

# The White Ribbon

FOR GOD AND HOME AND HUMANITY

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TERRACE END L.T.L., PALMERSTON NORTH,

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## SEX DIFFERENTIATION IN EDUCATION.

The Education Council has recommended, and the teachers have approved, that in our system of education we make a difference in the education given to girls and to boys. When we question the opinion of such experts we almost feel like the "fools who rush in where angels fear to tread"; and yet we cannot help asking why our children in schools should be classified according to sex and not according to ability. Englishmen of a bygone era closed all

Government positions to nonconformists—i.e., to all who would not conform to the rites and ceremonies of the Established Church. 'Tis little more than a century since these disabilities were removed from Jews and Roman Catholics. A Jew might be as wise as Solomon, with a genius for leadership like Moses; a Roman Catholic as capable an organiser and administrator as Loyala, but their religion barred them from using their gifts in the service of the State. Across the path leading to the Government service stretched a fence on which was inscribed, "No Noncon-

formist need apply." Long after this fence was removed a second barrier of sex, bearing this inscription, "No woman need apply," guarded the divine right of the male to all the well-paid professions. The records of the past tell how hard our pioneers worked to remove this fence, and at length a small breach was made, opening the way to the medical profession. In this new Dominion the breach was widened, and we are proud of the fact that the Assistant Editor of this journal was the first lady in the British Dominions to hold a University degree. And up to the pre-