

WOMEN'S
Christian Temperance Union
Of New Zealand.

Organised 1885.

"For God and Home and Humanity."

PRESIDENT:

MRS. DON,

Ravensbourne, Dunedin.

VICE-PRESIDENT:

MRS CRABB, Fitzherbert Street,
 Palmerston N.

RECORDING SECRETARY:

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

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:

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

TREASURER:

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

Official Organ:

"The White Ribbon."

Editor: Mrs Peryman, Port Chalmers.

Associate Editor: Mrs Evans, M.A.

Business Manager: Mrs Peryman,
 Port Chalmers.

NOMINATIONS FOR N.Z.
OFFICERS.

New Plymouth and Ashburton
 nominate:—

President: Mrs Don.

Rec. Sec.: Mrs W. A. Evans, M.A.

Cor. Sec.: Miss Henderson, B.A.

Treasurer: Mrs Bendely.

The White Ribbon.

For God and Home and Humanity.

WELLINGTON, FEB. 18, 1918.

A NOTABLE PARCEL.

Our Dominion President has just received a box from America, which contains articles of great historic interest to White Ribboners. It is a gift from Mr Horn, Topeka, Kansas. The box itself (whose dimensions are, roughly, 14 inches long by 6 inches wide and 5 deep) is made of wood from the old Kansas territorial Capitol at Lecompton, 20 miles east of Topeka. It was the seat of Government when the Free State men marched to Lecompton, overthrew the bogus Legislature, drove the Missourians across the border, and established a Legislature from which the present State Constitution and the State of Kansas was organised.

The box contains a gavel which is made from a billiard ball and a brevet-handle by a saloon-keeper of Osawatimie, Kansas, who decided to close his saloon and open a notion store after receiving a personal visit from Mrs St. John, wife of ex-Governor John Pierce St. John, who made a public speech in the saloon, and pleaded for the closing of the liquor bars at Osawatimie, as a step to a saloonless Kansas.

The gavel was presented to Mrs St. John at Olathe, Johnson County, at a public temperance meeting in July, 1880, and was used by her on her memorable tour through Kansas during the campaign of that year; it was beaten on the walls of the Kansas State Senate Chamber by Mrs Mary Ellen Lease, and was wielded in a humorous manner by the famous Carrie Nation at Paola; Governor St. John pounded this gavel on the block at Denver, Colorado, in the Convention when the liquor element lost their last hold on politics, and went down and out in that State.

The gavel was presented to Mr Horn October, 1916, and is now held by him; presented to Mrs Don, National President of the New Zealand W.C.T. U., as a mark of deep respect of the Kansas people to her, and to the organisation, as well as to New Zealand in general, trusting the souvenir will bring New Zealand the same or better conditions than Kansas, resulting in saloons being driven from the State. Mrs Don intends taking this gavel to Convention, and handing it over to our Custodian of Records.

There is also a Ruler, made from American Fragrant Cedar, from the log house where Abraham Lincoln was born. It was given to Mr Horn's father in 1863 during the Civil War, by the owner of the land where the log cabin still stood.

LAUGH IT OFF.

Are you worsted in a fight?

Laugh it off.

Are you cheated of your right?

Laugh it off.

Don't make tragedy of trifles,

Don't shoot butterflies with rifles,

Laugh it off.

Does your work get into kinks?

Laugh it off.

Are you near all sorts of brinks?

Laugh it off.

If it's sanity you're after,

There's no recipe like laughter,

Laugh it off.

SUPERINTENDENT'S LETTERS.

LITERATURE.

Dear Sisters,—Will every Union sending a delegate to Convention give them instructions to buy any literature that may be needed, and so save the heavy postage on parcels. I hope to have a good stock of everything in general use. Our stock of badges has very nearly run out, and we will not be able to get any more from Home until after the war. I have sent to Australia to see if they can be procured (or made) there. Unfortunately, they cannot be made in New Zealand, except at prohibitive prices. **Order now**, if any required, for it will have to be first come first served.—With best wishes for a good Convention.

S. HOULDER, Supt.

GOOD CITIZENSHIP.

I wish to call the attention of all our Unions to the Licensing Committee elections, which will take place in the second week in March, and nominations for which must be sent in before March 2nd. As these Committees are elected for three years, it is of the greatest importance that the Temperance party should be well represented, more especially as when the war comes to an end, as we sincerely hope it will do before the end of that time, it may be expected that efforts will be made to revert to pre-war conditions as regards the sale of liquor. Unions are therefore advised to make a special effort to nominate and to work for temperance candidates. All who are over 21, both men and women, whose names are on the Parliamentary Roll, are entitled to vote at this election.

I may also once more call attention to the School Committee elections in April, arrangements for which should be put in train in good time, and not left until after the Convention, when there is little time, and everything must necessarily be hurried. Only parents and householders resident in the district are entitled to a vote, but any individual householders in the district may be nominated as a candidate. Nominations should be in a week before the date of election.

MARIAN JUDSON, Supt.