

The White Ribbon

FOR GOD AND HOME AND HUMANITY

Vol. 24.—No. 282.

WELLINGTON, N.Z., DECEMBER 18, 1918.

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

THE LICENSING BILL.

Long expected, eagerly looked forward to, sternly petitioned for, earnestly prayed for, at length Cabinet has brought down the Licensing Bill. It is divided into two parts: The first part provides for a special Licensing Poll to be taken in April next. It grants the prayer of the petition of over 240,000 electors, and gives a Referendum on the Efficiency Board's proposals. The two issues are (1) National Continuance, (2) National Prohibition with Compensation. It limits the compensation to a sum not to exceed four and a half million pounds. It provides that if National Prohibition be carried, it comes into force on June 30, 1919, and that the issue be carried by a bare majority of the valid votes recorded. It also gives finality as far as such can be given. Section 20 provides that no Licensing Poll shall be taken after the carrying of National Prohibition. No Parliament can bind succeeding Parliaments, but this Bill makes it impossible to take another poll without fresh legislation.

The second part of the Bill deals with what follows if Prohibition is not carried at the forthcoming Special Licensing Poll in April. Should National Continuance be carried next April, then at the next Licensing Poll, to be taken at the next General Election, three issues are to be submitted to the voter: (1) National Continuance, (2) National Prohibition Without Compensation, (3) State Purchase and Control of Liquor Trade. No vote is to be valid unless two issues are struck out. For either Prohibition or State Control to be carried, it must secure more than half the num-

ber of valid votes cast. That is to say, that neither of these proposals can be carried unless it secures an absolute majority of the valid votes cast. But if neither Prohibition nor State Control be carried, then the Bill provides that National Continuance shall be deemed to have been carried. This ballot paper entirely favours the Trade. It is a case of "heads they win, and tails we lose," since National Continuance is the only issue that can be carried by a minority vote. Should National Prohibition be carried at this poll, it comes into operation on the thirtieth day of June next after the taking of the General Licensing Poll. No person is to be compensated and no licensing poll shall at any time hereafter be taken in any district. It settles the question finally. Should National Continuance be carried at the Licensing Poll next April, and also be carried at the next General Licensing Poll, then the local no-license vote shall be cut out, and we have the three issues to be submitted at each poll.

Our readers will see from this brief summary how very necessary it is to carry Prohibition at the Special Poll next April. We have a straight-out vote, Prohibition versus Continuance, to be carried by a bare majority, and to be immediately operative. It carries with it compensation not exceeding four and a half million pounds. How true that we suffer for our mistakes as well as for our sins. The Parliament committed a ghastly mistake when they consented to allow the will of the electors deliberately expressed at the ballot box to be flouted for 4½ years. For that mistake we now have to pay. But who that loves his fellows would begrudge the cost. Let us hold the scales and weigh im-

partially! On one side we place 4½ million pounds; upon the other side (1) 45 millions the trade would cost in hard cash during 4½ years; (2) all the lives cut short by alcohol in that period; (3) all the ruined homes, broken hearts, degenerate lives, and all the moral and physical wreckage caused by drink in 4½ years. "Shylock" lamented alternately his ducats and his daughter, but what Christian elector would grumble over the loss of our ducats if we saved our sons and daughters? Get busy, pray devoutly, and hammer away stoutly! The Secretary of the Licensed Victuallers' Association assures us that they will fight. We quite believe the Trade will fight a most determined battle; in very truth, the fiercest fight of all our long campaign. But are we to allow the men who are fighting for dollars, out for gain, pure and simple, to beat the Mothers who are fighting for their sons and daughters? Start work at once. Do not wait for meetings; speak to friends, neighbours, tradespeople, and to every one you meet. Help to enrol electors, to educate electors, and to get electors to the poll. From now until the Poll is over slacken not our effort; other things can stand on one side. God's work for us now is to out-vote the liquor traffic. See that we do it "so bravely, so wisely, so well, Angels will hasten the story to tell."

In this great campaign faith and work must go hand in hand. God is on our side, and "He wins who fights with God."

"For right is right, since God is God,

And right the day must win;
To doubt would be disloyalty
To falter would be sin."

WOMAN'S WORK.

WOMAN FORESTER.

Miss Mable McBain is to be employed by the forest patrol service of the Government. She is an experienced mountaineer, and is to live alone in a tent on the summit of Cleveland Mountains and keep watch on the country round for forest fires.

FIRST WOMAN ON GOVERNMENT BOARD IN CANADA.

Mrs Plumptree has been appointed on the Board of Registration, the first woman to be on a Government Board in Canada.

WOMEN IN PARLIAMENT.

At a recent Danish election, four women were elected as members of the Lower House. Three of the ladies have served as members of Municipal Councils, and one is the wife of the Minister for War and President of the Danish Woman's Suffrage Society.

CANADA'S WOMAN JUDGE.

A band of highly respectable women came into Court in Edmonton, Canada, and sat down to listen to the proceedings. The Magistrate asked them to withdraw. "Things take place here which are quite unfit for women to hear," he said.

"These girls hear them," answered a matron. "Yes," said the Magistrate, "but they are fallen girls." The matron replied, "Even if they are fallen girls, we mean to stand by them."

"Ladies, you really must withdraw. It would be impossible for me to go on with the proceedings while you are here."

The ladies retired, but went to the City Authorities and declared that they were not willing for girls of any kind to be dealt with in a way that was not fit for decent women to hear, and thus they secured the appointment of the first woman Judge.

In the annual report of the Scottish Band of Hope Union we notice that they have a school lecture department, and in connection with this over 30,000 essays were sent in, and more than 2000 book prizes awarded. Temperance wall-sheets and temperance teaching are good, but authorised temperance lectures in our schools would be a decided step in advance.

WOMEN IN GOVERNMENT APPOINTMENTS.

(Condensed from Paper by Miss Mary Sheepshanks.)

In France, Marguerite Calve has been attached to the Cabinet of the Minister of Public Instruction, and the Minister of Blockade has a woman private secretary. Mr Lloyd George also has a woman private secretary. In Algiers women may be Clerks to the Magistrate.

In Great Britain four women were appointed Insurance Commissioners, with the same salaries as their male colleagues. Under the Local Government Board there is a superintendent lady inspector and six inspectors of boarding-out, i.e., children who, under Poor Law, are placed in families. Ireland has two women inspectors of boarding-out. The Public Trustee has a woman visitor for children.

The Home Government has nineteen women factory inspectors and one woman doctor inspector of prisons. One woman is Governor of Aylesbury Prison and its three annexes.

Three women are members of Trade Boards. The Board of Education has one woman medical officer and twenty-seven school inspectors.

Two women have recently been appointed visitors of the Institutions for Defectives under the Lunacy Act of 1890, and one has been appointed a paid Commissioner under the Mental Deficiency Act of 1913.

The London County Council has a woman as Deputy-Chairman, and employs a number of women in higher appointments. The highest office under a local authority filled by a woman is that of Assistant Education Officer for London, held by Miss Philippa Fawcett.

Women have been placed on a large number of Government committees since the war. The Women's Army Services, viz., the Woman's Army Auxiliary Corps, the Woman's Royal Air Force, and the Woman's Royal Naval Service, have women chiefs, women officers, and women heads of the Medical Service.

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

THE WAR AND THE WORK.

A NOTE FROM LEIGH.

Day by day our men are falling,
Week by week we get the news,
Another lad's been killed in action,
Till our hearts the tale refuse.

Can we tell to father, mother,
That their soldier boy is gone;
Never now he'll cross the ocean
In the troopship homeward bound.

Oh, how sad our hearts are feeling,
As we gaze upon their woe;
Tears down stricken cheeks are stealing
For the lad that's now laid low.

Oh, New Zealand! Oh, New Zealand!
You've a heavy price to pay
For the lads of our Dominion
To the war you've sent away.

Best and bravest of our manhood
Lying in a foreign grave,
Tell us, tell us, Oh! New Zealand,
How our children we can save.

In my arms I held a baby,
Merry, laughing eyes of blue,
Consecrated to God's service,
With the mission field in view.

Now he's 'listed in the Army,
Toils within the camp to-night,
For the sake of those around us
Who have given their sons in fight.

Though our hearts are wrung with anguish,
There is none our cry to heed,
For the Government is calling,
"Men! Oh, men! this is our need."

Yet there is a God in Heaven,
Who our prayers will not deny,
When our hearts to Him are given
In one sweet, blest unity.

Men of God, on you we're calling,
Who've been kept back from the fight,
On your knees, before God falling,
Seek, oh seek Him for the Light.

You have preached a loving Father
Gives to us a Saviour's care,
Now proclaim from every altar
That the Lord of Hosts is here.

Smiting us for disobedience,
In His wrath He now draws nigh,
For His Temples desecrated,
And His Sabbath we deny.

Ring His cry through all the Churches,
Tell it in the Mission Hall,
Bring the tithes in, oh, my people,
Bring the tithes in, bring them all.

Then the Lord will rend the Heavens,
The Lord of Hosts in all His power,
And the victory will be given
To the Allies in that hour.

--Eva.

MAKING VICE EASY.

THE WAR OFFICE AND MAISONS
TOLERES.

(By Miss Maude Royden.)

I have been astonished to find how many people there are who do not understand what the system we are protesting against really implies both for men and women, and exactly what is our objection to it. Dr Helen Wilson has told us that by all who know it is admitted to be a sanitary failure, to be in practice of no use. I want to make clear what is this system of regulated vice, the kind of house against whose existence within bounds for British soldiers we are now protesting, and what induces people to adopt these futile methods. Let us remind you that they are said to be adopted on behalf of us women. We are continually told that it is on behalf of the innocent that these measures are resorted to; that venereal disease always goes up during or immediately after a war, and that it is for the sake, especially of innocent women and children, that it is necessary to try these measures in order to keep soldiers from infection. I should like every woman in this country to understand on whose behalf these measures are being urged, and at what cost that protection, if it were a protection—which it is not—is given to her. I know many women in this country are willing to accept this protection, but I think they hardly realise what is the fate of the women who are sacrificed for them.

The system we protest against is what is known as regulated vice. The assumption is that unmarried men and men away from their wives cannot be expected to be continent, and that therefore they will go to other women. Those women in the nature of things very often become diseased. I say become diseased, because every woman suffering from venereal disease has been infected by some man. Some of the women, then, a terribly large number, become infected. If a man who is not diseased goes to them, he becomes infected, and he may return home and infect his wife, and pass on the disease to his children. Mr Macpherson, Under Secretary of State for War, in the House of Commons recently said: "He was not at all sure, human nature being what it is, that it was such a bad thing to have certain houses in which

women were registered by the police—and kept clean"; that is to say, are examined at frequent intervals by the doctors, removed if they are found to be diseased, and guaranteed healthy if the disease is not discovered. In a tolerated house, such as that in Layeux-sur-Mer, the women are all kept under strict medical supervision, and if disease is discovered in them they are removed and treated, and other women take their places. This house at Layeux is within bounds for British soldiers; in it are fifteen women, some of whom appear to be quite young, and it is visited by 360 men every day. Therefore each of the fifteen women receives between twenty and twenty-five men every day. The sort of lives these girls lead does not require any description from me; but the effect it has upon them—to be not only prostituted, which is horrible, but registered as prostitutes and medically examined at intervals in order to be guaranteed fit for prostitution, I should like to describe in the words, not of those who criticise, but of those who defend the system. Here is a description by a French doctor, who was officially employed in administering the system, and defended it:—"The obligation of these medical examinations is prodigiously degrading, debasing, and terrible. The system regularises and legitimates the sorrowful industry of the prostitute. It is, in fact, the sinister stroke by which the woman is cut off from Society, after which she ceases to belong to herself, and becomes the chattel (or thing) of the administration." Another writes like this: "The inscription of the woman's name is purely an administrative act. . . . None the less does it inflict on the woman a patent of infamy and degradation, and exercises a disastrous and fatal influence on her future life." Dr. Mireur says: "The girl of the brothel is the type par excellence of the public woman. She is the modern slave who, having sacrificed her personality, has become the tool of the brothel-keeper and the property of the public."

Again I remind you that this gentleman was defending the system. Another doctor says: "The authorities have here, as in other business transactions, the right to see that the merchandise delivered is of a quality demanded by the customer." I do not know if it is necessary to point

out how inevitable it becomes that a woman who is treated as the "chattel or thing of administration" is in a paragraph or two described as the merchandise which must be supplied according to the demands of the customer." "When once the woman has entered the brothel," says another, "she bids adieu to heaven, to liberty, to honour, and to the world." These are the descriptions of the people who for the most part know the administration through having themselves taken part in it, and who believe it to be necessary. That is the price at which our supposed protection is bought for us—the price of women like themselves.

Dr. Helen Wilson, who is not given to exaggerated statements, has analysed the figures of prostitution, and she points out that the large majority of women on the streets come from bad houses, and are between sixteen and eighteen, sometimes younger, when they take to this life. A girl under eighteen, brought up in a bad house, does not, because she has become a prostitute, deserve to be treated as though she were no longer a human being. The result of regulation on her is described very vividly by the chaplain to the Lock Hospital, Westbourne Park, London, who some time ago, when a Commission on the subject was sitting, wrote: "It is obvious to anyone almost at first sight that the Government patients, that is, the women in tolerated houses, are horribly alike, at one dead, dull, level. The ordinary patients, that is, the women of the streets, are very mixed, some of more and some of less refined appearance; but the Government patients are brutalised beyond description in manner and in appearance." It is not difficult to see why. If you treat a woman worse than you would dare treat an animal, no wonder she becomes horribly brutalised in manner and appearance. A woman who becomes like this soon ceases to be attractive to the men who are induced in one way or another only to visit the regulated houses. If the women there are "brutalised beyond description," they will prefer to go to other houses, where the women are at least a grade higher; and since the whole object of the system is to get men to go to the regulated houses, very quickly the places of these women have to be supplied by others. At this moment there are 15 women—

girls, I might call them—at Layeux, but it is not only 15. For girls who are visited on an average by between twenty and twenty-five men every day, do not long retain any of the youth or attraction which will bring the men to them; hence soon their places have to be taken by other girls, and thus the State, the Government, and Army Authorities, whoever it is, becomes the procurer, for which in this and every civilised country an individual would be punished.

That kind of infamy is being perpetrated on behalf of the women of this country! To any woman who believes the sacrifice to be necessary, I would say that she herself should volunteer. We have heard about the infamy of a man who, for whatever reason, noble or ignoble, allows others to go out and fight and die in his place, because, we are told, it is a case of national necessity. This plea may be urged on behalf of regulated prostitution. The men who urge it should invite their wives and daughters to fill the places left vacant when the fifteen women are worn out. I use words that sere my heart, but such things should not go on without people understanding for whom and why they are done. Do not believe that it is the soldier who demands them. He—as you or I, if we had not a certain amount of knowledge—may be misled by what looks like plausible arguments, but if you once make a soldier understand what it is that he is demanding, or that is being demanded in his name, he will repudiate this system. A friend of mine of the Moral and Social Hygiene, has been speaking lately in India against this system, some part of which is still in existence, and she says that when she has addressed a big audience of soldiers and made them understand what the tolerated houses really mean to the women who live in them, they with one accord demand to be allowed to sign a petition to the commanding officers that the houses should be closed. She told them she only wanted them to sign their names as men, not to give their regimental numbers, because she did not want them to get into trouble; but the soldiers insisted on giving their regimental numbers, so that it might be seen from whom the protest came. It is so stupid to assume that human beings, whether men or women, are beasts; they are so infinitely better than we will allow

them to be. Amid all the horrors and agonies of war, and I associate myself with every word that has been said about temptation and the duty of having the profound sympathy for the tempted, whether men or women, in spite of all temptation, I believe that soldiers would refuse the alleged protection if they understood its cost. "You invent a project," said the late Professor Stuart, "by which you, the State, propose to set aside a certain number of women destined to be the slaves and the instruments of men's lust. You propose, by your system of examination, to keep them in good condition. Why? Because your whole conception is profoundly immoral and against Nature. You have no respect for the human body; you forget the soul within. You think only of making these women serve men. You acknowledge not the humanity, the life, and the individuality of these poor instruments. And you will fail because physically human nature refuses to lend itself to your plans." "It is not only an insult and an outrage against women, but it is an outrage upon men to assume that they want this sort of thing, to assume that they have no more respect for the worth and beauty of a human being than it suggests by this description of women as 'merchandise!'" I believe that we have only to get the facts before the public in order to have the thing swept away by a flood of indignation.—From "The Christian Commonwealth," March 6th, 1918.

The meeting at which Miss Maude Royden delivered this speech in the Laxton Hall, London, was organised by the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene, to protest against the establishment of a regulated house at Layeux-sur-Mer, for the use of the British soldiers. It was opened in the middle of the principal promenade shortly after the establishment of a convalescent camp near by, and in spite of the protests of the French inhabitants, who said: "If such a place is really needed for the British soldiers, let it be put in some obscure corner near their own camp." The following resolution was passed at this meeting:—"That this meeting expresses its shame and indignation at the attitude of the British military authorities in permitting the establishment of brothels for the use of British troops in France, as in Layeux-sur-Mer, where such a house-

was opened and is maintained in defiance of repeated protests by the town people. It calls upon the Government and the Military Authorities to put all recognised houses of debauchery out of bounds for British soldiers of all ranks. The resolution was moved by Dr. Helen Wilson, and seconded by Miss Maude Royden.

"AS LITTLE CHILDREN."

(Matt. 18:3.)

"I'm too tired to trust, and too tired to pray,"
Said one as the over-taxed strength gave way,
"The one conscious thought by my mind possessed
Is 'Oh, could I just drop ALL and rest';
But will God forgive me, do you suppose,
If I go to sleep as a baby goes,
Without even asking Him if I may,
Without even trying to trust or pray?"

Will God forgive you? Why think, dear heart!
While language to you was an unknown art,
Did a mother deny you needed rest,
Or refuse to pillow you on her breast?
Oh, no! but she cradled you in her arms,
And guarded your slumber against alarms.
And how quick was her mother love to see
The unconscious yearnings awake in thee.

When you've grown too weary to trust or pray,
When your over-wrought nature has given away:
Then just drop all! Give up and rest,
As you used to do on your mother's breast;
He knows all about it; the dear Lord knows;
So just go to sleep as a baby goes,
Without even asking Him if you may,
God knows when His child is too tired to pray.

He judges not wholly by uttered prayer!
He knows when the yearnings of love are there.
He knows you do pray. He knows you do trust,
And He knows the limit of poor, weak dust.
Oh! the wonderful sympathy of the Christ,
For His chosen ones in the midnight tryst,
When He bade them sleep on and take their rest,
While on Him the guilt of the whole world pressed,
You've given your life up to Him to keep;
Then just rest in Him and go to sleep!

SUPERINTENDENT'S LETTERS.

PEACE AND ARBITRATION DEPARTMENT.

After four years of world strife, at length we see the dawning of the day of peace. But while our hearts are filled with deep thankfulness, we may not yet relax our efforts to hold up the ideals of peace for which we have striven during three years; only as they are recognised and acknowledged, and are made the basis of our national life, can our hopes and dreams of the establishment of a lasting peace upon earth be realised. At this time more than ever it is needful that these ideals should be emphasised, that they may become a factor in the laying down of the conditions of the new world upon which we hope to enter. To-day, as of old, it is true that "Hatred ceases not by hatred; hatred ceases by Love," only as this is recognised and acted upon can we hope for a satisfactory settlement to be arrived at. More especially should these ideals be impressed upon the minds of our children, that when the time shall come for them in their turn to take on the responsibility of citizenship, and to do their part in the formation of public opinion, that they may be actuated by the highest and noblest principles of individual and national life—those of mutual service and self-surrender. Let the heritage we hand down to them be one of love, not of hate, that they may forget the divisions and animosities of the past, remembering only that they are all children of one Father, members of one family, amongst whom no strife or hatred should be found.

It may be that we women of New Zealand have little voice in the settlement of external conditions, but we all have the power to help in the moulding of the spirit of the new era, and by keeping our own thoughts peaceful and loving, and free from disturbing influences, to do our part in the creation of a thought atmosphere that may tend towards the predominance of that love, forbearance, and mutual respect which alone can put an end to the curses of war. I would suggest to every member of our Union that we should make it a part of our daily thought and prayer, that the settlement now to be made shall be based on love, justice, and righteousness. Such thought and

prayer throughout the Union at this time would become a power for good, surrounding all who take part in the deliberations with a subtle influence that would tend to check the memory of past wrongs, to strengthen the desire of reunion, and to make possible the restoration of such relations between all nations as would make our social and political life worthy of those who bear the name of Christian. So may we rise to the true life of Liberty, and so shall the best and greatest victory of love over hatred, of truth over falsehood, of good over evil be attained.

MARIAN JUDSON,
N.Z. Supt.

MEDICAL TEMPERANCE.

Dear Fellow-Workers,—

In looking back through the year, I realise how little demand there has been for the literature of this department.

Perhaps it is because the N.Z. Alliance has furnished such splendid literature for the Campaign, and we have been so busy with Petition work, that we have lost sight, for the time being, of the importance of enlightening the people on the medical side of the temperance question.

The work of this department is as urgent and necessary as it ever was, and one can scarcely pick up a newspaper without finding letters, etc., advocating the use of alcohol in the treatment of influenza.

Even though our Department of Public Health deemed it advisable to close the hotels while the epidemic was at its worst, we still find men and women quoting the opinions of some obsolete doctors as to the use of alcohol as a medicine and as a food.

The American Medical Association, at its Annual Congress in June, 1917, passed the following resolution:—"Whereas, it is the unanimous opinion of the Council on Health and Public Instruction of the American Medical Association, that alcohol has no drug value, either as a stimulant, as a tonic, or as a therapeutic agent, and that it has no food value; and whereas its use as a beverage or as a therapeutic agent is detrimental rather than beneficial to the individual; therefore, be it resolved that its use in medicine is permissible only in the preparation and preservation of pharmaceutical products."

Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, Chairman of the Committee on the Revision of the Pharmacopoeia, said that there was no good reason for retaining whisky and brandy in the Pharmacopoeia, as so few physicians now prescribe alcoholic liquors. Port wine and sherry were left out of the Pharmacopoeia some years ago. Alcohol as a drug can be eliminated from the Pharmacopoeia without in any degree crippling the efficiency of the doctor's armamentarium.

The new evidence against alcohol shows it to be a depressant, not a stimulant. Two very important conclusions concerning the physiological action of alcohol have been reached by the latest series of tests. Alcohol is the universal narcotising drug. Various other drugs have a narcotic effect upon certain actions, and are somewhat selective as to the functions which they will depress. But alcohol seems to depress all vital functions, and it appears to be the only one of the narcotics that has this universal action.

I would again urge every Union to send for a supply of this up-to-date literature. First send for a sample packet, price 10d, post free. Then order the leaflets which seem best suitable for your district. The prices range from 1d to 6d per dozen, post free.—Yours in White Ribbon bonds,

CLARA M. NEAL,
Dominion Supt.
3, Fitzroy Street, Feilding.

NARCOTICS.

Dear White Ribbon Sisters,—

The time is drawing near when the Superintendent of each department will be expected to send a report of the work done by each Union throughout the Dominion.

I shall be glad if you will forward to me, as early as possible, any work attempted by your Unions in the way of suppressing Narcotics during the past year.

I had hoped to have written earlier in the year to each Union personally, but it has been a year of years as far as work is concerned, so I ask my White Ribbon sisters to overlook my seeming neglect, and please send me as full a report as possible on Narcotics.—Yours in White Ribbon bonds,

E. A. BOXALL,
40, Pirie Street, Wellington.

PERSONAL.

We are sure all our readers will be glad to know that our old friend, Mrs Lee-Cowie, is recovering from her recent severe illness, and is recuperating at Timaru, where she is staying till early in the new year.

All White Ribboners will be interested to learn that a nephew of Mrs Judson, our much-loved sister, has won, in quick succession, the D.S.O., the Military Medal, and the V.C. We heartily congratulate the young hero.

The Temperance Cause has suffered a severe loss in the death of Rev. C. H. Garland, who passed away last month in Auckland. He died as he would have wished in harness. He took three services on the Sunday, and then, on Monday morning, while reading the war news in the paper, "He was not, for God took him." He was a man of wide culture, and wider sympathy, a fine preacher, a faithful pastor, an earnest worker in the cause of temperance and social reform. His place will be hard to fill. As head of our theological college, he won the respect and confidence of the students, and exerted a lasting influence upon them. To Mrs Garland and family we tender our sincerest sympathy, and pray that the Divine Comforter may be with them in the hour of bereavement.

GRANDMA'S METAPHOR.

"Life is a stocking," grandma says,
"And yours is just begun;
But I am knitting the toe of mine,
And my work is almost done."

"With merry hearts we begin to knit,
And the ribbing is almost play.
Some are gay-coloured, and some are white,
And some are ashen grey."

"But most are made of many a hue,
With many a stitch set wrong,
And many a row to be sadly ripped
Ere the whole is fair and strong."

"There are long stretches without a break,
That in youth are hard to bear;
And many a weary tear is dropped,
And we fashion the heel with care."

"Put the saddest, happiest time is that
We court, and yet would shun,
When our Heavenly Father breaks the thread,
And says our work is done."

CALLED TO HIGHER SERVICE.

Sawyers Bay Union mourns the loss of its Treasurer, Mrs Mains, who passed away a victim to the prevailing epidemic.

Mrs Mains was an earnest, faithful worker, and one of the most lovable personalities it has been our lot to meet. Four sons were at the Front, two going with the Main Body. Two of the boys won the Military Medal, and one was invalided home. The others are on the water, and will return to the home robbed of its best ornament—a loving, devoted mother.

Mrs Mains lived near to God, casting all her burdens upon Him, and keeping bright and cheerful through all the anxious time while her sons faced death almost daily in Gallipoli or France. She was most regular in her attendance at our meetings, and many of us will never forget the inspiration and uplift we received as she led us in prayer and carried us with her to the heights of perfect love and trust in the wisdom and goodness of our Heavenly Father. Peace and Prohibition she earnestly desired. One she lived to see, but the other she will behold, but not with mortal eyes. Our sympathy goes with her sorrowing family, especially her daughters, our own girls. A tried and faithful servant has "entered into the joy of her Lord."

EMANCIPATION.

"Why be afraid of death as though
your life were breath?
Death but anoints your eyes with
clay. Oh glad surprise!
Why should you be forlorn? Death
only husks the corn.
Why should you fear to meet the
thresher of the wheat?
Is sleep a thing to dread? Yet sleep-
ing you are dead
Till you awake and rise, here, or be-
yond the skies.
Why should it be a wrench to leave
your wooden bench?
Why not with happy shout run home
when school is out?
The dear ones left behind! O foolish
one and blind,
A day and you will meet—A night and
you will greet.
This is the death of Death, to
breathe away a breath
And know the end of strife, and
taste the deathless life,
And joy without a fear, and smile
without a tear;
And work, nor care to rest, and find
the last the best."

THE BUFFOON IN PARLIAMENT.

In his address to Parliament upon Mr McComb's amendment to the Legislative Council Amendment Act, Sir Joseph Ward descended to a type of oratory that was quite out of keeping with the dignity of his position, and not in accord with the importance of the subject. We quote the following from a morning contemporary:—"Sir Joseph Ward said that he did not contest the Speaker's ruling. He thought that a number of women ought to be put into the Legislative Council. Why, they could not be worse than some of the members of that branch of the Legislature." (Loud and long-continued laughter.) He entirely withdrew the soft impeachment. (Laughter.) He understood that the Legislative Councillors were anxious to have associated with them representatives of the women of the country. (Laughter.)

Mr Lee: Not over thirty. (Laughter.)

Sir Joseph Ward said that there seemed to be a difference of opinion on that point. One Councillor, he understood, wanted it both ways. (Laughter.) For his part, he would be glad to see some amiable lady contesting his seat with him. It would be much nicer than fighting some hard-faced man. (Laughter.) But he would not be able to reply to criticisms in kind. (Laughter.) Fancy the honourable member for Timaru (Mr Craigie)—(laughter) or the hon. member for Westport (Mr Colvin)—(laughter) going round his electorate with a lady candidate. He was sure that each of them would withdraw in the lady's favour before the election was half over; and so would he. (Laughter.) We hope that the day is not very far distant when some "brainy woman" will contest Sir Joseph's seat with him, and win it.

BRITAIN'S SHAME.

"While Britain is standing at the crisis of her fate, we are turning into beer what we ought to have turned into bread. We stopped the sweets of the children instead of stopping the drink of their parents. We have had three strong Governments since the war began, but the drink trade has been stronger than all three."—Rev. Simpkins Johnson.

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.

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WOUNDED AND HONOURED ABROAD.

WOUNDED AND DISHONOURED AT HOME.

A short time ago a returned soldier, honoured for distinguished service abroad, was brought before the Dunedin Court for an offence committed when drunk. Because of his honourable record, the Magistrate asked the press to refrain from publishing his name. The same thing is happening in the Old Land, as the following extract will show:—

A CLEAN SWEEP.

Mr Justice Rowlatt, in the case of a wounded soldier charged with burglary at Derby (England) Assizes, the defence being that he was drunk, said:—

"We must look forward almost with terror to the time when hundreds of thousands of brave men would be returning from the front and would be exposed to the temptations to which the prisoner was exposed. It might be that a clean sweep would have to be made of the liquor trade if this country was not to be deluged with charges such as this. The law must make it clear that those who had served abroad must also serve at home with respect for the laws of society. If not, society must dissolve."—"Public Opinion."

RUM RATION.

Rev. James Black, of Edinburgh, who has served as chaplain for two Scottish battalions, writes: "What effect on conduct after the war will the rum ration have on the thousands of young lads, many of whom have never tasted intoxicating liquor before? I am certain that even momentarily it had a ruinous effect on the men when given in the usual doses before a big action. The vitality of a wounded man with little in him except rum is seriously lowered, and the effects of exposure are greatly increased. But afterwards—What about the new habit and the acquired liking?"

BRITISH LABOUR LEADERS AND PROHIBITION.

"It is a libel on the workers of England to suggest that prohibition would mean revolution."—Arthur Henderson, M.P.

"It is now a question of bread versus beer and spirits, and for the present strong drink must go."—Secretary Boilermakers', Steel and Iron Builders' Union.

"No respectable workman would object to prohibition."—President National Union of Bookbinders and Machine Builders.

"I would unhesitatingly say that the workers would plump for bread before beer. If that is not so, then God help the workers."—Secretary Trades and Labour Council.

"As a representative of a trade organisation comprising about 52,000 members (of which five-sixths are females), I have no hesitation in stating that if a ballot vote were taken of our members, there would be an overwhelming majority in favour of total prohibition. The great majority of the workmen are for prohibition."—Agent Western Miners' Federation.

"I resent the libel that is being levelled against the working classes. If a plebiscite were taken I would vote in favour of prohibition."—Tom Richardson, M.P.

"The obstacle of prohibition is not the working man. Have we not been called upon to make far greater sacrifices than this?"—Secretary Northumberland Miners' Union.

Fruits of the Saloon in Boston.—

Judge Murray, in a legislative hearing, stated that there were 1500 cases of delirium tremens in Boston last year; that 100,000 persons were arraigned for drunkenness, resulting in the loss of at least 300,000 days of labour; and that it cost the city and State 600,000 dollars to take care of the crime caused by drink in that city.

PRAYER.

Prayer is the mightiest force that men can wield;
A power to which Omnipotence doth yield;
A privilege unparalleled, a way
Whereby the Almighty Father can display
His interest in His children's need and care.

Jehovah's storehouse is unlocked by prayer,
And faith doth turn the key. O!
would that men
Made full proof of this wondrous means, for then
Would mightier blessings on the Church be showered,
Her witness owned, her ministers empowered,
And souls ingathered. Then the Gospel's sound
Would soon be heard to earth's remotest bound.

All things are possible if men but pray,
And if God did but limit to a day,
The time in which He'd note the upward glance,
Or fix the place, or name the circumstance
When, where or why petitions could be brought,
Methinks His Presence would by all be sought.
But since He heareth prayer at any time
For anything, in any place, or clime,
Men lightly value Heaven's choicest gift,
And all too seldom do their souls uplift
In earnest pleading at the Throne of Grace.
O, let us then more often seek His face,
With grateful hearts, remembering while there
To thank our Father that He heareth prayer.

—Author Unknown.

Miss Rankin, Uncle Sam's first Congress-woman, "The lady from Montana," as she is officially designated in the House (writes a correspondent in the "Dominion"), I heard referred to by an important Congressman as the leading authority in the House on mining laws and conditions, and she serves on several committees.

BREAD OR BEER.

The following extracts are taken from a pamphlet entitled "Bread or Beer," written by W. Stokes, Secretary of the Northumberland Miners' Association:—"We have been told that the Government is afraid that the working men would resist Prohibition. That might be true in times of peace, and even in times of war, were our foodstuffs not threatened; but to suggest that the working men, when faced with an imperative choice, such as we are now faced with, between bread and beer, will choose beer, is such a reflection on the character and intelligence of working men that, as one, I repudiate the slander.

"The obstacle is not the working men. Have we not been called upon to make far greater sacrifices than this? And have we not made these sacrifices in order to come successfully through the national struggle? Is it to be thought for a moment that when the national crisis has reached its most acute stage, and starvation threatens, that we will not make this sacrifice also for the sake of our mothers and sisters, our wives and children? Are these less dear to us than those of the wealthy classes are dear to them?

"The hand that grips the throat of the Government is the fist of Gold. There is money in it. The Drink Trade has made and unmade Governments in the past, and the present Government is afraid of it. Perish the food of the people provided the dividend of the brewer remains. Thousands of small businesses have been destroyed without compensation, and the owners themselves compelled to give their lives in the service of the nation. These businesses helped to build up and strengthen the nation, while this drink business weakens and destroys. Still it has got to be preserved, and why? Because there is money in it."

WANTED.

Applications are invited from Young Women willing to take work as Canvassers in connection with the coming Poll for NATIONAL PROHIBITION. Applicants should, where possible, obtain a recommendation from an officer of the local branch of the W.C.T.U.

Full particulars as to work can be obtained from Miss Henderson, 26, Tui Street, Fendalton, Christchurch.

INDENTURED LABOUR.

One half the world does not know how the other half lives." How true! We venture to think that very few New Zealand women can be aware of the conditions under which our Indian sisters are living in Fiji. The system of indentured labour differs very little from slavery. In many instances Hindu ladies are kidnapped and shipped off to Fiji, compelled to labour on plantations, and live immoral lives.

It is actually a Government regulation that three men should be allowed for every woman. One overseer thus explains the system as worked on his estate: "I first separate off the married couples, and then I divide the rest of the women among the men, telling so many men that they must go to this or that woman. If I did not do this there would be endless sexual quarrels."

The following leaflet was distributed at a meeting held in Allahabad, India, last year, to protest against the system of indentured labour:—

"TO THE MOTHERS OF INDIA."

"Mothers! I have seen with my own eyes the misery of your sisters in Fiji. They have come to me with tears day after day, in that distant land, and implored help in their sorrow.

"They have shown me their own children, living in the midst of squalor and vice. This shame may still continue unabated, and new children be born into it, if our voices are not raised against it.

"In the name of sacred motherhood and innocent childhood, and by the memory of your sisters' tears, uplift to heaven your supplications, that this evil may be taken away from God's earth.

"C. F. ANDREWS."

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"What a Young Boy Ought to Know," 5s

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W.C.T.U. Badges (silver) can be obtained from Mrs Houlder, 1s 3d each, 14s doz. No more enamel badges until after the war.

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.

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WOMEN'S
Christian Temperance Union
Of New Zealand.

Organised 1885.

"For God and Home and Humanity."

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Official Organ:

"The White Ribbon."

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 Port Chalmers.
 (Telephone No. 1).

The White Ribbon.
For God and Home and Humanity.

WELLINGTON, DEC. 18, 1918.

WOMEN IN PARLIAMENT.

For over a quarter of a century women have been electors in this Dominion without having the right to be elected to Parliament. A Bill was brought in by Mr McCombs to give women the right to be elected, but before it reached its second reading, Mr McCombs secured a vote in favour of this reform by moving an amendment to the Legislative Council Amendment Act. The Legislative Council refused to adopt the amendment on the ground that it was quite irregular and unconstitutional. The Bill went back to the Lower House, when the Premier asked the House not to insist upon its amendment. There was a short discussion, and then the House by a thirty to eighteen vote agreed to the Premier's suggestion to drop the amendment. The

Woman's Societies of Wellington sent a deputation to Sir Francis Bell, and several Unions also wired protests. The reply received from the Prime Minister was: "In reply to your telegram of the seventh, I am not opposed to women becoming eligible for election to Parliament; but as leader of the House of Representatives, I cannot consent to a most important constitutional question such as this being decided on a side issue without proper notice and without full consideration."

Mr Speaker ruled that Mr McCombs amendment was quite in order, so that the Premier was really calling in to question a ruling of Mr Speaker. The stalwart eighteen who voted against the Premier's motion to drop the amendment allowing women to be elected to Parliament were: Messrs Anstey, Craigie, Dickson (Chalmers), Ell, Fraser (Wellington Central), Hornsby, McCallum, McCombs, Parr, Payne, Poland, Sidey, Smith (Taranaki), Stewart, Sykes, Talbot, Veitch, and Wright.

We shall have more to say upon this subject in a future issue, but we think that the earliest possible opportunity should be given for members to vote upon this subject. The Government should, at the earliest opportunity either bring in a Bill giving women the right to be elected to Parliament, or they should give every facility for the Bill introduced by a private member to become law.

THE EPIDEMIC.

For the last month our thoughts have been busy and our hands employed with the scourge of influenza. Never before has our Dominion had so serious a visitation. It followed close upon the news of peace, and tempered our joy with tears. It caught us unprepared, and at a time when our doctors and nurses were few, and the few left were overtaxed and suffering from the past years of strain and hard work; but they rose magnificently to the occasion, and the selfless devotion to duty exhibited by both doctors and nurses is beyond all praise. Many of them gave life in the discharge of duty, and well have they earned the crown for "duty done." We sympathise with all who have sorrowed and suffered, and pray that God may comfort all who mourn.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT.

Ravensbourne, Dec. 11th, 1918.

Dear White Ribboners,—

Events have moved rapidly since our Petition Campaign. The Licensing Bill has passed the House, and the Poll is to be taken in April. After long years of strenuous warfare, we have come to what ought to be our last lap. This is our great opportunity! Every woman should pray and work as never before; every branch of our organisation should endeavour to inspire its members to fresh resolve and high courage, and straightway adopt every means in its power to carry prohibition.

After four years of suffering through the war, the long prayer of Peace has come, but even while we were saying "Thank God," we were smitten with the influenza scourge. It had no respect for persons; in some whole families became its victims. Our members everywhere did their full share of ministry to each other, and worked in the afflicted homes, in public and temporary hospitals. All meetings, by order of the Health Department, were cancelled, and, with few exceptions, no annual meetings were held, nor can now be held this year; but in view of the coming poll, it is necessary to continue our regular meetings. The annual gatherings should be held as early in January as possible, followed by continuous meetings right up to the Poll. We must work as though the whole issue depended on our organisation and our individual effort. May every heart be inspired for the warfare ahead; may every heart be strengthened, our councils guided, and our courage revived. May God Himself lead us to victory, and give us Peace.—With cordial greetings, yours lovingly,

RACHEL DON.

PRAYER.

God answers prayer; sometimes when hearts are weak,
 He gives the very gifts believers seek.
 But often faith must learn a deeper rest,
 And trust God's silence, when He does not speak;
 For He whose name is Love will send the best.
 Stars may burn out, nor mountain walls endure,
 But God is true, His promises are sure
 To those who seek.

—M. G. Plantz.

ALCOHOL AND THE ARMY.

Perhaps the most important rule is to use no alcohol of any kind.—U.S.A. War Department.

Alcohol is a terrible enemy, not only to the soldiers and workers of both sexes, but also in a general way to the women and the youth who represent the future of the race.—Vice-Admiral Rouyer, of France.

I have been in the field a year, and can bear witness from my personal observation, that alcohol shatters the resistance of our soldiers. Whenever it is a matter of holding the nerves tense, of concentrating the will power for hours and days, there the effects of alcohol were highly injurious, as physiological and experimental observation during recent years have clearly demonstrated. The poison may, indeed, call out for an instant a high tension of the nerves, but experience shows that reaction sets in in a few minutes, and the paralysing or impairment of the power of resistance lasts for hours. Anyone at the Front can see that the alcoholic breaks down quickly under the terrible drum fire, and that the soldiers accustomed to the use of alcohol are not equal to abstinence in sustaining the continuous shock and strain.—Dr. Max Joseph Retzger, of the Austrian Army.

How can a division of troops be ever up on the bit to drive ahead if because of drink some soldiers forget orders? If some are noisy when silence is essential? If some fall asleep when every faculty should be alert? Our job is to whip the enemy hard. Alcohol is a breeder of inefficiency. Major-General O'Ryan of United States Army.

NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

The Secretary of the New Zealand Educational Institute recently wrote to the Minister of Education, the Hon. J. A. Hanan, asking for information in connection with the holding of scholarships at sectarian schools. In his reply, the Minister states:—

" . . . For many years, probably ever since the passing of the Education Act, 1877, scholarships have been held at two 'endowed schools'—the Wanganui Collegiate School and Christ's College—which, though endowed with funds originally granted

by the Government, and accordingly occupying a different position from private schools as generally understood, are not included in the list of secondary schools forming the ninth schedule to the Education Act. The first private school which was approved as a place of tenure for a national scholarship was St. Mary's High School. This approval was given early in 1914 on the application of the Grey Education Board.

"National scholarships" have been held at the following private schools:—Sacred Heart College, Auckland; King's College, Auckland; Wanganui Convent High School; St. Patrick's College, Wellington; St. Mary's Convent, Greymouth; Columba College, Dunedin; Christian Brothers' School, Dunedin.

"Out of a total of about 800 scholarships now held, eighteen are held at private schools, and four at the endowed schools named above."

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS.

In Russia, before the war, Mme. Ostrovskaia was appointed Lecturer in Russian History at the Faculty of History and Philosophy in Petrograd, and was the first woman to hold a professional post at a Russian University.

In France, Mlle. Holeykr and Mme. Currie lecture at Paris University. In Germany the title of Professor was conferred on Dr. Engel Reimers, of Charlottenburg; Frä. Curtius is Lecturer in French Literature at Leipzig, and Frä. Bender is Professor of Music at Charlottenburg. She is the first woman Professor of Music. In Italy, Signorina Mazzuchette is tutor at Milan. In Switzerland, Lina Stern is Professor of Biological Chemistry. Australia has a woman on the Senate of N.S.W. University, and Victoria has Professor Sweet. In India, Professor Holmer, Professor of Physiology at the Medical College, Delhi, is a member of the Science Faculty of Punjab University. In Norway, Ellen Sleditsch is a University lecturer at Kristiania, and Dr. Bonnevie is Professor of Zoology. Amsterdam has Dr. Postheemus as first "private docent" of Danish and Norwegian philology. Dr. Rhoda Erdmann, Lecturer in Biology at Yale, is the first woman lecturer in the United States of America.

CANADA'S FREEDOM.

O Canada, blest Canada,
Your sons are now set free;
We praise the God of Heaven
Who gave you victory.

We praise the noble women
Who were foremost in the fight,
The men who did uphold them
To do what they thought right.

To oust the Liquor Traffic
From home and country fair,
And we're hoping now that Britain
Will do her rightful share.

And we bow our hearts in silence,
And perhaps a little shame,
For we're wondering when New Zealand
Will step out and do the same.

For we're bound in chains of slavery,
Like the Israelites of old,
And we're working for a Pharaoh,
And his name's the God of Gold.

So we're looking for a Moses,
To lead us safely through
The wilderness of Drinkdom,
Till the Promised Land we'll view.

Then we'll cross the blessed Jordan
To the Promised Land so fair,
Where there'll be no Liquor Traffic
To mar the beauty there.

But we're making bricks for Pharaoh,
And our backs are sore with pain,
And we're weeping for our loved ones
Who've been sold for Brewers' gain.

He's killed off many a lad and lass
That would have been quite true,
If we'd only had a Moses
To lead us safely through.

Then up, my noble sisters,
For God will hear your prayer;
When twelve o'clock is striking
Be never wanting there.

Lift up your voice with purpose,
For God will hear your cry,
And give our country Freedom
And make New Zealand dry.

—A Maori Girl.

A petition asking that the 169 saloons on San Francisco's waterfront be closed by the Government, because they are "a menace to the country, and obstruct the handling of cargoes and the manning of ships," was recently filed with the Federal authorities by the Shipowners' Association of the Pacific Coast, in conjunction with the Sailors' Union. Much of the recent trouble in manning vessels, which has caused long delays, is entirely due to these saloons, says the petition, and it is pointed out that business of the port cannot possibly go on with efficiency so long as the saloons remain.

THE EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL ON THE LIVER AND KIDNEYS.

This paper deals with the effects of alcohol on the liver and kidneys, because diseases of these organs are so common, and because so many sufferers do not recognise the connection between **beer** drinking and liver and kidney troubles. Alcohol, in any form, in beer, wine or spirits, will injure these and other organs of the body, but I wish specially to emphasise the harmfulness of beer, because so many men and women seem to think it is a **harmless drink, a tonic, an aid to digestion,** and practically **next door to total abstinence.**

While dealing with these organs, let us not forget that the other organs of the body are affected in a similar way.

The liver is the largest gland in the body, and weighs about four pounds. It is also the most important gland of the body, because (1) the nature of its work; (2) its structure; and (3) its position. It consists of thousands of cells. There are three different types or groups of liver cells, and each group has its own special work. They all work on our food, digesting it, storing it, and changing it in various ways. Part of the duty of these cells is to secrete a fluid called bile, and to pour it into the upper part of the intestine. This bile is of great importance in the digestion of our food—specially fatty foods.

We shall now deal with the action of alcohol on the liver. When alcohol is taken in moderate quantities, it is almost entirely absorbed by the stomach. It is taken up by the blood-vessels of the stomach wall, and is consequently carried straight to the liver, because the liver is the first organ in the path of the absorbed alcohol. The late Sir Victor Horsley, whose death all Temperance workers must deplore, in considering the action of alcohol on the liver, divided the subject into (1) Its action on the blood-vessels, and (2) Its action on the liver cells, the cells proper, and the fibrous tissue cells. The blood-vessels of the liver—many of which are large—are rapidly dilated even by small doses of alcohol. They are simply gorged with blood, and this increases the weight of the liver, which causes discomfort. The sufferer wonders what is the matter, but in most

cases fails to recognise that the habit of taking alcohol is responsible for the miserable feeling. A change of diet may be tried, but no beneficial results will accrue while beer or any other alcoholic liquor is taken. It is a remarkable fact that this engorgement of the liver usually takes place in the early stages of beer drinking. Repeated doses render this dilation more and more permanent, and chronic congestion results. This is how alcohol affects the blood-vessels of the liver.

We will now deal with its action on the liver cells. As already pointed out, there are thousands of these, and they are of various kinds. Alcohol is a cell poison, but it does not affect all cells in the same way. Some of them rapidly succumb to the poison, while others are irritated in such a way that they increase in numbers. The cells which produce the bile, and store the starchy foods are those which are most easily damaged, and quickly succumb to the alcohol poison. The first change which they undergo, is a swelling which enlarges the whole liver. If drinking is continued, fatty degeneration of the tissues sets in. When this takes place the liver is incapable of doing its work.

The action of alcohol on the fibrous tissue cells is different. They are not so easily damaged, i.e., they do not so readily succumb to the poison—alcohol. The alcohol, which poisons the liver cells proper, simply irritates the fibrous tissue cells, and causes them to multiply. It is the same with cells as with people. Some cannot stand a rough life, while others take to it naturally, and thrive upon it. The cells which secrete the bile, and store the starchy foods, succumb to the poison more or less quickly, according to the amount taken, while the fibrous tissue cells are irritated and increase in numbers. This increase of tissue cells is not beneficial. For one thing, "scar tissue" as it is called, is not good working tissue; besides, it not only fills up the space formerly occupied by the liver cells which have succumbed to the alcohol, but also pushes aside and destroys other liver cells. One can readily understand that if the working cells are destroyed, and the space filled up with "scar tissue," the healthy activities of the liver must be seriously impaired. Another fact must be emphasised, viz., that it is small

quantities of alcohol constantly filtering through the liver, which causes these changes. Diseases of the liver occur far more frequently as a result of continued taking of small doses of alcohol, than indulging more freely at intervals. A man who gets drunk at intervals, say, on a Saturday night, or at holiday time, will not injure his organs nearly so much as one who daily takes his glass of beer, or something stronger, and who may never be drunk in his life.

The work of the kidneys is closely allied to that of the liver. There are two, and weigh about four ounces each. Though small, they are most important organs. They have two special duties to perform. One is to remove from the blood the waste liquid matter, the retention of which would interfere with the vitality of the various organs of the body. They act as filters, ridding the blood of urea and uric acid. It is absolutely essential to health that these waste products should be rapidly eliminated from the system. It is equally the duty of the kidneys to prevent the useful constituents of the blood from passing away from that fluid. The most important of these is albumen, which exists nearly pure in the serum of the blood, as it does in the white of an egg. A healthy kidney will not permit the albumen to escape from the blood. Albumenuria is sometimes present even before actual disease of the kidney takes place. Men are often refused life insurance because of this, so it is quite clear that the escape of the albumen is a very serious matter. Whatever interferes with the two-fold work of the kidneys must be avoided. And we have abundant testimony from medical men that alcohol injures the kidneys and interferes disastrously with their functions. The structure of the kidneys suffers in much the same way as the liver. Fatty degeneration and increase of fibrous tissue result from the habitual use of alcohol, even in moderate quantities. The vessels lose their elasticity and power of contraction. These conditions interfere with the work of the kidneys, and the body becomes subject to "rheumatic" pains, mental depression, and other symptoms of impaired digestion. This is followed by kidney disease in one of its various forms, frequently diabetes or Bright's disease, which in its chronic form is incurable.

It has been said that "the use of spirits causes the kidneys to become hard and reduced in size, whilst beer-drinking enlarges them and changes their structure to a fatty tissue." Both conditions prevent them doing their proper work. We wish to emphasise the fact that alcohol in any form has a disastrous effect on the kidneys. The beer drinker is very frequently the victim of chronic inflammation of these organs.

Most of the facts stated in this paper are taken from Sir Victor Horsley's book, "Alcohol and the Human body," but other famous doctors and surgeons have made similar statements, so we need have no hesitation in accepting these scientific facts. They cannot be gainsaid; e.g., Sir William Gull, the late Queen Victoria's favourite physician, when giving evidence before a Royal Commission, said: "There is disease of the liver, which is of very common occurrence, and then from disease of the liver we get disordered conditions of the blood; and consequent upon that we get diseased kidneys; we get a diseased nervous system; we get gout; and we get diseased heart." . . . "I hardly know any more potent cause of disease than alcohol."

In addition to medical testimony, we have vital statistics from Great Britain and the United States of America, which all confirm the testimony of medical science. Life insurance societies make a business of estimating men's lives, and can only make money by making correct estimates of whatever influences life. Many societies have two tables—one for total abstainers, and one for those who imbibe more or less freely. The total abstainer gets 10 per cent. reduction on his premiums, i.e., 2s in each pound. Why do insurance companies make such an allowance? They reckon in this way. A healthy young man of 20, who is a total abstainer, may reasonably expect to live till he is 61. If he is a beer-drinker, he will probably not live to be over 35. If he is 30 when he begins to drink beer, he will probably die between 40 and 45. There is no sentiment about these figures. They are business facts, derived from experience. These societies also give details as to the death-rate of drinkers and non-drinkers. They tell us that hotelkeepers tending the bar have a death-rate from liver disease six times the normal; from diabetes, three times

the normal, and from Bright's disease nearly three times the normal. They also tell us that managers and superintendents of breweries, insuring under 45 years, have a death-rate from Bright's disease twice the normal, and from liver disease three times the normal.

The following table, giving the death-rate per thousand, compiled from the Report of the Registrar-General of Great Britain, some years ago, shows that those who are engaged making and selling beer and other intoxicating liquors, are more frequently the victims of liver disease than those in any other occupation, however dangerous or unhealthy it may be:—

	Per 1000.
Bookbinders	3
Booksellers	4
Hatters	9
Druggists and Printers ...	18
Gardeners and Miners ...	19
Butchers	21
Brewers	42
Publicans, Waiters, and Bar-men	197

Could we possibly have stronger evidence that beer and spirits produce liver and kidney disease, and shorten thousands of precious lives through these diseases?

We are greatly indebted to medical science for making known to us the effects of alcohol on the various organs of the body; and to insurance societies, who publish from time to time the disastrous results which accompany and flow from the making, selling, and drinking of beer and other alcoholic liquors. And W.C.T.U. members can best show their appreciation and gratitude by passing on the information to friend or neighbour, as opportunity offers. Store the facts in your minds, and be always ready to tell others what you have learned. There is no better way of helping forward the Temperance Cause than by education, and the education of the individual is by no means the least effective method of advancing this great movement.

And whatever height you yearn to climb,
Though it never was trod by the foot of man,
And no matter how steep—I say you can,
If you will be patient and use your time.

STRAIGHT TALK BY A RETURNED SOLDIER.

At a meeting of the Cambridge Branch of the Farmers' Union, Messrs Veale and Clark waited upon the Union as a deputation from the business men in connection with the proposals of the National Efficiency Board re the Liquor Trade.

The following resolution was carried unanimously:—"That this meeting of the Cambridge Branch of the N.Z. Farmers' Union supports the recommendation of the National Efficiency Board that a vote of the people be taken on a bare majority to abolish the liquor trade in New Zealand on payment of compensation, and pledges itself to do all in its power to secure legislation to this end, and to support the movement in this district."

Captain Peake, a returned man, in speaking to the motion, said he was not a total abstainer, but for the sake of the returned men who suffered from shell shock and wounds he would support the motion. He said that everyone had heard about the trouble in Cairo; the cause of that was drink. Young lads just out from New Zealand had a few drinks, and did not know till a few days afterwards of the mischief that it had worked. Some of the wounded men who return are not responsible for their actions, and it was really an unfriendly act to take them in for a drink. The wounded men were worked hard upon by the hospitals and Red Cross to get them into a fit condition to travel. The sea trip generally improved these men, but when they reached New Zealand a week's drinking undid all the work of the hospitals at Home.

LEARNING TO DRINK.

The following extract is from the "Brewers' Journal," U.S.A. :—

"The American soldiers, who are new learning in France to drink moderately, will be of powerful assistance on their return home in transforming the American Saloon into the European Beer and Wine Hall and Hospitable Tavern."

Evidently the brewers are looking forward to exploiting the boys who have gone to protect them.

Y's Reports.

ARAMCHO.

Dec. Election of officers resulted as follows:—Pres., Mrs Bathgate; Vice-Pres., Misses Cunliffe and Campbell; Sec., Miss Christie, Rec. Sec., Miss A. White; Treas., Miss O. Gomer; pianiste Miss M. West; Press Reporter, Miss K. D. Bathgate; "W.R." Agent, Miss K. Anderson; Supt. Flower Committee, D. Cunliffe; Supts. Social Committee, Misses Newsome and Knuckey; Spt. Cradle Roll, Miss N. Bathgate. Correspondence dealt with. Result of "Y's" efforts further increased by good donation to the minesweepers and other appeals in connection with W.C.T.U. work. To those who so generously and so kindly assisted in various ways to make the stall a success grateful thanks are tendered. Re Armistice: We paraded the Avenue. Girls in white, with red, white and blue mob caps; little boy and girl sailors, car decorated with flags, and a banner in front, with "Aramoho Y., W.C.T.U.," "S.O.S.; Save our sons, who saved us," "Close the Bars." Banner behind (white and blue), with white dove of Peace painted in centre, and on it was inscribed "Now we have Peace, Give Us a Sober Land."

L.T.L. Reports.

NELSON.

Sept. 27. A most successful concert was held in the Wesley Hall. The chair was taken by the Rev. E. D. Patchett, who urged the parents to assist the Superintendent in every way by sending the children regularly. The service song, "The Saving of Daddy," was rendered. Lengthy programme was given by the children. Songs, recitations, and musical items, also two dialogues, "Duty First," and "Pleasure Afterwards," and "The Sick Baby," the latter causing much merriment. The usual vote of thanks and the National Anthem brought the concert to a close.

Oct. 16. Forty-two children were present, and an address was delivered to them by Miss Hayes on the evils of tobacco-smoking, who read two good stories. Two new members joined. Meeting closed with prayer.

Oct. 30. Good attendance of children, and two more members joined, bringing the number of members to ninety. A vote of sympathy was passed with our organist, Rita Cook, who has been ill. Mrs Judson gave an interesting address on Mercy, which was enjoyed by all. Ray Knapp was appointed Band of Mercy Superintendent. Thirty members wished to become members of the Band of Mercy.

Session closed in October. Attendance good. Owing to counter-attractions for Armistice celebrations, the members could not prepare for the proposed L.T.L. Social, so decided to hold a picnic in Mr Russell's grounds, but the seriousness of the epidemic resulted in postponing it until a later date.

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.)

GREYTOWN.

Nov. Owing to the epidemic we have been unable to hold our annual meeting, and the meeting for the election of officers was also postponed. We regret to report the deaths of the husband and father respectively of our sisters Miss and Mrs Bowers.

BALCLUTHA.

Nov. There was just a short meeting on account of a Divine service being held in Oddfellows' Hall at 3.30 p.m. Mrs Peryman delivered a most interesting account of the deputation to Parliament and the presentation of the N.Z. Alliance's petition. Resolution passed at Annual Convention re women in Parliament was affirmed, and sent to the member for the district. Meeting closed with prayer.

NGAERE.

Nov. Annual meeting was held at Mrs K. Tarrant's, and there were twelve members present. Reports of the different departments were read and officers elected as follows:—Pres., Mrs K. Tarrant; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Jones, Morrison, and Ellis; Cor. Sec., Mrs Lambert; Rec. Sec., Miss Ellis; Treas., Mrs Whittham; Cradle Roll, Mrs X. Jones; "White Ribbon" Agent, Miss Ellis; Flower Mission and Hospital Visitors, Misses Walker and Phillips.

LEIGH.

Nov. Nine members present. President in the chair. Proposed to send a letter of sympathy to the President of the Matakana Union, who has suffered a double bereavement in the accidental drowning of husband and son. Decided to send a letter to the member for Marsden, asking him to support the request that women should have a seat in Parliament. Afternoon tea dispensed.

GISBORNE.

Nov. On November 2nd a special effort was made by the members of the Union, a well-organised street collection being taken up for the mine-

sweepers. Large notices were placed above each table, these being situated at corners where the traffic was thickest. A lady collector or two in some cases was seated at each table, thus making the contributions purely voluntary. By this means almost £50 was collected, which was forwarded to Mrs Nimmo. On November 12th a special afternoon was spent at Findlay's Rooms to bid farewell to two members—Mrs Chatterton and Mrs Malcolm. Recitations and songs were given, and addresses from several members and friends. The guests of the occasion were made the recipients of a volume each of beautiful art paintings.

FEILDING.

Nov. There was a moderate attendance at the annual meeting, at which Mrs Miller presided. £15 11s to be divided between the Mine-sweepers and Hutment Funds. Sympathy expressed with Miss Powell in her illness, and hopes for her speedy recovery. Election of officers as follows:—Pres., Mrs Barton; Cor. Sec., Mrs Neal; Rec. Sec., Mrs Cook; Treas., Miss Svendsen; Cradle Roll, Mrs Mai; "W.R." Agent, Miss Jordan; Literature, Mrs E. Bridge; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Beatie, Tunnicliffe, Jones, Miller, Gardiner, Stockwell, Miller, and Wain. Thanks was given to all retiring officers. Mrs Crabb explained many things, and wished the W.C.T.U. to join the Alliance in the great Prohibition Campaign.

NELSON.

Nov. The Executive met and transacted the necessary business. In accordance with instructions received from the N.Z. Corresponding Secretary, the resolution passed last Convention concerning the eligibility of women to Parliament was forwarded to the member for Nelson, who was also asked if he would give his support to such a measure. A letter was read from the Secretary of the N.Z.E.I. asking for the support of the Union in their effort to obtain a general increase in teachers' salaries. The Cor. Sec. was instructed to write to the Minister of Education supporting the resolution to that effect forwarded to him by the Institute.

TAOROA.

Nov. A concert and Sale of Work was held in the Taoroa Hall, and the amount raised was £30 8s, which was divided between the W.C.T.U. soldiers' hutments in France and the mine-sweepers. Since our Branch started, one new member has joined our ranks. One member has started a Cradle Roll, and has so far thirteen names enrolled.

NEW BRIGHTON.

Dec. 5. Good attendance, Mrs Hall (President) in chair. Motion of sympathy passed to Mrs H. Hooker in the loss of her daughter. Secretary and Treasurer's reports read. The election of officers resulted as fol-

lows:—Pres., Mrs Hall; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Walker, Spratt, Thompson, and Henry; Sec., Mrs Nichols; Treas., Mrs Gilson. Decided that members should endeavour to secure as many names as possible of young people eligible for the Electoral Roll. Union to meet again in February, 1919.

NGAERE.

Dec. 3. Meeting was held at Mrs Morison's. Small attendance, owing to epidemic. Mrs Tarrant (the President) presided, and the Cradle Roll picnic was arranged for. It was decided not to give prizes for Temperance Essays this year on account of the schools being closed.

NEW BRIGHTON.

Oct. 17. Mrs F. Thompson presided over fair attendance, and an interesting address was delivered by Rev. J. Bickerstaff. Resignation of Mrs Smith was received with regret. Collection in aid of Franchise Day Fund. Decided to assist the Christchurch Union at the A. and P. Show, and arrangements were made accordingly.

A PETITION TO MNEMOSYNE.

Let me, Mnemosyne, through life remember
The many acts of kindness I have known,
And when it comes, as 'twill, to my December,
May I also to some kind actions own.

Whatever I've done wrong through my life's lot in
Omitting aught of good I might have done,
Let it, with wrongs I've suffered, be forgotten,
Mnemosyne, by each and every one.

For life is but a kinematic, showing
We play our parts, for a brief moment seen,
Then, like some swiftly flitting shadow going,
Our worries o'er about what might have been.

—W.H.S.

TO OUR DIETETIC GUIDE.

(From One Hushand.)

We've substituted corn for wheat,
And pallid cottage-cheese for meat;
With nobly simulated zeal
We chew the dull potato-peel;
We've tested every new disguise
For making rice a glad surprise,
And never throw a bit away,
But mingle all in queer puree.

O doughty Dietetic Guide,
Lead on, lead on! We're satisfied.
—“Chicago Tribune.”

ALCOHOL.

(Paper by Dr. T. G. Campbell.)

Alcohol is in small doses an excitant, in large doses a narcotic, and in any dose an irritant poison. The same may be said of chloroform or opium. I have said that ether and chloroform were cousins to alcohol, but as a matter of fact they are daughters. Disregard the poetic license, and these are the scientific facts: When rectified spirit is distilled with sulphuric acid, ether is produced, and when rectified spirit is distilled with chlorinated lime chloroform is produced. Like mother, like daughter, a family trait common to the lot is to impair the efficiency of organs affected by paralysing the nerve endings. In the case of the vapour poison, the effect soon passes off with the advent of fresh air, but in the case of the fluid poison greater and more permanent damage is done. Alcohol hardens the arteries, so that they lose their elasticity, and become rigid, like pipe-stems, thus bringing on premature old age, so that it is a saying among doctors, “A man is just as old as his arteries.”

Brandy, whisky, gin, and rum contain about 50 per cent. of alcohol; port wine, 16 to 17; sherry, 15 to 16; claret, 5 to 7.

There is reason to believe that alcohol tends to anaesthetise rather than stimulate the brain, but by dilating the cerebral blood-vessels, it may so flush the brain with blood that intellectual activity may be temporarily increased before the anaesthetic effects have had time to manifest themselves. By flushing the brain with blood, alcohol may produce temporary excitement and aid the imagination, but it ends by dulling the edge of the intellect, and is unfavourable to sustained mental work.—Dr. Robert Hutchinson, the greatest authority on food.

ANNUAL REPORTS.

Union Secretaries, please take notice that they are not required to send in their annual reports till after the end of December. It is clear, from letters I have received, that some Secretaries are worrying because, owing to the influenza epidemic, it has not been possible to hold annual meetings this month, or to compile reports. Send in your reports as soon as you can **after** December 31st.

C. HENDERSON,
N.Z. Corresponding Secretary.

MRS BRAMWELL BOOTH.

ON PROHIBITION.

Mrs Booth speaking in Leeds Town Hall said that the members of the Salvation Army in England and all round the world were proving the advantages of Prohibition; they were pledged not to touch, taste or handle alcoholic liquor. They were proving it in every trade and industry, in the steel works, in the bowels of the great ships that crossed the ocean. The thousands of Salvationists in the British Army proved last winter that they could keep their posts in the trenches without partaking of the rum ration. They were proving in every climate and in all circumstances that they could be prosperous and happy without availing themselves of strong drink in any shape or form. What an absurdity it was to placard our walls with “Eat less bread,” while they were brewing more beer.

LEAN HARD.

There is nothing we cannot overcome,
Say not thy evil instinct is inherited,
Or that some trait inborn makes thy whole life forlorn,
And calls down punishment that is not merited.

Back of thy parents and grandparents lies
The great Eternal Will! That too is thine
Inheritance, strong, beautiful, divine,
Sure lever of success for one who tries.

There is no noble height thou canst not climb;
All triumphs may be thine in Time's futurity,
If, whatsoever thy fault, thou dost not faint or halt;
But lean upon the staff of God's security.

Earth has no claim the soul can not contest;
Know thyself part of the Eternal Source;
Naught can stand before thy spirit's force:
The soul's Divine Inheritance is best.
—Selected.

Washington State has the Initiative and Referendum. Last Legislature passed seven objectional Bills, but the people held it up until a referendum could be taken on them, when all the bad measures were defeated by an overwhelming majority.

Correspondence.

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

WOMEN IN PARLIAMENT.

Dear Editor,—Will you allow me space to explain the position with regard to our efforts to secure an amendment of the Legislature Act so as to enable women to sit in Parliament? The statements made by the Right Hon. W. F. Massey are likely to cause some misunderstanding among our members, for he completely ignores the fact that a Bill had been introduced by Mr McCombs on the first day of the session. Briefly, the history of the agitation is as follows:

At our last Convention a lengthy resolution was passed, setting forth the claims of women to full election rights, and asking the Government to introduce the necessary legislation. As the session of Parliament approached, I sent a copy of the resolution to every Union, accompanying it with a request that the Union would send it to the local member of Parliament, and ask him if he would support the demand. I also forwarded copies to Mr Massey and Sir Joseph Ward, and asked that the necessary legislation should be passed during the session then proceeding. The answers were of the usual kind—mere acknowledgments of my letter. I again wrote to Mr Massey, and said that what the Union wanted was an assurance that the Government would either introduce the legislation itself or give the House the fullest opportunity for discussion of the Bill which had already been introduced. Mr Massey replied that the matter was one for the Cabinet, and that when it had been dealt with a pronouncement would be made.

Mr McCombs' Bill was set down for its second reading on November 27th, being the first item of business on the order paper for that day. On that date, however, no opportunity was given for the second reading, the whole time being occupied with Governmental business. On the following day, November 28th, a supplementary order paper gave notice that when the Legislative Council Amendment Bill was in committee, Mr McCombs would move the addition of certain clauses. The object of the new clauses was to give women the right to sit in Parliaments. As the Bill was not taken to Committee till December 5, the members had eight days in which to make themselves acquainted with the significance of the proposed amendment. Under these circumstances it is rather hard to believe that members did not understand what they were voting about. Now, I think I have said enough to show how much sincerity there is in Mr Massey's protestations that the amendment was a decidedly irregular and unconstitu-

tional way of dealing with a great policy question, and that "a Bill should have been introduced preferably in the House." And after all, Mr Massey has not promised that he will bring down a Bill next session. But we mean to have one, he can be assured of that. Meantime we must not let the question rest. Members of Parliament must be made to understand that we mean business. Every Union should see to it that the local Member of Parliament knows that his vote is being watched.

Just one other point before I close. If all the members who voted for the amendment on December 5th had voted for it again on December 7th, the probability is that it would now be law; but 12 absented themselves from the division on the second occasion, and the amendment was defeated.

C. HENDERSON,

N.Z. Legal and Parliamentary Supt.

HAVELOCK—AUGUST 16th, 1918.

A name and date upon this page

A hand is writing here;

Strange that the mind which guides the hand

Ere long will disappear.

The writing traced hereon may live

When hand and mind are gone,

The hand returned to kindred dust,

The Mind—will it live on?

Its whence or whither none may know,

Or what its history;

Its coming or its going are

Involved in mystery.

We live, we suffer and enjoy,

Nor know the reason why;

In vain we try to solve it, till

The end comes and we die.

We die! We wonder what is Death?

Is it the end? Ah! no,

'Tis but the passing of the breath

That bids the spirit go.

Unseen, impalpable, and yet

A something that's within,

Says "with the shedding of the clay

A new life will begin."

All we can do is wait, and wish

It free of earthly ills;

Man lives and dies, and in the end

His destiny fulfils.

—W.H.S.

Auckland District, 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 1.30 p.m. W.C.T.U. Headquarters, Wesleyan Chambers, Wellesley Street (entrance Lorne St.); Pres., Mrs. Cook, Point St., Mt. Eden; Cor. Sec., Miss N. Dewar, Pompallier Terr., Ponsonby; Rec. Sec., Mrs. J. W. Taylor, Sentinel Rd., Ponsonby; Treas., Miss J. Dewar, Pompallier Terrace; "W.R." Agent, Mrs. Neilson, 78 Esplanade Road, Mt. Eden.

Avondale, 3rd Tuesday, 2 p.m. Brown Street Methodist Church. Pres., Mrs. Stevens; Rec. Sec., Miss B. Gittos; Cor. Sec., Mrs. Proctor; Treas., Mrs. Walker; W.R. Agent, Mrs. Morgan.

Auckland, Y's.—Last Monday at 7.45 p.m. in W.C.T.U. Headquarters. Pres., Miss Alice Parkinson; Vice-Presidents, Misses I. Cook, and O. Scott; Supt., Mrs. Perrett, Market Road, Epsom; Rec. Sec., Miss Hazel Patterson; Cor. Sec., Miss M. Bottrill, 31 Arthur St., Ponsonby; Treas., Miss D. Stubbs, Shoal Bay Rd., Devonport; "W.R." Supt., Miss I. Sussex.

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

Avondale Y's, 3rd Wednesday, 7.45 p.m. in Ante-room, Town Hall. Pres. Miss Elsie Stevens, Vice-Pres., Misses Ada Adams, Lilla Russel & Rowley Rec. Sec., Miss G. Wright; Cor. Sec., Miss L. Morey Treas. Miss A. Douthwaite; W.R. Supt. Miss R. Thomas; Y. Supt; Mrs. Pirrett, Market Rd., Epsom.

Blenheim District, 1st Tuesday, 8 p.m. Pres. Mrs. A. J. Litchfield, Livermere; Sec. Mrs. H. S. Horn Springlands, Blenheim; 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 8 p.m. Pres., Mrs. A. T. Watson; Sec. Mrs. Clark, Methodist Parsonage; Treas., Miss Clark, Hall Street; Cradle Roll, Mrs. W. Hogan; W.R. Agent, Mrs. A. T. Watson.

Christchurch W.C.T.U. 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. Albans; 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. Drinnan, 11, Brown St., St. Albans.

Dannevirke, 2nd Wednesday, Wesleyan Schoolroom, 8 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. Hiatt, 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 Schoolroom, 2.30 p.m. Pres., Mrs. Barr, Victoria Rd., Vice-Presidents, 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, last Friday, 2.30 p.m. Methodist Church Pres., Mrs. A. Hayward, 834, Devon Street, Fitzroy; Sec. Mrs. L. Gray, 638, Devon Street East New Plymouth; Treas., Miss Tolme, Chilman St., Fitzroy; W.R. Agent, Mrs. J. Kibby, Clemow St., Fitzroy.

Feilding, 1st Thursday, 8 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., re Williamson, The Hill; "W.R." Agent, Mrs. Burnley; Railway Box, Mrs. Shearer.

Gisborne District, last Tuesday, 2.45 p.m. Presbyterian Schoolrooms; Pres., Mrs. Goffe, Ormond Rd.; Sec., Mrs. F. S. Malcolm, Gladstone Rd.; Treas., Mrs. F. J. Wilkes, 466 Gladstone Rd.

Greymouth District, last Tuesday at 3 p.m. in Sailor's Rest Hall; Pres., Mrs. Gaskin; Sec. Mrs. Mason, Cobden; Treas., Mrs. Sweetman, White Ribbon Agent, Mrs. T. Brown; Cradle Roll and Band of Hope, Mrs. Stewart and Mrs. Perry.

Greytown, Last Tuesday at 2.30 p.m. in Presbyterian Sunday School. President, Mrs. 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. T. Horne, Clifton Road; Sec., Mrs. W. H. Paul, Clandlands; Treas., Mrs. E. J. Davey, London Street; W.R. Agent, Mrs. Gaulton, Rosstrevor Street

Hamilton East—3rd Tuesday, 2.30 p.m. in Methodist Hall. Pres., Mrs Gillies, Nixon St.; Sec., Mrs Ogilvie, Firth St.; Treas., Mrs Jack, McFarlane St.; Cradle Roll, Mrs Mears; W.R. Agent, Mrs Dey

Hastings, 2nd and 4th Thursday, St. Andrew's Hall, 2.30 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Moore, Stortford; Vice-Pres., Mrs Boyle, Mrs Barr; Sec., Mrs M. R. Lovell Smith, 803 Ellison Road; Treas., Mrs J. Wilson, Box 273, Hastings; "W.R." Agent, Mrs Cameron.

Hawera meets in Wesley Hall, R-gert Street, on the last Thursday, at 3 p.m. Pres., Mrs J. S. Young, Cameron Street; Vice Presidents, Sister Nellie, Mesdames Bone, Dixon, Gray, and Miss Maunier; 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., Mesdames Williams and Wright; Secretary, Mrs McKay, Great North Rd.; Treas., Mrs W. Williams, Gt. North Rd.; W.R. Agent, Mrs J. Platt, Gt. North Road.

Invercargill District, 1st Tuesday, 3 p.m. in Allen's Hall; Pres., Mrs James Baird; Vice-Pres., Mesdames C. H. Macalister, McKenzie, Loppell, Peters, Hunter; Rec. Sec., Mrs Kennedy, Gladstone; Cor. Sec., Mrs Parsonson, Princes St., Enwood; Treas., and "W.R." Agent, Mrs F. Lillierap, Earn St.

Invercargill South. Meets every second Tuesday, in Amethyst Hall, at 3 p.m. Pres., Mrs Pasley, Centre St. Gorge town. Sec., Mrs Garrett, 195 Ness St.; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Morrison, Parkins, Morris, Hughes, Clements, Ewart; W.R. Agent, Mrs Pate; Treasurer, Mrs Aitken; Assistant Treasurer, Mrs Parry

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 Tres., Mrs Woolford, Sec., Mrs Jack Hume, W.R. Sp. 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 Burr, Aglionby Street.

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

Leigh, 1st Saturday, Leigh Hall, 2 p.m. Pres., Mrs C. Wyatt; Vice-Presidents, Mrs D. Matheson and Miss C. Matheson; Sec., Miss E. Matheson; Treas., Miss A. Matheson; Cradle Roll, Miss J. Wyatt; W.R. Agent, Mrs R. Matheson.

Mania, 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 W. Smith; Cor. Sec., Mrs E. Roke; Treas., & Rec. Sec., Mrs Melville; Cradle Roll, Mrs Eytan; "W.R." Agent, Mrs A. Roke.

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, 3 p.m. Pres., Mrs G. W. Venables, Ashbridge Rd.; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames Dodds and Fawcett; Sec., Mrs A. Chelwell, 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.

Ngauruawahia, 1st Tuesday, 2.30 p.m. Presbyterian Church; President, Mrs Bycroft; Vice-Pres., Mrs Vincent; Sec., Mrs J. S. Colhoun; Treas., Mrs C. Rogers; Supt. Cradle Roll and W. R., Mrs Nicholson

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, last Wednesday, 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 Boyan and Mrs Clement; Sec., Mrs Dickson, Hurstlands; Treas., Mrs Lynn; Cradle Roll, Miss Clement; White Ribbon, Mrs Dickson.

Norsewood, 3rd Thursday, 2 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Speight; Vice-Pres., Mrs Gatman; Sec., Miss A. E. Olsen, "Willow Park"; Treas., Mrs S. Fredericksen; "W.R." Agent, Miss Olsen, "Willow Park"; Cradle Roll, Mrs Gatman; Evangelistic, Mrs Todd; Home Meetings, Mrs Jensen.

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, 45, 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.

Opetiki, 2nd Friday, St. John's Hall, 3 p.m. Pres., Mrs Jas Thompson; Sec., Mrs J. Gordon; Treas. and Supt. "W.R." Mrs Francis; Supt. Cradle Roll, Mrs Pearson.

Oxford, last Wednesday, 2.30 p.m., Coronation Hall; Pres., Mrs G. Ryde, Cooper's Creek; Rec. Sec., Mrs R. Conyns; Cor. Sec., Mrs T. Gainsford; Treas., Miss Caverhill; "W.R." Mrs D. Hawke; Cradle Roll, Mrs Gainsford, Sr., and Mrs Clark; Evangelistic, Mrs U. W. Fritt; Flower Mission, Mrs Foot; 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 Witten

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.

Palmerston N. Y's.—Pres., Miss Lorna Hodder; Cor. Sec., Miss Aline Rowlands, 21 Victoria Street; Rec. Sec., Miss Winnie Crabb, 128 College Street; Treas., Miss Maud Randall; White Ribbon Supt., Miss Cassie Bruce

Petone, 1st Tuesday, Church of Christ, Sydney St., 2.30 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Ashby, 64 Britannia St.; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Corner, McPherson, Murgatroyd, Collins; Rec. Sec., Mrs Burd, 87 Cuba St.; Cor. Sec., Mrs Eason, 82 Richmond St.; Treas., Mrs Donaghue; White Ribbon Agent, Mrs Barrow, Hutt Road.

Picton, 2nd Tuesday, 2.30 p.m. Presbyterian Church. Pres. Mrs Arthur Broadway; Vice Pres. Miss Jennings; Sec. & Treas. Mrs Wilkes, York St. Supt. Cradle Roll; Mrs Tegruthen, Taranaki St., Band of Hope; Mrs Jacques & Miss Jennings; W.R. Agent, Mrs Jacques, York St.

Ponsonby, 2nd Thursday, 2.30 p.m., Queen's Hall, Paget Street; Acting-President, Mrs C. R. Vickers, Millais Street; Vice-Pres., Mrs A. Thorne; Sec., Mrs Plummer, Coronation Rd., Epsom; "W.R." Supt., Mrs Plummer; Treas., Mrs T. Walker, Rose Rd.

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 Haslam, 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 Jenkins, Treas.; Mrs Hopwood Sec.

Sawyer's Bay, 2nd Tuesday in Methodist Church. Pres., Mrs Allen; Sec., Mrs Booth, Rose-neath; Treas., Mrs Mains; W.R. Agent, Mrs J. Perry; Supt. Home Meetings, Mrs Horn.

Sheffield, 1st Wednesday, 2.30 p.m., Road House Office; Pres., Mrs Mellraith, Annat; Sec., Mrs Pettit, Kirwee; Treas., Mrs W. Kennedy, Annat.

Stratford, 1st Wednesday, 3 p.m., Methodist Church; Pres., Sec., Vice-Pres., Mrs White and Mrs Phillips; Sec., Mrs J. McAllister; Treas., Mrs Birdsell.

Takapuna, 1st Thursday, 2.30 p.m., Takapuna Methodist, and Milford Baptist, alternately. Pres., Mrs Fulljames, East Coast Rd.; Vice Pres., Mrs Veats, Hurstmere Rd.; Sec., Miss Rushbrook, Kitchener Rd.; Treas., Mrs Penning, East Coast Rd.

Tauranga, Meets in Presbyterian Hall, on last Wednesday, at 2.45 p.m. Pres., Mrs F. N. Christian, 6th Ave. W.; Sec., Mrs Weston, 3rd Ave.; Cor. Sec., Mrs A. Turner, Devonport Rd.; Treas., Mrs J. B. Chappell, Cameron Rd.; W.R. Agent, Mrs A. Christensen, 5th Ave.; Cradle Roll, Mrs A. Christensen, 5th Avenue.

Timaru District, last Tuesday, 7.30 p.m., Sailor's Rest, Pres., Mrs Rule, North St.; Sec., Miss M. Avison, Victoria St.; Treas., Mrs Cave, Raymond St.; Cradle Roll, Mrs Grant and Miss Evans; White Ribbon Agent, Mrs Brooker, 11, Mere Mere St.

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

Waimate, 2nd Wednesday, in Knox Church Hall, at 3 o'clock; President, Mrs W. Stewart; Secretary, Mrs Geo. Dash, P.O. Box 27; Treasurer, Mrs S. J. Hitchens, "Te Rangī, 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 Foston, Bott and Robertson; Sec., Mrs James Bibby, Rose St.; Treas., Miss Johnson, Rose St.; W.R. Supt., Mrs S. Bott.

Wanganui East meets last Friday at 2.30 p.m. in Anglican Schoolroom. Pres., Mrs Duxfield; Opia, Wanganui E.; Vice Pres., Mesdames Blair, and McLeod; 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 Siddells, 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, Ash-burton; Treas., Mrs Moore; White Ribbon Agent, Mrs Glassey.

Wellington District, 1st Thursday, 2.45 p.m., Rooms, Constable St.; Pres., Mrs Houlder, 308 Wallace St.; Rec. Sec., Mrs Keene, Island Bay; Cor. Sec., Mrs Evans, 19 Huropi St.; Treas., Mrs Beall, 40 Pirie St.; White Ribbon Supt., Mrs Webb, Hall St. L.T.L. Rooms, every Wednesday at 7 p.m. Y Branch, Rooms, alternate Thursdays at 8 p.m.

Wellington Central, 3rd Friday, 3 p.m., Y.M.C.A. Rooms, Willis St.; Pres., Mrs A. R. Atkinson, Wadestown; Acting Pres., Mrs McDonald, 1 Huia Rd., Hataitai; Cor. Sec., Miss Helyer; Rec. Sec., Mrs Clark; Treas. Mrs Helyer, Oriental Bay; White Ribbon Supt., Mrs Port, Austi Street.

Waipukurau, 2nd Friday, St. Andrew's Hall, 1 p.m.; Pres., Mrs J. E. Reid; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Hopkirk, Hardy, Stace; Sec., Mrs H. French, Main St.; Treas., Mrs Robinson; Organist, Mrs Harris W.R. Supt., Mrs Mercer.

Woodville, meets 4th Tuesday, 3 p.m., 1 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.