

1917 CONVENTION.

LETTER FROM PRESIDENT.

54, Canongate, Dunedin,

February 7, 1917.

Dear Sisters,—

You will notice in the Conference Agenda, published in the last issue of the "White Ribbon" that on Monday, March 26th, we are to discuss "Plans for 1917 Campaign." This does not mean plans for an election, but plans for our own advancement. We want to find out the best way to combat the liquor traffic, how to make converts, how to set men and women thinking, how to win the youth of our Dominion, and train them in our principles, and make them the future workers in our great organisation. Please consider these things in your February and March meetings, and report through your delegate to Convention. With a multitude of suggestions, we may be able to devise some workable scheme that will prove a great impetus to our work. Then I want to remind you of the Question Box. So many officers new to the work, and members who seldom if ever have the privilege of attending Convention, are perplexed about many things. Now, whatever information you want, write your question and send it by your delegate, or post it to myself or our Secretary, Miss Henderson.

Two or three small Unions, newly organised, have sent requests to be visited by officers going or coming from Convention. I am pleased to report that Mrs Lee-Cowie, World's Missionary, has consented to do what she can. Will all Unions who would like a visit from our sister, please communicate at once with Miss Powell, Mount Isca, St. Clair, Dunedin, or direct to Mrs Cowie, Amethyst Hall, Invercargill? Will all Unions in the North or South Islands that would like a visit from the Organiser, or who are prepared to organise new Branches in their district some time this year, please let Miss Henderson know before Convention, that plans may be made that will cover the most ground in the quickest possible way with least expense? We are anxious to have a second Organiser in the field this year. If all our Unions, large and small, would see that the assessment subscription which is 1s per head for every mem-

ber, was raised by concert, collection, or by any other means, the difficulty of keeping two workers going constantly would be reduced to a minimum. Our sister Unions in the United States of America have increased their membership by tens of thousands. The result is an extension of dry territory. Let us emulate them, and for an increased membership, an extension of our work everywhere. Let us be strong and of a good courage, knowing that it is the Lord our God which giveth us the victory.

With cordial greetings, yours in the tie that binds,

RACHEL DON, Dom. Pres.

IMPORTANT TO DELEGATES.

Will delegates to Convention please take special note of the following?

If any delegate wishes to break the journey at Wellington, hospitality can probably be arranged if notice is given in good time. No delegate must expect to have hospitality arranged for her at the last moment. Delegates will please communicate with Mrs Houlder, President of Wellington District Union.

Mrs Houlder will also undertake the train arrangements, provided she gets sufficient notice from delegates. Twelve or more delegates can travel together first-class for second-class fare, but if they wish a reserved carriage Mrs Houlder must be able to inform the railway authorities how many will be travelling.

Members of the Executive must leave Wellington by the midday train on Tuesday, March 20th.

Don't put off writing. As soon as you know that you are going to Convention, write to Mrs Houlder, 108, Wallace Street, Wellington.

IMPORTANT LETTER.

Dear Sisters,—Will you forgive me if again I give you all a reminder as to the coming Convention, and what it is necessary for the Unions to do? I shall not repeat all that I wrote in last month's "White Ribbon," only beg you to refer again to it, point by point, and see that you leave nothing undone. Particularly is it necessary to discuss the five notices of motion, and give instructions to delegates; or if proxies are required, to forward

these instructions, and also directions as to voting for the N.Z. officers, in sealed envelopes addressed to me, so that proxies may be duly appointed without delay as soon as Convention meets. Will you also remember that the names and standing of delegates should be forwarded to me as soon as they are appointed, and that the names of those who require hospitality should also be forwarded to Miss Dewar, 4, Pompallier Terrace, Ponsonby, Auckland. I have already heard from Norsewood, Waipukurau, Waimate (sealed instructions for proxy duly enclosed), and Dunedin. Will these Unions please accept this acknowledgment? The request of Waipukurau re hospitality has been duly noted.

With very best wishes for a successful and inspiring Convention, and thanking all for good wishes expressed.—I am, yours for service,

KATE M. EVANS,

Dominion Recording Secretary.
Address: C/o Mrs Hemus, Moturakau,
Ponsonby Road, Auckland.

DELEGATES FOR CONVENTION.

4, Pompallier Terrace, Ponsonby,
January 28, 1917.

Dear White Ribboners,—

The Annual Convention is fast approaching. I would like all delegates who wish hospitality to let me know as early as possible.

Please also state the date of arrival, and how you are coming (by rail, steamer, or aeroplane), so that you may be met and taken to your place of abode during Convention.

A hearty welcome.—Yours in W.R. bonds,

N. DEWAR,

Corresponding Secretary.
Auckland District W.C.T.U.

THE SIN OF SILENCE.

To sin by silence, when we should protest,
Makes cowards out of men.
The human race has climbed on protest;
Had no voice been raised against injustice, ignorance and lust,
The inquisition yet would serve the law,
And guillotines decide our least disputes.
The few who dare must speak and speak again
To right the wrongs of many.
—Ella Wheeler Wilcox.