

The White Ribbon

FOR GOD AND HOME AND HUMANITY

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SEX DIFFERENTIATION IN EDUCATION.

(To the Editor.)

Madam,—Your leader in the June number of the "White Ribbon" and Mrs Field's letter immediately following it, are both worthy of careful consideration, as containing much that will appeal to every thinking woman. Yet there is one fact that seems to be overlooked in pleading for differentiation on the ground of ability, not sex; and that is that, in spite of all our theories, we cannot alter the indisputable fact that there is a difference between the man and the woman as to nature and function, and so there is logical ground for a certain amount of differentiation in education. For is not the purpose of education to train and develop the latent powers of the child and make it the most capable of fulfilling worthily its special function, whatever that may be? And if there is a difference in function, there must necessarily be a difference in the ideal education, which must surely be that best adapted to prepare each for the fulfilment of its special function. I grant that intellectually the same training is suitable for both sexes, but that does not cover the whole ground. Unfortunately, it is that which to many people bulks most largely, together with the desire to provide the child with a livelihood-making vocation. It is not so much identity of education as equality of opportunity for all-round development that we should aim at. It is not altogether to be wondered at—this tendency to go back in some degree to the ideals of fifty or sixty

years ago; for the struggle to obtain for girls an intellectual education similar to that given to boys—a struggle the success of which no sensible woman can regret—has led to other sides of the ideal education being more or less neglected. It is ever thus that human progress is made—not by the steady unswerving unbroken advance of the lava stream down the mountain slope, but by the ceaseless alternation of the forward and backward movement of the incoming tide. I do not therefore believe that we shall go back to the educational methods of the early Victorian period, as some seem to fear, but that before long the ideals that are seeking realisation through the increased prominence of such subjects as Home Science, will be acknowledged as of equal importance with those aimed at in the training of the purely intellectual subjects, and both groups will find thus their true balance. Furthermore, the scope of Home Science has widened greatly; it is very different now from what it was some years ago, and it may well be that Home Science will be found, when better understood and fully developed, to provide for the training of the intellect and reasoning powers, as well as do the present methods of studying Language or Mathematics, besides doing much for the social and home-loving side of a girl's nature. It is strange, and one might almost say pathetic, that a Society that has for its object the protection and welfare of women and children, should set itself in opposition to a movement that is really seeking so to improve the condition and the spirit of the home as to reduce the

necessity for such a society. When the true aims of the Council of Education are better understood—and the proposal of the University Senate is only another indication of the same movement, even though it may not be directly connected with the action of the Council—it will be seen, I think, that much of the criticism levelled at their suggestions is unnecessary, and is the result of a failure to take a sufficiently broad view of the matter. I trust that the subject will be still further ventilated in these columns, for the more it is discussed, the better we shall be able to understand and appreciate its value and importance.—I am, etc.,

KATE M. EVANS.

Where experts differ, Councils of Education and Teachers' Institutes are not in agreement, is it any wonder that members of the "White Ribbon" staff see things from a different viewpoint. We are pleased indeed to have a letter from Mrs Evans, as she is a recognised expert on this subject. We entirely agree with our colleague that "the purpose of education is to train and develop the latent powers of the child," and where a girl shows a talent or bent for Home Science, then train her and send her out as an expert. Raise the standard of domestic work; let the girl who qualifies in Home Science be honoured as much as one who qualifies in any other science. Send out those trained workers as we send our Plunket nurses to give aid and help in any home requiring them, so many hours a week or a day as required, and let there be no loss of caste to these workers. The loss of

caste and of her own home made domestic service distasteful to girls.

But we do not believe that every girl has a talent for Home Science, and we object to her being **compelled** to take it as a subject. This is not to educate (draw out her powers), but is to cram her with something distasteful. Moreover, we must not confuse ourselves by thinking the housekeeper is the home-maker. Home-making is a question of character, and the qualities of neatness, courtesy, unselfishness, and industry can be learnt as truly in an office as in a cooking school. Too often the expert housekeeper and cook is the very reverse of a home-maker, and by her fussiness drives her children elsewhere for their pleasures. While many a mother whose housekeeping is less perfect is the comrade and chum of her children, who find her society their greatest pleasure, and that "to love her is a liberal education."

HONOUR'S LIST.

The following have sent in new subscribers this month:—Auckland, 8; Miss Powell, 7; Avondale, 6; Tokomaru Bay, 5; Richmond (Nelson) and Waipukurau, 4; Whangarei, Pakiri, Bluff, and Christchurch, 3; Ashburton, Wanganui, Timaru, Okaiawa, Stratford, Invercargill, and Napier, 2; Opotiki, Feilding, Dunedin, Port Chalmers, Lower Hutt, Takapuna, Nelson Y's, Pukekohe, Wellington Central, Wellington District, Wanganui East, Cambridge, Kaiapoi, and Dunedin, 1. This is a total of 74 for the month. The total new subscribers since Convention is 344. Convention asked for each Union to get six new subscribers. Though some Unions have exceeded that number, there are many who have not reached it. We hope our members will not slacken their efforts, as with the increased cost of production, we shall need all the new subscribers asked for by Convention to keep our paper up to its present form.

A LIFE MEMBER OF W.C.T.U.

We congratulate our Ashburton Union in being the first Union to secure a life member. Mrs Ferriman, of Ashburton, has that honour.

STRENGTH OF THE NATION MOVEMENT.

The past month has been a busy and blessed time, with many meetings and much writing. At Raes and Beaumont prayer circles have been formed, even though there are no W.C.T. Unions there. This has specially gladdened my heart, as indicative of the longing of our people everywhere to be freed by God's Almighty power from the bondage of drink. Another pleasant incident has been the action of the Wellington Girls' College in sending an appeal to Parliament, signed by the whole staff, asking for prohibition. Miss McLean has joined the movement, and has given me two golden opportunities of addressing her girls on the matter. Through the whole Dominion is a great and growing conviction that nothing short of closing the bars entirely will meet the urgency of the nation's need. Over 800 names have been given in as new members of our Union since Convention. "The Outlook" has proved a magnificent ally, and is carrying tremendous influence to the corners we could never reach, as well as swaying the larger cities.

Our publication of "Defeat" proved most opportune, and is all sold out. The request for our second Manifesto is so great we are considering a further issue. We earnestly plead for the multiplication of prayer circles and the constant intercession of every Christian who wants to see the war ended.

The lists of slain in battle last month make sad reading for New Zealand. Our youngest son, Lennox, has paid the great price. We are thankful he was a staunch Good Templar and a converted lad. To him the drinking and singing amongst some of the soldiers were very repugnant, and we thank God a hero's death was his portion rather than the awful barbed wire enclosure.

Invercargill Union is selling "Defeat" from door to door. This gives glorious opportunities of winning the indifferent and careless over to our side. Will other Unions please do the same? Will every member please make three copies of the following letter and send to friends in any part of New Zealand?

"Dear Friend,—Will you help us intercede with God to stop the slaugh-

ter of our young men, and more speedily win the war. Drink and sin block the way to victory. There are now 98,000 young men behind the barbed wire enclosures in Britain, and we are losing our man-power every day. Women and children everywhere will be in nameless peril, and we call on you most earnestly to join our ranks and pray the liquor traffic out of New Zealand. Anyone willing to sign the temperance pledge and pay 2s 7d a year can become a member of our W.C.T.U."

Please make three copies of this, and send to your friends, asking them to do the same. Names and donations to be sent to the nearest local W.C.T.U., or to Mrs Lee-Cowie, Organiser Strength of the Nation Movement, Invercargill.

BRITAIN'S CHOICE.

Our cruel foe has stretched a great line
Of death round our islands so dear—
Within there is barely enough of
bread,
But—**there's ten million barrels of beer!**

The merchants who sail from far-
distant lands
Are almost afraid to come near.
We must do without many a needful
thing,
But—**we've ten million barrels of beer!**

Our sailors are valiantly giving their
lives,
(Their cry o'er the waves you may
hear!)
We are short of supplies—but the
brewers must make
Their ten million barrels of beer!

Our sore-wounded boys in the hospital
wards,
And their hard-wrought nurses, we
hear,
Have ~~often~~ no sugar! But what
about that
When we've **ten million barrels of beer!**

The mothers, the wives, and the inno-
cent bairns,
To the hearts of our heroes so dear,
May starve, but the food they've a
right to must go
To make **ten million barrels of beer!**

O Britain! betraying thy glorious past,
And risking a triumph so near,
Thou art selling thy birthright and
losing thy soul
For **ten million barrels of beer!**

—V.A.G.

PUNISHMENT OR REFORMATION?

In these days, when a religious opinion or an adverse criticism of the Government's policy may bring the dire penalty of imprisonment, the question of prison administration is an important one.

Recent complaints with regard to conditions in the Auckland Prison make us question whether the reforms wrought by John Howard and Elizabeth Fry have in any way been extended and amplified, or whether we have been lethargic and allowed the system to become retrograde.

Bad light, dampness, imperfect sanitation, and proximity of healthy and diseased prisoners through the absence of any system of classification, are conditions that must tend to lower the physical, mental, and moral tone of the inmates.

We wonder whether the case of the women prisoners is the same, if so, we can imagine the permanent evil effects of the impress of such an experience.

It is well to remember that the ultimate aim of all punishment should be the restoration of the offender to society through his reformation, and as so much attention is being given now-a-days to the study of the principles of general education, I would enter a plea for the study of those principles in their ethical relationship to the mental and moral needs of prisoners. If such were undertaken by all who have the control and administration of prisons, the personal qualifications of humaneness and sympathy, so necessary to all who undertake reformatory work, would have some chance of cultivation and expression.

The late W. T. Stead advocated that all magistrates and judges should fit themselves for their office by actual experience—as prisoners—of prison life. Some such experience on the part of jailers and warders would undoubtedly make for sympathy, and quicken the imagination of those who at present may be mere officials carrying out the letter of an antiquated penal system in a more or less perfunctory manner.

The present system by all its negations—its silence, its absence of beauty, its restriction of many forms of wholesome self-expression—all tending to atrophy of the will, must be productive of the "corrosive evils" of brooding and hopelessness which de-

prive the unfortunate individuals of the chance of re-establishing their own self-respect, or of practising those virtues which might have so strengthened their character that they would resolve to wrestle anew with their particular besetment, and thus be restored to their place in the social world.

A prison system, which physically or morally devitalises, imposes disabilities that may long outlast the term of the sentence, and so, like Shylock, it has taken the life-blood as well as the pound of flesh.

Of the prisoners, as well as of those who have never seen inside prison walls, it should be true that they might rise

"On stepping stones
Of their dead selves, to higher things."

Shall we not by infusing sympathy into all our penal systems help towards this end?

E. P. CATO.

GROWING OLD.

A little more tired at close of day;
A little less anxious to have our way;
A little less ready to scold and blame;
A little more careful for a brother's name;
And so we are nearing the journey's end,
Where time and eternity meet and blend.

A little less care for bonds and gold;
A little more zest in the days of old;
A broader view and a saner mind,
And a little more love for all mankind;
And so we are faring a-down the way
That leads to the gates of a better way.

IS THERE ONE IN NEW ZEALAND?

The research department of the Methodist Episcopal Temperance Society reported early in the year that they had records of 840 daily papers in the United States that declined all liquor advertisements. Since this announcement some notable additions have been made to the list, in such journals as the "New York Tribune," "Indianapolis News," and "New Orleans Picayune."

In a decree posted in Nancy, General Joffre has absolutely forbidden the sale of intoxicants to troops, or the treating of them to drinks, under penalty of court-martial.

ONLY THE CHILDREN.

Beneath an ancient, widespread tree,
Which cast a pleasant shade,
Five children, full of mirth and glee,
One sunny morning played.
Loud were the sounds of merriment
Which o'er that daisy'd field they sent;
For their's were hearts untouched
by care,

And eyes that seldom owned a tear,
"What are these sounds," asked one,
"I hear?"

Only the children playing there!

Only the children! Years have flown
Since that bright summer day,
And those have men and women
grown

Who then were at their play.
The eldest of that little band,
Who threw the ball with skilful hand,
And rolled the hoop by far the best,
His country now attempts to guide
And fashion laws, which when applied
Shall aid and succour the distress.

The next—a gay, laughing girl,
With blue and sparkling eye,
Whose hair was always out of curl,
Whose frock was oft awry—
Is now a lady full of grace,
In whom you scarcely now can trace
The want of care that marked her youth;

And to whose gifted pen we owe
Some sweet and simple tales, which
show
How lovely is the way of truth.

The youngest—gentle as a dove,
As sweet as she was fair,
Who gave her doll such words of love,
And nursed it with such care,—
Far from the scenes of early life,
Is now a missionary's wife,
And oft her wearied husband cheers,
Together patiently they toil,
And hope to reap, on Indian soil,
The seed which they have sown in tears.

Only the children! Yes, they seem
But ciphers unto some,
But I, who often sit and dream
Of things that are to come,
In children, full of healthful glee,
Our future generation see,
Mighty for good, or else for ill!
God bless and guide them, so that
they
May scatter blessings o'er life's way,
And all His wise behests obey!

WE MUST DO OUR BEST.

The day has gone by when alcohol could be defended. No man who knows the truth about it now takes it for his health; science has proved beyond doubt that alcohol has no good thing to give a man, woman, or child. Even a moderate use of it dims the vision, impairs the judgment, reduces strength, hastens fatigue, and weakens the body's power of resistance. The man who takes it is putting only a part of himself into his work, and is holding back his best. Arthur Mee, in "The Little Paper."

SUPERINTENDENT'S LETTERS.

MORAL AND SOCIAL HYGIENE.

Dear White Ribbon Sisters,—

In a letter received from the Defence Department some months ago, it was stated that a booklet of warning and instruction, similar to that issued to soldiers, entitled "The Dangers of Venereal Disease," would be issued by the Department of Public Health. So far this booklet has not been issued. Will the Unions write to the Minister of Public Health, the Hon. G. W. Russell, urging that this pamphlet for civilian use be issued without further delay?—I am, yours in W.R. bonds,

MARY MCCARTHY,

Supt. Moral and Social Hygiene.
Wellington, July 2nd, 1917.

PEACE AND ARBITRATION.

It is difficult at a time like the present, when the whole civilised world is in the throes of a great conflict—a conflict which all engaged in it are firmly convinced is necessary in the interests of freedom and righteousness—to think and speak of peace. We constantly hear it said that this is not the time to dwell on thoughts of peace, love, universal brotherhood; that we must wait till the war is over before bringing these ideas forward. And yet, surely, if there is one time more than another when our highest ideals need to be emphasised and brought before men's minds, is it not now, when these very ideals are in danger of being forgotten? If, as some of us believe, it is the thought of one generation that moulds the character and creates the atmosphere of the next, then it is now, amidst the strife and the conflict, that the preparation must begin for the peace so earnestly desired.

The question that most deeply concerns us is how can we individually help in the bringing in of that glorious time when war shall be no more? It may not be possible, even if it were desirable, to put an immediate end to the war now devastating the world; that war has its roots in causes which are far-reaching—the growth of ages of thought and action along certain lines, and these causes must work themselves out before peace can come. We are now reaping the bitter harvest of a long policy of self-seeking and

mutual distrust, and none can turn away its fruits. But these causes will be worked out in due course, and then will come the time for reconstruction; it is for this we must now prepare, striving constantly, by the creation of a thought-atmosphere of love and unselfishness, to make it possible for the new civilisation to be based upon right instead of might, upon love instead of hate; co-operation and mutual helpfulness instead of self-interest. This is work in which women especially, who are not actively engaged in the conflict, can take part. There are two ways in which we can thus help in the reconstruction of the future, and I should like to point out how these are embodied in the two resolutions in connection with this subject, passed at our last Convention. (See Convention number of "White Ribbon," p. 4.)

1. First, we can help by the power of our own thought. Perhaps we hardly realise what that power is, how every thought we cherish exercises an influence, in proportion to its intensity, upon the mental atmosphere around us, affecting all who come within its reach, either for good or for evil. If we did but realise this; if we did but understand how every unkind or angry thought of ours is strengthening the forces of evil, and making the return of peace more difficult; and how every thought of love is helping to send out a counteracting influence, we should be more careful what kind of thoughts we allow our minds to dwell upon. It is because of this power which we all possess, the power of setting up thought-currents which help in determining the nature of the thoughts of the world and the action resulting therefrom—it is because of this that we ask our members to make a habit of sending out day by day thoughts of love and peace. Rev. Rhondda Williams, of Brighton, in a sermon preached last Christmas, says: "Mind and spirit are the greatest powers in the world. If only the mind and spirit be set on the side of righteousness, righteousness will prevail; and if they be distinctly centred on peace, peace will come. Every mind creates a certain atmosphere, kindles a certain fire of influence. When many minds are moved by one spirit, lit by one fire, then a great force is generated that travels far. What is greatly needed

at the present is a multiplication of men and women who will determine to send out into the present atmosphere of the world the greatest possible force of good-will, who will earnestly desire that the nations shall come to an understanding, that the war shall cease, and that the King of Peace reach His throne. Be continually thinking it, feeling it, praying for it; get your friends to do the same, until this becomes the atmosphere of life about you. You may be sure other groups will do likewise, and the waves will meet, the flames will catch and blend. They will make a powerful force, a great fire. . . . Such a concentration of minds, moved by the One Great Divine Spirit, would make an atmosphere in which the Governments could discuss their great problems with a bias towards agreement. That is our main business as religious people in this crisis."

2. The second way in which we can all help in this work of reconstruction is expressed in the second of the two resolutions referred to, bringing before us our responsibility towards the children. I do not think we can possibly lay too much stress on the importance of implanting right ideas on these matters in the minds of the children. The future lies with them, and according to the principles given them for their guidance now, will be the spirit that rules the world in the days to come. If they are allowed to grow up in an atmosphere of international rivalry, self-interest, and distrust, perhaps even of retaliation and hatred of those whom we call our enemies, then there is little hope of the dawning of a better day for the world. We all probably know something of the tendency in many of our schools to foster the spirit of so-called patriotism, meaning by this the furtherance of our own country's interests, it may be even at the cost of others. Cannot this be replaced by **international** patriotism, the desire for the good of all nations alike, and of our own simply because we are a part of the great brotherhood of nations, in which each one can only find true prosperity in the prosperity of all? When this spirit prevails amongst all nations, war will become impossible, and it is by the education of the children upon these lines that the ideal of a lasting peace can be most surely attained. Rev. V. T. Pomeroy, than whom I

know of none more competent to speak on this subject, in speaking a year ago on "The Children in War-time," said: "If the world of to-morrow is a cleaner, saner, and more fraternal world, it will be largely because the children of to-day have been kept clear of the old weary-eyed evils. I can conceive no meaner, more miserable act than that which plants in the minds of the young the promise of another war. . . . (One of the chief penalties of us grown men and women is that we are imitated by the children. Our behaviour teaches more forcibly than our talking. . . . I suppose we cannot expect them to do anything else than make into games what we have made into enterprises of shattering pain. I wish they were not quite so fond of playing at soldiers. I wish adventure and glory would fasten themselves to other ideas for their admiration. I speak with sympathy. No boy was ever more fond of battle games than I was twenty years back. The day before yesterday I was confronted by a tiny boy armed with a toy rifle. He fired merrily and without mercy, and of course I had to fall. It was only a game—and yet—

The rain is slipping, dripping down
the street,

The day is grey as ashes on the hearth,
The children play with soldiers made
of tin,

While you sew
Row after row.

War is slipping, dripping death on
earth.

If the child is father of the man,
Is the toy gun father of the Krupp?

For God's sake **think**,
While you sew
Row after row.

There are better avenues. . . .
There are possibilities of a play which
exercises imagination and energy in
ways constructive. . . . It promises
a better outcome than the age-long
game of soldiers. It re-inforces the
best of the grown-up world, not the
worst. . . .)

"Let us beware lest we do anything
to mutilate and slay the best instincts
in the hearts of the children. Let us
see to it that we are the guardians,
not only of their bodies, but also of
their inner selves, which are the founts

of future betterment on the sad earth.
It is for us to nourish the children on
the ethics of robust comradeship and
the spiritual power of Christ. It is
for us to set the children marching
with the rhythm of the universal love.
Locked within the hearts of the children
are the tremendous potencies
which promise a better world. Our
task is to release the innate friendliness
which will lead us to the realm
of equity and joy."

It is because I have so strong a
conviction of the truth of all this, that
I have asked the Unions to send this
resolution to the schools in their districts.
Several have already acted
upon the suggestion, and I trust that
many others will take part in the
work. The deliberate emphasising of
the principles which it embodies will
surely help in the creation of a better
thought atmosphere; and though we
may not see an immediate result, we
shall at least have tried to do our part
in the sowing of the seed that shall
ripen into a harvest of peace and love
amongst all nations.

MARIAN JUDSON,
N.Z. Supt. Peace and Arbitration.

GIRLS!

God and your country need you.
Why? "That our daughters may be
as the polished corner stone." Polished,
not veneered, not varnished,
not painted; but polished, beautiful,
enduring, and strength-giving psalm.
Your mother needs you helpful, reliable,
loving and kind. Your Father
needs you quick, bright, wise, and
clever. Your Brother needs you as
confidante, chum, and counsellor. His
mate needs you as a strong, pure,
brave helper. Other boys need your
wisdom, power, and girlish goodness
to help them resist temptation and sin.
Other girls need your modesty,
strength, and courage to help them in
times of terrible difficulties and dangers.

Drink and vice and awful disease—
the outcome of evil—are imperilling
our Empire. Drunkenness destroys
thousands and tens of thousands.

We want you to join our Young
Women's Christian Union, to make a
purer world to live in. Membership
fee, is a year.

BESSIE LEE-COWIE.

WOMAN'S WORK.

Since the war began, 15,000 women
have been added to the teaching forces
in France. They have entered the
faculties of all schools except the
great universities.

For handling all cases in which
young girls are defendants, the
Juvenile Court of Los Angeles is
peculiarly well adapted. Miss Orfa
Jean Shontz is the referee, and every
member of her Court is a woman—
clerk, reporter, and even bailiff. The
girl who is tried in Judge Shontz's
Court is always given an opportunity
to make good if she wants it.

AN ADAMLESS EDEN.

In the office of the County Recorder
of Yavapai County every official or
attache of the office is a woman.

Miss Alice Burdsall is the only
woman reporter of decisions in the
U.S.A. It is common gossip in
Arizona that the position of Assistant
Attorney-General of Arizona
will shortly be tendered to the young
woman attorney.

Gisborne returned three women, all
White Ribboners, to the School Committee.

LADY DELEGATE.

At the Anglo-German Conference
over the exchange of prisoners, for the
first time in English history a woman
diplomat acted for Britain.

CHICAGO JUDGE ON LIQUOR REVENUE.

Every bandit crew that goes forth
to murder starts from a saloon; every
panderer has his rendezvous in a
grog-shop; every den of thieves
makes its victims drunk before it robs
them; every house of prostitution has
its bar, or is in partnership with
booze; every gambling den either is
in a saloon or sustains a close relationship
with one; the pickpocket
trust is housed in a saloon; the pay-off
joint for the crook and the crooked
policeman is in a saloon; the professional
bondsman and character witnesses
for thieves and hold-up men
are saloon-keepers or bartenders.
Booze has caused 200,000 divorces
in the United States in the last twenty
years, and adds 25,000 to the number
every year. It divides more homes,
empties more churches, and fills more
gaols than all other influences combined.—"Union Signal."

THE WIDOW'S ONLY SON.

The day had come. Europe was in a blaze. Germany had poured her hordes over Belgium and Northern France. England had joined the fray to protect Belgium and her Dominions over the seas had hastened to the help of the Motherland. In far-off Zealandia young men were leaving farm and office and hurrying to enlist and fight under the Union Jack.

Among the first to hear the call was Jack Frazer. He hesitated for a time on account of his mother who was a widow, and he her only child. Their home was a lovely little farm situated on the shores of Cargill Harbour, one of those beautiful land-locked harbours which are one of Zealandia's chief charms. Jack's father had been a fine type of farmer. He and his young wife had purchased this farm in its wild state, and by dint of hard and constant toil had converted it into the cultivated and beautiful home that it was. One day the father left for town in his boat accompanied by his two little daughters. On their return trip a heavy storm swept up the harbour, and the boat was swamped by the waves, and father and children perished. Great was the grief at the stricken homestead, but for her boy's sake the devoted mother kept a brave face. She gave her boy a good education, and when after a year at an agricultural college he came home to take the burden of farm management off his mother's shoulders her joy was deep if silent. The affection between the two was a very real and strong one. Now had come a bolt from the blue. Her boy inheriting the spirit of his soldier ancestors wanted to take his part in the great struggle, and do his share to defend the Empire which he so loved. The brave mother stifled the cry of her lonely heart and gave her free consent for her boy to follow what he thought the path of duty. Then how quickly events followed on. Jack was gone to camp, then home on final leave. How precious to the mother was every minute of that time, and oh the contrast. Youth looking forward to the future, eager to be in the fray, and Age dwelling in the present and dreading the time when it should be over. Mrs Frazer went to Windsor to see her boy embark, and once more Jack and his mother spent pleasant hours together, the memory of which were to comfort the lonely

mother in the dark anxious days to come. She gave him tender and loving words of counsel. Bravely she gave the last kiss, and the smile as she watched him march aboard the transport was like sunlight playing upon a grave. Then she returned to her deserted home to watch for news of her boy and to pray without ceasing for him.

Jack arrived in Egypt and threw himself with ardour into their training. One night a comrade went with him into the city. There he said "Come and have a drink Jack." Now Jack had left home a teetotaler, but one night returning to camp after their heavy march over the ranges in wind and rain the rum ration had been served out. Jack longed for a cup of hot soup or hot coffee, but only rum was provided by the military authorities, and feeling the need of something he drank it. Now with his resisting power weakened by the rum ration he yielded to his mate's entreaties and followed him into the bar. One drink was followed by another, and then with brain bemuddled and passion inflamed by alcohol he followed a fair-haired, painted and bedizened woman to her quarters. The "strange woman" had got Jack in her clutches.

Next morning thoroughly ashamed of himself, Jack resolved never to touch a drop of drink again. He kept his resolution and won golden opinions from his officers. The dark hour of shame was almost forgotten, and Jack looked eagerly forward to winning fame and distinction in the battle front. Alas! Alas! Jack is ill, and he goes on sick parade. Questioned by the medical officer he relates his dark experience. Sadly as he looks at the bright young face the doctor gives his verdict. Not for him the path to honour and fame, but back to disgrace and the seclusion of a quarantine camp.

"Doctor," falters Jack, "do you mean I am never to be well again?"

"My boy," was the reply, "it is no kindness to mislead you. You have an incurable disease, and in its worst form."

"What a price to pay for one night's folly, or rather for one glass of rum," moaned Jack.

Jack was sent back on a transport. Thoughts of his mother drove him nearly mad. Gone were all his lofty

dreams of winning honour and glory in defence of his country, only disgrace, ruin, and death awaited him. For a time he meditated self-destruction, but the boy was no coward, and resolved to face the consequences of his folly. Remorse preyed upon his health, and left him only the shadow of his former rosy, happy self. Arrived in Zealandia, no welcome home awaited him, and his companions in misery, only the Defence launch to take them over to Quarantine Island, and Oh! the pity of it! from his island prison Jack could look across the harbour and see the roof of his mother's home.

At Jack's request, the doctor visited his mother and told her the sad story of her boy's disgrace. Grief had weakened the boy, a sharp attack of influenza had prostrated him and the doctor told Mrs Frazer that her son was in a dangerous state of health. Jack longed to be with his mother, and she begged the doctor to intercede with the military authorities that her boy might end his days at home, and that she might have the sad task of nursing him. Upon the doctor representing that Jack's span of life had nearly run out, and how he and his mother longed to spend the last few days alone, permission was given for Jack to be sent home.

How he longed, yet dreaded, to see his mother; but who can fathom the depths of a mother's love? Mrs Frazer received her boy with open arms. His own little room, spotless and clean, awaited him. Everything looked so unchanged that it was hard to realise that such dark memories were between now and the days he had lived his care-free boyish life there.

"Mother! mother!" sobbed Jack, "how good to feel your arms around me again, and to know that you have forgiven me."

"My only boy," whispered his mother, "thank God I have you once more to be my own. We will forget the dark past, and look forward to a brighter future. Darling, this earth is not all. You will, through God's mercy, leave earth's sorrows and stains behind when you enter the new life beyond the grave."

Jack grew steadily weaker, and at last the end was very near.

"Mother," said Jack, "it was the rum ration that ruined me. Had I

never had that I would not have touched the stuff in Egypt, and had I been sober that woman would never have got me. It is so hard to leave you alone, dear, but I'd sooner die than live as I should have to live. Oh, mother, for my sake tell all the boys to sign the pledge, and beg the Government not to give poison to its soldiers."

He lay exhausted, and they thought him gone. Once more his eyes opened, and looking at the dear face bending over him, he murmured, "My mother." Again raising himself slightly, a great flash of joy illuminated his face as he said, "Jesus!" then gently falling back into his mother's arms, he passed to "where beyond earth's voices there is peace." Next morning Mrs Frazer and a friend stood beside the bier where Jack lay, robed for his last sleep.

"I thought to have your strong young arm to lean upon in my declining years. I freely gave you up to fight for your country. Death I could have borne, but Oh! this disgrace. Mary," she said, turning to her friend, and speaking with rising passion in her tones, "Had my boy lived I could never have forgiven the military authorities. It is hard to lose them by a clean death on the battle field, but to have them live victims of a horrible disease is infinitely worse. I never thought I would be thankful to know my boy was dead."

Gently she stooped and kissed his cold brow. "My baby boy; May God forgive the doctor who ordered you rum to your ruin!"

Mrs Frazer thought it her duty to do all she could to save other mothers from passing through sorrow such as hers. Years ago her husband had had a friend, Walter Broad, who had been elected to Parliament, and was now Zealandia's Defence Minister. In olden days he had been fond of her little son, so now she wrote to Mr Broad, recalling those long-ago days, and asking, for the sake of auld lang syne, if he would grant her an interview. He wrote expressing his pleasure at the renewal of an old friendship, and appointed a time for her to call at his home.

The Minister received her kindly, and soon she was seated beside the fire in his study, and facing him across the rug. Sternly holding in

check her bitter sorrow, she briefly told him Jack's sad story, and spoke of her great desire to shield others from a like fate.

"Oh, Sir," she said, with kindling eyes and passionate voice, "Can't you do something to safeguard boys like Jack? Why is it that everywhere in our Empire politicians shiver when the brewer cracks his whip? Oh; I am ashamed of my country. When Canadian mothers discouraged their sons from enlisting, their Minister promised to make the camps safe for the boys. He forbade liquor in Canadian camps, but as soon as they got to England a wet canteen was placed in their camp. Russia, France, and Roumania have all stopped the traffic in strong drink, but England only does what she is compelled to do. Do you wonder that Australian mothers voted against conscription? Who would vote for boys to be conscripted to a fate like Jack's? My old-time friend, can't you stop the rum ration to our troops both at home and abroad? England won't respect our wishes. She does not deserve our soldiers. We send our boys to fight a foreign enemy, not to swell the dividends of the enemy within. Admirals, generals, statesmen, ship-builders, and doctors all tell us it is the cause of national inefficiency, but what care the men who want to make fortunes out of their brewery shares? The only patriotism they possess is to fill the pockets of themselves and friends. Unless England shakes this incubus from her nothing but national ruin can await her. A righteous God will never give world dominion to a nation ruled by brewers, who will sacrifice every mother's son to swell their own coffers, and whose every dollar is stained with blood."

The Minister was deeply moved, for he had loved the curly-headed little boy. He soothed the mother, and promised to think over what she had said. Then he took her and left her with his wife, whose power as a comforter he well knew.

Mr Broad returned to his room, but he did not get to the work which awaited him. His thoughts were too disturbed. He was face to face with his own awakened soul. He was not an emotional man, but the story he had heard had strangely moved him. Haunted by the words, "The only son of his mother, and she was a

widow," he owned that this son had been entrusted to his care. Had he failed to adequately protect these boys from the drink evil? Was he a man to crouch in dread before the power of the liquor ring? His pride was hurt, but a nobler feeling began to stir in his heart. He walked to the window, and from it gazed upon the scene below. Zealandia's loveliest city lay spread at his feet. He lifted his eyes to the lofty hills surrounding it, and he looked far away down the harbour to the lighthouse at the entrance, and beyond that still till he could catch a gleam from the blue waves of the Pacific. The moon was rising just over the Heads, and turned the sea to living gold. As he looked upon that pathway of gold, strange unwonted thoughts rose within him of the "sea of glass with mingled fire." Was Mrs Frazer right? Was the Eternal God in the crucible of suffering preparing the British Empire for world dominion? What might not that Empire accomplish for the world were she always loyal to the highest ideals! If she always sent out to weaker races men like Chinese Gordon, like Lawrence and Havelock; men who spent themselves for others without a thought of reward; men whom their dark-skinned brothers loved and trusted. Could she but eliminate the greed for gold, and so rule and so decree that no company which exploited weaker races, which ground them down by usurious interest, should be able to claim the protection of the Union Jack. With shame he thought how for greed of gold opium had been forced on China, how the gigantic evil of strong drink was destroying white and black races alike, and all to fill the pockets of the ghouls who batten on the ruin and death of others. A flush of shame darkened his face when he contrasted Russia and Roumania with Great Britain. How the Russian Government, on the eve of a mighty war, had by a stroke of a pen stopped the vodka traffic and robbed itself of a princely revenue. Roumanian statesmen had given up the profits from their vineyards for the national good. What a contrast to Britain! How the liquor-sellers had howled at the prospects of reduction in their profits, and had terrified a weak Government into submission.

Hour after hour the Minister spent in reviewing the situation. Never a

materialist, yet the influence of the spiritual touched him as never before. On his knees that night he got a glimpse of a wonderful Empire that should rule the world. Britain had learnt her lesson, and in the reconstruction of her Empire every licensed evil was swept away. She upheld the standard of "a white life for two." She had learnt that person was more valuable than property, and protected her young people of both sexes as long as she protected their property. That night Walter Broad got a glimpse of the heavenly vision, and on his knees he promised his God to be obedient to it as one of old had been.

Next morning Cabinet met. A strong demand had been made by the people for the restriction of the liquor traffic, and Cabinet was to discuss it that morning. Once more the brewing interests in the Cabinet blocked the path of reform.

Then the Minister of Defence said he intended to follow the example of our ally, the U.S.A., and forbid liquor to be sold or given to any man in uniform. A murmur of protest arose. Were our soldiers to be treated as children? Particularly loud in protest was the Hon. A. Cohen. Quietly Broad turned to the Premier:

"Sir, I consider that a man who has financial interests in the liquor trade should refrain from voting on this matter, either in the Cabinet or in the House."

The bombshell had exploded. Who would have expected it to come from the calm, well-balanced Minister of Defence? The Premier, with others, feared to offend "the trade" and lose its vote; but Broad had been lifted above these considerations. Cohen sprang to his feet:

"Sir," he spluttered, "do you mean to insinuate that my vote is biased on this question?"

"No," said Broad, "I don't insinuate. I speak plainly. If a Judge is not allowed to try a case in which he has financial interest, neither should a politician be allowed to vote against a measure which, if passed, would cut his profits down to nil. Sir, the country's need must go before the brewer's profits. It has been proved up to the hilt that the greatest menace to our efficiency is strong drink, yet the liquor trade is unwilling to give up even half an hour

a day of its trading. Throughout the British Empire not a liquor-seller has been patriotic enough to say, 'Don't consider us; do what is best for the nation at this crisis.' There is not a single reason for giving drink to our soldiers. All expert opinion agrees that even in moderation it is harmful, and every soldier and every civilian also is better without it. Sir, I claim the right of a free hand to deal with this matter as regards the soldiers."

Much discussion followed, but in the end he got his free hand. Were it refused, he would appeal to the people, and Cabinet knew the country was with him in this matter.

The struggle was won, but he returned wearied to his home. There he sought his wife's presence. Quiet and undemonstrative as he was, not a man to wear his heart upon his sleeve, but his wife was enshrined in his heart of hearts, as fondly worshipped as on the day when he wooed and won her among the forest trees around her home. Briefly he told her what had transpired, and spoke of his resolution to guard the boys committed to his care by the loyal, loving mothers of the Dominion. Fondly kissing him, she murmured, "How proud I am of you! How I prayed that you might take a firm stand for right!"

The abuse of the trade was heaped upon him, and for a time he was the best hated man in Zealandia. His was not the winning personality that attracts all hearts, but as the years went on Zealandia learnt to value the man who had been true to her best interests, and trusted him fully. He lived to see the total prohibition of the liquor trade in his loved isles, and when he passed to higher service, it was amid the mourning of a whole Dominion.

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WELLINGTON, JULY 18, 1917.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

The Dominion Executive of the W.C.T.U. met at Wellington on June 29th. Mrs Lee-Cowie gave a report of her work since Convention. Mrs Cowie has held meetings throughout the Dominion, and has stirred up great interest and enthusiasm in our campaign for National Prohibition. Several hundreds have given in their names at our meetings as wishing to join our Union, and a large increase of membership has resulted.

The Alliance Convention, held in Wellington in June, was a very fine gathering, many said the best Alliance Convention they had ever attended. It was certainly an improvement to have the gathering at each session presided over by its President. Important changes in the Constitution of the Alliance were adopted after careful consideration and weighty discussion, and should make for much greater efficiency.

The Public Meeting in the Town Hall was a fine one. The building was well filled, and a disturbing element, well primed with the brewer's best, was much in evidence. One speaker commented upon the kindness of the publicans in sending specimens of their products as exhibits at a temperance meeting. Another remarked that when you got a temperance meeting as quiet as a prayer meeting there was nothing doing.

Rev. Paterson, of Christchurch, in his address at the Town Hall, made a strong appeal for 6 o'clock closing—(1) For safe streets at night. Soon the Second Division would be called, and many youths in their teens would be left without fathers, uncles, or elder brothers. The Government had conscripted all these, therefore upon it was placed the obligation to safeguard these boys from the Liquor Bars. (2) For Equality of Sacrifice. Mothers were sacrificing their sons, wives their husbands. It was time the Government said to **the Trade**, "Line up with the rest of us, and do your share of sacrificing for the nation's good."

DEPUTATION TO CABINET.

From the Alliance Convention a deputation went to Cabinet. Mr Massey, Sir Joseph Ward, and Sir James Allen were present, and Mr A. S. Adams, Rev. R. S. Gray, and Mrs A. R. Atkinson were the speakers. They strongly presented the case for 6 o'clock closing on the ground of efficiency, economy, and stern necessity in this hour of national peril.

Mr Massey, in replying, said it was wrong to say this trade was entrenched behind the Government. The Government would not shirk dealing with this trade. It had done much to restrict the liquor trade. The National Government had given us anti-shouting.

Rev. Gray: A screaming farce.

Mr Massey: The Government had forbidden the sale of liquor to young people under twenty-one.

Chorus of voices: Broken every day.

Mr Massey: The Government had enacted that any publican allowing drunken or disorderly persons on their premises could have their licenses cancelled.

Mrs Atkinson: Can you tell us how many licenses have been cancelled for that cause?

Mr Massey: I really cannot say.

Mr A. S. Adams: Not one.

Rev. Gray: They threatened a man in Wellington, but never took a license away.

Mr Massey promised that the matter should be considered by Cabinet, and a Bill brought down early in the session.

Rev. Gray said that the Temperance Party would accept no compromise. Six o'clock was our irreducible minimum.

Altogether the prospects for early closing do not appear to be very rosy.

AN INDIAN BARRISTER ON WOMEN.

The following concluding words of an address given before the United Provinces Educational Conference, 1916, by Sri Prakasa, Barrister-at-Law, shows that advanced Eastern and Western thought are not so far apart in regard to the position of women:—

"If woman's part is so great in creation, it is equally great in the preservation of our kind. If we want to keep alive what is left as best in our Indian polity; if we want to save our social life from the vulgarisation that is creeping into it due to the lack of the staying influence of women; if we want to preserve the peace of our domestic hearths, already sadly violated; if we want our political life to be vigorous and effective, and not to be futile as it is, owing to the lack of the support of our women—if we want all this, then let that element in human life which has helped so greatly in bringing us into being, let that element also help and guide us in managing our public and private endeavours which are all for the one purpose of preserving our individual lives and the lives of the race. With woman's help, support, and sympathy, man can do much; without it, man is helpless as helpless can be; and in the words of Sri K. G. Gupta: 'In the qualities of Indian womanhood, in the power of well-directed sacrifice and service, lies the assured hope of national regeneration.'"

"WASHINGTON STAR."

"In deference to the wishes of many of its readers, the 'Star' will not print advertisements of intoxicating beverages hereafter."

Correspondence.

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

THE EDUCATION OF GIRLS.

(To the Editor).

Dear Madam,—I do not wish to enter into any long controversy on the subject of differentiation in the education of girls. I think my letter stated pretty clearly my views on the subject, but in justice to myself, may I refer the writer of the article in the June number to an article which appeared on the first page of the January number? A reference is there made to the Council of Education's recommendations, and their subsequent endorsement by a conference of women teachers.

This is one of the articles I had in my mind when writing.

With both writers in the June issue, I am at one in the belief that girls should have the widest educational opportunity, but I believe that this must be done with due recognition of that preparation for life specially needed by the mothers of the race. I cannot subscribe to the idea that the fathers and the mothers need exactly the same educational training, though much of it may be on similar lines. It is certainly just as necessary that boys should be trained for the responsibilities of fatherhood as that girls should be trained for the duties of motherhood, but the training required for both, though equally important, is not identical.

One of the greatest needs to-day is expressed in that aim of the World's W.C.T.U.: "To preserve the home and to safeguard child life."

Few of us can feel any satisfaction with the present condition of things, and the resolutions I referred to in my last letter dealt with the matter from a practical standpoint.—I am, etc.,

EMILY A. CHAPLIN, B.A.,
President N.Z. Women's
Teachers' Assc.

(We must apologise to Miss Chaplin for incorrect statement. The article in June issue was written away from home, and no "W.R." to hand, the writer forgot that, though the full report had not reached our office, a Press Association message was commented on.—Ed. W.R.)

(To the Editor.)

Madam,—I have read with interest the articles and correspondence on sex differentiation in education, appearing recently in your paper. Miss Chaplin's letter in your May number makes known the fact that the N.Z. Women Teachers' Association, at a conference of delegates, approved of the principle of differentiation in the education of boys and girls, and desired to see it put into immediate operation. In order that your readers

may know that there is also a body of educational opinion strongly opposed to differentiation on sex grounds, I would like the resolution of the Wellington Branch of the New Zealand Educational Institute to have the same publicity as that of the Conference of Women Teachers. The resolution, passed at a largely attended meeting, was as follows:—"That the Wellington branch of the N.Z.E.I. affirms its opinion that the principle that the segregation of the sexes is desirable in the primary schools from Standard III. upwards (adopted in a report by the Council of Education), is fundamentally unsound, and it is based on fallacies regarding the intellectual, moral, and national training of children." This resolution has been forwarded to the Executive of the N.Z.E.I., with a strong recommendation that active steps be taken by the Institute to prevent such principle being enforced in practice, inasmuch as it is believed that such a course would be an educational, and therefore a national, calamity. The resolution has been remitted to all branches of the Institute for general discussion, and the result will be awaited with keen interest by all who value the opinion of our men teachers equally with that of the women. I am sure we are all agreed upon the importance of the education of our boys and girls, and that the women teachers and the women members of the Council of Education, in recommending this alteration, are actuated by the highest motive, disinterested concern for the welfare of our girls and our nation, but as the aim of all feminist movement is to remove sex barriers, it appears to some of us an exceedingly retrograde step to base our educational system upon sex, and so lay the foundation of a morbid sex-consciousness, which cannot fail to react disastrously upon women, and through them upon the nation.

Miss Chaplain refers to (1) the citizen, (2) the home, (3) the wage-earning aspects as three separate considerations, which is, I think, confusing. They are not three, but one, as the second and third are of necessity included in the first. The aim of our educational system, primary, secondary, and university, is to make perfect citizens, and no one is a perfect citizen who is not a good parent and a capable worker. As the girls of this country will be enfranchised citizens, they are entitled to just the same educational advantages as the boys, and vice versa. As we value our freedom, let us struggle to maintain our system of co-education. Thanking you in anticipation.—I am, etc.,

MARGARET GRAHAM.

"THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILDREN."

(To the Editor.)

Madam,—The enclosed clipping from the Sydney "Bulletin" should be widely read, though the writer should have remembered the inexorable law

men invoke, "The sins of the fathers shall be visited on the children," and in remembering that, should have warned young people to restrain themselves. That the effect of their self-indulgence does not stay with them, but punishes innocent children. That, in fact, sensual indulgence is essentially child-murder.

Think of it, young men and women. Self-indulgence is not "a good time," but child-murder and incredible suffering for all concerned. Pause and think! Is it worth while?—I am, etc.,

SAM. A. BROWNE.

Clevedon, Auckland, July 2nd, 1917.

Commonwealth Statistician Knibbs supplied some surprising figures to the Sydney Child Welfare Conference. In Australia, if the average death-rate for the first day after birth were maintained, there would be no kiddies left after 106 days. In all other countries, unless perhaps Maoriland, a shorter period would make corpses of them all. However, the rate falls off rapidly for the first week; then more slowly till the twelfth year. By that time it is only 1-3400th of what it was on the first day. Then it begins to increase again. Australia's mortality for the first year has been falling for the last 30 years. Knibbs suggests that as the first year is so fatal, the end of that period might well be taken as the datum peg for measuring the effective birth-rate: i.e., instead of counting all children born, only the first year's survivors might be reckoned. Australia's survivors are now 93 per cent. of births, as against Chile's 68 per cent. Congenital debility and malformation are the young immigrants' most frequent enemies—a fact which some good folk who reckon that venereal disease is "punishment for sin" might paste in their hats. Also, having discovered what "sin" the poor little immigrants have committed, they might paste that in their hats, too.

CANTERBURY PROVINCIAL CONVENTION.

Mrs Lill, Secretary of above, writes that Convention will meet at Ashburton on September 4th and 5th. Will Unions having resolutions to bring forward, or papers suitable for reading at Convention, forward same to Mrs Lill before the end of July? Also names and addresses of delegates (every Union entitled to send two delegates). Any Union wishing to entertain Convention in 1918 please bring or send in writing. The levy of 1d per member for Secretary's expenses is now due. Address Mrs W. T. Lill, Willowby, Ashburton.

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IN THE FIELD.

On Tuesday, June 5, I gave a talk on "Girls and Their Lovers," Deaconess Brand presiding. There was a fine audience, and in response to a show of hands a Purity meeting was arranged for the following Monday, but this was abandoned on account of the floods.

A few days were spent in Waipukurau, where I was the guest of Mrs R. Harding, and on 26th I attended the meeting of the Woodville Union, spending the night with Mrs Perkins. Mrs Cowie had just visited them, and secured a number of members, several of whom we initiated.

Dannevirke was reached on 15th, hospitality being kindly extended by Mrs Heenan and my old friend, Mrs Griffin, of the Parsonage. On the Sunday I had an opportunity of setting forth our work in the Methodist Church, this effort being followed up by a home meeting at the Parsonage during the week.

On 27th Mrs Chote, of Tipapakuku, threw open her house, and we had a very fine home meeting, and the following day the campaign was concluded with a meeting in Knox Hall, Dannevirke. Altogether seventeen new members were secured and six "White Ribbon" subscribers.

I went up to the June meeting of the Norsewood branch, which was held at Mrs Christiansen's, and did a little visiting, and on 29th arrived at Ormondville, where a branch was organised, under the leadership of our late Assistant Corresponding Secretary, Miss Alice Webb, who transferred from Norsewood. Thirteen new members were secured, the Branch being unique in having as Vice-Presidents three ministers' widows—two Anglicans and one Presbyterian. I spent the night with the last-named—Mrs Smale—and on the Monday went on to Norsewood. Here there were three dear ladies ready to entertain me—Mrs Speight, Mrs Gatman, and Miss Oleson. Home meet-

ings were held at the homes of Mrs Anderson and Mrs Speight, and well attended, and another was arranged for Miss Oleson's for July 4th. Rev. Gatman came for me in a perfect gale of wind and rain, and on the way to Garfield we were treated to a hail-storm. Before we had gone a dozen yards my storm-cap and motor veil took flight, and I rolled my rug over my head, and twice it was torn off by the wind. However, I was glad I braved the elements, for two ladies had done the same, and we had a chat over the work.

M. S. POWELL.

Address: C/o Miss Dewar, Pompallier Terrace, Ponsonby, Auckland.

EXPLAINING THE QUOTATION.

"Man wants but little here below."

He wants his meals cooked just right, and composed of the particular things he likes to eat. He wants his clothes kept in perfect order, and the buttons sewed on. He wants to get up when he gets ready, and then he wants to swear because he misses his car to the office. He wants to be cross when he comes home, and not have it mentioned. He wants to leave his coat, hat, and shoes just where he happens to take them off when he comes in. He wants his slippers right in a certain place, where he can find them without effort. He wants to put the ashes from his cigar in the most convenient place while he smokes. He wants to yawn and go to bed when his wife wants him to go out with her and make a call. **He wants everything just as he wants it,** and he wants no talk about it.

A stockbroker remarked, "I tell you, the world looks different to a man when he has a bottle of champagne in him," and received the courteous but illuminating reply, "Yes, and he looks different to the world."

STRENGTH OF THE NATION MOVEMENT.

Mrs Lee-Cowie wishes me to ask Unions and friends to please note that all donations to the funds of the Strength of the Nation Movement should be sent to the Union Treasurer, Mrs Bendely, Aratonga Avenue, One Tree Hill, Auckland.

C. HENDERSON,

Corresponding Secretary.

EDITH CAVELL.

(Shot October 12, 1915.)

She faced the firing squad alone,
And with unbandaged eyes
Looked upward to the moon that
shone,
The moon of English skies.

The prison faded from her view,
The trampling armed men,
And in the lanes her childhood knew
She roamed a child again.

A tiny flag upon her breast
Showed where her heart did lie;
I am glad, she smilingly confessed,
For England's sake to die.

A volley! and her spirit fled
From earth without a groan.
O foeman, wept ye o'er the dead,
Or had ye hearts of stone?

Know none of you her gentle hand
Had smoothed your comrades' cot?
Shrank none of you from their com-
mand
To fire the fatal shot?

Her blood proclaims with crimson
stain
The doom of tyranny;
They die for freedom not in vain
Who die as brave as she.

—E.S.B.

THE RUSSIAN BUDGET.

Despite war expenses amounting to 12,000,000,000 roubles, and thanks to the abolition of the alcohol monopoly, the financial strength of the country is growing. The savings of the nation since the beginning of the war have increased by 2,000,000,000 roubles.—The Russian Minister of Finance.

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.)

NELSON.

June 13. Mrs Watson presided. Report of Convention given by Mrs Hill. Letter-writers appointed to those who are out of touch with the Union and to those who have lost relatives by the war. White Ribbon Day observed, and collection of 12s 6d for Maori Fund. The second Manifesto distributed among members.

June 25. Petition for 6 o'clock closing presented to Mr Field, M.P. A large attendance of Temperance workers and the general public. Mr Field expressed his entire sympathy with the petition, and promised to give it all the support possible. A deputation from the W.C.T.U. then waited upon Mr Field re the appointment of women police, which also was favourably received. Dr. Ada Paterson, medical school inspector, gave an address on Medical Work in the Schools. There was a good attendance, in spite of bad weather, and a very interesting address was listened to with closest attention and deep interest.

MANAIA.

June 20. Mrs Parkinson presided. Owing to illness, Mrs Patterson resigned as President, and Mrs Tait was elected to the position. Mrs Parkinson reported that lists of signatures for 6 o'clock closing had been sent in. Miss Parkinson was elected Secretary.

FITZROY.

June 29. Mrs Douglas, District President, presided. Mrs Hayward elected President, and Mrs Gray Secretary. Decided to join New Plymouth in their Red Cross effort. One new member. Mrs Kibby elected delegate to Provincial Convention.

GREYTOWN.

June 26. President in the chair. Correspondence from Superintendents and officers. Reported that a deputation had waited on Mr Hornsby, M.P., re women police. He promised to support that, and also to vote for 6 o'clock closing.

MOSGIEL.

May 2. Manifesto for Strength-of-Nation movement received, and arrangements made to distribute it.

June 13. Letter received from Mrs Judson re Peace and Arbitration Department. Resolved that in view of the fearful war at present raging, and of the fact that we are fighting in

defence of the right, this branch of the W.C.T.U. considers the time inopportune for the circulation of the pamphlet on "International Relationships." Mrs Calder entertained members at afternoon tea. Six new subscribers for "White Ribbon."

NEW PLYMOUTH.

May 9. Strength of Nation movement. Ministers waited on, and expressed sympathy. Manifestoes distributed, and second one inserted in morning paper.

May 30. At request of Patriotic Committee, agreed to give a Mart Day.

June 13. Reports given. Deputation to Mr Okey, M.P., re women police.

June 27. Deep regret expressed at the death of Mrs Legg, and a resolution of sympathy with her family passed.

HAWERA.

June 28. Mrs Bone presided; 14 present. Mr Bone presented the Union with 100 copies of "Defeat," which were distributed. Miss Maunder and Mrs Gilling appointed delegates to Provincial Convention. Decided to meet for prayer every Wednesday afternoon.

NORTH-EAST VALLEY.

June 28. Mrs Peart presided. Rev. Griffith gave a very helpful address, speaking on the book "Defeat."

WANGANUI Y's.

June 25. Eighteen present, and two new members initiated. Mrs Upton gave a reading on the life of Frances Willard. Three new subscribers to "White Ribbon." Miss E. Lipper appointed Superintendent for the Cradle Roll.

RICHMOND (NELSON).

June 13. Mrs Fittal presided. Attendance good. Mrs Judson, of Nelson, gave a report of Convention. Manifestoes distributed, and members were urged to take an interest in municipal elections, and to discourage raffling at patriotic bazaars. Four new subscribers to "White Ribbon."

AVONDALE.

June. Combined meeting of W.C.T.U. and Mothers' Union. Address on "Social Evil" by Miss Weymouth. Forty present. Mrs Morton presided. The speaker pointed out how much drink was responsible for the Social Evil. Afternoon tea was served.

AUCKLAND.

June 21. Meeting held at Mrs Parkinson's to form a Y. Union. At a former meeting held in the same place arrangements had been made for starting a Branch. Miss Weymouth gave an address upon the work of Y. Branches, and officers were elected: Pres., Miss Alice Parkinson; Sec.,

Miss Hazel Patterson; Treas., Miss Emily Crowe; Vice-Pres., Misses Cook and Dorothy Parkinson; pianiste, Miss Scott. 15 members initiated.

ASHBURTON.

June 21. Mrs Watson presided. A large attendance of old and new members. Brief addresses were given on the duties and privileges of membership. The enrolment service was read, pledges signed, and 45 bows were adjusted. Cup of tea passed round.

July 3. T. E. Taylor Day. Attendance good, Mrs Watson presiding. Reported that a deputation had waited upon their member re women police, and he had promised to support the measure. Votes of thanks to Mr Ferriman for giving our Union the honour of being the first New Zealand Union to possess a life member. Rev. F. Oldrieve spoke on the life of T. E. Taylor. 15s collected for Maori Fund.

June 9. Mrs Lee-Cowie opened her mission by open-air on Saturday evening. A service at Willowby on Sunday morning, united meeting of Bible Classes at 3 p.m., service at Baring Square, followed by an "after church" rally. 98 names were handed in as future members of our Union, and to unite in supplication for the complete overthrow of the liquor traffic.

MARTON.

June. Petitions for 6 o'clock closing taken round by members, with good response. A maternity bag made by Union, and handed over to District Nurse.

TAURANGA.

July. Mrs Hammond's resignation accepted with regret. Mrs Turner to start L.T.L. at her earliest convenience. Decided to hold Cradle Roll meeting next month. Two new members admitted.

CAMBRIDGE.

May 1. Mrs James presided. Attendance good. A special meeting held in May re 6 o'clock closing petitions.

June 18. A large and representative deputation waited upon Mr Young, M.P., and presented petitions with 1235 signatures. The member promised to give all the help he could in the matter.

July 3. Mrs Shepherd presided. Mrs Cook, Purity Superintendent, spoke upon her department.

WANGANUI EAST.

June 29. Mrs Duxfield presided over a full meeting. Votes of sympathy passed to Mr and Mrs Knuckey and Mr and Mrs James in their bereavement, and to Mrs Jarman and Mrs Grace in their illness. Arrangements were made for a Home Meeting, also for a White Ribbon Guild in

connection with Red Cross work. 15s donated to Organising Fund. One new subscriber to "White Ribbon." Mrs Brewer appointed letter-writer, and copies of second Manifesto distributed.

MASTERTON.

June 3. Mrs Lee-Cowie opened her Strength of Nation movement with an open-air.

July 1. Mrs Cowie spoke at Methodist Church in the morning, and at a young people's rally in the afternoon. In the evening she addressed a large meeting in the Municipal Hall.

July 2. Mrs Cowie addressed a women's meeting in Knox Hall. An initiation service was held at the conclusion. In the evening, Mrs Cowie spoke in Municipal Hall, Mr Sykes, M.P., presiding. Mrs Cowie was heartily thanked for her inspiring and helpful meetings.

KAIKORAI.

May. Mrs Hiett, District President, formed a Y. branch.

June. Small meeting for Bible reading and prayer.

KAIAPOI.

May 30. Members urged to join in deputation to Mr Buddo, M.P., with 6 o'clock closing petitions. Meetings for Mrs Lee-Cowie were arranged. The proxy's account of Convention was read, and a letter of thanks sent to her for the same. Three new subscribers to "White Ribbon."

NGAERE.

June 5. Meeting held at residence of Mrs X. Jones. Attendance good. Misses Giddy and Blackford appointed delegates to Provincial Convention. Vote of sympathy to the Stott family in their bereavement.

FEILDING.

June 4. Successful social. L.T.L. members gave an excellent programme. Supper provided. A good attendance of parents and friends.

June 8. Attendance fair. Mrs Reeve welcomed. Union and League have been holding united meetings re 6 o'clock closing.

TAKAPUNA.

June 7. President in the chair. Arrangements made for helping at Soldiers' Club. Correspondence from Peace and Cradle Roll Departments were read, and dealt with. Members decided to assist in canvassing with petition for 6 o'clock closing. Miss Wallace elected Librarian.

HAMILTON EAST.

April. Mrs Snow presided. Decided to canvass with 6 o'clock closing petitions. Cradle Roll Superintendent reported several new babies on the roll.

TIMARU.

June. Mrs Rule presided and read the Dominion President's address. Deputation waited upon Mr Craigie re women police. The Member promised to support the reform. Copies of Manifesto circulated.

(This report was written in pencil, and the remainder is quite unreadable.—Ed. W.R.)

WELLINGTON CENTRAL.

July 3. An "At Home" held in the Methodist institute in Taranaki Street, under the auspices of the Ladies' Church Guild. Mrs Redstone welcomed the visitors, and spoke of the need for courage in the fight against alcohol. Mrs Lee-Cowie spoke of the "Red Plague," and showed that drink was the greatest factor in causing immorality. Afternoon tea served, and several new members gained.

NAPIER.

May 31. Social afternoon. President presided. Splendid attendance. Address by Miss Powell. Musical items, and collection in aid of mine-sweepers.

June 5. Deaconess Brand presided over a large attendance. Miss Powell gave a talk on "Girls and Their Lovers." Five new members.

June 6. Decided to send a copy of Mrs Judson's resolution on International Relationships to all headteachers in Hawke's Bay district. Letter of appreciation of her services upon Hospital and Charitable Aid Board to be sent to Mrs Fossey. Mrs Lee-Cowie's visit much appreciated, and as a result of her meetings, 53 new members joined. Resolution passed urging appointment of women police.

June 21. Miss McCarthy gave a talk on her department. Copies of resolutions passed at Mrs Cowie's meetings directed to be sent to Ministers. Letter sent to Hon. Russell urging him to have printed without delay pamphlets on "Dangers of Venereal Disease." Deputation to wait on M.P. re appointment of women police. Deputation received a favourable reply.

FEILDING.

June 25. A good attendance to hear Mrs Lee-Cowie.

July 4. Mrs Beattie presided. Attendance small. Decided to ask the District Convention to meet in Feilding in September. Good report of L.T.L., and Union decided to help their prize fund. Dorcas President reported helping needy families.

BLUFF.

June. White Ribbon Day celebrated at the home of Mrs Johnson. Articles read from "White Ribbon" and "Outlook." Decided to publish Mrs Lee-Cowie's second manifesto in the local paper. One new member. Afternoon tea served.

Usual monthly meeting held. Resolution re Temperance wall sheets

passed, and sent to School Committee. Arrangements made for Band of Hope meeting and T. E. Taylor Day.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

June 7. Monthly meeting, presided over by Mrs Houlder. Mrs Duxfield promised to give a demonstration of L.T.L. work the following week. Mesdames Boxall and Wright were appointed to attend Alliance meeting, and Mrs Wright was elected delegate from that meeting to the Conference. Mesdames Evans and Webb were elected to attend a meeting arranged by the Society for the Protection of Women and Children to discuss the Council of Education's proposals respecting the vocational training of girls.

July 5. Monthly meeting held, with good attendance. Arranged that a deputation wait upon Mr Hindmarsh, M.P., re women police, Mesdames Evans and McInnis to be the speakers. Mrs Evans, M.A., spoke of the resolutions of Convention, and explained them, especially those on Peace and Purity. Mesdames Wright and Webb were appointed Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent for L.T.L. respectively.

The L.T.L. was organised by Mrs Duxfield, when about thirty-five children joined. The children elected their own officers, and quite enjoyed the demonstration given. They decided to have the meetings weekly, and the attendance has been good.

At the conclusion of the L.T.L., a Y. Branch was formed by Mrs Napier, who gave a splendid account of the branches she had formed in Scotland. About twenty young women joined, and the election of officers was postponed till next meeting.

NGAERE.

July. Meeting held at Mrs Jemison's; 9 present. Reports read, and arrangements made for Provincial Convention. Mrs Witham appointed Superintendent for Cradle Roll and Purity, in the place of Mrs Kennington, whose resignation was accepted with regret. Reported that good work had been done with early closing petitions.

AUCKLAND.

June 13. Mrs Cook presided over a well-attended meeting. Congratulations sent to Mrs Alsop on her diamond wedding, and to Mrs Rule on her golden wedding. Adjutant Gordon appointed Superintendent for Prisons. Mrs Parkinson heartily thanked for allowing the young people to use her home for their meetings. Vote of thanks to Miss Weymouth and Mrs Smeeton for valuable help re Manifestos. Mr Falkner addressed the meeting. Several new members joined. Reported that Mrs Cook had introduced a representative deputation of women to the M.P.'s of the city electorates re women police. Mrs Cook appointed to represent the Union upon the National Council of Women,

June 27. Pay-up Social. Large attendance. Songs and recitations, afternoon tea, and address by Miss Weymouth. Several new members joined.

GREYMOUTH.

March 27. Meeting addressed by Rev. Val Trigg.

May 8. Sister Moody Bell reported organising Greymouth and Reefton for 6 o'clock closing petitions. Decided to renovate Sailors' Rest and engage new caretaker. Mrs Parkinson appointed letter writer. Mrs Sweetman's resignation accepted with regret.

May 28. Sailor's Rest anniversary and concert. Farewell to Mrs Sweetman, and presentation to her of a lovely amethyst brooch.

June 26. Resolution in favour of Initiative and Referendum. Sister Bell reported seeing police re Marble Bar open on Sundays, also that 963 names had been secured for early closing. Manifestos distributed. Mrs George Sweetman appointed Treasurer.

PORT CHALMERS.

July. Good meeting. Fine attendance. Earnest and inspiring address from Rev. W. Hay, of Dunedin. One new member.

WOODVILLE.

May 25. Mrs Perkins presided. Attendance fair. Letter read from Mrs Garroway and from Superintendent of Peace Department. Members reported good progress with the 6 o'clock closing petitions.

June 24. Mrs Lee-Cowie present for Sunday, June 24th, and took morning and evening services in the Methodist Church, and also addressed a meeting in the Salvation Army Hall in the afternoon. Mrs Cowie called for new members, and 40 signed as willing to join the Union. Hurrah!

June 26. Mrs Perkins presided. Attendance good. Deputation for the 6 o'clock closing had waited upon Mr Smith, M.P., and he promised to support the petition. Miss Powell was present, and gave an address on the Temperance work in our various Unions, and was thanked heartily. A deputation to wait on Mr Smith, M.P., re the appointment of women police. Miss Woodley was appointed "White Ribbon" agent and reporter. Nine new members initiated.

WANGANUI.

July. Mrs H. Smith (President) in the chair. Votes of sympathy were passed to Mrs W. Knuckey on the death of her son, killed in action, and to Miss Brechin on the death of her father. Mrs Bott read a letter received from Miss Arnott, a member of W.C.T.U., Capetown, S.A., showing the entertainment given to our N.Z. troops while in that town. Reported

that our White Ribbon Day sewing meeting is very well attended, and much work being done for Red Cross. One new member was initiated.

GISBORNE.

June 26. A fair attendance. White Ribbon Day was also celebrated. Six Maori sisters had been invited, but did not respond. Miss Davis, President of Tokomaru Bay Branch, was with us, and spoke of her work among the Maoris. A short report of Convention was also given by our delegate, Mrs Goffe. Afternoon tea was dispensed, and a collection of 13s 6d taken up for the Maori Fund. One new member nominated.

INVERCARGILL.

July. Mrs Baird presided over a good attendance of members. The "Initiative and Referendum" pamphlet given to Mrs Macalister to report on at next meeting. Decided to get copies of the leaflet "The White Christ" and the circular accompanying the leaflet, for distribution among the schools. A message of sympathy for Mrs Miller, so well known as a teacher of cookery, and who now is needing help, was passed, and a collection was taken up among members, the amount to be sent direct to Mrs Miller from the Union.

PALMERSTON NORTH.

July 6th. Mrs Crabb presided over a large attendance. Mrs Hodder reported that the deputation which waited on the A. and P. Association asking for the exclusion of the bars from the grounds on Show days, had not been successful in inducing the Association to take the desired step. Mrs Hulbert reported a large number of Mrs Lee-Cowie's prohibition manifestos had been distributed. It is anticipated that the Union will clear about £250 in connection with the tea and luncheon rooms at the Winter Show, £200 of which we have decided to set aside for a "Girls' Hostel" and £50 to the Y.M.C.A.

BATLEY.

June 4. I tu te mitini ate roopu wahine Otamatea ite whare o Winika Paanganui tetahi onga mema. Ka inoi nga mema nate Perehitini i whakamutu Ka puare nga take Take tuatahi kahi marama moni awhina moti mate o Pariata K Paikea he kotiro nate tuhituhi K Paikea £1 na Otamatea 6s 5d hei awhina mo tana mate o matou moni awhina na taaka 1s. He whakamihi kia Meri N Paikea he nui to matou matou hari kia koi I uru mai nei i runga ano i tou hiahia. Kia i uru kee kui roopu. Kite atua ano te whakapai mo tenei mema hou, he nui ano to matou aroha Kia matou heke-retari kia Taukura Noda ka kotahi nei marama kite hohipera o Paparoa mate atua ano ia o atawahi i ona mainui tanga. He mihi aroha kia Tuhi K Paikea; enoho ana i tona mate mete pouritanga ki tana kotiro kua weka

nei ia ia mate matua nui ite e whakamarie nga Pouritanga hoi ano Nate Perehitini i whakamutu.—Rutera Karena.

L.T.L. REPORTS.

AVONDALE.

June 15. Inaugural meeting. Demonstration given by about 50 boys and girls, under leadership of Miss Weymouth, who deserves our thanks for her untiring efforts. It was decided to form a branch at Avondale. Mr Wesley Spragg addressed the children, and his theme was "Alcohol has its place, but that place is not inside the human body." Three children, dressed as Maoris, gave a poi song.

NGAIO.

Mrs Duxfield reports organising L.T.L. at Ngairo, visiting the Wellington Central Branch, and setting it going on real L.T.L. lines; also organising an L.T.L. for Wellington District Union. Mesdames J. Wright (District), Remington (Central), and Darvall (Ngairo) are Superintendents.

Branch of the L.T.L. started with a roll of 35 members. Mrs Duxfield, of Wanganui, organised, and deserves our hearty thanks for her work. Our officers for the first three months were elected as follows:—Pres., Miss Joan Beaglehole; Treas., Walter Huntingdon; Sec., Eric Holmes; Vice-Pres., Flossie Buckley and Buzzacot Rowden; Librarian, Ray Barnes; Organist, Sigrid Lynneberg. Two meetings have been held since the initial one, and the members help with the programme very willingly. Last week a very interesting talk, with chemical experiments, was given on "Alcohol." When our necessary literature arrives, we should be able to have very good evenings indeed.

WANGANUI AND OKOIA.

held a combined entertainment in St. Paul's Hall. Although the night was wet, there was a large attendance, and a good programme of choruses, songs, dialogues, haakas, physical drill, and tableaux were given. The Superintendent wishes to gratefully acknowledge the splendid assistance given by adult well-wishers of the L.T.L. A donation of £2 towards hymn books was gratefully received from a very interested White Ribboner, and also a pretty basinette with rockers (they are almost unprocurable now), for the use of L.T.L. entertainments in our "Cradle Song." The Wanganui East Union, under whose auspices the two Legions have been worked, provided supper at conclusion of the entertainment.

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

PRIZE ESSAY.

MATAKANA SCHOOLS.

TEMPERANCE IN REGARD TO
THE WAR.(First Prize Essay, by Lilian
Jennings.)

England is fighting a righteous war in protection of a weaker country against the oppression of Germany and her allies. Germany, as well as Great Britain, signed the treaty to protect Belgium against the stronger countries, and she herself (Germany) raided her. Our Empire stands true to her pledge. It is a terrible struggle, in which she is involved; in fact, this is the greatest war recorded in history, and the Empire will need our best help, both individually and as a Dominion, if we would help to tide her over the inevitable crisis.

If we give our best help to her, we will give our most efficient soldiers, and our women, too, must be trained competently to act as nurses, besides taking the places of many of the men during their absence.

Our most efficient soldiers are those who are healthiest, both mentally and physically. The healthiest men are usually those living in the healthiest localities and consuming the healthiest foods and drinks. These are the type of soldier who resist disease.

Kitchener has said that alcohol is man's worst enemy, and in some of his speeches declared that drink is doing more harm than all the German submarines, and that any Government that touched alcohol burnt its fingers in its lurid flame.

Admiral Jellicoe said: "It is everyone's experience that total abstinence is necessary for the highest efficiency."

In spite of these confident assertions by such capable men, many of the public think that it is only heavy drinking which harms, and that moderate drinking increases efficiency and increases muscular strength and powers of endurance. Happily, however, experiments coincide with our statesmen, and prove that alcohol lessens efficiency and lowers vitality, thus opening the door to disease.

Besides our soldiers must have their senses clear to perform their duties. That is why the Russian Government prohibited the sale and consumption

of vodka. King George has set us a good example by prohibiting the use of alcoholic beverages in his household during the war.

If we really wish to help to rid our country of this drink evil we will train our children to see its evil effects and abstain from it themselves, and those of us who are older can help by voting for early closing of hotels, dry canteens, and Prohibition.

Many people think that if Prohibition were carried many people would be thrown out of employment. Now, there are about eight thousand people employed in hotels in New Zealand. If the hotels were closed the waiters, cooks, and generals would all be required as at the present time. This would only leave about one and a half thousand thrown out of employment, and better times under Prohibition would find employment for about six thousand extra. This would be an inestimable advantage to the country. On the contrary, supposing all the eight thousand were thrown out of employment, should we demoralise eight hundred and fifty thousand for their sake? That alcohol is the cause of most of our insanity, poverty and crime is proved by the fact that the prison commissioners reported that 95 per cent. of the people who went to prison in 1911 were of intemperate habits.

The late Lord Roberts said: "Treating soldiers to drink is injurious to them, and prejudicial to our chances of victory."

Are we going to be demoralised, have unhappy homes and lose this war, or are we going to grow strong, and noble, and win it?

At the International Congress on Tuberculosis in United States in 1905, it was resolved to combine the struggle against alcohol with that against tuberculosis. It is stated that at the General Hospital, Boston, alcohol as a medicine has declined seventy per cent. during three years.

It is stated that most of the strikers of the present time are drinkers, who spend all their earnings at the public houses, and so have nothing to lose. They seriously disturb the peace and welfare of the country.

A band of Scottish soldiers when marching through the snow over Europe last winter thought, when they camped for the night, that some whisky would keep them warm. Some of them drank a lot, some only a little,

and the remainder none at all. In the morning those who had drank heavily were dead, those who had drank a little, were feeling very bad, and those who had drank none were all right. It has been ascertained that those of the soldiers in the trenches who were given rum were the most badly frost bitten.

A wounded soldier who has had drink does not recover nearly so quickly as a teetotaler.

God end war! But when brute war
is ended
Yet shall there be many a noble
soldier,
Many a noble battle worth the win-
ning,
Many a hopeless battle worth the
losing.
Life is battle.
Life is battle even to the sunset.

Yes! to this thought I hold with firm
persistence;
The last result of wisdom stamps it
true,
He only earns his freedom and exist-
ence
Who daily conquers them anew.

Ashburton, 1st Tuesday, 2.45 p.m., in Barin Square Schoolroom; Pres., Mrs W. K. Watson, Box 37; Sec., Miss Trevurza, 169 Peter Street; Asst. Sec., Miss A. C. Watson, 84, Cameron St.; Treas., Mrs W. T. Lill, Willowby; Asst. Treas., Mrs J. H. Dent, Wills St.; "W.R." Supt., Miss Butterick, Wakanui.

Ruckland District, 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 2, 3 p.m., Central Mission Hall, Albert St.; Pres., Mrs Cook, Point St., Mt. Eden; Cor. Sec., Miss N. Dewar, Pompallier Terr.; Ponsonby; Rec. Sec., Mrs J. W. Taylor, Sentinel Rd., Ponsonby; Treas., Mrs McLean, Princeps St. Grey Lynn; Org. Treas., Miss Dewar, 4 Pompallier Terr., Ponsonby; "W.R." Agent Mrs Nelson, Esplanade Road, Mt. Eden.

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

Cambridge, first Tuesday in month, in Victoria Hall, at 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs E. James; 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, Tui 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, Taboraiti; 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., and Press Cor., Miss Macartney, 156, Eglinton Road, Mornington; Rec. Sec., Miss Roseveare, Castle Street; Supt. **WHITE RIBBON**, Mrs Anderson, 32, Duke St; Treas., Miss Reid, Bishopton, Roslyn.

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

Feilding, 1st Thursday, 3 p.m., St. Paul's Hall; Pres., Miss Moore, c/o Mr. W. H. Bain, Feilding; Rec. Sec., Miss Jordan, c/o Mr H. Feild; 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 Goffe, Ormond Rd.; Sec., Mrs F. S. Malcolm, Gladstone Rd.; Treas., Mrs F. J. Wilkes, 466 Gladstone 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 Tuesday at 2.30 p.m. in Presbyterian Sunday School. President, Mrs Whincoop; Secretary, Mrs Banks, Humphreys St.; Treasurer, and W.R. Agent, Mrs Cox, 241 Main Street.

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, 8 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Moore, Stortford; Sec., Mrs P. C. Griffiths, Market St.; Treas., Mrs Martindale, Market St.; "W.R." Agent, Mrs Cameron; Vice-Pres., Mrs Clapham; Asst. Sec., Mrs Boyle, Lyndon Road.

Hawera meets in Wesley Hall, Regent Street, on the last Thursday, at 8 p.m. Pres., Mrs Bone, Dive's Av.; Rec. Sec., Miss Bischoff, Turuturu Rd.; Cor. Sec., Mrs Peacock, c/o Mrs Taylor, South Rd.; Treas., Mrs Best, Millmoe 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 James Baird; Vice-Pres., Mrs J. McKenzie, Mrs C. H. Macalister, Mrs H. Lee-Cowie and Mrs Garrett; Rec. Sec., Mrs Frank Lilliecap, Earn St.; Cor. Sec., Sis. Moody Bell; Treas. and "W.R." Agent, Mrs James Hunter, 110, Don St.

Invercargill South. Meets every second Tuesday, in Amethyst Hall, at 3 p.m. Pres., Mrs Pasley, Centre St., Georgetown; Sec., Mrs Parkin, 80 Bowman St.; Treas., Miss Pyle, Amethyst Hall, Bowman 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.

Lower Hutt, first Tuesday, Church of Christ, Queen St., at 2.45 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Ballantyne, Belmont Rd.; Sec., Mrs Chittenden, Bridge Street; Treas., Mrs Frethey, Main Rd.; Cradle Roll, Mrs Heyes, Brunswick St.; W.R. Agent, Mrs Burn, Aglionby Street.

Lytelton, 1st Wednesday, Presbyterian Schoolroom; Pres., Mrs Whitby; Sec., Mrs Bromley; Treas., Mrs Clark; "W.R." Agent, Miss Elsie Clark, "Waratah," W. Lyttelton.

Mania, 2nd Friday, Methodist Church; Pres., Mrs T. Tait; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames Prakinson and Hunt; Treas., Miss York; Sec., Miss Craig; Cradle Roll, Miss Ricketts; "W.R." Supt., Mrs Hunt.

Masterion, 1st Tuesday, Knox Hall, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Devonport; Sec., Mrs M. Flanagan, 4 Cole Street; Treas., Mrs Sutherland; White Ribbon Supt., Mrs Ross, High Street.

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 Eyton; "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 Wednesday and 3rd Thursday, Willard Institute, Carlyle St., 8 p.m. Pres., Mrs G. W. Venables, Ashridge Rd.; Sec., Mrs A. Chelley, Macdonald St.; Treas., Mrs Clare, Morris St.; Asst. Treas., Mrs Mens; Vice-Pres., Mrs Dodds; Home Meetings, Mrs Jenkins, Hastings St.; Cradle Roll and Flower Mission, Mrs J. Walker, Nelson Cres.; 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 W. Bycroft.

New Brighton, 3rd Thursday in Methodist Schoolroom. Pres., Mrs Hall, 36 Wainui St., New Brighton; Secretary, Mrs W. Smith, 344 Wainoni Rd., Christchurch; Treas., Mrs Nicholas, Brooke St., Bexley, N.B., Evangelistic Supt., Miss Tait, Bexley, N.B.; W.R. Agent, Mrs Langley, Park Rd., New Brighton.

New Plymouth District, last Wednesday, 2.30 p.m., Good Templar Lodgeroom; Pres., Mrs Allen Douglas, Pendarves Street; Sec., Mrs Griffin, 40, Buller Street; Treas., and W.R. Agent, Miss Taunt, Victoria Rd.

Normanby, Second Wednesday, 2 p.m., Social Hall; Pres., Mrs Scott, Rural Delivery, Normanby; Vice-Pres., Mrs Bevan and Mrs Clement; Sec., Mrs J. T. Saunders, Turu Turu Rd., Hawera; Treas., Mrs Lynn; Cradle Roll, Miss Clement; White Ribbon, Mrs Dickson.

Norsewood, 3rd Thursday, 2 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Speight; Vice-Pres., Mrs Fountain; Sec., Miss A. E. Olsen, "Willow Park"; Treas., Mrs S. Frederickson; "W.R." Agent, Miss Olsen, "Willow Park."

North East Valley, fourth Thursday, 2.45 p.m. Young Men's Institute. Pres., Mrs Peart, 4, Pine Hill Ter.; Sec., Miss M. Begg, 45, Selwyn Rd.; Treas., Mrs Sanders, 43, Frame St.; W.R. Supt., Mrs Wright, 78, Main Road.

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.

Opetiki, 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 Wednesday, 2.30 p.m., Coronation Hall; Pres., Mrs G. Ryde, Cooper's Creek; Sec., Mrs T. Gainsford; Treas., Miss Caverhill; "W.R." Mrs D. Hawke; Cradle Roll, Mrs Gainsford, Sr., and Mrs Clark; Evangelistic, Mrs D. Hawke; Flower Mission, Mrs Foot; Home Meetings, Mrs Clark; Notable Days, Mrs Comyns.

Palmerston N. District, 1st Friday, St. Andrew's Schoolroom, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Crabb, 51, College St. W.; 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, 27 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 Vant, Beresford St.; Vice-Presidents, Mrs Stevenson and Mrs Wilson; Rec. Sec., Miss Usher; Cor. Sec. Mrs Haslem, East St.; Treas., Mrs Wilson; "W.R." Agent, Mrs Stevenson; Cradle Roll, Mrs Mee.

Rangiora, last Friday, anse-room of Institut 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 Wednesday, 3 p.m., Methodist Church; Pres., ; Vice-Pres., Mrs White and Mrs Phillips; Sec., Mrs J. McAllister; Treas., Mrs Birdsill.

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.; Pres., Mrs Lamb; Cradle Roll, Miss Evans, Victoria St.; White Ribbon Agent, Mrs Brooker, 11, Mere Mere St.

Tuakau, 2nd Thursday, Methodist Church, 2.30 p.m. Pres., Mrs Hunter; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Madill, Lee, Long and Graham; Sec., Mrs C. Bycroft; Treas., Mrs Goldsmith; Supt. Band of Hope, Miss Worthington; Supt. Cradle Roll, Miss Burns; White Ribbon Supt., Miss Dwen.

Waimate, 2nd Wednesday, in Knox Church Hall, at 8 o'clock; President, Mrs W. Stewart; Secretary, Mrs Geo. Dash, P.O. Box 27; Treasurer, Mrs S. J. Hitchens, "Te Rangi, Mill Rd."; "W.R." Supt., Mrs G. H. Graham, Rhodes St.

Waipawa, 4th Tuesday, 2.30 p.m.; Methodist Church; Pres., Mrs H. McLean, Waverley St.; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Bott and Harding; Sec., Mrs James Bibby, Rose St.; Treas., Miss Johnson, Rose St.; White Ribbon Supt., Mrs S. Bott.

Wanganui East meets last Friday at 2.30 p.m. in Anglican Schoolroom. Pres., Mrs Duxfield; Mahoney St.; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Blair, Aubury, and Andrew; Sec. and Treas., Mrs Andrew, Mackay St.; Rec. Sec., Mrs Ambury, Mackay St.; W.R. Agent, Mrs Melvin, Young St.

Wanganui District, 1st Friday, 2.30 p.m. Trinity Church Parlour. Pres., Mrs H. Smith, 88 Liverpool St.; Sec., J. Upton, 165, Victoria Av.; Treas., Mrs Siddells, Guyton Street; Rec. Sec., Mrs Bott, Wicksteed Street; "W.R." Supt., Mrs W. R. Grant, Harrison Place.

Warkworth, last Thursday, 2.30 p.m., Schoolroom, Methodist Church; Pres., Mrs Attwood; Sec., Mrs Hamilton; Treas., Mrs Cox; "W.R." Agent, Mrs Jones; Press Reporter, Mrs Tiplady.

Winchmore, 1st Wednesday, 2.30 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Frost; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames Prebble, 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 Houlder, 108 Wallace St.; Sec., Mrs Dennett, 27 North Terrace, Kelburn; Treas., Mrs Boxall, 40 Pirie 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 Monday, St. Andrew's Hall, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Hopkirk; Vice-Pres., Mrs Harding Mrs Nicholson and Mrs Sowry; 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 Hancock, Fox St.; Cradle Roll, Mrs Cole; "W.R." Agent, Mrs Thompson, Fox St.