s; Oxford "Y" Union, £1; Waimate Union, £2; Timaru Union, £1: total receipts, £6 8s. The expenditure on Organiser's salary and expenses for the month was £11 9s 2d. I am sorry that the good record of the previous month, when the receipts exceeded the expenditure, has not been maintained, but hope that Unions will once more put their shoulders to the wheel, and give the fund a good lift.

NELLIE BENDELY,

N.Z. Treasurer.

5th October, 1916.

HOT LAKES OF NEW ZEALAND

Brent's

BATHGATE HOUSE,

ROTORUA.

Being a FIRST-CLASS TEMPERANCE HOTEL, is replete with every comfort. It is adjacent to the Sanatorium, and thus affords special facilities for the Baths.

Terms Moderate. S. T. BRENT, Proprietor.

N.Z. W.C.T.U.

List of Literature

NOW IN STOCK.

DEPARTMENTAL LITERATURE CAN BE OBTAINED FROM—

Purity: Mrs Dearlove, Napier.
Maori: Mrs Walker, Fox St., Gisborne.
L.T.L. and Cradle Roll: Mrs Neal, Trocadero, Pahiatua
Scientific Temperance: Miss Maunder, Hawera
Medical Temperance: Mrs Neal, Trocadero, Pahiatua

BOOKLETS AND LEAFLETS.

Mrs Webb's "W.C.T.U.," 6d per doz.
Condensed Parliamentary Rules, 3d each
Membership Pledge Cards, 5d per doz.
N.Z. Constitutions, 3d each
Band of Hope Cards, 1s per doz.
K. of K. Pledge Cards, 3d per doz.; 2s per 100
"Women in Civic and Political Life," by the Hon. J. T. Paul, 3d per doz.; 2s per 100
"Do Everything," by F. E. Willard, 2s each
"The Story of Frances E. Willard," by G. L. Leavitt, 1s each
Song Leaflet, "All Round the World," 1s per 100
"Safe Remedies in Illness," 8d per doz.

PURITY.

"Purity Advocate," quarterly, 6d per annum.
"Boy and Girl Adolescent Period," 4s 8d.
"The Meaning of Marriage," 1s 6d.
"On the Threshold of Sex," 1s 6d.
"A Clean Life," 1s 3d.
"Confidential Talks to Young Men and Young Women," 1s 4d.
The Power of Womanhood, 1s 3d.
"The Vestibule of Girl-Life," 1s.
"Lottie's Question," "A Little Pony," "The Burden of Our Greatness," "An Appeal to Mothers," 2d each,
"The National Peril," 1s per 100, or 2d per doz.

"White Ribbon Hymn Books," with music, 2s 6d.
"White Ribbon Hymn Books," words only, 1s 6d per doz.
Pledge Books for Non-Members, 6d each.

Badges may be obtained from Miss Powell at 3d and 8d each, or 2s and 6s per dozen, prepaid.

Will friends please note prices, and send stamps or postal note with their order. The prices quoted includes postage in every case.

MRS DEARLOVE,
LINCOLN ROAD, NAPIER.

WOMEN'S Christian Temperance Union Of New Zealand.

Organised 1885.

"For God and Home and Humanity."

PRESIDENT:

MRS. DON,

54 Canongate, Dunedin.

VICE-PRESIDENT:

MISS ATKINSON, "Fairfield,"
Nelson.

RECORDING SECRETARY:

MRS. W. A. EVANS, M.A., Hiropi
St., Wellington.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:

MISS HENDERSON, B.A., 26 Tui
St., Fendalton, Christchurch.

TREASURER:

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

Official Organ:

"The White Ribbon."

Editor: Mrs Peryman, Port Chalmers.

Associate Editor: Mrs Evans, M.A.

Business Manager: Mrs Peryman,
Port Chalmers.

The White Ribbon.

For God and Home and Humanity.

WELLINGTON, OCT. 18, 1916.

DIRECT LEGISLATION.

The fact that several Australian States have closed their hotel bars at 6 p.m. by a Referendum, has led many New Zealand women (so grievously disappointed after all their hard work) to look more closely at the Referendum as a political possibility. We know that had the question been referred to the electors here they would have done as Australia has done. And we are driven to question why a few legislators, elected before liquor restriction became the burning question this war has made it, should be able to flout the will of the people as has been done here. Moreover, why should these same legislators, elected by the people for three years only, have the right to calmly lengthen their term of office without consulting the people?

Women police have for some time been demanded by a large majority of our voters. Still does a Conservative Minister, with the obstinacy characteristic of a narrow mind and restricted outlook, refuse to grant the request of an enlightened public. We have to bear in mind this fact. Many of our legislators are elected on the principle of out of several evils choose the least. Men are in the House, even in the Ministry, not because the electors wanted them as representatives, but because the other candidate was even worse. Who cannot recall electorates where no candidate stood who really represented the educated, thinking women of that electorate? Surely, when we are often so badly represented in Parliament, we should study the method of direct legislation, and ask if it would not be an improvement on present conditions. The Initiative and Referendum have been adopted in 20 of the United States, and in 21 out of the 22 Cantons of Switzerland. Under the Initiative, if the people want to propose a new law, they send up a petition. If the petition is sufficiently large, the proposition is submitted to the popular vote, and if carried, becomes law.

Under the Referendum a law passed by Parliament can be vetoed by the people. If a petition sufficiently large is filed protesting against an Act of Parliament, and calling for a Referendum upon it, the question is submitted to the voters, and if voted against becomes null and void. The Initiative gives the people power to compel Parliament to pass a new law. The Referendum allows them to veto a law they do not desire.

Direct legislation prevents lobbying, and hinders big interests from cajoling or bribing members to pass a law which the people can veto. A few wealthy brewers and their satellites may wield the lash of a "solid liquor vote" over the heads of members, and purchase votes to save their traffic from the just resentment of an indignant people, but that people can demand a Referendum and veto the laws a subservient House passed at the bidding of the liquor ring; or by the Initiative the people can demand that a vote be taken to restrict the traffic, and do it in spite of all the bribery and corruption the liquor trade can bring.

IS THE ANTI-SHOOUTING LAW ENFORCED?

Last session a largely signed petition was presented to Parliament asking for hotel bars to be closed at 6 p.m. daily. The wish of the people was flouted in a most shameless manner, but we were informed that anti-shouting was to prove a great restriction upon the consumption and sale of liquor. Every member of the Cabinet voted for it. Now, after being passed with such a great flourish of trumpets, is the law being enforced? Evidently not. At the inquest in Christchurch upon John Finlay, who died as the result of a blow inflicted by Charles Graham (who has since been sentenced to life imprisonment for manslaughter), the witnesses openly admitted shouting for each other, and the barmaid shouting for them. The Coroner, Mr Bishop, "expressed his disgust and contempt, and felt thoroughly ashamed of men going into hotels and breaking the regulations that had been made in regard to 'shouting' or 'treating' in hotels, especially at a time when the whole nation was in distress." Again, at the inquest upon Frank Trèves, found dead under the Te Popo bridge, at Midhurst, evidence was given that the deceased and a friend came into town with £47 5s each, and in less than a week the deceased was found dead with 3s in his pocket, and his friend had 12s and 2lb. of tobacco left out of £47 5s. The Coroner said that in less than a week over £90 had seemingly been spent in drink by three men. Who believes that three men drank £90 worth of liquor in less than a week? But whether they drank it or shouted for others "the trade" got the cheques. After this, who can talk of regulating a trade which doesn't care how many men go under, how much the loss of efficiency is to the Dominion, if only they can fill their own pockets? Is it a case of "can't" or "won't" enforce the law with the police? Surely the Minister for Justice will now take action when the law has been openly and shamelessly broken.

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

SOWING AND REAPING.

A very fine pamphlet has been issued by the Defence Department for the soldiers of the Expeditionary Force. It gives advice and warning against evil living, and advises them that pure living is conducive to health. We understand that the Defence Minister is willing to issue these pamphlets also to civilians. Any Union wanting a sample should send to Miss Henderson, Tui Street, Fendalton, Christchurch, and get full information from her.

HOW TO GAIN NEW MEMBERS.

Always at it, and every member on the look-out for a new member. While canvassing with 6 o'clock closing petitions, one of the officers of Palmerston North Union came across several ladies who said they would like to join the W.C.T.U. She at once invited them to her home one afternoon for a cup of tea, and Mrs Crabbe initiated nine new members there. When members go about with their eyes open like this, ever on the watch to gain recruits, it is no wonder the membership of their Union goes up by leaps and bounds. The Lord stir up every White Ribboner in this Dominion to "Go and do likewise."

DRINK AND ECONOMY.

The British Nation spent on drink in 1915 £181,959,000, an increase on £17,496,000 over 1914 Drink Bill. Nearly 17½ millions increase and the nation at war. Glasgow spends £60,000 per week upon drink. What wonder that battleships cannot get repaired in time to get back to the front. Over 460,000 persons are engaged in manufacture and distribution of liquor. These men are needed in the trenches, and munition factories.

An American says, "England's Booze Bill makes England's War Bill blush for shame."

A man who is turning out careless, imperfect work, is turning out a careless, imperfect character for himself. He is touching deceit every moment; and this unseen thing rises up from his work like a subtle essence, and enters and poisons his soul.—Henry Drummond.

COMMITTEE REPORT.

At last Convention a committee was set up to prepare a report and present a scheme for lessening the number of our departments of work, and to prevent overlapping. The Committee met in Dunedin last month, and suggest that the following departments be grouped together under one Superintendent:—

1. Evangelistic, Bible-in-Schools, and Sabbath Observance.
2. Mothers' Meetings, Home Meetings, Notable Days, and Educational Bureau.
3. L.T.L., Cradle Roll, Band of Mercy, and Medical Temperance.
4. Scientific Temperance Instruction, Narcotics, Y's, and Medal Contests.
5. Prison Reform and Legal and Parliamentary.
6. Flower Mission and Relief Work, Rest and Refreshment Booths.
7. Work Among Seamen, Backblocks, Military Camps.
8. Purity and Moral Education.
9. Good Citizenship, Peace and Arbitration, Press, Home Sciences.
10. Literature.
11. Maori.

There is a notice of motion, that the travelling expenses to Convention of Superintendents of Departments be paid by the Dominion Treasurer, to be considered at next Convention. To enable this to be done, the departmental superintendents must be still further reduced. The Committee was therefore instructed to prepare an alternative scheme to submit to Convention in the event of this notice of motion being carried. The Committee recommend the following as the alternative scheme:—

1. Evangelistic, Bible-in-Schools, Sabbath Observance, Mothers' Meetings, Home Meetings, Notable Days, Educational Bureau.
2. L.T.L., Cradle Roll, Band of Mercy, Medical Temperance, Scientific Temperance Instruction, Narcotics, Y's, and Medal Contests.
3. Prison Reform, Legal and Parliamentary.
4. Flower Mission and Relief Work, Rest and Refreshment Booths, Work Among Seamen, Backblocks, Military Camps, Purity and Moral Education, Good Citizenship, Press, Peace and Arbitration, Home Sciences.
5. Literature.
6. Maori.

We recommend Unfermented Wine to be dropped.

The Committee request Unions to give these schemes their careful consideration, and to come to Convention prepared to discuss them and to suggest improvements.

THE COMING OF THE ANGEL.

We cannot hear her footsteps for the booming of the cannon;

We cannot see her beauty for the smoke that fills the air;

Yet I know that she is coming, for I feel her spirit's presence,
All its mystic inner radiance—tender, sacred as a prayer.

Very softly she is coming, for her feet are torn and bleeding,

For she treads the blood-stained paths where our noble ones have died;

But her face is sweet and holy, and her eyes are full of pleading,
And her robes are white and snowy, like the garments of a bride.

We cannot hear her message to the wounded and the weeping;

We cannot tell the gladness that her coming will inspire;

She will light the lamps all darkened by the mocking clouds of battle,
She will lead to God in Heaven through the horror and the fire.

And her heart will break with sorrow as she brings us joy and gladness,

For God's angels ever suffer in the suffering of His own;

But her torch anew enkindled where forever love is pregnant,

Will be lighting grief-crushed mortals to that Love's eternal Throne.

We cannot see her coming, and we cannot hear her message!

Is it faith that leads us upward to the land where angels dwell?

Oh, our hearts are very thankful for the wonderful uplifting,

That is blessing, helping, healing, though we hear the solemn knell.

Oh, how tenderly and sweetly she will speak above the tempests,

And how hearts will thrill to hear her when the darkness flees away;

Oh, how souls will thrill, responsive, to the wonder of her singing

When the song of God's own Heaven echoes through earth's brighter day.

We cannot hear her footsteps, for our ears are full of battle;

We cannot see her glory for the smoke and stains of war;

But I know that she is coming, I can see her in the distance—

Glorious Peace, the Holy Angel, and her crown is like a star!

IN THE FIELD.

On September 7th I attended the ordinary meeting of the Hamilton District Union, and the following evening addressed the Band of Hope. Temperance workers there have inaugurated a fine scheme for covering the town and suburbs with work for the children.

Next day I returned to Te Kuiti, being entertained by the President of the new branch at the Presbyterian manse. A few days were spent in working up a meeting for 13th, immediately after which I succumbed to an attack of influenza microbe, being laid up for several days, and most kindly nursed by Mrs Wilton.

The Hamilton friends were very anxious to see our work re-established in Te Aroha, and several days were spent there. Mrs Dukes, at the Methodist Parsonage, kindly gave me hospitality, and I spent the week-end with Mr and Mrs Jesse Clothier, with whom I had worked in Kaiapoi for the elections of 1899 and 1902. Very pleasant it was to go over old times together and "fight our battles o'er again." The time was not propitious for organising, so I contented myself in the meantime with introducing our work by means of the "White Ribbon." Te Aroha possesses a very fine Band of Hope, which seems to be run by Misses Morrison and Clothier; also a Young Peoples' Patriotic League, consisting mostly of girls, as young men are scarce, and just now they are working hard for a Red Cross Sale, which is to come off next month. The sewing is enlivened by a few entertaining items, and the supper is given by four girls each evening. On the night when I visited them the attendance numbered about fifty.

On September 6th I had visited Ngaruawahia monthly meeting, and had a business talk with the friends. We then arranged—by way of raising funds—that the next meeting should take the form of an "American Tea." So on 25th I returned to work this up, being on both occasions hospitised by the bright young Secretary, Mrs Densem. An attempt at a meeting at Te Kowhai was made, but only four ladies turned up. Some "White Ribbon" subscribers were secured, and we were entertained at tea at the house of a son of our valiant co-worker, the late Mr R. French, of Auckland.

Another country meeting, held at the house of Mrs Hood, turned out much better, in spite of very stormy weather, several ladies braving the elements, and one joining. The next day Mrs Hood drove me out, and some "White Ribbon" subscribers were secured.

On Tuesday, October 3rd, the much-talked-of "American Tea" was held at the house of Mrs Kendall, and proved a great success. There was a fine attendance, and the various expedients resorted to by the members to earn their shilling created considerable amusement. Some had earned more than the minimum, and the result was a good sum to clear off their indebtedness to the Organising Fund.

MARY S. POWELL,

Dominion Organiser.

Miss Powell's address: Until October 31, c/o Mrs J. M. Jones, Claudelands, Hamilton; after that date, c/o Miss N. Dewar, Pompallier Terrace, Ponsonby, Auckland.

MILK A TRUE ELIXIR OF LIFE.

An eminent American doctor has been writing of the valuable properties of milk, some only lately and accidentally discovered. The Pasteur Institute, in Paris, have found out that milk is not only a food, but one of the most powerful stimulants known. They were experimenting with 125 puppies, and trying the effects of different drugs upon them in the way of improving their ability to work a miniature treadmill. One of the investigators one day observed that three of the puppies (fed on cows' milk because they seemed to dislike other food) were growing faster, and also were more active and muscular. They were loath to attribute this superior energy to milk, so Dr. Kamband secretly gave 50 puppies a half-saucer of milk before they were placed upon the treadmill. To their great amazement, the puppies which had been given the milk performed their work with greater dash, and were less exhausted, and more playful after their work than the other puppies, and did this irrespective of the particular drug which was given them beforehand. All the dogs were tried this way, and it was found beyond peradventure that milk showed a slowing of the pulse, strengthened the heart and muscles, toned up the whole animal,

and acted as an undoubted stimulant of the most efficient type.

When beer, claret, white wine, and other liquors were tried upon these baby dogs, not only were they not stimulated, but they were found to become dull, sluggish, and literally "dogged" in their work. The pulse and respiration were fast, and outwardly deceived, as if it were stimulating them. As a matter of fact, it could be seen on the charts that they were weak, and not living up to past performances.

Upon the publication of these results, the military authorities of Paris and London published their new anti-alcohol laws. Absinthe is to be used to make high explosives, and October 10 was set as the last day for treating in England.

A True Elixir.

Milk itself has now been found to have all the qualities of a true elixir of life. It contains sugar, minerals, oils, and fats, albumens, starches, and water. These are all the foods necessary to man. Now it is also seen to contain some mysterious and magic power of not only whipping up the living tissues, but holding them pleasantly to the task without the subsequent reaction and collapse, so usual with strychnine, quinine, ergot, and other artificial stimulants.

Furthermore, drugs are prone to set up bad habits, whereas milk is a vital tonic, an essential food, and the sort of a tonic that leaves not the slightest trace of harm behind. The French Government, realising this, has ordered all cafe proprietors to push the sale of milk as a beverage superior to coffee, tea, cocoa, and all the popular soft drinks.

"Twobrothers once lived down this way,
And one was Do and one was Say.
If streets were dirty, taxes high,
Or schools too crowded, Say would cry,
'Oh, what a town.' But Brother Do
Would set to work and make things new.

"And while Do worked, Say still would cry
'He does it wrong. I know that I
Could do it right.' So all the day
Was heard the clack of Brother Say.
But this one fact from none was hid,
Say always talked, Do always did."

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.)

HENDERSON.

July. Our finished quilt was on view. By its means we had raised £26 for our Patriotic Fund.

August. One new member received. Temperance work among children, and Parliamentary reform discussed.

September 30. Several members of Auckland Union visited us. Mrs Cook, their President, gave an address, and Miss Dewar gave us some helpful and practical information. Three new members initiated.

KAIKORAI.

Sept. 20. Mrs Don gave us an address urging the necessity of women police. Mrs Martin gave a short Bible reading. Letter of sympathy in her illness to be sent to Mrs Pinfold. One new member received.

PALMERSTON NORTH.

Following articles sent to mine-sweepers:—34 jerseys, 24 pairs pants, 43 scarves, 46 mittens, 1 knitted coat, 2 knitted waistcoats, 120 pairs sox, 85 undershirts, 117 balaclavas, 1 tin chocolate, 60 comfort bags, each containing Testament, needles, thread, buttons, shaving soap, and a writer's companion.

HAWERA.

Sept. 28. Special Franchise Day meeting; a very good attendance. Mrs Dr. Sloan read a most interesting paper on "Has the Enfranchisement of women made any material difference in N.Z. politics?" Mrs Blamires also spoke.

N.E. VALLEY.

Sept. 28. Decided to hold our annual meeting fourth Tuesday in October. A very fine address was given by Rev. S. Morrison on "Women in War Time." Mrs Reekie sang "God's Garden."

WELLINGTON CENTRAL.

Sept. 15. Two new members enrolled. Mrs Helyer reported that amount collected for Patriotic Fund was £85 12s 1d, an average of £1 per member. Mrs Remington gave an account of the Provincial Convention. Three large cases of goods were forwarded to London for mine-sweepers.

WANGANUI EAST.

Sept. 15. Special meeting to celebrate Franchise Day. Attendance excellent. Christmas gifts for the soldiers "at the Front" were brought

by members and Okoia friends. Paper on "Women as Citizens" was read. Musical items, afternoon tea, and collection of one guinea completed the programme.

Sept. 29. As the day was very wet, it was decided to hold over report of Provincial Convention till next meeting.

AUCKLAND.

Sept. 13. Social to bid farewell to Miss Evans. An address and hand-bag were presented to Miss Evans, and high appreciation expressed of her seven years' faithful service as Organiser and Secretary. Miss Rimmer sang. Afternoon tea was dispensed, and a collection taken up for N.Z. Fund.

Sept. 26. An appeal made for woollen comforts for mine-sweepers. Reported that £50 had been collected for our Patriotic Fund. Mrs J. W. Taylor was appointed Secretary. Decided to hold District Convention on October 25th.

DUNEDIN.

The October meeting took the form of a social afternoon to celebrate Franchise Day. Mrs Peryman gave a very interesting address, which was much appreciated by those present. A vote of sympathy was passed for all those lately bereaved through the war. Four new members were initiated.

MORRINSVILLE.

It is long since we reported to the "White Ribbon," but our Union has kept together. On September 20th Mrs Garroay addressed a meeting on the work of the W.C.T.U. At the conclusion seven new members were initiated, and we hope for a still further increase of members.

GREYMOUTH.

Sept. 26. Letters of sympathy sent to three of our members, to Mr and Mrs Smith on the death of their daughter, to Mrs Liggie on the death of her husband, and to Mr Green on the death of his wife. Reported that Band of Hope work is progressing in Greymouth and Cobden. Cobden Band of Hope donated £2 to our Patriotic Fund.

HASTINGS.

Sept. Meeting held to provide comforts for mine-sweepers. Nurse Walton gave a fine address, and a musical programme was rendered. Afternoon tea was served. As a result of this meeting 70 articles were despatched to the mine-sweepers.

NEW BRIGHTON.

September 21. Mr Opie kindly consented to judge the temperance essays. Decided that a deputation from our Union wait upon the School Committee to arrange for bible reading in the school. Miss Goodwin read a report of the Provincial Convention. Mrs T. E. Taylor gave a very interesting address on Franchise Day, and was heartily thanked for it.

FEILDING.

Sept. 7. Decided to co-operate with the League to form a Young People's Legion. Franchise Day to be celebrated by an "At Home" at Mrs Mercer's, Mrs Crabbe to address us. Many gifts sent to mine-sweepers through the Palmerston North Union.

NGAERE.

Sept. 5. Mrs Phillips gave a report about the starting of a L.T.L. by Mrs Duxfield at Bird Road. Decided to forward £6 10s to the Red Cross work. Half a dozen comfort bags were handed in. Two new members received.

NELSON Y's.

September 5. Good attendance, one new member. Miss Simmonds was appointed Secretary, and Miss H. Small assistant. Decided to hold a concert in aid of the Organising Fund.

OXFORD.

August 29. Decided to hold a Birthday Social in place of next monthly meeting, and ask Rev. J. Paterson to address the meeting. Mrs Ryde appointed delegate to the Provincial Convention. The Y's are to hold a social in October. Vote of thanks to Methodist Trustees for use of building. Mrs Ryde addressed the Junior Band of Hope. At the Senior Band of Hope a resolution of sympathy passed with Mr and Mrs McCaw in the loss of their son and brother killed in action.

BLENHEIM.

September 5. Reported that many garments had been made for our soldiers. A parcel of woollens sent to the mine-sweepers, and £37 collected for our Patriotic Fund. Also that several new members have joined us lately.

WHANGAREI.

September 5. A short address given by our President. Decided to send a delegate to the Provincial Council. Decided to recommence our bi-weekly visits to the Public Hospital.

GISBORNE.

September. Franchise Day celebrated. Letter read from a former member saying how she watched the "White Ribbon" for news of the local Union. Rev. Wills gave an address, Mrs Hooper a recitation, and Mrs Malcolm read the article on advertising from the "White Ribbon," as it was so good. Collection of £1 10s.

A meeting addressed by Lady Stout passed the following resolutions:—(1) That the women of Gisborne, at this meeting, view with indignation the failure of the Government and Parliament to give any adequate consideration to the numerous communications from societies, representative women and public meetings throughout the country, protesting against the clauses of the War Regulations Bill that affect women. (2) That the placing of absolute power to deal with these matters in the hands of the Governor-in-Coun-

BEATH'S for Gloves and Hosiery of Quality.

It is an acknowledged fact that for high-grade Gloves and
:: Hosiery, Beath's is the leading house in Canterbury ::

PRICES ALWAYS MODERATE

WE PAY POSTAGE.

BEATH & Co., Ltd. :: :: Christchurch



cil in the face of all protests is an insult to the enfranchised womanhood of the country. (3) That this meeting of Gisborne women wish to bring before the Minister for War Regulations the desirability of appointing women police, to visit railway stations and wharves, patrol slum areas, keep a watchful eye on houses of ill-fame, and visit public parks to prevent young women from being molested. The authorities are also expected to put detectives on the track of persons suspected of endeavouring to decoy young girls.

NELSON.

September 12. Mrs Hill reported £53 2s 6d sent to our Patriotic Fund. Vote of thanks passed to all who had helped to raise this amount. Miss Weymouth spoke a few words of farewell, also Miss Lowe, of Dunedin. £1 was collected for the N.Z. Fund. Preliminary arrangements were made for the annual Sale of Work. Visiting committee formed to bring members into touch with one another. Donation of £9 received from the Y branch.

CAMBRIDGE.

August 1. Drawing-room meeting at Mrs Shepherd's. Mrs Jones gave a most interesting address, and one new member was initiated. 12 scarves, 4 flannels, 9 pairs mittens, 2 pairs socks, 7 balaclavas, and 3 chest protectors sent to mine-sweepers.

September 5. Splendid attendance, address by Miss Powell. Two new members initiated.

MARTON.

September 14. Mrs Scott elected Treasurer, and Mrs Russell, Evangelical Superintendent. Decided to provide a maternity bag for use by the district nurse. Discussion on anti-shouting. A very successful meeting for a newly organised Union.

TIMARU.

September 26. Sailor's Rest reported a very good month's work, the men from the vessels show their appreciation by frequent visits, and by letters written to Mr Good after they leave the port. Motions of sympathy passed to Mrs Brooker and Mrs Norrie who have lost sons, and to the family of the late Mrs Harris. Mrs Trott read a report of the District Convention. Resolved: That we regret the action of the Borough Council in extending the time for Sunday bathing at Caroline Bay. This was

done at the request of 270 petitioners, no others being given an opportunity of expressing an opinion. £1 donated to Organising Fund.

LOWER HUTT.

Oct. 3. Attendance small. Two members appointed to visit all absentees, and invite them to attend the annual meeting in November. Decided to hold a Cradle Roll social on Wednesday, 18th, at Mrs Fretny's.

OXFORD.

Sept. 26. Franchise Day celebrated. Votes of sympathy passed to Mrs Helen Barton on the loss of her son, killed in action, and to Mrs Thompson in her accident. Decided to hold a Cradle Roll social on the date of our next monthly meeting. Notice of motion given to discuss at next meeting the question of a more convenient day than Tuesday to hold our meetings. Miss Gainsford, who is returning to mission work, spoke a few words of farewell, and was thanked for her help to the Union during her stay. The Junior Band of Hope elected the following officers:—Pres., D. Constable; Sec., W. Newport; Organist, M. Campbell.

GREYTOWN.

Sept. Resolved to send letters to lonely soldiers. Regret expressed that rum ration had been given to soldiers arriving at Trentham on Friday, September 29th. Arranged to hold social on November 7th. Urgent request for old linen for hospital use at Featherston Camp.

INVERCARGILL.

Oct. 3. Resolved that prizes be awarded to the town schools for essays on the Temperance Wall Sheets, Mrs Baird and Mrs Kilburn to supervise the matter. Letters of sympathy sent to Mr and Mrs J. S. Baxter and Mrs W. Waugh on the loss of their sons at the Front. Mrs Baird gave an address on "Women's Franchise." The Women's Christian Temperance Union express regret that there is not a fuller acknowledgment of the nation's dependence on God as to the issues of the war, and deplores the extravagance and waste in intemperance and gambling on the part of a great many.

Sept. 5. Mrs Baird voiced our disappointment at Parliament's failure to grant six o'clock closing. Patriotic work—Mrs Harper, 90 pairs of socks, a knitted scarf; Mrs Hamilton, £5 value in goods and cash. A vote of appreciation of Parliament's action in giving us the anti-shouting law was

carried. Southland Branches have contributed to our Patriotic Fund: Otautau, £22; Edendale, £11 2s; Tuatapere, £10 18s 6d; Mataura, £9; Bluff, £6 1s 3d; Invercargill Central, £44 14s 6d, making a total of £103 16s 3d.

URENUI.

Sept. 19. Gospel Temperance meeting for Maoris was discussed, but a difficulty was found in getting an interpreter. Report received of L.T.L. work, and money voted for requisites for the same.

ASHBURTON.

Aug. 8. Votes of sympathy passed with Mr and Mrs Collins in the death of Corporal Collins, killed in action; also with Mrs McDonald in the loss of her mother. Resignation of Miss Wise accepted with regret. Mesdames Frost and McEwen elected delegates to Provincial Convention. First annual report of the Shanghai W.C.T.U. was received and read with much interest.

Sept. Votes of sympathy passed with Mr and Mrs Frampton in the death of Corporal Frampton in France; also with Mrs W. Reid in the death of her brother. The delegates submitted report of the Convention, and were heartily thanked for the same.

WARKWORTH.

Sept. 28. Mrs Hamilton presided. Decided that we hold our meetings in future on the first Thursday in the month (commencing November). The President (Mrs Hamilton) read an article from the "White Ribbon." The general business of the meeting was urging work and sacrifice in the present world trouble, and for the Provincial and Dominion Conventions.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

Meeting held on September 21st, as officers were at Provincial Convention on the usual meeting-day. Mrs Brackenbridge gave a very full account of the Convention, and was accorded a hearty vote of thanks. Mesdames Evans, Boxall, Wright, Houlder, and Brierley were formed into a committee for visiting the sick and absent ones.

CAMBRIDGE.

Oct. 3. 15 members present. The sum of £1 8s donated to the Organising Fund. Vote of sympathy passed with Mrs McCann in the loss of her

brother, killed in action. Decided to hold District Convention in Methodist Church, and arrangements were made for same. Last Band of Hope meeting for the year held last month.

WANGANUI.

Oct. Franchise Day. Decided to make our next meeting a wool afternoon, each member to contribute in money, and a convenor appointed to buy the wool, which is to be worked up for our soldiers. Special evening for the Y. members arranged. A prize to be offered for the best musical item and recitation, etc., half proceeds to go to the Y. Union, and half to the Mother Union. Afternoon tea was indulged in, and a collection for Organising Fund of 30s. Mrs Siddells read an article on "Franchise Day," and Mrs Upton's paper, "Outlines of Women's Franchise," were both very much appreciated.

WANGANUI Y's.

Mrs Upton and Mrs McKenzie, from the Mother Union, present, and 8 members. Decided that in the future the meetings would be held on the last Monday of the month. Decided that the Y's should spend an evening in November with the W.C.T.U., and that half the evening should be spent in competitions for the members of the Y. Branch.

NAPIER.

Sept. 21. Decided that Napier W.C.T.U. take the management of refreshment booth at their forthcoming carnival for Christmas gifts for soldiers. Treasurer reported £41 toward the patriotic effort.

Sept. 28. A temperance drawing-room meeting was held at the residence of Mrs Clare. An address was delivered by the Rev. Menzies on "Temperance In All Things." One new member joined. Afternoon tea was provided by the hostess.

Oct. 4. Mrs Cobb, of Palmerston North, present, who gave a most helpful and instructive address on "The Signs of the Times, and God's Promises to Israel," and was heartily thanked.

NGAERE.

Oct. Meeting at Mrs Morrison's. Votes of sympathy to several members and friends who have suffered bereavement lately were passed. A helpful paper was read by Mrs Tarrant.

PAHIATUA.

Sept. 7. Franchise Day celebrated. Mrs Houlder and Mrs Keene, of Wellington, were present. The former gave an address, and the latter a recitation. Collection for N.Z. Fund.

Oct. 5. President gave a report of Provincial Convention, and of Lady Stout's addresses. Letter of sympathy to be sent to Mrs G. Ross, who has lost a son at the Front. Several new members initiated.

OPAHI.

Ito ano te hui ate roopu wahine kite whare o to matou Perehitini Ohiretina P. H. Katu kua ete Perehitini mate matou kau matus ewhaka puare kei a rawiri 33 onga waiata. Ka mutu katu te Perehitini ewhaka mihi ana ahau kia koutou ekui ma e hine ma kua huihui mai nei tatou kiroti ito tatou whare kati ko toku hiahia kia koutou katoa e nga mema kia mohia ahau epehea anao koutou whakaaro i te mea kua tae mai. Nei totatou tu mua ki penei te korero kia kaha kia maia mate atua tatou e tiake katu ke here-tina kei te aroha ahau kia tatou ahuatua ki o tatou mea kua mate kati e to matou tumua ki kei tenga kau kite pupuri i nga mahi katu ko rihipeti waiti ko toku hiahia tena iau e noho nei kia u tatou kingamahi i homai hei mahi ma tatou katu kote hekeretari Hemo P. M. Me Heni, H. W. Terui, H. T. wai mate o, P. W. Ponahia, T. M. Mata, P. F. heti, T. H. Keite, pai katoa matou atarapa, H. P. katu, Ko Paratena Hemana. Kia ora te roopu me inoi tatou. Amene.

ORUAWHARO.

I tu te roopu wahine o Oruawhara i te ano onga ra o Hepetema, i te kainga o Matete, i te taenga mai o Te Maari Woodhead. Na te Moanaroa te karakia. Na te Perehitini, Taunu Edwards, i whakapuare te mitingi, take tuatahi he mihi no te Perehitini, menga mema kia Te M. Woodhead. Ka me te Perehitini ma te Maari nga take katoa mo tenei ra. Matete Rapana Ko taku whakaaro tenei-kite pau nga take o Te Maarime whaka-haerea ano nga take o roto i te roopu, kia kite a ia i te ahau o a tatou mahi me ta matou kaha i roro i tenei karangatanga. Ka tu te Peeke kite tautoko ti enei take katoa.

Te M. Woodhead: Kei ti nui te whakamahi o taku ngakau kia tatou kui huihui tahi kua noho tahi i tenei ra, me taku titiro ki ta koutou u kinga tikanga, o te roopu whaka-pono. Ka mutu ka panuitia e ia te reta o Mrs Walker kite roopu, me tana whakahau inga. Nate Tumauaki i panui i te ripoata o tera Marama. Ka tu a Marea Watts kite whai korero mo nga marae, kia whakapaingia tonitia. Tautoko ana nga mema. Ka tu te Perehitini kite whakaatu kia Te Maaei, kei te pai tenei Marae. Kore rawa e tae mai ana he waipiro kanui hoki te whakaronga onga tai tamariki kinga tohu-tohu onga mema. Nui atu te whakamahi o te Tumauaki kite ahau o te whakahaere onga mahi katea i roto i tenei roopu. Ko nga raruraru katoa e mahia ana i runga i te aroha i te rangimarie. Na te Perehitini i tuku nga kahi tau i tenei ra. I whakamutua tenei huinga kite inoi. Mate matua matou katoa e whakarahe.

KAIHU.

Hepetema 28. Ki te roopu o Kihipane. Tena koa ara te roopu katoa. E koa ana ki te ripoata i whakatako-terea o to Hepetema 18th No. 255. E hoa ma e tautoko ana inga kupu e

whakahau nei. Kia kaha nga roopu ki te turaki inga tikanga kikino ara i te nakahi e huna nei i te tangata i te moni hoki ara i te waipiro otira e maharatia ana. Kanui te kaha o te roopu karaitianga ki te whakapono i tona kaha a kua kitea nga hua ina koa kua iti rawa te waipirokua kaha te piki haere o te ture inaianei. Kua kore e hauta te tahi ki te tahi ko nga ture katoa e hoki nei te puta o te waipiro ki te tangata no te wa tonu i tu ae te roopu karaitiana. No reira i kua ake ai. Kanui te kaha o tenei karangatanga ki te takahi inga tikanga he ko te Atua te kai awhina i te mea e tika ana ki tana titiro. Kia ora kia kaha e nga wahine.

Na o koutou hoa aroha Keite Tau-rere me roopu katoa Ahikiwi Kaihu.

L.T.L. REPORTS.

URENUI.

Aug. 5. First meeting at Mrs Rowe's. Mrs Duxfield explained the aims and objects of the Legion, and exhibited song and recitation books, also charts and manual used in connection with the workings of a L.T.L. Fifteen names were placed on the roll. Officers: Pres., Master Charles Handley; Vice-Pres., Master Peter Pope and Miss Jessie Smith; Sec., Master Lorris Sowry; Treas., Miss Kathleen Gilliver; Pianist, Miss Ruby Hunter; Librarian, Miss Emily Waite. A chorus was sung, and some musical items rendered.

Aug. 19. The Company Rule, salutes, mottoes, and rally calls were repeated. Five new members were enrolled. Mrs Sowry addressed us on "The Hurtful Effects of Alcohol." Miss Zaidee Sowry appointed violinist. Dialogues and songs were taught.

Sept. 2. A good attendance. Three new members enrolled. An address on "Alcohol" was given. Parliamentary rules, dialogues, and songs were taught.

Sept. 16. Attendance very good. Eleven new members were enrolled. The Company Rule, salutes, mottoes, and rally call were repeated. An address by Mrs Sowry was given. A programme of songs and recitations was given, and some songs and dialogues were taught us.

BRITISH WOMEN TO COOK FOR SOLDIERS.

Five hundred more women have been accepted by the British War Office as Army cooks, and will soon be sent to the Front to join 1500 others who have been satisfying Tommy's appetite. These women wear khaki, live in camps and barracks, mess, draw rations, and are the nearest approach the Army has yet seen to Thomasina Atkins. — Christchurch "Star."

PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION.

At the Good Citizenship meeting, Nelson, on August 25th, the subject of Proportional Representation was taken for discussion, an address being given by Mrs Claude Graham. This subject was taken specially in connection with an effort made to get the system adopted by the City Council at its next election, each Councillor having been asked if he would be willing to support it. The question was to be considered at the Council meeting on the evening of the same day, and invitations were sent out to the Councillors to be present at Mrs Graham's address. Only one responded, but we had a good meeting, the address being most interesting and instructive.

Mrs Graham pointed out the need of reform in the present methods of choosing representatives, election by proportional representation being one of the reforms now under consideration, and having already taken a place in practical politics as an established fact, being in use in some parts of the British Empire, and proving itself equitable, scientific, up-to-date, and satisfactory. She went on to speak of the advantages of the system over the present methods, showing that it gave a wider representation to all parties in the States and to all shades of opinion, providing for the representation of minorities as well as that of majorities, in due proportion to their strength. It is thus a much fairer method, and it also facilitates the representation of all parties by their ablest members, not lending itself to manipulation for hidden ends, as do the present systems, which in this way often prevent the wishes of the people being given effect to. Having briefly sketched the rise and spread of the Proportional system, particularly the variety known as the Single Transferable Vote, the most popular amongst English-speaking peoples, and the results of its working in Tasmania, where it has been in use for some years, and has proved satisfactory, Mrs Graham went on to speak of the three political ideals democratically recognised, showing that these are more easily attained by Proportional Representation than by any other method. (1) That every elector shall, as far as possible, have an equal voice in the election. (2) That the poor candidate shall have equal opportuni-

ties with the rich. (3) That the freedom of the elector shall be protected from the tyranny of the caucus. The principal aims of the system were given as follows:—(1) To represent the opinions of the different parties amongst the electors in due proportion. (2) To secure that, while the majority rules, the voice of the minority shall also be heard. (3) To give to the elector a wider choice of representatives. (4) To give representatives greater independence from financial and other pressure of small sections of constituents. (5) To ensure to parties representation by their ablest and most trusted members. The great difference between this system and the present methods was also pointed out, viz., that in the latter we have a large number of small single-membered constituencies, while under the former there would be a few large multi-membered ones; the proposal in New Zealand being to form two in each Island, the two in the North Island having 11 members each, and the two in the South 9. This refers to the election of the Legislative Council, which, according to the present intention of the Government, is to be made an elective body. Mrs Graham then explained the method of election, which, from the elector's point of view, is perfectly simple, all he has to do being to put the figure 1 against the name of the candidate he wishes to vote for in the list on the ballot paper, placing 2 against his second choice, and 3 against his third. The method of counting the votes is more complicated, and it is hardly possible to explain it in detail in a short report such as this. The principle of it is that every candidate who obtains the requisite number of votes, which is ascertained by a simple calculation, is elected, the surplus, that is, the number of votes obtained above the necessary quota, being transferred to the second or succeeding choices of the electors, as needed. In this way no votes are wasted in large majorities, and all voters are represented.

Those who wish to study the system will find it explained in Mr McCombs' pamphlet on Proportional Representation, and there is also a very good explanation of it in Hazell's Annual, 1914. In view of the possibility that the system may be introduced at the election of the Legislative Assembly, it is certainly to be desired that all electors should be acquainted with its objects and methods, and I would

strongly recommend all Unions who are taking up work or study under the Good Citizenship department, to make a study of it. If there are any who would like a fuller report of Mrs Graham's address, I shall be glad to supply them with a copy.

MARIAN JUDSON,

N.Z. Supt. of Good Citizenship.

"A LITTLE GIRL'S THANKS."

(Here is a very beautiful little poem; it had no name attached to it, but it appeared a few weeks ago in a magazine called Woman's World. We have substituted the word New Zealand instead of Ireland as appears in the original. You should all learn it for a new recitation this year).

Oh, thank you, Mister Soldier,
For all you've done for me;
You left your home and friends, I
know,
To go across the sea.
All day you tramp in mud and mire,
The rain beats on your head,
That I may stay here, nice and warm
Within my cosy bed.

The sun shines bright in New Zealand,
The grass is green and sweet;
There is no war in our town,
All quiet in our street;
And just because you went away
To make the war to cease,
So here the little children play
In quiet and in peace.

I'm only just a little girl,
But one thing I can do—
Each night before I go to bed
I always pray for you;
I pray that God will keep me good,
Will bless mamma, and then—
"God guard and keep the soldier man,
And bring him home again."

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

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, Pompaier Terr., Ponsonby; Rec. Sec., Miss Evans, G.F.S., Wellesley St.; Treas., Mrs McLean, Princeps St., Grey Lynn; Org. Treas., Miss Dewar, 4 Pompaier 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 8 p.m.; Pres., Mrs W. D. Shepherd; Sec., Mrs A. Wallace, Weld Street; Treas., Mrs C. H. Rycroft; Cradle Roll, Mrs Reeves; W.R. Agent, Mrs A. T. Watson.

Christchurch District. Rooms, Manchester St., opp. His Majesty's Theatre. Second and fourth Wednesday; Pres., Mrs I. McCombs, 26, Tai Street, Fendalton; Cor. Sec., Mrs R. Day, Milford St., St. Albans; Rec. Sec., Mrs R. D. Martin, 572, Gloucester Street; Treas., Mrs Patterson, Latimer Square; "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, No-license Rooms, Moray Place, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Hiatt, 72, Heriot Row; Cor. Sec., Rec. Sec., and Press Cor., Mrs G. Macartney, 155, Eglinton Road, Mornington; Supt. White Ribbon, Mrs Anderson, 32, Duke St.; Treas., Miss Reid, Bishops court, Roslyn.

Devonport. Second Thursday, Wesleyan Schoolroom, 2.30 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Cranch, Cameron St.; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Budd, Elliot and Sheppard; Sec., Mrs A. Little, 31 Church St.; Treas., and Supt. W.R., Miss Le Roy, Waterview Rd., Stanley Bay; Supt. Cradle Roll, Miss Lillwall.

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, 466 Gladstone Rd.; Rec. Sec., Mrs F. S. Malcolm, Aberdeen Rd.; Treas., Mrs Goffe, Ormond Rd.

Greymouth District. last Tuesday at 3 p.m., in Sailor's Rest Hall; Pres., Mrs Gaskin; Sec., Mrs Mason, Cobden; Treas., Mrs Sweetman; White Ribbon Agent, Mrs T. Brown; Cradle Roll and Band of Hope, Mrs Stewart and Mrs Perry.

Greytown. Last Wednesday at 3 p.m. in Presbyterian Sunday School. President, Mrs Whincop; Secretary, Mrs Banks; Treasurer, Mrs W. A. Tate; W.R. Agent, Miss McWhinney.

Hamilton District. first Thursday, Wesley Class Rooms, 2.30 p.m.; Pres., Mrs J. M. Jones, Clandelands; Sec., Mrs W. Auld; Treas., Mrs Jenkins, Clandelands.

Hastings. 2nd Wednesday, St. Andrew's Hall, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Harrison, 203 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.

Hawera meets in Wesley Hall, Regent Street, on the last Thursday, at 3 p.m. Pres., Mrs Bone, Dive's Av.; Rec. Sec., Miss Bischoff, Turuturu Rd.; Cor. Sec., Mrs R. Browne, Ropata St.; Treas., Mrs Best, Milmo St.; W.R. Agent, Mrs Tonks, Campbell St.

Henderson. 3rd Wednesday, Presbyterian and Methodist Churches, alternately, 2.30 p.m. Pres., Mrs Gilberd, "Homeview"; Vice-Pres., Mrs Platt, Gt. North Rd.; Mrs Williams, Gt. North Rd.; Sec., Mrs McKay, Gt. North Rd.; Treas., Mrs Paltridge, Rathgar Rd.; W.R. Agent, Mrs J. Platt, Gt. North Road.

Invercargill District. 1st Tuesday, 3 p.m. in Allen's Hall; Pres., Mrs C. H. Macalister, Gladstone; Vice-Pres., Mrs Baird, Mrs J. McKenzie, Mrs Lee-Cowie and Mrs Garrett; Sec., Mrs F. J. Lillcrap, Earn Street; Treas., Mrs James Hunter, 110, Don St.; "W.R." Agent, Mrs Hunter, 110, Don Street.

Invercargill South. Meets every second Tuesday, in Amethyst Hall, at 3 p.m. Pres., Mrs Pasley, Centre St., Georgetown; Sec., Mrs Parkin, Bowmont St.; Treas., Miss Pyle, Amethyst Hall, Bowmont St.; Press Cor., Mrs Smart, Ettrick St.; W.R. Agent, Mrs Sullivan, 19, Conon St.; Cradle Roll Supts., Mrs Cooper, Oteramika Road, and Mrs Bruce Wallace, Ythan St., Appleby.

Kaipoi W.C.T.U. Assembly Rooms. Union meets last Wednesday in the month, 2.30 p.m. Pres., Mrs Brighting; Sec., Miss Blackwell, "The Willows"; Treas., Mrs T. G. Blackwell; W.R. Supt., Mrs Ward.

Lytelton. 1st Wednesday, Presbyterian Schoolroom; Pres., Mrs Whitby; Sec., Mrs Bromley; Treas., Mrs Clark; "W.R." Agent, Miss Elsie Clark, "Waratah," W. Lytelton; Supt. Cradle Roll, Mrs S. Booth.

Mania. 2nd Friday, Methodist Church; Pres., Mrs J. J. Patterson; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Prkinson 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 A. Roke; Sec., Mrs E. Roke; Treas., Mrs Melville; Cradle Roll, Mrs Eytan; "W.R." Agent, Miss Tindall.

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

Napier District. 1st Tuesday, Willard Institute, Carlyle St., 3 p.m. Pres. Mrs G. W. Venables, Ashridge Rd.; Rec. Sec., Mrs F. Freeman, Latham St.; Cor. Sec., Mrs Chellew, Macdonald St.; Treas., Mrs S. Clare, Morris St.; Asst. Treas., Mrs Mens; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames Dodds, Oldham and Freeman; Home Meetings, Mrs Ball, Park Road; Supt. Cradle Roll and Flower Mission, Mrs Walker, Nelson Cres.; Purity, Mrs Oldham; W.R. Agent, Mrs Mens, Nelson Cres.

Ngaruawahia. 1st Tuesday, 2.30 p.m. Presbyterian Church; Pres., Mrs G. Densem; Vice-Pres., Mrs L. Bycroft and Mrs Vincent; Sec., Mrs Kendall; Treasurer, Mrs C. Rogers; 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. Bruce, 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 Jas Thompson; Sec., Mrs T. Fleming; Treas. and Supt. "W.R." Mrs Holman, Otara; Supt. L.T.L., Mrs Goodall; Cradle Roll, Mrs Evans.

Oxford. last Tuesday, 2.30 p.m., Coronation Hall; Pres., Mrs G. Ryde, Cooper's Creek; Sec., Mrs Conyns, 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. Mrs J. Fountain; 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 Cobden Cox, High St.; Sec. and Treas., Mrs Patchett, Southbrook.

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 L. Lill; Sec., Mrs Reeve, pro. tem. 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 Pres., Mrs Lamb; Cradle Roll, Mrs Valentine; Maori Work, Mrs Butcher, Waititi Rd.; White Ribbon Agent, Mrs Stead, Sailor's Rest.

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.

Waimate. 2nd Wednesday, in Knox Church Hall, at 3 o'clock; Sec., Mrs Geo. Dash, Box 27, P.O.; Treas., Mrs S. J. Hitchens, "Te Rangitiki" Mill Rd.; "W.R." 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 last Friday at 2.30 p.m. in Anglican Schoolroom. Pres., Mrs Duxfield; Sec. and Treas., Mrs Andrew; Rec. Sec., Mrs Ambury.

Wanganui District. 1st Friday, 2.30 p.m. Trinity Church Parlour, Pres., Mrs Blumires; Cor. Sec., Mrs J. McKenzie, 43 Wicksteed St.; Rec. Sec., Miss McAnemy; Treas., Mrs Siddells; "W.R." Supt., Mrs W. Grant.

Warkworth. last Thursday, 2.30 p.m., Schoolroom, Methodist Church; Pres., Mrs Hamilton, The Grange; Sec., Mrs Miller; Treas., Mrs Cox; "W.R." Agent, 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 Boulder, 108 Wallace St.; Sec., Mrs Spearman, 6 Dawson St., Berhampore; Treas., Mrs Brackenridge, 45 Waripori 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., Y.M.C.A. Rooms, Willis St.; Pres., Mrs A. R. Atkinson, Wadestown; Cor. Sec., Miss Helyer, Tonk's Gv; Rec. Sec., Mrs J. H. Smith, 77 Austin 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., Mrs Thompson, Fox Street; Treas., Mrs Davie, Station St.; Cradle Roll, Mrs Cole; "W.R." Agent, Mrs Thompson, Fox St.

Printed for the W.C.T.U. of N.Z., by Wright and Carman, 177 Vivian St., Wellington—Oct. 18, 1916.