

The White Ribbon

FOR GOD AND HOME AND HUMANITY

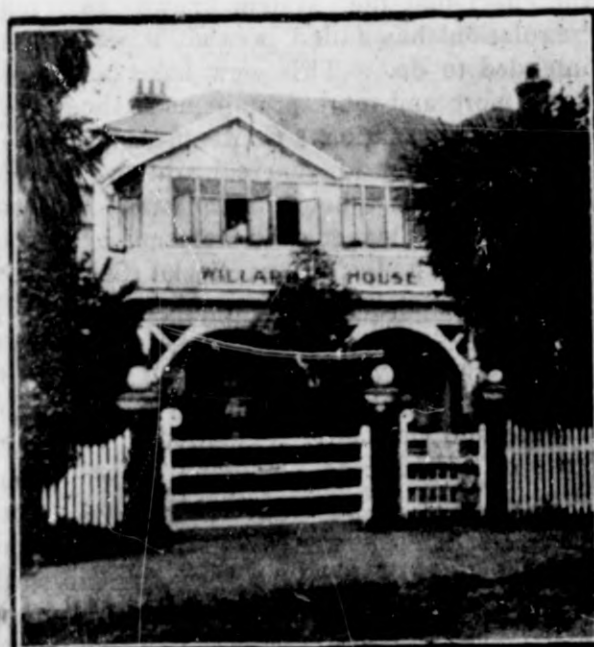
VOL. 23.—No. 272. WELLINGTON, N.Z., FEBRUARY 18, 1918.

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

THE MAIDEN TRIBUTE TO THE MODERN MARS.

Is the New Zealand soldier an immoral and an unclean animal? A letter from the pen of Miss Ettie Rout has raised this question in our minds. Do these soldiers of ours, who fight like heroes in the trenches, when on leave rush into a welter of animalism and sensualism which would shame the last days of the degenerate Roman Empire. This statement we absolutely refuse to believe, considering it an insult to hundreds of our fine young soldiers. No statesman has dared openly to say that immorality is necessary to a soldier's well-being. It is true that those in authority act as if they expect men to be immoral, but it has been left to a woman, and to the shame of our Dominion, be it added, a New Zealand woman, to state publicly the diabolical doctrine that it is necessary for thousands of young girls to be immolated upon the altar of Mars to satisfy the needs (mark, the writer does not say the lusts) of our young oldiers. Without one word of the necessity of a clean life, or of the need of self-control, Miss Rout calmly says that the only way to deal with venereal disease is (1) to control loose women, and (2) to issue prophylactics to soldier and civilian alike.

The most charitable construction we can put on this letter is that the writer never stopped to think what her words, carried to their logical issue, really meant. Is she aware that in asking for the control of loose women she is practically asking for the White Slave Trade? And does she not realise that the woman who deliberately, and in cold blood, asks for this measure, stands upon a lower



WILLARD HOUSE,
Palmerston North.

Willard House has been opened by the W.C.T.U. in Palmerston North as a home for soldiers' relatives. A medical corps of three to four hundred are always at Palmerston North. The married men can get leave to come to their families at Willard House in time for tea and stay till the next morning early. It can accommodate 15 families, and just before Christmas it was full, with seven babies in the house. The furnished rooms are let to tenants, who have the use of gas for cooking, and a dining-room, hall, lounge, and other necessities. The rent varies from 10s to 20s per week, according to the size of the rooms.

moral plane than the poor girls who are the victims of the traffic?

Control of loose women! What does it mean? It means compulsory examination of all prostitutes and compulsory detention of diseased ones, both of which measures the Royal Commission on Venereal Diseases pronounced against. It means the creation of a class of women who are to be sacrificed to the lusts of men. Now, the life of these poor creatures is always short; a very few years of vice removes them from the barbarity of men to the mercy of God. Who is to step into their places? Young girls. The Commissioner of Police in Sydney stated in evidence before the Royal Commission that every loose woman known to the police of Sydney began the life before 21 years of age, and most of them before 18. And so our young girls hardly out of childhood must step into the ranks as victims to the young soldiers' lack of self-control.

All history shows that, even in spite of our bad economic conditions, which drive women to sell their bodies for food, yet sufficient do not offer themselves voluntarily. So to supply this demand of man, which Miss Rout seems to think a perfectly legitimate and proper one, a host of procurers and white slave traders are employed, and girls are trapped, drugged, and ruined in all our large cities. Just as the liquor trade cannot exist without boys to fill the places of those whom alcohol kills, so a class of loose women cannot continue to exist unless constantly recruited from the innocent girlhood of our land. And no woman ought to uphold the recognition of prostitutes as a class by law unless she is prepared to give her

own daughters and sisters to fill up the rank. What we are not prepared to do ourselves we have no right to ask other women to do. Whenever we look upon a victim, however degraded, we say, "She's somebody's daughter, you know."

The other suggestion is the issue of prophylactic packets. These, we are told, are necessary that a pure manhood may return to our shores. Evidently Miss Rout thinks that if a man does not contract venereal disease he is a pure man, fit to mate with a pure woman, and be the father of her children. That may be her idea of purity, but it is not ours. Is the soldier who wastes the vigour of his young manhood upon the "strange woman" as physically fit (even if free from venereal diseases) as the young man who by a noble self-control has conserved his life forces?

And what about the moral atmosphere such a man will bring back with him? This letter is pure and unadulterated materialism. It is the morality of the barnyard. But is chastity the evil and impossible thing which Miss Rout supposes it? Dr. N. Bishop Harman, M.A., F.R.C.S., author of "Staying the Plague," says: "Chastity is not injurious; and chastity of long duration in no way impairs the sexual powers. . . . There is no risk in chastity. The risk lies all with the contrary practice. Those who persuade themselves that immoral practice is justified by physiology believe a lie; whilst those who shelter their evil practices behind some "doctor's orders" of apocryphal origin merely expose the grossness of their deceit."

In sharp contrast to Miss Rout's utter pessimism, come these optimistic tones from men like Dr. Arthur and Lord Kitchener, who know what they are talking about, which we feel convinced this lady does not. Can she not feel the utter infamy of appealing to New Zealand mothers for the money by means of which their sons are to be debauched?

Dr. Arthur, Chairman of the Royal Commission on Venereal Diseases, addressing the non-commissioned officers of the Australian Forces, doubts very much whether good would follow the issue of prophylactics to men, and says:

"Farther, there is the more serious objection that if the powers that be sanction and tacitly give their appro-

val illicit intercourse by providing means to carry it out with a guarantee of immunity from physical consequences, it not only encourages men to indulge who might otherwise refrain, but it robs any appeal to their higher instincts of all its force, and makes it a hypocrisy and a farce.

"On the other hand, it is sometimes maintained that it is the duty of the authorities to provide what are called 'clean women' for the use of the troops. It has been held that, by medical inspection of prostitutes, those diseased can be segregated, and so prevented from communicating the malady they are suffering from. This is a century-old controversy, but the modern trend of expert opinion is to the effect that the system known as 'regulation' has failed in what it was intended to do. This view has become more and more prominent at the last two International Conferences on the suppression of venereal disease, and in the latest book on the subject by Abraham Flexner, who was sent by the American Bureau of Social Science to investigate the problem in Europe, the writer, after a most exhaustive investigation, comes to the conclusion that, as carried out in France and Germany, regulation is of little or no value as a hygienic measure. It is recognised that, to be effective, every city would require a large staff of medical experts, microscopists, bacteriologists, and pathologists, and that daily examination of the women and of their clients would be necessary. It is admitted that even then certain cases would escape the medical scrutiny, while the whole problem of clandestine prostitution—wherein lies the greater danger—would remain untouched. Here again the guarantee of delusive immunity by the State, with consequent slackening of moral authority, comes in as a factor in intensifying the evil.

"Nor do I admit the assumption that the sex instinct cannot be controlled. The claim that the impulse is irresistible in civilised man is not true. If it were, rape and other sexual offences would be common, and could not be regarded as crimes.

"Even in savage races promiscuity is not the rule, and sexual intercourse is controlled by taboos. It has been left to the German Army to revert to the sexual bestiality of the ape and the cave man, and I only hope that I am not doing the ape an injustice by comparing him to the Prussian officer.

All authoritative medical opinion proclaims that continence for a long period is not only possible, but that no injurious effects whatever result from it. It is the rule for thousands of the manliest of our young men.

"It must be admitted that, strong as the sexual instinct is, it is no more strong than that other great natural instinct, the instinct of self-preservation. This 'will to live' regulates men's actions in ordinary life. They cling to life under conditions in which it would seem that death would be welcome. But we constantly find that this instinct of self-preservation is dominated by a higher and more altruistic motive. Take the famous British tradition of 'Women and children first.' From the Birkenhead to the Titanic and the Lusitania the rule has been that no man except the crews shall enter the boats until all the women and children have been provided for. Be he millionaire or pauper, man of world renown or unknown wastrel, he subscribes cheerfully to the last great sacrifice he is called upon to make. Truly death is swallowed up in victory—the victory of the human spirit over itself.

"Lay before the soldiers clearly and frankly the dangers of illicit intercourse; inform him of the hideous effects of venereal disease, not only on himself, but on his future wife and children; point out to him how thousands of his predecessors—who were equally as anxious as he to strike a blow for the Empire and for liberty and justice—have spent the time they should have been in the trenches with their comrades, in detention hospitals; emphasise the ignominy of being returned to Australia, not to receive the welcome and applause of their friends and admirers, but to be rushed off to a venereal compound—there to fret out their long days in a vain regret.

"And lastly, appeal also to the inherent chivalry which lies latent, I believe, in nearly every man, and urge him not to injure or degrade any woman by word or deed. Ask him, were he marching through the conquered country of an enemy, would he feel free to act as the Germans have done in Belgium, and ravage and outrage as he went? He would answer indignantly that he would scorn so to do, however often and freely the opportunity might offer. Then put it to him, why should he take advantage of innocent girls in his own country, or force fallen

women still lower in the scale of degradation by his own action, and he, in many cases, will respond to the strength of the appeal.

"Now, it may be replied to me that it is pure assumption on my part that any good can accrue from such warnings and appeals, that I am deluding myself as to the possibilities of human nature. If I am, then I share the same delusion as Lord Kitchener, who, when Commander-in-Chief in India, issued an appeal to the Army there on this subject, of which the following is an extract:—

"It is therefore all the more necessary that those who are serving their country should exert to the utmost those powers of self-restraint with which every man is provided, in order that he may keep appetite in proper control."

"Every man can, by self-control, restrain the indulgence of those imprudent and reckless impulses that so often lead men astray, and he who thus resists is a better soldier and a better man than the man of weak will, who allows his bodily appetites to rule him, and has not the strength of character to resist temptation and to refuse to follow any bad example he may see before him."

"If a man becomes inefficient through venereal, it is discreditable, and even dishonest, that by contracting through self-indulgence a disease which he can avoid, a man should render himself incapable of doing that work for his country, which he enlisted to do."

"And the naval and military witnesses before the Royal Commission on Venereal Diseases in England all testify that a lessening of the amount of venereal disease in the forces has come about as the result of warnings and appeals made to the men."

"And practically at the discussions on the dangers of syphilis and the question of State control at the International Congress—most of them men with world-wide reputations—while condemning regulation, urged the necessity of instruction, warning, and moral appeal. I say, therefore, that this method is well worth a trial in seeking to combat the plague of venereal disease in the Australian Imperial Force. Knowledge of the existence of syphilis and gonorrhoea, and the nature of their consequences, should be given to all recruits, especially those lads from the country districts. But, and I insist with all

the force at my command on this, along with the scientific information should go the appeal to duty, patriotism, and chivalry, which, to my mind, is by far the most potent argument with the finer types of character. I believe I am not too optimistic in asserting that the results of this may make us realise that there are heights in human nature that we had not dreamed of.

"To this appeal must be added another—to abstain from intoxicants. All medical men know that drink and venereal disease go hand in hand; alcohol rouses sexual desire, and lessens or abolishes self-restraint. The soldier, for the sake of efficiency, is called upon to be an abstainer for the period of the war. He is called to this by the example of His Majesty the King and of Lord Kitchener. And I make bold to say that especially is the obligation laid on all officers to follow this example; and the elder men among the recruits should be put on their honour to try and keep the lads out of temptation and make the spirit of the camp one opposed to drinking and sexual indulgence."

To class all our soldiers as immoral is a cruel insult to the hundreds of fine young men who have come through the moral temptations of Cairo and London with as fine a courage as they passed through the Somme and Messines battles. The better type of soldier is disgusted when offered a prophylactic packet. Even in the dark days in Egypt a young New Zealander wrote to his mother: "Don't worry when you hear evil tales about Cairo. There's nothing here to tempt a **sober, clean** boy." A Y.M.C.A. worker, returned from Egypt, stated that he knew of no total abstainer who had contracted disease. The iniquitous rum ration is responsible for much.

Mr Secretary Daniels, of U.S.A., in addressing a Congress of Surgeons, denounced the double standard of morals, and demanded clean living from citizen and civilian alike. He says, "America must cut out the cancer if we would live." That is just the crux of the matter, national destruction threatens us. The student of history does not need to be reminded that nations are great if their ideals are high, but when they lose their vision of the Eternal and descend into materialism, they have reached the last stage. Rome was great when her people held faith in

their national gods, but a dry rot got into their ancient faith, then luxury, materialism, and sensualism sunk her in the depths of national ruin. What says Byron of his loved Greece?

"Self-abasement paved the way
For villain bonds and despot sway."

The Almighty has given England time for repentance. Will she use it worthily? She must cut out the cancers of intemperance and impurity or she must die.

Can we blame Australian mothers who voted against their boys being conscripted to camps where rum rations and prophylactic packets are issued?

"If my body come from brutes, tho'
somewhat finer than their own,

I am heir, and this my kingdom,
shall the royal voice be mute?

No, but if the rebel subject seeks to
drag me from the throne,

Hold the Sceptre, Human Soul, and
rule thy province of the brute."

THE CALL TO DUTY.

Tired! Well, what of that?
Did'st fancy life was spent on beds of
ease,
Fluttering the rose leaves scattered by
the breeze?
Come, rouse thee, work while it is
call'd to-day!
Coward, arise—go forth upon thy way!
Lonely! And what of that?
Some must be lonely; 'tis not given to
all
To feel a heart responsive rise and
fall—
To blend another life into its own.
Work may be done in loneliness;
work on
Dark! Well, what of that?
Did'st fondly dream the sun would
never set?
Dost fear to lose thy way? Take
courage yet;
Learn thou to walk by faith and not
by sight;
Thy steps will guided be, and guided
right.
Hard; Well, what of that?
Did'st fancy life one summer holiday
With lessons none to learn and naught
but play?
Go, get thee to thy task; conquer or
die!
It must be learned—learn it then
patiently.
No help! Nay; 'tis not so.
Though human help be far, God is
nigh.
Who feeds the ravens, hears His
children cry,
And He will guide thee, light thee,
help thee home;
He's near thee whereso'er thy foot-
steps roam.

—"British Weekly,"

INTERVIEW WITH A DISTINGUISHED SUFFRAGE WORKER.

We have been privileged to have an interview with Mrs Kinton Parkes, one of the fine band of women who have been fighting for the Suffrage in the Old Land. Mrs Parkes was a member of the Women Writers' Suffrage Society, of the Church League for Woman's Suffrage, and also of the Women's Freedom League.

The subject in England is so vast that different workers were told off to different branches of the work, to the social, financial, medical, and other aspects of the question. This led to the women specialising in different subjects, and Mrs Parkes was a specialist on taxation. There were active resisters to the law—the militants—and there were also passive resisters, and to the latter branch Mrs Parkes belonged, and founded "The Women's Tax Resistance League." They refused to pay taxes on the constitutional ground, admitted by the Government themselves, that there should be "no taxation without representation." The attempt to violate this principle of sound government by the statesmen of George III.'s day cost England her American colonies. The attempt to violate it in our own time drove hundreds of fine women to become Tax Resisters. These ladies were therefore Constitutional Militants. On the outbreak of war these passive resisters, by a majority vote, decided to pay taxes, and so come to the aid of the nation, and putting aside all propaganda work, to devote themselves to war work for men and women.

These suffrage societies were magnificently organised, and there is no finer story than the one which tells how they threw the whole strength of their splendid organisation into National War Service.

Mrs Kinton Parkes being trained in Suffrage work, and a specialist on its financial side, she was chosen to take charge of the finances of the Women's Emergency Corps (the largest war organisation in London), and eventually became its secretary. To hear this lady speak upon the Emergency Corps and its wonderful work is like listening to a chapter from the "Arabian Nights." How they met and grappled with a difficult situation Mrs Parkes told in her own charming manner. Our visitor

intends to lecture upon this subject, and our readers will have the opportunity of hearing this most fascinating story.

The first work to be done, and which really called the Emergency Corps into being, was to deal with unemployment among women. At the outbreak of war many firms, for the sake of retrenchment, gave their female assistants a week's notice, and these girls came to the Women's Emergency Corps to find them work. They sprang into the breach; on the one hand were people wanting help, and on the other people able and willing to give it; and this organisation brought them into touch with each other. Women lent houses to be converted into homes and hospitals for wounded soldiers; they lent their motor cars to aid in the work; women who could speak several languages went to the railway station to meet refugees from the Continent. Any woman wanting to do war work was sent to the Emergency Corps, whose business it was to suit her capabilities to the work most urgently needed. They started industries, such as toy-making, to provide employment for women requiring it, and by their advice other women started to train for special services, and this foresight on their part provided skilled workers as time went on.

Many instances could be given of the work done by Suffrage Unions and workers all over England. The Actresses' Franchise League collected the money to establish the Star and Garter Hospital, and the Women's Emergency Corps also owed its origin to their initiative. At the head of the Military Hospital in London the Government have placed two leading suffragette doctors.

The National Union for Woman's suffrage, the oldest Woman's Suffrage Society in the world, has organised a great deal of invaluable war work. Their Edinburgh branch inaugurated the Scottish Women's Hospitals, which did such fine service of which mention has been made in our columns before. Their London branch has one of the most efficient employment agencies in the country. The story Mrs Parkes has to tell is a thrilling one. To use her own words, they "have had the war at their back door" all the time, while we have reviewed it from afar.

White Ribboners who take the opportunity of hearing Mrs Parkes'

lecture will be brought into close touch with the atmosphere breached by our women workers who are in close touch with the trenches.

CIGARETTE PAPER.

A writer in "Harper's Weekly" says: "Cigarettes are not merely rolls of tobacco. They are not drugged with expensive poisons as is charged, but they have a peculiarity. The combination of burning paper and tobacco makes a compound which is neither tobacco smoke nor paper smoke, but has a name which chemists know and a smell which everybody knows. There is not much of the new compound, but in what there is of it lies the idiosyncrasy of the cigarette. Thomas Edison may be supposed to know what he is talking about when he says:

"Acrolein is one of the most terrible drugs in its effects on the human body. The burning of ordinary cigarette paper always produces acrolein. That is what makes the smoke so irritating. I really believe that it often makes boys insane. We sometimes develop acrolein in this laboratory in our experiments with glycerine. One whiff of it from the oven drove one of my assistants out of the building the other day. I can hardly exaggerate the dangerous nature of acrolein, and yet that is what a boy or man is dealing with every time he smokes an ordinary cigarette."

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The following payments have been received since last report:—

ORGANISING FUND.

Palmerston North, £10 2s; Napier, £6 8s; North-East Valley, Dunedin, £4 3s; Normanby, £4; Pahiatua, £1 13s; Devonport, £1 10s; Waipukurau, £1 8s; Edendale, Hastings, Sawyer's Bay, and Urenui, £1 each; Morrinsville, 10s; Richmond, 9s 6d; Kai-korai, 5s. Total, £34 8s 6d. Expenditure for month, £9 1s 7d.

STRENGTH OF THE NATION FUND.

Otautau, £1.

WORLD'S MISSIONARY FUND.

Waipukurau, £2; Pahiatua, £1 2s.

NEW ZEALAND FUND.

Hastings, £1; Pahiatua, 10s 6d.

NELLIE BENDELY,

N.Z. Treasurer,

Auckland, 4th February, 1918.

WOMEN AT WORK.

The Institute of Bankers has opened its preliminary examination for the coming year to women.

Some 14,000 women are now at work in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps, and 10,000 a month are asked for.

Two women bellringers have been elected members of the Guildford Guild of Change Ringers.

Writing of the refusal to admit women to practise as lawyers, the "Manchester Guardian" says: "The only valid argument against their admission is that the women, or a few of them, would be so good that they would diminish the amount of work available for the men, and the members of the Bar, being good trade unionists, rejected the resolution solely on that account."

Miss Cheesman has been appointed assistant curator in the Zoological Gardens, London. She has charge of three departments.

Two hundred thousand women are now "on the land" in England and Wales.

Messrs Macnamara employ some 30 or 40 women drivers of mail vans, and have now put women in charge of their horses' hospital.

The first four women students have passed their intermediate examination at Punjab University.

The Turkish Government now allow women to study medicine, and also to enter commercial schools as students.

In Germany, the first woman has been given the title of Professor of Music, and the first woman lector has been appointed at Leipzig University.

The first woman branch secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen has been appointed at Ashton-under-Lyne.

Nine women were sworn in at the Guildhall the other day as special constables on the Great Eastern Railway.

The latest statistics announce that since the outbreak of war 1,256,000 men from Britain required at the Front have been directly replaced by women.

Capetown has made a start with three police women, paid by the Government, and three paid by the Municipality.

Women are now able to qualify as architects. The Architectural Association will open its school at 34, Bedford Square, London.

Fifteen women students are receiving the full course of training in agriculture at the Cowra Experiment Farm.

Mrs Mary C. C. Bradford, of Denver, who was elected President of the National Education Association, is the second woman in the world to receive such honour. The first was Mrs Ella Flag Young.

THE MOTHERS OF MEN.

The bravest battle that ever was fought!

Shall I tell you where and when?
On the maps of the world you will find it not—

'Tis fought by the mothers of men.

Nay, not with cannon or battle shot,
With sword or nobler pen!

Nay, not with eloquent words or thought
From mouths of wonderful men.

But deep in a walled-up woman's heart—

Of woman that would not yield,
But bravely, silently, bore her part—
Lo, there is that battlefield!

No marshalling troop, no bivouac song.

No banner to gleam and wave;
But oh! these battles, they last
From babyhood to the grave.

Yet faithful still as a bridge of stars,
She fights in her walled-up town—
Fights on and on in endless wars,
Then, silent, unseen, goes down.

Oh, ye with banners and battle shot,
And soldiers to shout and praise!
I tell you the kingliest victories fought
Were fought in these silent ways.

Oh, spotless woman in a world of shame;

With splendid and silent scorn,
Go back to God as white as you came—

The kingliest warrior born!

—Joaquin Miller.

PERSONAL.

(Contributed).

Our readers will be pleased to know that Miss Atkinson (our late Vice-President) though away in England, does not forget New Zealand White Ribboners. Many a par in our "Women at Work" column is sent by her to our Editor, as a clipping from some English paper. Also we have been privileged to read her diary of her trip home, a most interesting account of Panama, and many other places of interest. We wish our much-esteemed friend a speedy and safe return to "God's Own Country."

Our Editor, with her family, has been enjoying a brief holiday at Pukanui. Our Dominion President joined them for a few days, and by swimming, boating, etc., tried to gather strength for the coming labours of Convention.

But our officers also did some work which it was too late to report to our N.Z. Evangelistic Superintendent.

An open-air service is conducted every Sunday evening by the Presbyterians during the holiday season. Mrs Peryman was asked to take the service on January 20th. The people sit in ranks on the grass, row above row on the hillside in a kind of natural amphitheatre, while the preacher stands at the foot. The sea gently murmuring on the strand, and the fishing boats anchored close by, transport one's thoughts to Gallilee, and fill the mind and soul with thoughts of the Great Master, who preached on the shore of the sounding sea.

The next Sunday, our President joined the Editor, and together they sang and talked about the "Wonderful Words of Life" to the large audience, who listened so attentively, and seemed to enjoy the women preachers.

On a previous Sunday, our Editor took the pulpit at the Central Mission, and preached to the largest Methodist congregation in New Zealand, and the same evening, the National President had the pulpit of the Presbyterian Church at Ravensbourne, while the respective ministers were on holiday.

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

HOW THE DRINK TRADE FIGHTS FOR GERMANY.

From the "Echo," London.

(By W. Douglas Newton.)

The man who "fired" the brass at furnace No. 000321 yawned on his feet and swayed against the bar as he called for his seventh.

The aproned man who was lord of the bottles and the porcelain beer levers, examined the brass-firer with a slow, dispassionate, and scientific glance. In spite of his apron and his shirt sleeves and his polishing cloth, he held in his cool mind the destinies of drink and drunkards. He alone among men could define with unerring accuracy that subtle human condition that meant a man was no longer merely "affable," but was "canned." There was no appeal from his final word. If a man was "canned," he was drunk; glasses must then cease to cross the shining counter to him.

His unemotional analysis arranged the state of the brass-firer to the depth of his being. The swift judgment was formed. The bottle with the nicked spigot was reached down.

"You've just about 'ad all you can carry, Tom," said the aproned Rhadamanthus. "Better make this the last. You won't do no work to-day if you go on."

The brass-firer took the glass containing the elixir of inefficiency with a solemn hand. His eyes glared across its rim at the aproned man with the horrid sobriety of the drunk.

"No work for yours truly to-day," he said, and he proceeded to offer a libation to that final and holy thought.

ENJOYING HIMSELF.

The aproned man said nothing. He was there to serve and judge, not to preach. His silence played like acid on the mind of the sodden man.

"I ain't going to work. Why should I? Why shouldn't a feller have a good time? I've earnt big money, I tell you. I've slogged 'ard for a full week or so. Why shouldn't I enjoy what I've earnt? I can 'ave a good time for a week, an' I won't feel it. It ain't anyone's business but my own. If I choose to have me fling, what 'as that got to do with Cabinet Ministers? I've a right to take me pleasures. Why shouldn't I? Why?"

The overseer stood by furnace No. 000321, and he scratched his head and

swore. The firing-boy stood with his hands in his pockets, wondering whether he should be glad because he could now go and see some football, or sorry because he was going to lose "time."

"Well," said the overseer, "it's no good your standing about here eating money and doing nothing. If Tom's gone on the drink again, you won't have anything to do to-day—or to-morrow either, or for a week if it comes to that. You'd better 'ring-off' my boy. Tom's stopped your work, too."

The overseer passed through the casting shops, until he came to the men who manage the moulds. Most of the men were working with the concentrated energy of great pressure. Time was the enemy, and they were labouring to beat it. One group of men stood about discussing the latest communiques. These men stiffened as the overseer came along. They looked towards him hopefully. He shook his head.

"Tom's on the drink again," he said. "Nothin' doing for you to-day, my men. If I were you I'd duck Tom pretty thoroughly in the river. He and his drink are simply clogging the whole department."

ALL WORK STOPPED.

The men reached for their coats. They wondered how their wives would relish the small pay-envelope at the end of an idle week.

The men on the turret lathes were just carrying the last of their stock of brass rods into the little rough tubes of the embryo cartridge. One of the hands had already thrown the belt off the working drum, and stood idle. When the overseer came up, this fellow spoke to him in a bitter tone. The rest of the hands stopped work to listen. They would be in the same cart as the idle man in a very short time.

"Look 'ere," said the hand. "I'm right out of stuff, and I've been to the stockroom, and they can't give me anything. What am I going to do?"

"You'll have to take a holiday," said the overseer, as bitterly. "Of course, they couldn't give you anything in the stockroom. At the pressure we're working we eat up every bit of metal as fast it comes out of the foundry. The furnace that feeds you has stopped. The hand that runs it has gone out on the drink. Until he comes back there'll be nothing for you. His name is Tom Smith. When

you clock off, I advise you to go out and reason with him. You'll do no work, nor get your money, until the fool has been brought to his senses."

The overseer passed through the machinery shops, leaving a trail of empty places where he had found idle men. The great ammunition-making firm was not a charitable institution. It could not afford to pay men who had nothing to do. An idle man, even though he was idle through no fault of his own, was simply eating money he did not earn. That could not be allowed. These expensive hands had to be sent away until work began to come in for them again.

THE IDLE FACTORY.

The overseer stalked like an angel of the Lord, sweeping up men and turning them out of the factory.

The boy who tested every cartridge for flaws in its skin by putting them, filled with water, under a steel plunger that drove down into the brass cylinder and compressed the water with such power that if there was any weakness the fluid must burst its way through; the boy who placed the straight brass tubes under the many hundredweight trip-hammer that gave them their little round heads to fit them to the breech of the rifles; the boys who annealed the cartridge heads in fire and water; the boys who polished them; the boys who fitted them with percussion caps; the women who loaded the cartridge with picric powder; the men who bulleted the shells; the women who packed the finished articles—all these men and women and boys who were idle because Tom was drinking were swept out of the factory, were kept out of it by a time-keeper with a flaming eye for expense checking, until Thomas the unregenerate should have had his fill of pleasure.

• • •

And, many days later, in a muddy ditch of Flanders, a group of men also fell idle because of Thomas. They fell idle unto death.

Swarming over the muddy fields, a pack of grey men came out of their slime warrens against a trench. The trench was exceedingly well held by British Tommies. The trench was a strong one. It was important enough for the Germans to think of attacking it with power. If the Germans got into it, they would have nullified the tedious work of months that had advanced the British to this point.

Through rain and slush and snow, through death and wounds and hunger and misery, the British had worked up to this point. It was a thrust into the enemy's front. From this point a grave attack that would help the final victory would be delivered . . . if the British could only hold on.

NO AMMUNITION LEFT.

The British knew very well that by all the laws of war they could hold on. Cheerfully they met the lunging advance of the grey men, with their bitter outpouring of rifles. The grey men died in swathes, but over the bodies of their brothers they came running. That did not matter. Presently the vicious fire of the rifles would pull up that rush by its sheer consistence of fire. It was because the Germans would lose over every inch of ground that they would be driven off. It was a matter of bullets. The Germans came on and died. The British Tommies fired at them steadily. They were gaining the upper hand. Then they began to call for cartridges. Their stocks had become exhausted. "Cartridges!" they yelled. "Cartridges! for the love of heaven!"

There were no cartridges. Somewhere behind the line the ammunition had come to a blank space in its output. The idle rifles ceased to speak. The Germans ceased to die. They came on swiftly, pouring into the trench. The British had to fall back. As they retired the Germans slew them with savage volleys that they could not answer. Fifty more men joined the heroes on the roll of honour in that affair.

"You've 'ad enough, Tom," said the aproned expert. "You go 'ome."

Tom went 'ome. As he staggered across the streets of the world, he asked why he shouldn't have his little pleasures. Why?

DESTRUCTION OF FOOD.

From the beginning of the war to September 30th, 1916, the food destroyed in Britain in making beer and spirits (excluding alcohol for munitions) amounted to 3,250,000 tons. This would have been enough for the 7½ millions residing in London all the time. The waste represents 11b. of food for every home in the country for every day of the war.

Correspondence.

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

(To the Editor.)

Madam,—A troopship Y.M.C.A. Secretary writes that the men are so fond of chess that the limited number of sets on board were in constant use. There is a distinct shortage of chess sets, and we find it impossible to obtain any in the shops, so that we are unable to meet the demand by the soldiers.

We will be glad, therefore, if you will place the matter before your readers, many of whom doubtless have sets which are not greatly used, if at all. If anyone who can spare a set of chess-men, with or without board, will kindly send it to the Y.M.C.A. National Headquarters, Baker's Buildings, Featherston Street, Wellington, it will be put on a troopship to help relieve the monotony of the long sea voyage.

Thanking you, and your readers, in anticipation.—Yours faithfully,

E. C. BROWNELL,
General National Sec., Y.M.C.A.

(To the Editor.)

Dear Madam,—The following resolution was passed at the last meeting of the Canterbury Women's Institute: "The C.W.I. is amazed to learn from the daily papers that the Minister of Defence confesses himself unable to ascertain the whereabouts of the fourteen conscientious objectors who were picked out from a number of exactly similar objectors and deported from New Zealand last year."

It views with intensest anxiety and indignation the admission of Sir James Allen that he has so completely surrendered his responsibilities in regard to New Zealand born subjects. Letters from England show that, at the time of writing, men deported as conscientious objectors from New Zealand were in irons at Sling Camp, and that they had been subjected to innumerable persecutions, including the horrors of the "bull ring"; that eight of them had been sent over to France, where there was grave danger of them being shot "for refusing to obey orders in the presence of the enemy." The C.W.I. would urge on the electors of New Zealand the necessity of making strong protest against such delegation of responsibility on the part of the New Zealand Government. If it be considered by the people of New Zealand that the military authorities should exercise the power given them by the Army Act, to shoot conscientious objectors to military service, the sentence should be carried out publicly here in New Zealand, and not in an underhand manner, for which the New Zealand Government

does not dare to assume responsibility.—I am, yours faithfully,

SARAH SAUNDERS PAGE,
Hon. Sec. C.W.I.
50, May's Road, Christchurch,
Jan. 23rd, 1918.

"WITS' END CORNER."

Are you standing at "Wits' End Corner,"

Christian, with troubled brow?
Are you thinking of what is before you,

And all you are bearing now?
Does all the world seem against you,
And you in the battle alone?

Remember—at "Wits' End Corner"
Is just where God's power is shown.

Are you standing at "Wits' End Corner,"

Blinded with wearying pain,
Feeling you cannot endure it,
You cannot bear the strain,
Bruised through the constant suffering,

Dizzy, and dazed, and numb?
Remember—at "Wits' End Corner"
Is where Jesus loves to come!

Are you standing at "Wits' End Corner,"

Your work before you spread,
All lying, begun, unfinished,
And pressing on heart and head,
Longing for strength to do it,
Stretching out trembling hands?
Remember—at "Wits' End Corner,"
The Burden Bearer stands.

Are you standing at "Wits' End Corner,"

Yearning for those you love,
Longing and praying and watching,
Pleading their cause above,
Trying to lead them to Jesus,
Wondering if you've been true?
He whispers at "Wits' End Corner,"
"I'll win them, as I won you."

Are you standing at "Wits' End Corner,"

Then you are just in the very spot,
To learn the wondrous resources
Of Him who faileth not!
No doubt to a brighter Pathway
Your footsteps will soon be moved,
But only at "Wits' End Corner"
Is "the God who is able" proved!

—Psalm 107:27.

COMPENSATION.

When breweries do not manufacture beer, they are turned to other more useful purposes. The following figures show how closing the breweries throws employees out of work:—

The Rainer Brewery, of Portland, Ore., which as a brewery employed 150 men, now gives employment to 1600 men as a tannery.

The Portland Brewery, which employed a hundred men in making beer, now gives work to 500 men in making furniture.

WHEN MOTHER IS AWAY.

The house is such a dreary place when mother is away;
There isn't fun in anything, no matter what you play.
The dolls just sit as stupid, and act so still and queer—
They always say such funny things when mother's by to hear.

The little china tea-set looks so lone-some waiting there;
There's no fun playing party and eating only air!
It isn't like the lovely things you most believe you see
Upon the plates and saucers, when mother comes to tea.

There's no use doing up your hair, and dressing up in style,
You know it's just pretending, and you're Betty all the while;
You never hear a whisper from the chairs against the wall:
"Dear me, what splendid lady now is coming here to call!"

The pictures in the picture-books are never half so fine,
The stories won't come out and talk for any pains of mine;
An hour goes so slowly, it's almost like a day—
The house is such a lonely place when mother is away.
—"Good Housekeeping."

THE LOVE OF GOD.

God's boundless love and arching sky
Above us when we wake or sleep,
Above us when we smile or weep,
Above us when we live or die.

God's tireless love! Beside the cot
Of her sick child the mother sleeps,
The Heavenly Father ever keeps
Unweary watch—He slumbers not.

God's patient love! Misunderstood
By hearts that suffer in the night,
Doubted—yet waiting till heaven's light
Shall show how all things work for good.

God's mighty love! On Calvary's height,
Suffering to save us from our sin,
To bring the heavenly Kingdom in,
And fill our lives with joy and light.

God's changeless love! The wander-ing one
Forsakes, forgets, dishonours; yet
Repenting, going home, is met
With no reproach—"Welcome, my son!"

God's endless love! What will it be
When earthly shadows flee away,
For all eternity's bright day,
The unfolding of that love to see?
MAELTBIE D. BABCOCK.

GETTING A DRINK IN A DRY TOWN.

The current issue of "Life" describes in a series of pictures the difficulties of getting a drink in a dry town.

1. The thirsty man meets an old man with long hair and tattered garments, and inquires where he can get a drink.

2. He is cautioned to be extremely careful.

3. He is given whispered directions where to go.

4. He meets a suspicious guardian.

5. He gives the signal.

6. He is given a signal in return.

7. He finds a sliding panel.

8. He climbs up a pair of gloomy stairs.

9. He comes to a trap door.

10. He finds himself in an empty attic.

11. He climbs a rickety ladder.

12. He emerges on to a roof.

13. He passes by a wobbly plank to an unlatched window.

14. He raises the window, and finds himself in an empty chamber.

15. He discovers a fake chimney.

16. He lets himself down by a rope ladder.

17. He finds himself in a cellar.

18. He crawls on his hands and knees through a tunnel.

19. He enters a secret chamber.

20. He gives three raps at a little window.

21. The window opens, and at last a man's hand appears with a drink of whisky.

It is a safe guess that this series of pictures will not be reproduced in the liquor publications, which publications are insisting that there is more liquor sold in dry than in wet towns. And nobody has ever accused "Life" of whooping it up for the dry programme either.—"American Issue."

HOT LAKES OF NEW ZEALAND**Brent's****BATHGATE HOUSE,****ROTORUA.**

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

Terms
Moderate.

S. T. BRENT,
Proprietor.

N.Z. W.C.T.U.**List of Literature
NOW IN STOCK.****DEPARTMENTAL LITERATURE
CAN BE OBTAINED FROM—**

Purity: Mrs Houlder, Wellington
Maori: Mrs Walker, Fox St., Gisborne.
L.T.L. and Cradle Roll: Mrs Neal, Trocadero, Pahiataua
Scientific Temperance: Miss Maunder, Hawera
Medical Temperance: Mrs Neal, Regent Street, Pahiataua

BOOKLETS AND LEAFLETS.

Mrs Webb's "W.C.T.U.," 6d per doz.
Condensed Parliamentary Rules, 3d each
Membership Pledge Cards, 6d per doz.
N.Z. Constitutions, 3d each
The Fiddlers (by Arthur Mee), 6d each
Assorted Leaflets (up-to-date), 9d per 100
W.C.T.U. Envelopes, 25 for 6d
Auntie Faith's Travels (for the little ones), by Mrs Lee-Cowie, 1s
Song Leaflet, "All Round the World," 1s 3d per 100
W.C.T.U. Writing Pads, 1s each.
"Safe Remedies in Illness," 8d per doz.

PURITY.

"Purity Advocate," quarterly, 6d per annum
"Letter for Soldiers," 4d per doz.; 2s 6d per 100
"A Clean Life," 1s 3d
"Confidential Talks to Young Men," and "Young Women," 1s 4d
"A Holy Temple," "The Vestibule of Girl Life," "Bob's Mother," "A Mother's Love," "An Appeal to Mothers," 2d each, or 1s 6d doz.
"Stand Up, Ye Dead," 4s 6d
"The Story of Life," 8d and 1s 3d
"Maternity Without Suffering," 2s 6d
"Almost a Man," "Almost a Woman," 1s 2d each
"What a Young Girl Ought to Know," 5s
"What a Young Boy Ought to Know," 5s

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

Badges may be obtained from Mrs Houlder at 4d each, or 3s per dozen, prepaid in postal order.

Will friends please note advancing prices, owing to increased printing charges, and send stamps or postal note with their order? The prices quoted include postage in every case.

MRS HOULDER,
108, WALLACE ST., WELLINGTON.

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.

A SMALL LIBRARY FOR TEN SHILLINGS.

Dear Sisters,—Following is a list of books recently to hand from America, with short explanatory notices. Most of them are intended for libraries and to form the nucleus of a library for those Unions that have not so far fallen in with this excellent and necessary plan. We admit that the immorality and disease revealed since war began are not so much the result of inherent viciousness as of neglect and ignorance, for which we must take our share of responsibility. These books have a high moral and spiritual tone, and will help remove that ignorance. They will not be sold, except for Union libraries, until after Convention. Consult your exchequers, and bring along your orders. The supply is extremely limited.—Yours for a clean and righteous nation.

MAY McCARTHY,

Dom. Supt. Moral and Social Hygiene.

Those marked 1, 2, 3, 4 (5 or 6) will be sold at Convention for 10s.

Prices include Postage.

- | | s. | d. |
|--|----|----|
| * Ideal Married Life , by Mary Wood Allen, M.D. A book on marriage, its duties and privileges | 6 | 0 |
| (1) Almost a Man , by Mary Wood Allen, M.D. | 2 | 6 |
| (2) Almost a Woman , by Mary Wood Allen, M.D. | 2 | 6 |
| (3) Teaching Truth | 2 | 6 |
| 4. Child Confidence Rewarded by Mary Wood-Allen, M.D. Deals with the method of gaining the confidence of children, and how to answer their questions. Somewhat simpler than "Teaching Truth" | 1 | 4 |
| (5) The Moral Problem of the Children , by Rose Wood-Allen Chapman. A book for mothers and teachers by the daughter of Mary Wood-Allen, M.D., who has inaugurated the Mary Wood-Allen Fund to carry on the work of disseminating purity literature | 1 | 6 |

- | | s. | d. |
|---|----|----|
| (6) An Hour in Babyland , by Ada Wallace Anrut. A simple study of the laws of character-making for parents | 1 | 4 |
| (6) A Rosebud Garden of Girls , by the same author. Addresses to young women | 1 | 4 |
| Confidences , by Dr. E. B. Lowry. Talks with a young girl concerning herself. The facts concerning the development of life that should be known by every girl from ten to fourteen years of age | 2 | 9 |
| False Modesty , by Dr. E. B. Lowry. The modesty that protects vice by ignorance. A book of vital helpful interest to every parent, teacher, physician, and minister | 3 | 3 |
| Talks to Boys , by Eleanor A. Hunter. Contains 34 talks to boys in every grade of life, about matters of interest to boys; helpful to Scout Leaders or Bible Class Teachers | 2 | 9 |
| Talks to Girls , by Eleanor A. Hunter. Written at a girl's suggestion, for "girls and nobody else" | 2 | 9 |
| * Children and the Home , by Eleanor A. Hunter. A most helpful book for Christian parents | 3 | 9 |
| * Bee's Flower Children , by Frances Bennett Callaway. A story founded on Flower Mission Work by the founder of the Loyal Temperance Legion Flower Mission | 4 | 0 |
| * The Training of the Human Plant , by Luther Burbank | 3 | 0 |
| Four Epochs of Life , by Eliz. Hamilton-Muneri, M.D. The fondest mother may place this volume in the hands of her son or daughter, confident that the supremest facts of life will be properly presented to the developing mind. A beautiful story, charmingly told | 7 | 0 |
| Herself , by Dr. E. B. Lowry. Talks with women concerning themselves. Contains full, precise, straightforward, and trustworthy information, by the world's foremost writer on sex education | 5 | 3 |
| Himself , by Dr. E. B. Lowry and Dr. R. J. Lambert. The best book on sexual hygiene for men. It gives clearly and completely the knowledge | | |

essential to every man's health and success. "Dr. Lowry's books combine medical knowledge, simplicity, and purity in an unprecedented way."—*Journal of Education*, Boston 5 3

Truths, by Dr. E. B. Lowry. Talks with a boy concerning himself. This book contains the simple truths of life development and sex, which should be given to every boy approaching manhood. His future welfare demands it for boys from 10 to 14 years of age 2 9

Leaflets for parents, teachers, and social workers, 10d per dozen. Booklets (in paper), 2d each.

*Only one copy of those marked with an asterisk must be ordered in advance.

"JUST KEEP ON."

The onward path winds uphill all the way,
Through ruts and mire,
The rough, uneven bits your foot-steps stay:
Faint not, nor tire.
Just keep on fighting, conquer all your fears;
Just keep on waiting, till the darkness clears;
Just keep on smiling, tho' you smile thro' tears;
Just keep on trusting, for 'tis faith that cheers.
Keep on, on, on! each day the victory nears.
Press on! Keep on!

When sorely tempted, don't forget that gold
Is tried by fire.
Renew your ideals, character unfold,
Be strong, aim higher.
Just keep on struggling up thro' toil and pain;
Just keep on praying for a path made plain;
Just keep on loving, tho' but scars remain;
Just keep on climbing, till the heights you gain.
Hear that "Well done!" Courage!
You shall attain.
On! Just keep on!

—Julie Critten.

LEAFLETS BY GERTRUDE COCKERELL.

Any of our readers wishing to purchase leaflets by Gertrude Cockerell can obtain them from the Bible Tract, and Book Depot, Willis Street, Wellington.

Ladies' Home Journal Patterns for Easy Dressmaking.

A very large number of these Patterns are sold, and because of their simplicity, and the excellent results that are obtained from them, they are most popular with New Zealand women. Clear directions are given with each Pattern. Designs for every description of clothing for women and children.

All Patterns 9d each, post free.

BEATH & CO., LIMITED . . . CHRISTCHURCH.

PRIZE COMPETITION.

TEMPERANCE ESSAY.

FIRST PRIZE.

(By Carrie Watson, Tinwald.)

Alcohol is a beverage. One of the substances from which it is made is barley. After many processes, the barley is turned into sugar, after which it is fermented. The beverage contains three gases—carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen. It does not contain nitrogen, which is required for the tissue throughout the body, therefore it is not a tissue-builder. Alcohol is classed as a stimulant, narcotic, and as a food. As a food, the alcohol acts in the ratio of one part to one thousand six hundred and sixty parts. As a narcotic it produces sleep, and stupefies the feeling to pain, distress, or care.

Alcohol is sometimes thought to be a source of heat, but this is not so. The drink makes the inner parts colder, and the blood coming to the surface makes the skin feel hot, but when the temperature is taken by the thermometer the usual temperature is found to have greatly decreased.

Drink is taken especially by the poor, for the want of a good wholesome drink. The public-house is the only place where they have a good time. The want of mental and bodily pleasure drives them there, and they spend what little they have in the brilliantly lit up gin palace. Persons in distress or pain, or heavily laden with care, indulge in spirits, and become intoxicated.

There is not an organ of the body that is aided by alcohol to carry out its proper functions. Spirits have a great effect on the different organs. The internal portion of the stomach is reddened the instant alcohol enters it. Painless ulcers are formed. The food remains undigested, and vomiting and inflammation usually ensue.

The liver is enlarged by the deposited fat; the walls of the heart are changed into fat, and the beating is more rapid. The skin becomes liable

to any disease that is prevailing, and coloured spots are often seen on a drunkard's face.

The mind of the drinker progresses temporarily, and the thought quickens, but later it becomes confused. By prolonged drinking the brain becomes noisy and helpless. The drunkard suffers from inflammation and brain disease. By the constant drinking of alcoholic beverages 35 per cent. to 40 per cent. is fairly approximate estimate of insanity directly or indirectly due to the cause. The moral sense is dull, and men who are overpowered by drink are often liars, and they cannot control their will.

When they see the liquor they have no strength of will to resist it. When intoxicated, the drunkard is very obstinate, and will not listen to advice.

The nerves are greatly affected by alcohol. Persons indulging in it become nervous, and have no power to control themselves.

The habitual drinker is liable to consumption, cancer, and poison, which circulates through the body, and renders the person liable to death. The great causes of drinking are to be relieved from care and made happy for the time being; also want, misery, and bad homes, which, especially in London, cannot be called homes at all. The men and women also are struck by the dazzling lights of the gin palaces, which, unfortunately, are at every corner. Worry and excitement and idleness are causes of this crime. Some poor people have no will, and are tempted by other bad men, and these victims cannot resist the temptation.

The craving for alcohol is sometimes hereditary, and nothing but rigid abstinence will keep such persons safe from the liquor traffic.

"Drink is the mother of want, and the nurse of crime." It is said that the largest portion of the sufferers in the London hospitals is due to the effects of alcohol, and most of the pauperism of London is also due to

this terrible poison. A great deal of the trouble of the world is accounted for by the drinking of alcohol. There is scarcely a person in the world who has not suffered directly or indirectly from it.

The climate has a great deal to do with drinking. The colder the climate the more a person is inclined to drink. It is drunk, unfortunately, to make the body warm, but those who leave the liquor untouched in the cold regions are hotter than those who indulge in it.

By realising the bad effects of alcohol on us in general, we can see it is best to be temperate in all such things. There have been formed many temperance societies, which have succeeded in getting hotels closed at 6 p.m., which are doing good work in lessening the liquor traffic in all parts of the Dominion of New Zealand.

PRIZING THE CROSS.

If thou impatient do let slip thy cross,
Thou wilt not find it in this world again;

Nor in another; here and here alone
Is given thee to suffer for God's sake.
In other words we may more perfectly
Love Him and serve Him, praise Him,
Grow nearer and nearer to Him with delight.

But then we shall not any more
Be called to suffer, which is our appointment here.

Can'st thou not suffer, then, one hour or two?

If He would call thee from thy cross to-day,

Saying: "It is finished, that hard cross of thine

From which thou prayest for deliverance."

Thinkest thou not some passion of regret

Would overcome thee? Thou would'st say,

"So soon? Let me go back and suffer yet awhile

More patiently. I have not yet praised God."

Whensoever it comes, that summons that we look for,

It will seem soon, too soon. Let us take heed in time

That God may now be glorified in us.
—From Ugo Basi's Sermon.

IN THE FIELD.

The holidays leave but little scope for reporting, and the last three weeks have been spent at my home in Dunedin. I am now in Invercargill, having arrived just in time to attend the first meeting of the year. The friends here are naturally very gratified at the magnificent result of their work for the mine-sweepers.

I have communicated with the Southland auxiliaries, and am hoping to pay a flying visit to each.

M. S. POWELL,

Dominion Organiser.

Address: Miss M. S. Powell, Isca Mount, St. Clair, Dunedin.

OBITUARY.

MRS WARREN.

The Lyttelton Branch of the W.C.T.U. has suffered a great loss through the death of Mrs W. L. Warren, who passed away at her residence, Dampier's Bay, Lyttelton, on December 30th, after a short illness. Mrs Warren joined the Union six years ago. She was a faithful member, a good worker, and a willing helper whenever help was needed. She left a grown-up family to mourn their loss.

A PRAYER.

Give me a good digestion, Lord,
And also something to digest;
But when or how that something comes,
I leave to Thee, Who knowest best.

Give me a healthy body, Lord,
Give me the sense to keep it so;
Also a heart that is not bored
Whatever work I have to do.

Give me a healthy mind, good Lord,
That finds the good that dodges sight,
And, seeing sin, is not appalled,
But seeks a way to put it right.

Give me a point of view, good Lord,
Let me know what it is, and why;
Don't let me worry overmuch
About the thing that's known as "I."

Give me a sense of humour, Lord,
Give me the power to see a joke,
To get some happiness from life,
And pass it on to other folk.
—T.H.B.W., in the "Westminster Review."
"Christian Commonwealth," Oct. 24, 1918.

LETTER RECEIVED BY A UNION MEMBER IN RETURN FOR PARCEL SENT TO SOLDIER.

No. 3 Camp, Sling.

Dear Mrs S—,

I have very much pleasure in thanking you for the small parcel which I received a few weeks ago. I mislaid your address, so could not write before, but I happened to find it to-day. I have now been in England just on 12 months. My word, it is a cold place. I mean in the winter. I expect to be coming home any time now, so I may perhaps be able to thank you in person. It is the only parcel I have received since I left New Zealand, two years ago, so you may guess how pleased I was to receive something from the old place, I'd love to be back once again, and to see that we are not altogether forgotten. But some people have already forgotten us, even some of my own relations have never once written to me, but I suppose all will come right in the end. Trusting that these few lines will reach you safely, and thank you very much for thinking of the lonely boys from home.

Pte —.

WILL IT PAY?

Out from the hearthstone the children go,
Fair as the sunshine, pure as the snow;
A licensed wrong on the crowded street
Waits the coming of guileless feet.
Child of the rich and child of the poor
Pass to their wreck through the dram-shop's door;
O, say will they ever come back as they go,
Fair as the sunshine, pure as the snow?

Out from the hearthstone the childrer fair,
Pass from the breath of a mother's prayer.
Shall a father's vote on the crowded street
Consent to the snare for the thoughtless feet?
Ah! fathers, your finest gold grows dim,
Black with the rust of such nameless sin!
You may pave the streets with your children slain,
And light your ways with the price of shame.
But say, will your dear ones come back as they go,
Fair as the sunshine, pure as the snow?

—Mary T. Lathrap.

MOTHER'S PENSIONS.

Judge Henry Neil, of Chicago, is visiting England to propound a scheme of Mother's Pensions. His story is a most interesting one. "Early in January, 1911," he says, "I went into the Juvenile Court in Chicago, and saw the first case tried. It was a mother with five children, the mother worn out trying to earn a living for the children. The father had died three years before, and the mother had gone out washing. Now broken in health and unable to work, the landlord ordered her to move on, and she had nowhere to go. The Probation Officer said that as the mother could not support the children, they should be taken away from her and given to someone who could. The mother said, 'Judge, wouldn't it be kinder and more humane if you took the mother out and shot her before you take away from her for ever her children?'"

"That case woke me up. I went to the State Legislature of Illinois, told them the story of this woman, and asked them to enact a law by which a widowed mother, with no reasonable means of support, would be furnished with money to support her children out of the common county tax fund. The law was enacted, and has been successful in thirty States. The mother gets her cheque every month, and if she proves unable to handle the money properly her pension may be revoked."

Instead of putting children in institutions which are costly, they are looked after by their own mother, and the cost is about one-third what it was.

ALCOHOL AND EFFICIENCY.

The use of alcohol results in much inefficiency. It is well understood by all who control large bodies of men that alcohol and effective work are incompatible. Abundant liquor means a full guard-house and many court-martial cases. In the matter of target shooting, careful experiments conducted in Sweden showed an average of forty per cent. fewer hits by marksmen after one drink of brandy. Since alcohol markedly interferes with mental processes, it is plain that decisions in military crises are apt to be faulty. Alcohol and venereal diseases are closely allied.—Dr. Keefer, Lieutenant-Colonel, Medical Corps, U.S.A. Army.

A WORD FROM THE DOMINION PRESIDENT.

I have much pleasure in voicing the congratulations of White Ribboners throughout the Dominion to Erle Peryman on his success in passing Matriculation, Solicitors' General Knowledge, and Medical Preliminary, also in gaining a Senior National Scholarship. This promising young student passed Standard IV. at eight years old, having passed four standards in less than two years. Owing to his extreme youth, at the wish of his parents he was allowed to stay another year in Standard IV. He gained his proficiency at 11 years of age. Two years later, in 1916, he gained a Junior National Scholarship and passed Senior Free Place examination, and in 1917, aged fourteen, he gained three examinations on the Matric. papers, and also a Senior Scholarship.

His mother is not only the Editor of our "White Ribbon" (which is an ordinary woman's work), but is the head of a parsonage, the leader of a Bible Class, the conductor of a choir, a preacher of the Gospel, who occupies the pulpit of her own and neighbouring churches, and takes the platform whenever necessary. All honour to her that her young son has done so well.

RACHEL DON.

RESOLUTIONS FOR CONVENTION.

The following resolutions are to be brought forward at Convention, and we print them now so that Unions may have an opportunity of discussing them:—

1. "That the resolution passed at the last Dominion Convention in reference to a health certificate before marriage be rescinded."

"That the word 'clean' be deleted from the resolution, and the following words added to it: 'That it be not made compulsory for one party to show their health certificate to the other party, but that in case of refusal to do so, no case for breach of promise shall stand.'"

2. "That at this Convention a 'Y' Organiser be appointed in the interests of Y work throughout the Dominion."

3. "That an Organising Treasurer be appointed to travel through the

Provinces of the Dominion, for the purpose of collecting annual subscriptions for a fund, to be used for employing an Organising Secretary for each province."

4. "That this Fund be administered by the Dominion Executive, and the Organisers be employed and dismissed by the Dominion Executive, but that they work under the control of the Provincial Executive."

5. "That the Provincial Organising Secretaries be paid such a salary as to obviate the necessity of asking for hospitality."

THE TREASURY OF PRAYER.

(By Rev. J. H. Jowett, D.D.)

"Pray for us that the word of the Lord may run and be glorified."—II. Thess. iii. 1.

And so it is that the people of one talent can help the men endowed with ten. They can be fellow-labourers in a common crusade. The slave Onesimus can co-operate with the Apostle of the Gentiles. Obscure folk can be in the mighty fellowship of the great. By prayer I can have a share in the work of the preacher, and help to wing his words with the mysterious power of the Holy Ghost. By prayer I can visit the lonely missionary, and even though I remain at home I too can be a worker on the foreign field. By prayer I can visit thrones, I can sit in cabinets with statesmen, I can go into the editorial office and influence the articles in the daily Press.

What a privilege, then, is mine, and also what a solemn duty! And how little and rarely I use my power! If there had been committed to me a mysterious influence over men's bodies, by which I could impart strength to those who are weak and faint, and I only indifferently used the power, how great would be my condemnation! But a much more precious gift is mine. I can be the strengthener of men's souls. And with this gift I am free from the limitations of space, for in a moment I can cross continents and seas, and carry resource, by the grace of God, to His servants in the remotest parts of the earth. Then be up, my soul, and use thy wonderful power! Make thy journeys round the planet, helping the servants of the Lord, enriching their minds and hearts, and giving to men and women in every clime surprises of inspiration.

GIVE THE CHILDREN A CHANCE.

If it be parenthood we desire—meaning, of course, parenthood within marriage—let us talk about parenthood and not marriage. Let us make parenthood possible for all married persons of the right kind, healthy in mind and body, who desire to become parents. At present we tax, hamper, boycott, and penalise them, as if they were the malicious and gratuitous enemies, and not the makers, of the State. By adequate taxation of those who can afford it—the wealthy, the childless, the bachelors—money and means must be found for the birth, the feeding, medical care, and education—till eighteen instead of fourteen—of the children whom the State so urgently requires. The experience of the National Birth-rate Commission proved this necessity, and some of its members have now been concerned in the presentation of a memorial to the Chancellor of the Exchequer on these lines. At a great meeting on Race Renewal, held at the Mansion House, in London, it was my privilege to set forth the arguments some of which have here been outlined. We shall win the war, but we must win the peace, and guarantee the world's peace and freedom for ever. For these supreme ends we must spend money and labour and forethought upon the future renewal of the race of Freedom's Trustees. We must greatly relieve parents of taxation.

BETTER TIMES FOR PARENTS.

We must set to work to provide not merely houses, but homes for the families of the future, where children may live, and whence no landlords may drive parents, as private and corporate and municipal landlords do now, in favour of the childless and the unmarried. We must provide good medical and nursing care for the nation's motherhood everywhere. No mother or child must die in this wealthy land for lack of money, whilst we spend unprecedented sums of money on drink and tobacco. Those who do not help to create our future, must pay for those who do, for only the nation that regards its young can renew its youth.—Dr. Saleeby.

Grieggs: "The idea of your letting your wife go around saying she made a man of you! You don't hear my wife saying that."

Briggs: "No, but I heard her telling my wife that she did her best."—Selected.

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.)

PAKIRI.

Jan. 27. Yearly election held Jan. 3. The meetings are opened with singing, Bible reading, and prayer. Reports read and adopted. Mrs Rennie, President, re-elected; Mrs Wyatt, Vice-President, re-elected; Sec., Mrs Gozar, re-elected; Treas., Miss Dyer, re-elected. Decided to hold a social afternoon on the 7th February, and invite non-members.

BLUFF.

Feb. 1. A good attendance. Mrs Valentine was elected Superintendent of Notable Days and Home Meetings, and Mrs Donaldson was re-elected as Parliamentary and Press Secretary. Arrangements were made for the re-opening of the Band of Hope in March. Decided to hold the Harvest Festival early in April, and make a special effort to pay off some of the debt at present resting on the hall.

LOWER HUTT.

Feb. 5. The President (Mrs Balyntyne) in the chair. Address by Mrs Houlder on "The Aims and Objects of the W.C.T.U." Afternoon tea was provided. Solo and recitation given. Decided to hold a special meeting on February 10th to consider resolutions, etc., for Convention. One new member enrolled.

INVERCARGILL.

Feb. 5. President (Mrs Baird) in the chair. Thirteen members present. Miss Powell gave an interesting account of her work throughout the Dominion. Sister Moody-Bell, who was present, having just returned from the West Coast, told of the great need for workers there. Mrs Baird reported on the work of the boys and girls who entered for the Temperance Essay Competition. She stated that the competitors showed considerable knowledge of the subject. Decided to hold our social on the first Tuesday in April.

WANGANUI.

Feb. 1. The President presided. Six letters were read in answer to those sent to the mothers of fallen soldiers, and Mrs Bott was appointed to the position of War Correspondent, to write these letters of sympathy. The following ladies were appointed to office:—"White Ribbon" Agent, Mrs W. Grant; Literature, Mrs Mara; Sick and Hospital Visitor, Mrs Dunstall. Mrs Upton was appointed as our delegate to Convention. A splen-

did address was then given by the Rev. Blamires upon the drink traffic and the war. He warmly congratulated the women of the W.C.T.U. of New Zealand for their practical work for the mine-sweepers. A vote of thanks was accorded to Mr Blamires. One new member was initiated.

PALMERSTON NORTH.

Feb. 1. Mrs Crabb presided and laid before the meeting plans for the year's work, which will be discussed fully at a later meeting. The Treasurer, Miss Hodder, reported that the accounts showed a credit balance, and that £800 had passed through her hands during the year, a great deal of which was raised through patriotic efforts. Relief work-room in the Square will be open again on Tuesday. Mrs W. G. K. Kenrick was elected a Vice-President.

GREYTOWN.

Jan. 29. President in the chair. Mrs Boucher (Treasurer) appointed as delegate to Timaru Convention. A vote of thanks to Mrs Devonport, Masterton, for donation towards expenses of delegate to Convention.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

Feb. 7. Mrs Houlder presided. Attendance good. The following resolution was carried:—"That steps should be taken to provide for the registration and inspection of homes in which deaf and blind persons are boarded." The following were elected Superintendents:—Good Citizenship, Mrs Evans, M.A.; Railway Boxes, Mrs Brierley; Home and Notable Days, Mesdames Bott and Dennett; Backblocks, Mrs Brown; Patriotic, Mrs Mounter; Cradle Roll, Mesdames Logan and Spearman; Sabbath Observance, Mrs Boxall; Flowers for Factories, Mrs Boxall; L.T.L., Mesdames Wright, Webb, and Cummins; Evangelistic, Mrs Wright; Work Among Seamen, Mrs Cummins; "White Ribbon," Mrs Webb; Tea Committee, Mesdames Bott, Mounter, Bates, and Brierley. Mesdames Mounter and Brown were elected delegates to Convention. Arrangements were made for holding Willard Day on February 21st. One new member was initiated.

ASHBURTON.

Feb. Mrs Lill presided. Attendance moderate. Votes of sympathy with bereaved and sick members. Miss A. C. Watson elected delegate to Convention, and Miss Rene Oakly Y delegate. Resolution passed demanding equality of punishment for all criminal offences against boys and girls. Two new members. Mrs W. J. Brown elected Treasurer. Superintendents were elected: Bible-in-Schools and Good Citizenship, Mrs W. T. Lill; Sabbath Observance, Mrs Matthews; Evangelistic, Mrs G. Miller; Scientific Temperance Instruction, Mrs E. Buchanan; Moral Education, Mrs Jameson; Work Among Young People, Mesdames A.

Pollock and Robinson; Flower Mission, Mrs Ferriman and Miss A. C. Watson; Press and Legal and Parliamentary, Miss Trevurza; "White Ribbon," Miss Butterick; Work Among Seamen, Mrs G. Bowman; Notable Days, Mrs W. J. Brown; Literature, Mrs E. McEwen; Social, Mrs J. Thompson; Rest Tent, Mesdames McEwen and McKenzie; Union Letter-writer, Miss Trevurza. £1 10s voted by Executive to testimonial to Mr T. D. Taylor, in appreciation of services as Editor of "Mail" and "Guardian."

WANGANUI EAST.

Feb. Mrs Duxfield presided. The reports of the Secretary and the Treasurer were received and adopted. The Secretary's report showed a membership of 68 and 9 honorary members. This was an increase during the year of 22 and 6 respectively. Excellent reports were received from the various Superintendents of the Cradle Roll, "White Ribbon," Moral Education, L.T.L., Maori Work, and Literature sections. The L.T.L. work was especially pleasing, there being 135 members in the Matheson Street Branch. A vote of sympathy with Mr and Mrs Andrew and family in their recent bereavement was passed by the members standing in silence. The annual election of officers resulted as follows:—Pres., Mrs Duxfield; Sec. and Treas., Mrs Andrew; Rec. Sec., Mrs Dowsett; Vice-Pres., Mrs McLeod and Mrs Blair; Superintendent of Departments, Mrs Duxfield; Moral Education and Literature, Mrs Marshall; "White Ribbon" Agent, Mrs Melvin; Cradle Roll, Mrs Walpole; Home Meetings, Mrs Larking; Red Cross Work, Mrs Andrew; Narcotics, Mrs Duxfield; Maori Work, Mrs Paterson. Votes of thanks for use of buildings and help given.

URENUI.

Dec. 19. Attendance good. Miss Gaustad presided. Decided to advertise in "White Ribbon." The Agent reported four new subscribers.

Jan. 23. Monthly meeting held at Mrs Sawry's, Miss Gaustad presiding. Received Maori literature on "Health" and "Helps for Mothers." Decided to ask Maori Missionary to distribute it. Passed resolution of sympathy with the Hick family in their loss of our late member, Mrs Hick. Afternoon tea was provided by the hostess.

SAWYER'S BAY.

Feb. Mrs Allen presided. Mrs Booth appointed delegate to Convention. Decided to hold Home Meeting this month. Mrs Napier gave a very helpful and inspiring address.

OTAMATEA.

Feb. 5. Annual meeting. Vote of sympathy with Mrs Toko Keepai on the loss of a little girl; also towards our President, Mrs Karena, Mrs Toko Keepai's mother, who has lost a son

and a grandchild within a few months. Two new members. Votes of thanks to those who attend our meetings.

Y's Reports.

WANGANUI Y's.

Jan. 28. A Fruit Social, 27 present, in spite of bad weather. Miss Weymouth gave an interesting address. Decided to send a delegate to Convention, and ways and means of raising funds discussed. Temperance Doxology and Benediction closed the meeting.

THE KNIGHTS OF THE L.T.L.

A RECITATION.

Listen, dear people, and hear us tell
A tale of the Knights of the L.T.L.
"Who are they?" you ask. Why, just
a band
Of the very best boys in all the land,
With the very best girls to help them,
so
They are bound to succeed when they
try, you know.
"Its object?" you say. Why, just to
fight
The powers of evil with all their
might.
In song and story have oft been told,
Tales of the wonderful knights of old,
Who, with burnished armour and
sword in hand,
Went hither and thither through all
the land,
Driving the terrible dragons away,
Or laying them dead in the heat of
the fray.
These knights are all gone, their
prowess is o'er,
But heroes still live and fight as of
yore.
And each of us Legioners is a knight;
Our colours mean purity, goodness,
and right.
The dragons we fight with are many
and strong,
Our hands may grow weary, the day
may be long,
But we'll never give in, and we'll con-
quer them yet—
Profanity, rum, and vile cigarette.
And we want all the boys and the
girls in the land
To know what we're doing, and lend
us a hand,
There's work, but there's gladness
and glory as well,
For each brave young Knight of the
L.T.L.

—Isabel Sinclair.

A drop of water is so light,
That as it falls it fades from sight,
And yet enough of them will be
A torrent, or a raging sea,

WHY?

If the use of tobacco is not injuri-
ous,

WHY does the life insurance com-
pany wish to know whether the appli-
cant smokes?

WHY does the surgeon, contemplat-
ing a serious operation, ask whether
the patient smokes?

WHY are athletes, in training, for-
bidden to smoke?

WHY is the cigarette the object of
special attention by temperance and
anti-tobacco workers?

WHY do cigarette smokers make the
vast majority of the mistakes in book-
keeping?

WHY are cigarette smokers an easy
prey to disease, especially to tuber-
culosis?

WHY do none of the books which
deal with the principles of success in
life, and give advice to young men of
ambition, advise the use of the ciga-
rette?

WHY are those who begin smoking
early in life, almost without exception,
stunted in body or mind?

WHY do smokers never stand first in
their classes?

WHY do some States forbid the sel-
ling of cigarettes to minors?

WHY is it that youthful criminals
are invariably smokers?

WHY is smoking prohibited during
the first three years at West Point
and Annapolis, the American Govern-
ment's military and naval schools?

If it does not hinder vocations, why
do many firms absolutely refuse to em-
ploy boys and young men who smoke
cigarettes, or else give the preference
to non-smoking persons?—"The
Youth's Instructor."

THE TASK.

"Do, mamma, let me help," the little
hands
That proffer help, are hindrances in-
stead;
The puckering stitches mar the hem
and bands,
The gathers slip from off the
broken thread.

But patience, Mother-heart the Master
One

Who sets for you life's task, per-
chance may say,

Knowing the will to do, when night
comes on.

"To sleep, my child, you have done
well to-day."

—Cora A. Matson Dolson, in
"Mother's Magazine."

CONVENTION.

Dear Sisters,—Just a line to remind
you to send me in the names of dele-
gates and the applications for proxies
as soon as you are able. I have al-
ready received a few, and thank these
for sending in so quickly.

With best wishes for a good Con-
vention.—I am, yours in the work,

KATE M. EVANS,

Dom. Rec. Secretary.

19, Hiropi Street, Wellington,

February, 1918.

Ashburton, 1st Tuesday, 2.45 p.m., in Baring
Square Schoolroom; Pres., Mrs W. T. Hill; Cor.
Sec., Mrs C. Holland; Rec. Sec., Miss Trevurza,
169 Peter Street; Treas., Mrs R. McDonald; Asst.
Treas., Mrs W. J. Brown; "W.R." Supt., Miss
Butterick, Wakanui.

Auckland District, 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 2.30
p.m. Central Mission Hall, Albert St.; Pres., Mrs
Cook, Point St., Mt. Eden; Cor. Sec., Miss N.
Dewar, Poinallier Terr., Ponsonby; Rec. Sec., Mrs
J. W. Taylor, Sentinel Rd., Ponsonby; Treas., Mrs
McLean, Princeps St. Grey Lynn; Org. Treas., Miss
Dewar, 4 Poinallier Terr., Ponsonby; "W.R." Agent
Mrs Nelson, Esplanade Road, Mt. Eden.

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

Cambridge, 1st Tuesday, in month in Victoria
Hall, at 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs A. T. Watson; Rec.
Sec., Mrs Moore; Cor. Sec., Mrs James; Treas.,
Mrs C. H. Rycroft; Cradle Roll, Mrs W. Hogan;
"W.R." Agent, Mrs A. T. Watson.

Christchurch District, Rooms, 247 Manchester
St., opp. His Majesty's Theatre. Second and fourth
Wednesday; Pres., Mrs T. E. Taylor, Cashmere
Hills; Cor. Sec., Mrs R. Day, Milford St., St. Al-
bans; Rec. Sec., Miss Bishop, 12 Bealey St.; Treas.,
Mrs Patterson, 346 Worcester St., Linwood; Asst.
Treas., Miss Gordon, Holly Lea, Manchester St.;
"W.R." Supt., Mrs Williams, 21, Philip St., Linwood.

Dannevirke, 2nd Wednesday, Wesleyan
Schoolroom, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs W. F. Knight,
Tahoraiti; Sec., Mrs Wiseman, High St.; Treas.,
Miss Burdett, The Manse.

Dunedin District, 1st Tuesday, No-license Rooms,
Moray Place, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Hiett, 72, Heriot
Row; Cor. Sec., and Press Cor., Mrs Macartney,
156, Eglinton Road, Mornington; Rec. Sec., Nurse
Williamson; Supt. WHITE RIBBON, Mrs Anderson,
82, Duke St.; Treas., Mrs Young, Bishops Court,
Roslyn.

Devonport, Second Thursday, Wesleyan School-
room, 2.30 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Bann, Victoria Rd.;
Vice-President, Mesdames Budd, Elliot, Sheppard,
George and Young; Sec., Mrs Burnett, Jubilee Av.;
Treas., and Supt. W.R., Miss Le Roy, Waterview
Rd., Stanley Bay; Supt. Cradle Roll, Miss Lillwall.

Fitzroy, 1st Friday, 2.30 p.m., Methodist Church
Pres., Mrs A. Hayward, 834, Devon Street, Fitzroy;
Sec., Mrs L. Gray, 638, Devon Street East, New Ply-
mouth; Treas., Miss Tolme, Chilman St., Fitzroy;
"W.R." Agent, Mrs J. Kibby, Clemow St., Fitzroy.

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.,
rs Williamson, The Hill; "W.R." Agent, Mrs
Burnley; Railway Box, Mrs Shearer.

Gibson 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 Parry.

Greytown, last Tuesday at 2.30 p.m. in Presbyterian Sunday School. President, Mrs Whincop, Gasworks; Secretary, also W.R. Agent, pro tem., Mrs Banks, Humphreys St.; Treas., Mrs Boucher, Humphreys St.; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Quin and A. Haigh.

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

Hastings, 2nd Wednesday, St. Andrew's Hall, 1 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Moore, Stortford; Sec., Mrs F. 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 J. S. Young, Cameron Street; Vice Presidents, Sister Nellie, Mesdames Bone, Dixon, Gray, and Miss Maunders; Rec. Sec., Miss Bischoff, Turuturu Rd.; Cor. Sec., Mrs White, Argyle Street; Treas., Mrs Best, Milmo St.; W.R. Agent, Mrs Tonks, Campbell St.

Henderson, 3rd Wednesday, Presbyterian and Methodist Churches, alternately, 2.30 p.m. Pres., Mrs Gilbert, "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, 8 p.m. in Allen's Hall; Pres., Mrs James Baird; Vice-Pres., Mesdames C. H. Macalister, McKenzie, Lopdell, Peters, Hunter; Rec. Sec., Mrs Kennedy, Gladstone; Cor. Sec., Mrs Parsonson, Princes St., Enwood; Treas., Mrs F. Lillierap, Earn St.; "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 Garrett; Treasurer, Mrs Aikken; Assistant Treasurer, Mrs Parry; Press Cor., Mrs Smart, Etrick Street; W.R. Agent, Mrs Sullivan, 19, Conon St.; Cradle Roll Supts., Mrs Cooper, Oteramika Road, and Mrs Bruce Wallace, Ythan St., Appleby.

Kalapoi 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.

Kati-Kati, 2nd Wednesdays, 2 p.m., in Public Hall. Pres., Mrs Baines, Vice-Pres., Mrs J. Hume, Treas., Mrs Woolford, Sec., Miss Wilson, W.R. Supt. Miss McCutchan, Cradle Roll, Misses Dickey and Andrews, Organist, Mrs N. Johnston.

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 Bayley, Queens Rd.; Cradle Roll, Mrs Heyes, Brunswick St.; W.R. Agent, Mrs Burn, Aglionby Street.

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

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

Masterton, 1st Tuesday, Knox Hall, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Devonport; Sec., Mrs M. Flanagan, 4 Cole Street; Treas., Mrs Sutherland; White Ribbon Supt., Mrs 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 Eytan; "W.R." Agent, Miss Tindall.

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

Morrinsville, meets 2nd Tuesday. Pres., Mrs Davies; Vice-Pres., Mrs Black; Sec. and Treas., Miss Beeson, c/o Private Hospital, Morrinsville.

Napier District, 1st Wednesday and 3rd Thursday, in St. Paul's Presbyterian Schoolroom, 8 p.m. Pres., Mrs G. W. Venables, Ashridge Rd.; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames Dodds and Fawcett; Sec., Mrs A. Chellev, Macdonald St.; Treas., Mrs Grayling, Faraday Street; Asst. Treas., Mrs Chapman; Evangelists, Mrs Dodds; Hospital Visitors, Mesdames J. Walker and W. Findlay; Cradle Roll, Mrs Walker; W.R. Agent, Mrs Mens; Supt. Drawing-room Meetings, Mrs Fawcett.

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., Mrs Strand, Bexley, N.B.; W.R. Agent, Mrs Langley, Park Rd., New Brighton.

New Plymouth District, first Friday, 2.30 p.m., Good Templar Lodgeroom; Pres., Sec., Mrs Griffin, Gilbert 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.; Acting Pres., Mrs Watson; Cor. Sec., Mrs Knapp, Alfred St.; Rec. Sec., Mrs Judson; Treas., Mrs A. Brown, Weka St.; "W.R." Agent, Mrs Whitford, Mount St.

Opotiki, 2nd Thursday, St. John's Hall, 3 p.m. Pres., Mrs Jas Thompson; Sec., Mrs T. Fleming; Treas. and Supt. "W.R." Mrs Holman, Otara; Supt. L.T.L., Mrs Goodall; Cradle Roll, Mrs Evans.

Oxford, last Wednesday, 2.30 p.m., Coronation Hall; Pres., Mrs G. Ryde, Cooper's Creek; Rec. Sec., Mrs R. Comyns; Cor. Sec., Mrs T. Gainsford; Treas., Miss Caverhill; "W.R." Mrs D. Hawke; Cradle Roll, Mrs Gainsford, Sr., and Mrs Clark; Evangelistic, Mrs C. W. Frith; Flower Mission, Mrs Pot; Home Meetings, Mrs Jim Clark; Notable Days, Mrs Kippenberger.

Pakiri, 1st Thursday, Pakiri Hall, 2 p.m. Pres., Mrs Rennie; Vice Pres., Mrs Wyatt; Sec., Mrs Gozar; Treas., Miss Dyer; W.R. Agent, Mrs Witton.

Palmerston N. District, 1st Friday, St. Andrew's Schoolroom, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Crabb, 128 College St. W.; Cor. Sec., Mrs Hills, 64, Cuba St.; Rec. Sec., Mrs Hodder, Allan St.; Treas., Miss Hodder, Allan 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, 37 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.

Rakaia meets on the 2nd Thursday in the month, in the Methodist Church, Anglican S.S., and the Presbyterian S.S. alternately; Mrs Boag, Pres.; Mrs Judkins, Treas.; Mrs Hopwood, Sec.

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.

Tauranga, Meets in Wesley Hall, on last Wednesday, at 2.45 p.m. Pres., Mrs F. N. Christian, 3rd Avenue, Sec., Mrs J. Neal, 11th Avenue. Treas., Mrs J. B. Chappell, Cameron Rd., Cradle Roll, Mrs C. E. Ridley, 2nd Avenue, L.T.L., Mrs A. Turner, Devonport Rd., W.R. Supt., Mrs Wall, Norris Street; Cor. Sec., Mrs A. Turner.

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.; Press, 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 Craham; Sec., Mrs C. Bycroft; Treas., Mrs Goldsmith; Supt. Band of Hope, Miss Worthington; Supt. Cradle Roll, Miss Burns; White Ribbon Supt., Miss Dwen.

Waimate, 2nd Wednesday, in Knox Church Hall, at 3 o'clock; 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 Street; Vice Pres., Mesdames Blair, and Andrew; Sec. and Treas., Mrs Andrew, Mackay St.; Rec. Sec., Mrs Dowsett, Nixon 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., Mrs J. Upton, 165, Victoria Av.; Treas., Mrs Siddella, Guyton St.; Rec. Sec., Mrs R. Smith, College Street; "W.R." Supt., Mrs W. R. Grant, Harrison Place.

Warkworth, last Thursday, 2.30 p.m., Schoolroom, Methodist Church; Pres., Mrs Buckingham; Treas., Mrs Ellis; "W.R." Agent, Mrs T. H. Wilson; Press Reporter, Mrs McKinney.

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.

Girls' 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; Acting Pres., Mrs McDonald, 8 Huia Rd., Hataitai; Cor. Sec., Miss Helyer; Rec. Sec., Mrs Clark; Treas. Mrs Helyer, Oriental Bay; White Ribbon Supt., Mrs Port, Arstin Street.

Waipukurau, 2nd Monday, St. Andrew's Hall, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Hopkirk; Vice-Pres., Mrs Harding and Mrs Sowry; Sec., Mrs H. French, Main St.; Treas., Mrs Robinson; Organist, Mrs Harris W.R. Supt., Mrs Mercer.

Woodville, meets 4th Tuesday, 1 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.