

The White Ribbon

FOR GOD AND HOME AND HUMANITY

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INDENTURED LABOUR.

SLAVERY CAMOUFLAGED.

"Then run aloft St. George's Cross,
All proudly let it wave,
The token proud that under it
There never treads a slave."

So we used to sing, but gone are the days when we could proudly boast that when a man touched British soil he ceased to be a slave. At a cost of twenty millions our Empire purchased the right to free all the slaves in its wide Dominions. Our great sister Republic paid a yet heavier cost, and washed the dark blot of slavery off the bonnie Stars and Stripes in the blood of her bravest and her best. Now we are reversing these acts. With 40,000 coolie slaves in the sugar compounds of Fiji, with the Government of the Dominion affirming the desirability of indentured labour for Samoa, we have become once more a slave-owning Empire, and alas! democratic New Zealand is going to allow Samoa, under our influence, to import Chinese slaves, yclept coolies, to till its soil. What is indentured labour? Readers of this journal know what Dr. Andrews, who was sent out to study it in Fiji, reported. Mr Massey said in the House: "Indentured labour may be slavery under some flags, I admit, but it never is slavery in a British country." We would strongly advise our Premier to study carefully "Fiji of To-day," by Rev. Dr. Burton. Dr. Burton is a New Zealander, the son of one of the oldest and most honoured White Ribboners of Masterton, and he thoroughly knows the subject he is writing upon. He tells us that in a few years Fiji will once more be a heathen

isle. Fijian Christians are dying off, and Indian coolies are flooding the islands. Of these he says: "The coolies laugh at our Christianity. They salute our flag, and spit venomously on the ground the moment our backs are turned."

Dr. Burton tells how, when the sugar companies started in Fiji, the Fijians refused to work in their mills, the land so bountifully supplied their wants that they had no need to work for wages. Then 40,000 coolies were imported from India, bond slaves, herded in compounds for five years. At first women were not imported, but the condition of affairs became so unspeakably vile that, to quote Dr. Burton, "The sins that brought down fire on the Cities of the Plains are rampant, and bestiality runs riot."

Our readers will not have forgotten the terrible condition of affairs as regards the women reported by Dr. Andrews. How every woman sent out became the sex slave of four men, and then Dr. Burton described the coolie compound in Fiji as "the most degrading sight on earth." The doctor gives instances of brutal punishments administered, of women and children being flogged.

We were terribly shocked by the Belgian atrocities in the Congo, and thanked God we "were not as other nations," but many of the Congo horrors can be paralleled in the mine compounds of South Africa and the sugar plantations of Fiji, both beneath the British flag.

The reason for indentured labour is the same old one, to make wealth for the few at the cost of suffering to the many. The cotton plantations of America, it was affirmed, could not be profitably worked without black labour, and so came slavery and its

attendant evils. To fill the pockets of the opium growers of India, Great Britain, at the point of the bayonet, forced opium upon China, and the degradation of the opium-eater swelled the pockets of the opium-grower. Women of New Zealand, are you going to turn a deaf ear to the appeal of your dark-skinned sisters? Their low wail of misery comes incessantly to our ears; they cry to us in the words of Holy Writ, "Thou shalt speak for us who are dumb."

Let politicians speak as smoothly as they please about the necessity for production, the fact remains that dark labour is cheap. If good wages and decent conditions of living were provided, free labour could be obtained, but it would cut down dividends. Shall we allow, in lands under our control, men and women to be "tortured to make fat dividends" for sugar, rubber, or any other companies?

Our Government endorsed the principle of indentured labour for Samoa a few short weeks ago, and already in one Dunedin paper has appeared a letter asking for coolies to be imported into New Zealand to supply the lack of domestic help. And so the vicious system would grow and spread. What can I do? Every woman can find out how the candidates for her electorate stands on this question, and can make sure that no supporter of indentured labour secures either her vote or any vote that she can influence.

Slavery, with vice and immorality attendant upon it, has brought great Empires of the past to ruin, and as patriots we will fight to the last against its re-introduction into our own Empire. Our Empire must be good as well as great, and our glori-

ous Union Jack float over "the land of the free and the home of the brave." And only a brave people can remain free. "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty."

"He's true to God who's true to man; wherever wrong is done,
To the humblest and the weakest,
'neath the all beholding sun,
That wrong is also done to us; and
they are slaves most base,
Whose love of right is for themselves,
and not for all their race."

SUPERINTENDENT'S LETTER.

MAORI WORK.

Since acknowledging receipts in September "White Ribbon," I have received: Wellington, £1; N.E. Valley, £1 18s; Dunedin, £1; Mrs Fairlie, Gisborne, 5s; Invercargill Y's, £2; Papatoetoe, £2 3s; Waipawa, 6s 6d. Total received so far this year, £17 18s 9d. While thanking all those Unions who assist financially, I would like to place before all our members one way in which they could greatly assist this department. As I reported recently, the young lady who had arranged to take up the position of Organiser of Maori work in September last, has been prevented from doing so owing to private reasons. I would be very grateful if any one knowing of a lady willing to undertake this work would communicate with me at once. To a qualified Organiser we would give £3 per week, travelling expenses and hospitality also found. If not fully qualified, we would be willing to pay £1 per week during her training, raising her salary as she becomes proficient at her work. Further particulars can be obtained by communicating with me. In the meantime we are doing all we can to keep the work going by correspondence, distributing literature, etc., but an Organiser is badly needed.

N. F. WALKER.

Address: Mrs Walker, Upper Fox Street, Gisborne.

In the old time children were whipped up. Later they were dragged up. Then they were brought up. Now we are learning to let them grow up. Education by assault and battery is becoming unfashionable.—Bolton Hall.

SOLDIERS, GRATITUDE, AND PROHIBITION.

(Contributed by an experienced Social Worker.)

This is the question in some people's minds: Is it consistent with the gratitude we unceasingly owe our soldiers to try and bring in Prohibition? Many of our soldiers, erstwhile prohibitionists, now believe that the rum ration was beneficial to them, and they also believe that science backs up their belief, or else how would so up-to-date an army as the British have issued the rum ration?

But let us get to the root of the matter, and see if this is the truth. Sir Victor Horsley, F.R.S., F.R.C.S., Hon. M.D., Halle, etc.; Major R.A. M.C.; late Chairman of the Representative Meeting of the British Medical Association; Surgeon to the National Hospital for the Paralysed and Epileptic; Consulting Surgeon to the University College Hospital, and late Professor of Pathology in University College, London, etc., in his book, "Alcohol and the Human Body," makes some statements which prove that the British Army was not following the findings of science when they issued the rum rations to their troops, nor were they following the experience of such military officers as the late Earl Roberts, who said: "13,000 abstainers are equal to 15,000 non-abstainers; also he said: "Give me a teetotal army, and I will lead it anywhere."

Lieut.-General Sir Reginald Hart says: "As an officer, I support temperance, because I know that officers and men who avoid drink are physically and mentally more efficient, their nerves are stronger, they march better, there is far less sickness and crime, their power of resistance is strengthened."

Admiral Sir J. R. Jellicoe, who so recently visited our shores, said: "As regards straight shooting, it is every one's experience that abstinence is necessary for efficiency. By careful and prolonged tests, the shooting efficiency of the men was proved to be 30 per cent. worse after the rum ration than before it." We cannot think he is an antiquated officer who does not know what this war means, however good his experience in other wars and other conditions were. Some may say, "But his fighting was at sea, and he cannot know the needs

of the men in the wet, muddy trenches, even if his experience holds good in regard to the 30 per cent. less efficiency in shooting after the rum rations.

Sir Victor Horsley says: "One of the greatest causes of invaliding during the winter campaign in France, 1914-15, was 'frost-bite,' not the necrotic form so much as severe vascular paralysis, with secondary oedema and neuritis. **No better way of encouraging frost bite could have been imagined** than the issue of the rum ration, since alcohol produces the circulatory changes requisite for the first stage of this painful condition."

The idea that rum makes a man more able to ward off chill is of course dangerously erroneous. All modern physiological researches have shewn that alcohol aggravates the ultimate effect of chilling in two ways—firstly by increasing the loss of heat by radiation from the surface, and secondly by checking the oxidation in the tissues, thus lowering the temperature of the body, diminishing its resistance to cold, and weakening the circulation in the extremities. The folly of taking alcohol in cold weather has been proved up to the hilt by all dwellers, workers, and explorers in cold climates for more than a hundred years."

Sir J. Ross (Voyage to the Arctic Regions, 1829-28) says:—"I was twenty years older than any of the officers or crew, yet I could stand the cold better than any of them, who all made use of tobacco and spirits. I entirely abstained from them. The most irresistible proof of the value of abstinence was when we abandoned our ship, and were obliged to leave behind all our wine and spirits. It was remarkable to observe how much stronger and more able the men were to do their work, when they had nothing but water to drink."

Dr. John Rae (Arctic Explorer) says "The greater the cold the more injurious is the use of alcohol." So we have the testimony of science re the effect of alcohol to keep from chilling, and we have the practical experience from two explorers in the Arctic Regions.

Surely these two sides of the question will have some weight with those who keep an open mind, to the others nothing will appeal. Still I think I hear the one say who who keeps an open mind, "Yes, that sounds conclu-

sive enough, but there is one's own experience to get over. I know I felt as if I were freezing in the trenches, and after I had taken the rum rations I felt in a beautiful glow. How do you account for that?" It is due to the fact that alcohol causes the dilatation of the thousands of tiny blood vessels in the skin, resulting in much of the blood reaching the surface, and so being rapidly cooled. That means that an excess of blood is called from the internal and important organs which are rapidly cooled, and so the real temperature of the body is lowered. This if excessive, leads to exhaustion and risk to life. So the false sense of warmth is dearly bought and ought to be a warning instead of giving the deceptive impression of comfort and well being. This accounts for so many being found dead after being intoxicated. Their internal temperature is lowered so that they cannot resist the low external temperature. This is not the end of the harm or danger connected with the taking of alcohol. The white blood corpuscles are the policemen of the blood. Their work is to seize and devour any disease germ which has entered the blood, and in so doing prevents the germ from multiplying, and neutralises the poison of the germ. Scientists, under the microscope see that even with moderate doses of alcohol the white blood corpuscles act as drunken men, and are unable to seize and devour the disease germs. Thus each time alcohol is taken, for a certain time, that person is laid open to contract any disease if those germs have entered their blood. With continued drinking the blood corpuscles become degenerate, and instead of defending from disease, they devour the tender cells of the brain. The grey matter of the brain can be seen down in their bodies under the microscope. No wonder persistent drinkers get softening of the brain. If it ended there it would not be so bad, but it is handed on to the children. Professor Saleeby, one of the greatest living authorities on Eugenics, maintains that alcohol is a racial poison. That means that wrapt up in the gift of life there is wrapped up the death warrant to be executed before that life sees the light of day or shortly after. If not, the child has received some handicap in the race of life. Before me is a book on Heredity, by Professor T. W. Shannon, and a picture of

a young man sitting in an invalid chair. He is all drawn up and misshapen, a most pitiable object. He was begotten while his father was drunk. No wonder the Professor has put at the foot, "Results of Personal Liberty." Such personal liberty puts in bondage their children to the end of time. The tremendous degeneracy which is the result of drink and venereal diseases is making the burdens too hard to be borne. There was a time when we talked about the "Myterious dispensation of Providence" when idiots, imbeciles, and weak-minded children were born. But science is dragging into the light of day the causes for these things, and, alas! when the man or woman has repented and forsaken the wrong, the harvest still comes in when least expected. In the "Principles of Eugenics," by B. Eames, an account is given of a notorious drunkard called Max Jukes, in America, from whom there descended in seventy-five years, 200 thieves and murderers, 280 invalids by blindness, idiocy or consumption, 90 prostitutes, and 300 children who died prematurely. The various members of this family cost the State of New York more than a million dollars.

In the "Hill Folk" is another example of the transmittence of evil tendencies through many generations. The progenitors of these people were shiftless, feeble-minded, and alcoholic. The descendants are and have been degenerates of the first magnitude. From 1901 to 1910 1.10 per cent. of all aid given to paupers in the little Massachusetts village where the ancestors first settled was given to members of the Hill families. The Court and prison records during the past 30 years show that at least sixteen of the Hill stock have been sentenced to prison for serious crimes, chiefly against sex, the expense to County and State being at least 10,763 dollars. As public wards they have cost the State, as accurately as can be estimated, 47,719 dollars. The writer goes on to say: "The fact that feeble-mindedness, epilepsy, insanity and other forms of degeneracy are passed on from ancestors to descendants is now well authenticated by careful and systematic investigations. I am one of those who look into the future, and can see what the results of things to-day will produce then. If alcohol were going to give true hap-

piness and comfort, and the best heritage to the children of the future, I would fight as strongly to retain it as I do now to get rid of the curse. Personally, it has never hurt me, but in my rescue work, prison work, and work in the slums of London, I have seen so much poverty and misery caused by it. New Zealand has a bad time before it unless this curse is removed. Drinking is increasing not only among returned men, for whom, if for any one, there is some excuse, but among the youth who have never been away, and among them girls and young women. If the men do not feel that they need protection will they not extend it to the girls who some day may be their wives. Every villain knows that if he can get a pure woman under the influence of alcohol, which switches off that part which distinguishes man from the brute creation—the inhibiting centres of the brain—the power to weed out actions and control impulses—the stuff which stimulates physical desires and removes the guiding controlling rein, then her ruin will be easy. What about your comrade who has become addicted to drink. You would not have failed him in the trenches. Are you going to fail him now? Some of you have lost patience with your comrades who have failed. Is not your comradeship enough to enable you to deny yourself a glass of liquor to help your comrade who is its slave.

"Measure the strength of a man by the strength of the feelings which he subdues, not those which subdue him."

Show your strength by your self-denial in standing by your weaker brother or sister.

A REMINDER.

We kneel, sometimes, and pour it out to God,
The roughness of the way;
The stones and shingle, where our tired feet plod,
There in the twilight grey.
And often, wholly selfish, we forget
The brighter journey hours!
Not all the road with thorny hedge is set:
Life holds so many flowers.
God help us mark with joy each shaft of sun,
Each star about the dome,
With singing lips may His good will be done,
The while we travel home!

Storyteller.

COMRADES EVER.

CHAPTER III.

As Mrs Lewis entered her own room her eye fell upon the letter containing the request that she would be a candidate for Parliament. How far away seemed that happy evening when she first read and considered this letter. The fierce tempest that had wrecked her life's hopes had swept away all memory of it. Now insistently it came before her demanding an answer which she was not yet prepared to give. Reclining upon a couch at the open window, like one of old, she voiced her thoughts in the cry, "Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?" Then through the long hours of the night she awaited the answer. She was essentially a lover of a quiet home life, a student by temperament and by training. Only the stern voice of duty had driven her into public service. At first she had joined the W.C.T.U. to fight the drink evil, then her husband's position as magistrate had opened her eyes to much that needed reform in our social system. An ardent child lover, the inadequate protection which the law afforded little girls against evil men had roused her ire, and when a sexual degenerate for his third offence against little girls had received a sentence of only twelve months imprisonment, her indignation had driven her into the ranks of those who were protesting against this iniquitous state of affairs. Her undoubted talents marked her out for a leader. Now she wondered if the Master was calling her out into this wider sphere. Like a flash the words of the Master came into her mind, "Launch out into the deep." And almost she seemed to hear the words of Frances Willard, "Enter every open door."

With the first grey streak of dawn her resolution was taken, she would accede to the request and allow herself to be nominated, and then leave the issue in higher hands. If elected she would loyally serve her God in Parliament, if defeated how she would rejoice to stay in her quiet home.

Shortly after this a deputation waited upon Mrs Lewis for her reply to the letter.

"Gentlemen," she said, with quiet dignity, "It is my great desire to be of use to my country. I firmly believe that good women in the House will be helpful. They can present the

woman's point of view, which too often in the past has been overlooked. If you think I would be a useful member of the House, I am willing to submit myself to the judgment of the electors."

Mr Grant, a leading business man in the city assured her that the deputation thought her most suitable. "We deeply sympathise with you in your great sorrow, and pledge ourselves to do our utmost to secure your return to Parliament."

"I want you to quite understand my position," she said "While I am in hearty accord with the programme put forth by the Liberal Party, I cannot pledge myself to blindly support the leader. You all know that on the liquor question I hold very strong views. Should Prohibition be carried I shall support the complete enforcement of the law. There are also several moral questions on which I must be free to follow my own conscience."

Finally it was agreed that Mrs Lewis would stand as an Independent Liberal, pledging herself to give a general support to the Liberal leader. She had arranged to return to Dunedin with her son after his vacation, but on her return to the Empire City she would address the electors and take her part in the campaign.

Only the evening before, Will had broken a long silence with the words, "Mother, what are we to do? I cannot leave you alone."

My boy, you must continue your course at Dunedin until you have your M.D. I know how hard it is, but believe me, dear, in doing your duty and fitting yourself for future service you will find your truest happiness."

"What will you do?"

"I have decided to stand for Parliament. Your father wished it, and I feel as if his spirit will be near me helping me in this work. I must have hard work," and her voice trembled.

Will came across, and sitting on the arm of her chair, drew her close to him, and kissing her softly, he murmured tenderly, "Poor old Mum," using the childish name which his sister, Bonnie Jean, had never discarded, and almost completely upsetting his mother's equilibrium.

When she could trust her voice, Mrs Lewis said:

"My son, we'll both try hard to bear our cross bravely, and to do our work faithfully. I pray that you may become a great healer and a blessing to many. I'll go back with you for a week or two, and then return here for

the electoral campaign. Uncle Jack and Cousin Zeta will help me, and our dear old Nana will take every care of me and the house."

This programme was carried out. Mrs Lewis spent a quiet fortnight with Will in Dunedin. The mother and son were mates, they shared their work, their hopes, and their sorrows. Their hearts were very sore, but bravely they spoke of their loved and lost. Coming from an organ recital, Will said: "How our Bonnie Jean would have revelled in that glorious music." And once again, as they wandered through the Winter Gardens, now a mass of glowing colours, he remarked, "How Dad loved these flowers."

(To be Continued.)

SOCIAL FUNCTIONS.

AUCKLAND HONOURS ITS FIRST PRESIDENT.

A very pleasant and largely attended social was tendered to Mrs Dewar and her two daughters at the headquarters of the W.C.T.U., Auckland, on Tuesday, October 14th. Many tributes were paid to these faithful workers for so many years in the noble cause of temperance. Mrs Dewar is well known as one of the pioneers of the W.C.T.U., and although now over 80 years of age, she is still able to attend meetings; indeed, she is ever an inspiration with her hearty approval and applause at every forward movement. A pleasant feature of the gathering was the presentation to Miss Dewar by the President, on behalf of the Union, of a token of appreciation of her long and valuable services as Treasurer of the Union, which position failing health has compelled her to resign. Mrs Dewar and Miss Nellie Dewar were presented with bouquets of sweet peas. Musical items were rendered by Miss Rimmer, and Mrs Russ recited with much feeling "The Bridegroom." A prayer of benediction and blessing by dear Mrs Dewar ended one of the most pleasant and happiest social functions held in our Union for many years.

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

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

(Continued.)

WOMEN IN PARLIAMENT.

While wishful to avoid any encroachment on our Secretary's report, I cannot refrain from mentioning the present position and prospects of women's eligibility for Parliament in this Dominion. You will remember that when, more than a quarter of a century ago, we were enfranchised, special care was taken to prevent the electors from choosing any woman to represent them in Parliament. At the moment this seemed to be of little importance, for the prohibition against women being members of Parliament was so illogical and unfair that it appeared certain that in a short time it must be removed. Yet the years have passed while women electors that were young became elderly, and many that were middle-aged have grown old, and the frequent efforts for justice that have been made by earnest women and chivalrous men have been met by indifference and a scarcely-veiled hostility. It would not be right to blame Parliament altogether for the continuance of this injustice. Under our faulty system of Party Government, Parliament, which should be all-powerful has really little choice of action. Every member is supposed to belong to, and obey the instructions of, one party or another. And while Governments may come and go, no strong party has yet included justice to women in its programme. Yet, as I have said, since the war there has been a stirring of the dry bones. Systems of Government are on their trial, and the idea of justice may yet become a living force. During the last session of our Parliament a proposal to make women electors eligible for election was favourably received. The proposal was lost on the plea of unconstitutional procedure. Mr Massey declared that while he accepted Sir Francis Bell's dictum on the question of procedure, he was not opposed to the reform, and would himself bring the question before the House at its next session, and give members an opportunity of voting upon it. Sir Joseph Ward said that he "felt that women should be admitted to Parliament," while Sir Francis Bell, replying to a deputation of

women who interviewed him, said that he "needed no deputation to persuade him that what it asked for was just." He further said, "It is an accurate and absolute fact that if the Lower House had passed the amendment, it would have passed the Legislative Council without question or objection."

It would therefore seem that the accomplishment of this long sought for reform is assured.

I am glad to note that Mr Massey, in ratification of his promise, has already given notice in the House to ask for leave to introduce the Women's Parliamentary Rights Extension Bill.

It may be asked by some of the unthinking, "Why this desire to make women eligible for Parliament?" This question may be answered by another, "Why should the electors be denied the right to select as their representative the person they wish to represent them?" Or, "If a woman be the Sovereign of our mighty Empire, why should a woman elector be prohibited from being the servant of a constituency, if the constituency so desire?" Such a prohibition is not only an interference with the liberty of women citizens, but an interference with the men citizens also, and cannot be defended on reasonable grounds. Further, it is my belief that the one-sided laws which operate against wo-

men and the welfare of the family will not be repealed until we have women representatives in Parliament. It may be interesting here to quote from an address given by Miss Mary MacArthur, a candidate for Parliament, to the electors of Stourbridge, England. "It takes a man and a woman," she said, "to make an ideal home, and I believe that neither can build the ideal world without the help of the other. In the new Parliament, where laws affecting every household in the land will be framed, the point of view of the mother, as well as that of the father, should find expression. If I am returned to the House of Commons I shall try to voice in a special sense the aspirations of the women workers of this land. . . . I shall also feel entitled to speak for the woman whose work never ends, the woman in the home who faces and solves every day a multitude of problems, the woman who has been too often neglected or forgotten by politicians, the mother of the children upon whom the future pride and strength of the nation depends."

With the wider opportunities for service that seem to be opening for women, there should be a continuous effort to expand their outlook, and to deepen their knowledge of many of the questions which call for legislative action.

BALLOT PAPER.

This Election we have three issues on the Ballot Paper, and our motto now is

"Strike out the TWO Top Lines"

Here is how a good Prohibition Ballot Paper should look when it is put into the Ballot Box:—

~~1. I VOTE FOR NATIONAL CONTINUANCE~~ 

~~2. I VOTE FOR STATE PURCHASE AND CONTROL~~ 

3. I VOTE FOR NATIONAL PROHIBITION

Ladies' Home Journal Patterns for Easy Dressmaking.

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

All Patterns 9d each, post free.

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CHRISTCHURCH.

PROVINCIAL CONVENTIONS.

CANTERBURY.

The Canterbury Provincial Convention was held in Lyttelton on Tuesday and Wednesday, October 28th and 29th. Mrs Lill presided in the absence of the President, Mrs T. E. Taylor. The Executive met in St. John's Presbyterian Church Hall on Tuesday afternoon. Twenty delegates answered the roll call, and a programme of work was arranged for the following day.

In the evening a public meeting was held in the Excelsior Hall, when the Rev. Frost introduced Mrs Wheeler, of California, whose portrait appeared on the front page of the October "White Ribbon." Mrs Wheeler gave a recitation and a monologue, and then followed with a splendid address on the American and New Zealand flags, telling the story of the Prohibition movement in the United States of America. After January 1st, 1920, there will be 110,000,000 people in the States living under Prohibition. To keep the drink traffic meant the destruction of 100,000 young men and 60,000 girls every year. The brewers driven out of the States were building large breweries in other places, and sending their goods to other parts of the world.

Miss Thorpe, of Lyttelton, sang a solo, and Mr Lester, the Mayor, extended a hearty welcome to the Union delegates.

On Wednesday Convention met at 9.30 a.m., when devotional exercises were conducted by Mrs W. J. Williams, of Sumner. It was then arranged to present Mrs Wheeler with a New Zealand flag as a souvenir of her visit to Canterbury. Votes of sympathy were passed to several absent members. Encouraging reports were then read from Tinwald, Ashburton, Christchurch, Timaru, Kaiapoi, Winchmore, Rakaia, New Brighton, Lyttelton, and Oxford Unions.

An excellent address was delivered by Miss McCorkindale, Organising Secretary of the "Strength of Empire League," of Queensland, who has come to help in the coming campaign.

She emphasised the need of scientific temperance instruction in State Schools, stating that Prohibition was maintained in America through the right training of the rising generation.

The delegates were entertained at luncheon by the Lyttelton Union, and the afternoon session opened at 2.30 p.m. Mrs W. T. Todd, of Lyttelton, led the devotional exercises, after which Miss Henderson moved the following resolutions, which were passed, to be forwarded to Parliament:—

(1) "The Canterbury Provincial Convention of the Women's Christian Temperance Union learns with pleasure that it is the intention of Government to provide this session for an increase in widows' pensions."

(2) This Convention desires to record its gratification at the passing of the Women's Parliamentary Rights Extension Bill, whereby women have been made eligible for election to the House of Representatives."

(3) "This Convention resolves to make an earnest endeavour to secure the following reforms in the administration of the same in regard to cases where women and children are concerned:—(1) The appointment of women Justices of the Peace; (2) the appointment of women on juries; (3) the employment of women police."

(4) This Convention strongly feels that the law relating to the guardianship of children should be amended in the direction of giving the mother equal rights of guardianship with the father."

(5) "That this Convention is of the opinion that the present system of altering the boundaries of electorates after taking the census is opposed to the community of interests, which is the mainspring of an intelligent participation in public affairs."

(6) "That this Convention urges that the Government should adopt a very liberal policy in regard to the establishment of Maternity Hospitals, and considers that in this matter very special consideration should be given to the claims of mothers in country districts, and that in their interest a maternity hospital should be estab-

lished in every centre of population."

A paper, entitled "The Woman of Yesterday, To-day, and To-morrow," written by Mrs Garrett, of Invercargill, was read by Mrs Lill.

An invitation to hold the next Convention at New Brighton was gratefully accepted.

The election of officers resulted in Mrs T. E. Taylor being elected President, and Mrs Kippenberger Secretary and Treasurer.

Votes of thanks were passed to the members of the Lyttelton Union and the hostesses for their kind hospitality, and the singing of the Temperance Doxology and the pronouncing of the Benediction brought to a close a very happy and profitable Convention.

WELLINGTON.

The Sixth Annual Wellington Provincial Convention of the W.C.T.U. was held on Wednesday and Thursday, October 8th and 9th. A meeting of the Executive was held on the evening of October 7th.

Convention opened at 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday, the President, Mrs Crabb, of Palmerston North, presiding. Delegates were present from Wellington District, Wellington Central, Greytown, Lower Hutt, Masterton, Petone, Palmerston North, Feilding, and Woodville. Apologies received from Bunnythorpe, Marton, Pahiatua, Taihape, and Taoroa.

Mrs Ashby, Petone President, welcomed the visiting delegates, and Mrs Crabb suitably responded. The President's address was a comprehensive survey of present day conditions, and urged that no member of the Union should stand idle. Mrs Neal, Secretary, read replies from various M.P.'s. The President and Organiser of the local No-License League addressed the Convention. Messrs Beddingfield and Haslam, headmasters of the Petone schools, gave addresses on Education Reform, and the following resolution was passed:—"That this Convention heartily supports the following reforms in our educational system:

(1) The standardisation of school books; (2) the modernisation of school buildings, including the addition of an assembly hall, and furniture; (3) free school books and requisites; (4) forty-five children to be the maximum in any class under the charge of one teacher; (5) extension of open-air classes; (6) provision for larger playgrounds; (7) free and compulsory medical and dental treatment of children in State schools; (8) a complete and compulsory system of continuation schools up to the age of 18; (9) consolidation of schools in rural areas; (10) inclusion, in the training syllabus for teachers, of scientific instruction in sex hygiene and the effects of alcohol on the human body."

The following were also passed:—

"A recommendation having been made by the National Efficiency Board that weekly lessons should be given in all public schools on the history of the Empire and our duty to it, with a view to inculcate in the minds of the children a patriotic and national spirit, this Convention of the W.C.T.U. would respectfully suggest to the Minister of Education that such lessons should have a wider international bearing, cultivating a sense of their responsibilities and appreciation of their privileges, not only as citizens of the Empire, but as members of that wider community of which every nation is but one small part."

"This Convention desires to express its sympathy with the aims and ideals of the League of Nations Society, and would urge the Government to take immediate steps to inaugurate such a society in the Dominion, in order to support the Imperial Parliament in the effort which is being made to establish a permanent and abiding peace."

"That in the interests of the women and girls employed as shop assistants throughout the Dominion, this Convention desires to support: (1) a 45 hours' week; (2) the abolition of the late night; (3) the proper covering of concrete floors in shops; (4) the appointment of women inspectors to look after the requirements of women and girl employees."

"That Government be urged to fix the age at which persons can marry at 18 years of age for both sexes."

"That we press resolutely for the appointment of women police, and that every Union be instructed to ask all Parliamentary candidates for their electorate at the coming election whether they support this demand"

"(a) That women shall be granted a seat in the Legislative Council, the House of Representatives, and on all public bodies on the same terms as it is, or may be, granted to men; (b) married women shall not be deprived of their nationality against their will; (c) all existing inequalities in the law as between men and women shall be removed, all offices and employments shall be open to men and women equally, and payment for work shall be independent of sex; (d) the moral standard shall be equal for both sexes."

"It now being recognised that the State should provide for the maintenance of children who are deprived of their fathers, this Convention, while resolutely standing for purity of life and the absolute sacredness of the marriage tie, would ask that the claims of the children of unmarried mothers may be recognised. This is asked: 1st, in the interests of the children, who, coming into the world with a stigma attached to their birth, have more claim on the State, that they may be able to become useful citizens; 2nd, in the interests of the mother, that in the struggle to regain her self-respect, she may not be handicapped by the difficulty of providing for herself and her child."

The Convention also passed a resolution placing on record its high appreciation of the valuable work done by the Wellington Sunday School Union examiners, and urging the inclusion of the Temperance Lesson in the examination work.

The question of raising the pensions of widows being before the House of Representatives, it was resolved to immediately send a copy of the following resolution to every M.P. in the Province:—

"That seeing the Government has already admitted, through two of its Departments—the Health Department and the Defence Department—that the ordinary widows' pension is not enough to keep a mother and her family, unless she either leave her young children to the care of others while she goes to work, or else resorts to charitable aid for assistance, we would respectfully urge upon their attention the necessity of giving all widows with young children a basis of pension not less than that granted to epidemic widows and the widows of soldiers. We would further venture to point out that it is not in the best interests of the individual or the State that a mother should have to leave her

infant children in the care of others while she works to support them. On the other hand, if she does not do this, part of the maintenance of her family must ultimately fall on the State or the community through the Education Department (charitable aid), and her children have to carry a stigma from this source, which it should never have been their misfortune to incur."

At a later session every delegate sent a telegram to the Prime Minister and the Hon. W. H. Herries urging them to make every widow's pension equal to the pension of the epidemic widows.

Mrs Johnson Wright read a paper written by Mrs Martha M. Allen World's Superintendent of the Medical Temperance Department, entitled "Whisky an Agent of Death in Influenza and Pneumonia."

Mrs Burd read an instructive paper entitled "The In-between Child in War-time," by G. Josephine Baker, M.D., D.P.H., calling the attention of parents to the needs and rights of the child between infancy and school age.

Mrs Neal read a paper on "Eugenics," written by Mrs Bogle, M.A., of Wanganui, in which was emphasised the fact that the future of the race depends upon its women.

The papers were fully discussed, and it was decided that the Secretary have them typed and sent to the Education Bureau.

Letters of sympathy to members in illness included the Dominion President (Mrs Don) and Mrs Lee-Cowie (World's Missionary).

Officers elected: Mrs Crabb, Palmerston North, Provincial President; Mrs Neal, Feilding, Provincial Secretary; Mrs Burd, Petone, Provincial Treasurer.

It was decided to hold the 1920 Convention in Palmerston North.

Votes of thanks were accorded the entertaining Union, the Church of Christ for the use of their building, hosts and hostesses, and the Press.

On Thursday evening a public meeting was held in the Methodist Church. The President, Mrs Crabb, occupied the chair. Mr J. W. McEwan, Mayor of Petone, in a brief speech congratulated the W.C.T.U. on the work it had done, and hoped that every success would attend its activities in the future.

Mrs A. R. Atkinson, of Wellington, was the principal speaker. Other speakers were the Revs. F. J. Marshall (representing the Church of

Christ), T. H. Stealey (Church of England), A. Blair (Methodist), T. Duff (Presbyterian), Mr Robson (Baptist).

Musical items were rendered by Misses Cotton, Godber, Davis, and Rowse, and recitations by Miss Udy and Mesdames Lowe and Wallstrom.

The following resolution was carried unanimously:—"That this meeting expresses its appreciation of the action of the Government in appointing women patrols in some centres, and its hope that the number may be increased, and that a proper preliminary training may be instituted. It also urges that a properly equipped women police force may be established with the least possible delay."

QUESTION BOX.

1. Can a British woman vote who is married to an unnaturalised Finn?—A British woman, by marrying an alien, becomes herself an alien, and as such is not entitled to be registered on an electoral roll, or to vote at an election.
2. Can a Maori man or woman vote on the Prohibition question?—No.
3. Can a half-caste Maori man or woman vote on the Prohibition question?—Yes.

GO THOU WITH GOD.

After a long and intimate acquaintance with the religious ideas of Central Africans, Mr Dan. Crawford tells us they say of the dead, "He has arrived" (not "He has departed"). The Spaniard says not "Good-bye, God be with ye," but "Go thou with God."

"Go thou with God," and fare thee forth with power,

Strong then to do, and dare "unheard of" things;

Clear-speaking duty ever urging onward,

Beneath the shadow of Almighty wings.

"Go thou with God," His Presence shall go with Thee

Through all the changing and unfolding years.

Strong-hearted, falter not, and He will keep thee

Triumphant over all thy doubts and fears.

"God thou with God"; the future holds no terrors;

When life's uplifting pathway thou hast trod,

Thou shalt "arrive"—Death's beautiful adventure

One golden day will bring thee Home with God.

—W. A. Bourne.

Tamworth, N.S.W.

Correspondence.

THE LAND WE LIVE IN.

(To the Editor.)

Dear Friends,—May I call your attention to the excellent and educational value of the picture film, of the above title? While we are right in protesting against the many undesirable features on exhibition nowadays, should we not encourage and appreciate any honest attempt to present the scenic and the beautiful? Take the children to see depicted the natural and impressive wonders of Maoriland by the Educational Film Company.—Yours truly,

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N.Z. W.C.T.U.

LITERATURE.

Departmental Literature can be obtained as follows:—

General: Mrs Mowlem, 35, Constable Street, Wellington.

Purity: Miss Alice Webb, Ormondville.

L.T.L., Cradle Roll, and Medical Temperance: Mrs Neal, Manchester Street, Feilding.

Maori: Mrs Walker, "Gortgowan," Fox Street, Gisborne.

Scientific Temperance: Miss Helyer, Tonks Grove, Wellington.

MRS MOWLEM'S STOCK includes:

N.Z. Constitutions, 3d; Membership Pledge Cards, 6d per doz.; Pledge Books (non-members'), 6d each; White Ribbon Hymn Books, 2d each, 1s 6d per doz.; Hymn Books with Music, 3s each; Facts About the W.C.T.U., 6d per doz.; Victory or Defeat? (Arthur Mee), 6d each; The Fiddlers, 6d each; People Versus Liquor Traffic, 6d; Writing Pads, small 1s, large 1s 6d; Envelopes, 25 for 6d; "Stand Up, Ye Dead," 4s; Responsive Readings for Bands of Hope; large assortment of Leaflets for various Departments.

Purity Literature: Fresh supplies on order. Send to Miss Alice Webb, Ormondville, for lists and prices.

L.T.L., CRADLE ROLL, AND MEDICAL TEMPERANCE.

Mrs Neal has in stock:

For the L.T.L.: Charts (with Manual of Lessons), showing effects of Alcohol and Tobacco on the human body, 7s 6d each; Questions Answered about the L.T.L., 1s 4d; Marching Songs for Young Crusaders, Nos. 1 and 2, each 8d; A Handful of Hints, 8d; Temperance Tales, 8d; About Ourselves, 8d; About Our Country, 8d; It is Written (Bible Stories), 8d; Shakespeare Manual, 11d; Recitation Books, 8d each; L.T.L. Pledge Cards, 1s per doz.

Cradle Roll: Mothers' Leaflets, 8d per doz.; Cradle Roll Pledge Books, 1s per doz.; Cradle Roll Birthday Cards, 1s per doz.; Eighth Year Certificates, 2s per doz.

MEDICAL TEMPERANCE: Leaflets at prices ranging from one penny up to sixpence per doz.

BADGES, Etc.: Silver W.C.T.U. Badges, 1s 3d each, 14s per doz.; Booklet, "What is the W.C.T.U.?", 4d each, 3s 6d per doz.; Treasurers' Slips, 1s per 100; Membership Transfer Slips, 1s per 100. Can be obtained from Miss Henderson, 26, Tui Street, Fendalton, Christchurch.

WOMEN'S Christian Temperance Union Of New Zealand.

Organised 1885.

"For God and Home and Humanity."

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Ravensbourne, Dunedin.

VICE-PRESIDENT:

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"The White Ribbon."

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Business Manager: Mrs Peryman,
Port Chalmers.
(Telephone No. 1).

The White Ribbon.

For God and Home and Humanity.

WELLINGTON, NOV. 18, 1919.

S.O.S. FROM W.R. OFFICE.

KINDLY READ AT NEXT
UNION MEETING.

The year is drawing to a close, and we have not reached our tally of 1000 new subscribers, are not half way to our goal.

We make a special appeal to every member, every reader, every person who wishes to see people educated on Moral and Social Reforms, to assist us in widening the circle of readers. Some of our friends have helped well. One lady pays for copies to be sent to friends, and writes: "I wish I could afford to pay for many papers to go to women who never see it."

A gentleman subscriber, one of Auckland's leading citizens, writes: "It is a good paper, and after I have scanned it I pass it on."

Another sends 10/- for the paper to be sent for a year to four friends, and says: "I feel sure the little paper

will have a good influence with women voters." We are grateful to these friends, and to many others who have sent us kind and appreciative words. It is worth effort to get our white-winged messenger into the homes. When the women of England were striving for the vote, many of them stood in the streets, and sold their paper, "Votes for Women," because they knew that many were prejudiced, and would not buy unless specially solicited. We do not ask our workers to do this, but we do wish that they would do their best to get friends to subscribe, particularly non-members of our Union.

As regards the financial position, we have never raised our subscription and have no wish to do so, and if our White Ribboners will rally round and help there is no need to do so. We can pay our way, but we cannot afford bad debts. Last year we had a debit of £16, the first for many years, but one District Union alone owed over £20 in fees. Had subscriptions been collected we should have been on the credit side of the ledger. On December 31st there was £171 owing for subscriptions, and £17 for advertisements. Our Business Manager asks that every subscription possible should be collected, and urges every Union to pay for its advertisement promptly. Our Canadian White Ribbon in appealing to the Unions for help suggests that every member should give 50 cents, or at least 25 cents so that the paper might become financial. We do not appeal for gifts, though we are always open to receive a donation. One kind friend sent £3 donation last year, and he wrote: "I am now 81 years old, and I hope to live to see Prohibition carried." Altogether last year we received £6 in donations. But we do appeal to our friends to send along subscriptions, old and new, before December 31st, and help us to present a credit balance. In very few cases are there large accounts owing, mostly one and two years, and if these are paid we shall be in a strong financial position.

Our energetic worker, Miss Earnshaw, has secured 44 subscribers this year; Hastings, 32; Kaitangata, 20; Invercargill Y's, 19 (we wish the same spirit would fall on our other Y girls); Bunnythorpe, Manaia, Palmerston N. and Papatoetoe, 12; Wanganui, 11; Wakefield, 10; Feilding, 8; Nelson, Wellington Central, Waihi, 7; Balclutha, Takapuna, 6; Ashburton, Milton, Norsewood, Stratford, Timaru, 5;

Auckland, Greytown, Ormondville, and Petone, 4. Many other Unions have secured one, two, or three new subscribers.

Aim to get 1000 before the end of the year. "Impossible!" you say. Not at all. Imitate the brave woman "who went in with a grin, and tackled the thing that couldn't be done." And SHE DID IT.

REPORT! REPORT! REPORT!

Read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest the following:—

Will all local Superintendents please send in a report of the work done in their department to the Dominion Superintendent by December 31st? Where there is no local Superintendent, the Secretary should report all work to the Dominion Superintendent. The following is the list of Dominion Superintendents:—

Evangelistic, Home, and Mothers' Meetings: Mrs Johnson Wright, Constable Street, Wellington South.
Maori: Mrs Walker, Upper Fox Street, Gisborne.

Social and Moral Hygiene (Purity): Miss Alice Webb, Ormondville.

Literature: Mrs Mowlem, 35 Constable Street, Wellington South.

Work Among Seamen: Mrs Nimmo, Arawa Street, Hataitai, Wellington.
L.T.L., Cradle Roll, and Band of Mercy: Mrs Neal, Manchester Street, Feilding.

Y's and Medal Contests: Mrs Pirrett, 14 St. Benedict Street, Auckland.

Scientific Temperance Instruction: Miss Helyer, Tonk's Grove, Wellington.

Prison and Reformatory Work: Sister Moody Bell, Greymouth.

Good Citizenship: Mrs Phillips, Brecon Road, Stratford.

Legal and Parliamentary and Anti-Gambling: Miss Henderson, 64 Tancred Street, Linwood, ChCh.

Narcotics: Mrs Boxall, 40 Pirie Street, Wellington.

Home Science (Hygiene, Thrift, and Domestic Science): Mrs McDonald, 42 Konini Road, Hataitai, Wgtn.

Bible-in-Schools and Sabbath Observance: Mrs Cobb, 200 Fergusson Street, Palmerston North.

Flower Mission and Relief Work: Miss Lorna Peryman, Port Chalmers.

Rest and Refreshment Booties: Mrs Upton, 165 Victoria Avenue, Wanganui.

Education Bureau: Mrs C. Weston, Fitzherbert West, Palmerston North.
Backblocks and Work Among Railway Men: Mrs Moyes, 27 Halifax Street, Nelson.

Notable Days: Mrs X. Jones, Ngaere.
Press: Miss Jessie Mackay, Cashmere Hills, Christchurch.

Military Camps: Mrs Whincop, Greytown.

Medical Temperance: Mrs Clara Neal, Feilding.

"White Ribbon" Agents please report to the Business Manager, Mrs Peryman, Port Chalmers. Will all agents send in the number of new subscribers secured during the year 1919, also the number of subscribers now on their lists? The Business Manager will be grateful if **every** "White Ribbon" Superintendent will send in a report.

Dominion Superintendents.

Please send in reports to the Editor, "White Ribbon," by January 31st, 1920.

MRS WHEELER AT N.E. VALLEY.

On Wednesday, October 15th, Mrs Wheeler addressed a gathering of women at the N.E. Valley, under the auspices of the local branch of the Union. Despite the wet weather, the Young Men's Institute was crowded. Mrs Don, our National President, spoke warm words of welcome. Mrs Peart, on behalf of the local women, presented our distinguished visitor with a beautiful bouquet. Mrs Wheeler gave an interesting talk on the great problems that had to be overcome before the States went dry, and the part the W.C.T.U. took in the struggle for National Prohibition.

Mrs Wheeler also gave a recitation entitled, "A Mother's First Baby," which was an elocutionary treat. At the close of the meeting Mrs Don spoke to those not already members to link themselves with this great woman's organisation, with the result that 13 came forward. Mrs Don read the Initiatory Service, and closed the meeting with the Benediction.

The ideal for the college student should be total abstinence. Total abstinence is what we ought to have among our students. No railroad, no industrial concern to-day will take a student graduate from Cornell University unless it has my assurance that he is a total abstainer.—Dr. Jacob G. Schurman, President Cornell University.

ALCOHOL AND MORALS.

(By Nurse Ada E. Chappell.)

A little time since I wrote an article on "Food and Morals." In this article I want to show the effect on the morals resulting from alcohol.

I could go into a detailed account of the effect of alcohol on the cells of the brain, particularly those to do with the finest qualities of the human being, but it might weary you, so I will quote first from an article written by Carl Easton Williams, published in the "Physical Culture Journal" in America this last August. The title is, "Why We Are Going to Stay Dry." One part says: "Personal liberty in the use of alcohol is on a plane with personal liberty in the use of morphine or cocaine, so far as the individual is concerned, but it is also on a par with personal liberty in the matter of reckless driving, which is not only a danger to the driver himself, but a menace to others. Such is booze! Furthermore, we cannot recognise personal liberty in all things, because too many people are children, mentally speaking. Give a calf enough rope, and he will hang himself. A man facing the responsibility to take a drink is like an irresponsible child. After he has had a few drinks he is morally far less than a child. Did it ever strike you that a few drinks, paralysing the higher brain centres, rob a man of the fruits of thousands of years of mental and moral development (passed on to him by his ancestors), and that a still few more drinks will rob him of the fruits of a million years of revolutionary progress, leaving him something less than a pig?" The moderate drinker, who as yet can take it or leave it alone, calls the man "a weak fool" who takes so much as to make his conduct openly disgraceful. It is well for him to remember drink can make a weak fool of the strongest character. He should ask himself, What rank is the drunkard recruited from? Certainly not from the ranks of the total abstainer. So that there can be no other ranks from which they are recruited but those of the moderate drinker. In another part of the same article he goes on to say: "And now for some of the big reasons why we are going to stay dry. The first of these is one that is usually overlooked by those who glibly say if one wishes to drink it is his own business. Aside from the fact that it is partly the business of society to pro-

tect a member of the D. Phool family from himself, there remains the fundamental truth that the welfare of others is paramount. To drink or not to drink, that's not the question. It is not so simple as that. Perhaps alcohol is bad enough in its immediate and direct effects to justify prohibition, but its far-reaching evil consequences presents even more urgent reasons for going and staying dry. The next time you see a blind baby you will ask yourself whether or not the affliction, innocently acquired, happened in this case to be the result of venereal disease contracted by the father during a period of irresponsibility brought about by alcohol. If you will read a little statement published by the War Department Commission on Training Camp Activities, you will know that gonorrhoea in former years was the cause of eighty per cent. of all blindness, babies' eyes being infected at birth. I mention the blind baby for the reason that he or she is a concrete illustration of the relation of alcoholism to disease. . . . Venereal disease in nearly all cases is contracted in conjunction with the moral irresponsibility of more or less intoxication. **The saloon and the brothel have always gone hand in hand.** Perhaps the saloon is camouflaged as a restaurant, hotel, cabaret parlour, tearoom, or what not—it is any place where booze is sold. And you may rest assured that no one knows so well as the professional seducer of the prostitute the invariable relationship between alcoholism and sexual laxity. This is a point that does not admit of any possible dispute. Not only the question of 'Why girls go wrong,' but also the question of why boys go wrong in most cases finds its answer in the paralysis of the higher faculties induced by drink. It is usually only under such conditions that **normal** young men and young women can be induced to take a step which would ordinarily be revolting to their instincts and contrary to their native quality of reticence. Prohibition cannot at once entirely obliterate this evil, for secret and illegal drinking will continue to some extent, and will be associated with this sort of thing. But self-respecting, law-respecting young people will be protected. Incidentally, alcohol was barred from the Army and Navy during the war not because of the harm of drinking in itself, but purely as a measure for preventing venereal disease, the great other enemy." The opinion has been expressed that the

effective or total abolition of alcohol in civil life would automatically reduce the number of transmissions of venereal disease by perhaps three-fourths or more, thus offering the most important single factor in the solution of this problem, aside from the universal practice of sanitary prophylaxis. And alcohol will interfere even with that. Therefore, while you may have talked of personal liberty in this connection, yet just as soon as you understand the relation of alcohol to blindness, sterility, abortion, dead-born babies, physical deformity, mental defectiveness, mutilating operations on women (eighty per cent of abdominal operations being due to gonorrhoea, the most prevalent of all diseases in the world, except measles), locomotor ataxia, insanity (paresis), and various, sometimes fatal, organic diseases of the heart, liver, kidneys, and brain—just as soon as you understand this relationship, you will no longer hold that the right to drink is a sacred privilege upon the eternal principle of personal liberty." When one hears the statements made about the state of America because of Prohibition and the numbers of people who have taken to drugs because they cannot get drink, it makes one wonder if they have been misled themselves, or if they are deliberately making up these statements to gull the public of New Zealand. When we have from such sources as W. C. Gorgas, Surgeon-General, United States Army, the following statements. He says: "I am going to speak first of what is usually mentioned last, if at all, in most discussions of health in civil life, particularly if women are present. Yet because you are women—mothers, wives, sweethearts, and sisters—I wish particularly to call your attention to the subject of venereal disease and its deadly menace, not only to our manhood, but to womanhood, and to children yet unborn. You may readily understand what these diseases mean to an army if I tell you what is a fact, that during the first year of the war one European nation had more men disabled from these diseases than from disabilities incident to warfare. . . . No wonder, combined with the fact of what had happened to an European Army, they discovered, when they called up their young men in the prime of life—according to the Medical Department of the United States Army—that one out of every three in civilian life had venereal disease. W. C. Gorgas, Surgeon-General, United

States Army, says: 'In the old days the regular Army would not accept a man suffering from these diseases; its sole problem was to fight against the men contracting them while in the service to their own detriment and the endangering of their fellows. Now (1917), however, the Army has had to shoulder the burden of the disease carried by the men of draft age **in civil life**; with the result that in six camps the total number of cases brought into the Army by draft men was six and one-half times as large as the number of cases contracted after admission into the service.'" If this was not enough to make a nation sit up and look into the cause, then that nation was lacking in the undertaking of what makes for the strength and wealth of a nation. But America did sit up, and she placed all hotels and drink saloons out of bounds for her soldiers, and where the authorities of town or city did not co-operate with the Military Authorities to this end, the camp would be removed. When the authorities saw the military meant what they said, they obeyed. The result was that only 16.8 per 1000 have contracted venereal disease since entering the Army. Compared with the 320 per thousand infected on entering the Army when their liberty to get under the influence of drink, and while in that condition of irresponsibility contract the blight of civilisation. America has certainly benefited from the bitter experience of England, who, according to George Craig Stewart, D.D., said during the first eighteen months of the European War England had more men incapacitated for service by venereal disease, contracted in mobilisation camps, than by all the fighting at the front. No wonder one of England's poets wrote many years ago:

"The harlot's cry from street to street
Will be Old England's winding sheet."

The harlot's cry from street to street proved the winding sheet of Greece and Rome. And the British Empire is in the deadliest peril of being swallowed up in the same way. Lloyd George saw the danger, and made desperate efforts to free England from the principal cause of the spread of infection from venereal disease, but the drink magnates got him by the throat and threatened to choke him politically if he dared to put out the drink. He knew in his hands lay the destiny of the Empire, and he had to hang on to that and relinquish what would have ended the war in half the

time if he had been backed up. But for the incapacity which arose from these diseases, largely contracted while under the influence of drink in the British Army, our young boys would not have been called up as they were to fill the places in the firing line which was deserted by these men who thought, as the drink trade here would have us think, that it is liberty to be permitted to get in such a condition through drink that they could tolerate to associate with such women, and thus insult their poor mothers, sisters, wives and sweethearts. The Trade tells you immorality is not brought about through drink. The insult is the greatest they can give to the mother who bore them and the pure women who loved them. It means that their characters were so filthy that they, of their own desire, without the cursed stuff which "steals men's brains away," as Tennyson said, would have done the wicked, beastly things they did. Surely the women of New Zealand know their men and boys better than that, and will do our men and boys who contracted the venereal disease—and they are not a few—the justice of putting the blame where it is largely due.

An orderly—who was not a temperance man—told me it was his duty at Home for the boys to report to him when they had contracted venereal disease, for him to draft them for treatment. He said he used to be amazed at numbers of nice boys from good homes and Christian homes, who had to report to him, and he used to say to them: "You! How do you come here?" The reply invariably was, "I got drunk, and I did not know what I did." In some cases, perhaps, only drunk once, and in that one time seized upon by the women who are lying in wait for the man or boy who is under the influence of drink, and the taint contracted which he may never be rid of. Don't I know these things? I was not in rescue work for over ten years near Shorncliffe Camp—then one of the largest military camps in England—without seeing for myself the fatal connection between alcohol and contracting venereal disease. My work was to get in touch with the fallen women and girls, therefore I had to watch the public-houses, and there I used to see the ghastly trade plied. The men go into the hotel, and get under the influence of drink. Then he would come out with one of these women. Then she would come back, and go back to the bar, and presently

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another man be led out, maybe too drunk to walk steady, then back again until the bar was closed. Some of these women had been in our Home, and we found them so diseased I had taken them to the London Lock Hospital, where they had been turned out incurable. They were back again to infect more men as they themselves had been infected.

This drink is a vicious circle. In all the years I worked there I cannot recall one girl living as a prostitute who did not drink. They used to say to me, 'I could not live this life but for the drink.' When they got sober the memory of their homes and of their pure, happy childhood was too maddening—they had to drown their memories in drink, and the fragments of their womanly feelings before they could start their evening's ghastly trade.

One can quite understand the account a ship's doctor gave, whose name I know, who noticed a woman on board with six girls under her charge. He got into conversation with her, and she was quite open about her occupation and that of the girls with her. She said, "A dry country is no good to the likes of us, so we are going to a wet country. There are numbers of men who would not come to us unless they were under the influence of drink for the first time." So this brothel-keeper, with her slaves, was leaving the "dry" country and travelling on this ship, which plied between there and New Zealand. No wonder Dr. Richard Arthur, M.D., M.L.A., Sydney, in his address to officers, says:—"All medical men know that drink and venereal disease go hand in hand; alcohol rouses sexual desires, and lessens or abolishes self-restraint."

On one of the ships which came from Home recently there was a nice boy about sixteen years of age. While

girls have gone home infected with in Wellington the firemen got him to go ashore with them, and they made him drunk, then took him to a house of ill-fame. When he came to himself, and knew what he had done, he flung himself on his bunk and sobbed as if his heart would break. It is probable he contracted venereal disease, then to curse him for the rest of his life. Even if not, that black spot is going to haunt his memory while reason lasts, and make him feel the meanest cur that ever walked when he falls in love with some pure girl. His soiledness will look all the blacker against her virgin purity.

Mothers, would you like this to happen to your son, or would you like your daughter, while under the influence of the genteel-sounding wine, to have her purity stolen from her? There are many girls to-day in New Zealand who are fond of their wine, who are substituting it for morning tea. Just as the prostitute looks out for the man under the influence of drink, so the villain looks out for the girl who "is not herself," that he may rob her of her greatest treasure. Do not be foolish mothers or girls, and think such men will go to those with whom it is a trade. Oh! no, the purer the girl the more desirable she is, and the safer for their own skin, and it is their own skin they love supremely, and other people can take care of their own if they can. But they can't when drink is in, because "wit's out." You think New Zealand is so safe, and these dangers do not exist here. A short time ago I was told of a man in Auckland who himself told a companion in sin the following, which was passed on to me, that he had succeeded in seducing 33 girls out of 60 whom he had tried. He had met them at places of amusement, such as the pictures and dances. Such a man could not fail to be diseased. How many of those

the disease, no one knows. It is so easy, the steps down hill. Some flattery, some refreshment, a bottle of wine, a motor-car ride, and another character blighted. How many girls, if they knew the truth, have been robbed of the boy they loved through the cursed drink. One man told that quite six boys had come to his tent to say good-bye before going into battle, and had said, "I've got it—I am not coming out of this battle." Poor boys! Betrayed by the curse we have the chance to put out of the country now. We could have done it before if we women would have woken up to what it means. No wonder the Bible says, "No drunkard shall enter heaven." It seems to me the reason is because the mind is the medium between God and man, and when that is switched off, as drink does, there is no power in the person while under its sway to receive any message from God. It seems almost like a prophecy the lecture the late Dr Batchelor, of Dunedin, gave in 1909. After speaking of the venereal diseases and the curse they were even then in New Zealand, he went on to say: "In this young country, which nature has so bountifully endowed, the reproach is ours alone if our race fails to achieve the highest level of mental, physical, and moral efficiency. . . . We have already shown that we refuse to be trammelled by the traditions and conventions of the Old World, and do not fear exploiting fresh fields. Why not then make some effort to eradicate or mitigate a disease that has been at the root of so much racial decadence in the Old World? . . . The women of this land now have the power to resolutely insist on drastic measures to counteract this canker of modern civilisation, and, for the sake of your sons and daughters, for the sake of the generations yet unborn, I urge you to grasp your opportunity, and grasp it in time."

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.)

BLUFF.

The annual social gathering and presentation of prizes in connection with the Band of Hope was held in Willard Hall on October 10th, when there was a very large gathering of members and friends. Rev. R. Francis presided, and gave an appropriate address. Mrs H. Johnson, Band of Hope Superintendent, presented the prizes, 30 first prizes (full attendance), 17 seconds (once absent), and four special prizes for bringing the most new members. An excellent programme was rendered by the children. Supper was then served, and a most successful session of the Band of Hope was brought to a close by the singing of the Doxology and the National Anthem.

LEIGH.

Oct. 30. Mrs Wyatt in the chair. Decided unanimously to send in a resolution recommending that the widows' pension should be on the same scale as that of the epidemic widows. Mr H. B. Moore, the Organising Secretary of the South Marsden Prohibition League, gave much valuable information on the licensing position in the United States of America, and answered questions on the subject. Resolved that all donations paid by members to the Prohibition Campaign Fund should be sent through the Leigh Union. The meeting closed by singing the W.C.T.U. Doxology.

WELLINGTON CENTRAL.

Oct. 17. In the absence of the President, Mrs Beckingham took the chair. A Committee was set up to act with the District Union to make preparatory arrangements for the Annual Convention, to be held in 1920. An interesting account of the work done at the District Convention recently held at Petone, was given by Mrs Pennington, one of this Union's delegates. It was decided to hold the annual Executive meeting at Mrs Caughley's on November 14th, and the annual meeting on the 21st November.

OXFORD.

Oct. 1. Mrs Ryde presided. Resolutions of sympathy passed. Donation of £1 reported by Secretary. Miss Jessie Gainsford was thanked for her efficient help in all Union work, and best wishes of the Union were hers for her future happiness. Resolution passed, to be forwarded to Minister of Defence and M.P., protesting against the compulsory train-

ing of youths in camp for four months. Mrs F. Tritt appointed delegate to Provincial Convention. Mrs Hawke was thanked for her interesting account of the Town-Planning Conference in Wellington.

Oct. 22. The Union celebrated its eighth birthday. Decided to forward a resolution to Provincial Convention suggesting that the Government amend the law that in the case of habitual drunkards the police be empowered to apply for a prohibition order, and thus obviate the necessity of the relatives appearing in Court. A paper was read by Mrs Ancall. Afternoon tea and a beautiful birthday cake, the gift of Mrs Jim Clarke. Votes of thanks were accorded to all who helped.

HAWERA.

Oct. 30. Mrs Bone presided. Sir James Allen and Mr Pearce acknowledged receipt of resolutions. 88 voted for prizes for L.T.L. Members assisted in sending out literature.

NORMANBY.

We have held three Home Meetings, and our monthly meetings are well attended. Good work done for Red Cross, and for the coming campaign. The Y Branch is assisting in the work, and have held several largely attended socials. We have a good library of suitable literature.

WANGANUI EAST.

Oct. 3. President occupied the chair. Decided to hold a "pay-up" social on November 13th, evening, hon. members and soldier friends to be invited. Afternoon tea was served.

INVERCARGILL DISTRICT.

Nov. 4. A pay-up social at 7.30 p.m. A bright evening, with songs and solos. Mrs Baird spoke on the purity question. Mrs Lillicrap spoke on the coming poll, and Miss Birss on the very encouraging progress of the Y Branch. Supper was handed round.

MASTERTON.

Nov. 4. Annual social, Mrs Devonport presiding. Weather inclement, but attendance good. Addresses by Rev. Cocker and Ensign Sawyer. Several musical items and a reading. Votes of thanks to the Press and to the Trusts for use of Knox Hall.

GREYMOUTH DISTRICT.

Oct. 14. Prayer meeting, Mrs Gaskin presiding. Address by Lieut. Doris Langdon, S.A. Final arrangements made for Sale of Work.

Oct. 28. Replies from Mr Holland, M.P., and others, re compulsory military training for youths. Decided to make application for visits from Nurse Chappell and Mrs Wheeler. Reported that Sailors' Rest Sale of Work realised £46. One new member.

DUNEDIN DISTRICT.

Oct. 7. Pay-up social held in the evening. Mrs Hiatt presided. Rev. Randerson gave an address on "Optimism," and Mrs Peryman made a strong appeal for new subscribers for the "White Ribbon." Decided to send a telegram of thanks to the Premier for the interest he has taken in the passing of the Women's Parliamentary Rights Bill. Musical items, recitations, and supper filled in a pleasant evening.

Nov. 4. Fair attendance, Mrs Hiatt presiding. Three new members. Telegram to Premier expressing appreciation of the action of the New Zealand Government in prohibiting the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors in Samoa. Mrs Lee Cowie gave an interesting address, and urged all to strike out the two top lines.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

Nov. 7. "Franchise Day," when Mrs Evans, M.A., presided. Mrs Moody traced the franchise movement from 1850, when a lady, who was afterwards Mrs (Dr) Muller, sailed into Nelson. Mrs Sheppard, too, was mentioned as one who was ideally fitted for the post of Franchise Superintendent, and to her, of all women, was victory finally due. The petition, which Sir John Hall presented, of 31,000 names, representing a third of the women in New Zealand, was referred to as being the most numerous signed petition ever presented before any Australasian Parliament. In closing, Mrs Moody asked all present to realise their responsibility to the State, to have high ideals, and to work and vote till all evils are abolished.

RIVERTON.

Sept. 10. Mrs Gray presided. Fair attendance. A resolution protesting against the proposed military training scheme was passed unanimously. Report given by Mr J. Stevens, Electoral Organiser, of Mr Dawson's address in Invercargill, was appreciated.

Oct. 1. Mrs Wheeler gave a most interesting address on work in America, also a recitation, which was much enjoyed. She fully explained the difference between "dry" and "bone dry," and gave us much useful information. Chair taken by His Worship the Mayor. Vote of thanks to Mrs Wheeler for her able address closed the meeting.

WAIHI.

Oct. 16. The Cradle Roll Superintendent, Mrs Burt, held a very successful Rally at her home. A number of mothers, with the little ones, were present, also member of W.C.T.U. Mrs Snow gave a short address to mothers, after which afternoon tea was handed round. Several new names were added to the Cradle Roll, and a good deal of interest aroused.

NELSON.

Oct. 7. Mrs Watson presided; fair attendance. Letter received stating City Council had set aside a shop for a rest room for women, and in addi-

tion to paying the cost of making the necessary alterations, would expend the sum of £20 in furnishing the room. Mr Field reported on Nurse Chappell's meetings, which were well attended, and the lectures listened to with interest. Final arrangements were made for Sale of Work on October 15.

ASHBURTON.

Oct. Mrs Lill presided. Large attendance of members and No-License workers were present to consider plans for work in connection with the coming poll. In conjunction with the No-License Council, a welcome to Mrs E. Wheeler, U.S.A., was arranged. Resolved that the Union support the Council in requesting the General Secretary of New Zealand Alliance to send the two best organisers available to Ashburton immediately, for work in opposition to the strenuous effort now being made to re-open the bars in this electorate. Mesdames Miller and Baker were appointed delegates to Convention. An appeal was made on behalf of the B and F. Sailors' Fund, and a ready response was received. A donation of 10s was voted to the Band of Hope Prize Fund.

Oct. 21. Hearty welcome to Mrs F. Wheeler, Mrs Lill in the chair. In responding, the visitor delighted her hearers with several elocutionary items. Over 60 names were handed in as members of the Women's Efficiency League. In the evening St. Andrew's Church was packed, when Mrs Wheeler gave a recital, closing with an account of the Prohibition movement in America. More names were handed in. His Worship the Mayor moved a hearty vote of thanks to the speaker.

AUCKLAND DISTRICT.

Sept. 24. Votes of sympathy with Mesdames Donald and Page. Letter of thanks from the Women's Help Committee for the Union's help in street collection for the poor of the city. Union collected £26 15s. Resolved that this Union earnestly urge upon the Government the great necessity for the appointment of women police in the interests of women and children, copies of this resolution to be sent to the local papers and to the Premier. Mrs Reuben Bailey spoke on individual responsibility. One new member.

Oct. 8. Premier wrote saying the matter of appointment of women police would receive due consideration. Wire sent to Sir Francis Bell re granting full Parliamentary rights to women. Mr French addressed the meeting, and was thanked.

Oct. 22. Short devotional address by Mrs Anstice. Pleasure expressed at the Returned Soldiers' Association voting against the selling of drink at their clubs. Letters of thanks from the Women's Patriotic League for help given at the Soldiers' Club, and from Rev. Knowle Kempton for Union's letter wishing him God-speed in his

new sphere of work. Congratulatory telegram sent to the Premier re passing of Women's Parliamentary Bill. Resolved: "That this Union earnestly urge the Government to deal with ordinary widows' pensions this session. They would further urge that they be placed upon the same basis as epidemic widows' pensions in order that there be no necessity for a mother either to leave her young children to go out to work or resort to charitable aid for assistance. An address by Mrs Hewett was much enjoyed. Decided to hold District Convention on November 12th. One new member.

RICHMOND (NELSON).

Sept. 10. Good meeting. Letter of sympathy to the friends of Sister Saywell. Protest sent to Minister of Defence re the proposal to retain youths for four months' continuous military training in camps.

Oct. 8. President in the chair. L.T.L. reported to be doing well. Mental School, Richmond, to be visited and articles collected. Night meeting and social next month. Valuable discussion followed. Initiatory Service and Temperance Doxology closed the meeting.

TIMARU.

Oct. 28. The President opened the meeting with hymn, Scripture reading, and special prayer from members. Hospital visitors appointed, also Committee to arrange for socials at the Sailors' Rest for the visiting seamen. Correspondence from the Premier, Sir Francis Bell, Sir J. Allen, and Mr J. Craigie, in answer to resolutions forwarded last month. Lists of donations received for funds of Sailors' Rest presented, and votes of thanks passed.

A PERSONAL NOTE.

Dear Sisters,—After having been over 16½ years away from my native place, I am purporting, if all be well, to pay a visit to my Home friends, travelling by the same boat as Mrs Lee-Cowie and party. I have found much congenial work in New Zealand, and made many precious friendships, so that I hope to return here once more. However, that is in the future "all unknown." Please accept assurances of my continued interest in Dominion affairs, and of my continued loving regard for many valued friends, of whose kindness I shall always have a vivid recollection.

We expect to leave by the "Rimutaka" about January 20th, 1920.

Believe me, yours cordially,

SISTER MOODY BELL,

Nat. Supt. Prison and Reform Work.
Greymouth.

Y's Reports.

NELSON.

Miss D. Knapp read the report of the District Convention. The "Y" miscellaneous stall at the W.C.T.U. Sale of Work made £6 1s. £3 of this goes to the Organising Fund, £3 to the local Prohibition League, and £1 1s to the Mother Union.

ARAMOHO.

Sept. Fair attendance. Rev. Campbell gave a very helpful and interesting address. An excellent paper given and read by Miss Taylor, one of our Y's. Two First Aid and Home Nursing classes held, Mr Scott proving a very able instructor. Several of our Y's busy in Prohibition Guild, others canvassing.

Oct. Attendance good. Decided to give the L.T.L. members an evening and Christmas tree, each member to give a gift. Secretary instructed to write to Matron of Public Hospital for permission to visit on Saturday afternoon with flowers and suitable literature. Three volunteers for the work. Proposed soldiers' social postponed. One new member initiated.

OXFORD.

Oct. 28. There was a small attendance. The meeting was opened with a prayer. Miss Munn was appointed "White Ribbon" reporter. Decided that a letter of congratulation be sent to Mrs H. Thompson, also a letter to Miss Whyte expressing pleasure at her return to Oxford. Resolved that an autograph book be purchased for each member that has been married. Decided that the Band of Hope and L.T.L. combine and have a social evening on November 4th.

L.T.L. Reports.

MAORI GIRLS' SCHOOL, TURAKINA.

Since the White Rose Branch was organised on June 12th, 1919, our meetings have been disturbed by sickness, therefore our Superintendent was kept busy all the time. Meetings have been held six times. Membership, 23.

Oct. 31. New officers elected as follows:—Pres., Kaa Winiata; Sec., Ila Barrett; Vice-Pres., Marara Potete and Lizzie Sciarancke; Organist, Ada Honotapu; Monitress, Pare Ranapia; Supt., Miss Powell; Reporter, Mary Williams.

The average man climbs to success, while his wife holds the ladder. If he gets there, she is apt to be left behind; if he takes a tumble she is there to take the blame.—Helen Rowland.

STATE PURCHASE.

(Contributed by a White Ribboner.)

The time when women have the privilege of voting either for the drink trade to remain with us, or to be forever abolished from this Dominion, is drawing near. It behoves every woman to very carefully consider the three issues which are at stake, and vote for that one which will tend to the uplifting of the race. Have we women ever grasped the significance of the truth that the power to carry Prohibition really rests with us, owing to the fact that so many more women at the present time are eligible to vote than men?

Are we going to allow it to be said, to our eternal disgrace, that when we had the chance to purge our land of this curse, we refused to take it, and that it was the woman's vote—or failure to vote—that lost the day? I want to write more especially to those who have any doubt on the matter as to how to vote. With all the specious arguments in favour of State Control, some seem to lose sight of the fact that whether the liquor is sold by a highly respectable servant of the State or by a drunken publican, its evil effects are just the same.

Have we ever considered the financial aspect of the question? Under State Control, or State Purchase (for the business would have to be purchased before it could be controlled), the State would purchase hotels, breweries, etc., at the present highly inflated values, giving anything up to £20,000,000 for them, only to find that at another election, in three years' time, Prohibition would be carried, and it would be left with properties on its hands which would have to be disposed of at a great loss. How many of our business men would stand for a proposition of this kind? Of course we hear a lot about the revenue that will be derived, and what an immense help it will be to help pay off our ever increasing debt, but if the business is carried on legitimately, will the profits be so large? If, as State Controllers tell us, hotels are to be portioned out on a population basis, and no more than a certain quantity of drink sold to each customer, will not the profits dwindle very considerably? Again, think of the large amounts that will have to be paid out in pensions. We must never lose sight of the fact that every employee—whether he be the State manager of a large hotel, or only a driver of a brewer's delivery waggon

entitled to a pension on retirement.—will be a civil servant, and as such Why should we Prohibitionists be forced to pay taxes to support a measure such as this. As true, loyal citizens we are willing to pay taxes that go towards the betterment of our land, but when it comes to making us help to support the liquor trade, which is dragging the manhood of this country down to hell, then I consider that, as a matter of principle, we are called upon to resist. Let us do as the Americans did with the tea that was forced upon them by the English Government—throw every cask of whisky and beer into the sea, rather than have it said that we are aiding and abetting the liquor traffic, even if it be under protest. A hundred times rather let us have Continuance, with all its evils, than this other white-washed business, which is bound to be just as deadly in its effects.

In conclusion, I would urge on every woman of this land not to vote as some one else—perhaps someone very near and dear to her—tells her to, but to vote as her conscience dictates, and then I think the successful issue of the campaign will be assured.

VOTE IT OUT.

Strike a blow at drink forever,

Vote it out;

Every link of weakness sever,

Leave no doubt.

Dally not with State controlling,

Vote out straight;

Just for once put all your soul in,

Ere too late.

Daily faced with sore temptation,

See the boys;

Those who fought for King and Nation

Won the prize.

Prize of peace for battle's galling

Heavy chain;

Mother! now you see your calling,

Turn again!

Stand to arms, and win a victory

For the right;

This time say a valedictory

In your might.

Say farewell to drink for ever.

Compromise!

Put it from you, now or never,

Win that prize.

—Ethel L. Piper, Milford.

Auckland District, 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 2.30 p.m., W.C.T.U. Headquarters, Wellesley Chambers, Wellesley Street (entrance Lorne St.); Pres., Mrs. Cook, Point St., Mt. Eden; Cor. Sec., Miss N. Dewar, Pompaier Terr., Ponsonby; Rec. Sec., Mrs. J. W. Taylor, Sentinel Rd., Ponsonby; Treas., Mrs. Perrett, Market Road, Epsom; "W.R." Agent, Miss Davies, Onslow Rd., Mt. Roskill.

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 I. Sussex; Vice-Presidents, Misses I. Cook, and O. Scott; Supt., Mrs. Perrett, Market Road, Epsom; Rec. Secretary, Miss L. Street; Cor. Secretary, Miss M. Bottrill, 31 Arthur St., Ponsonby; Treas., Miss D. Stubbs, Shoal Bay Rd., Devonport; "W.R." Supt., Miss Budd.

Ashburton, 2nd Tuesday, 2.30 p.m., in Victoria Hall; Pres., Mrs. W. T. Lill, Willowby; Cor. Sec., Mrs. G. Bowman, Peter St., E; Rec. Sec., Miss Trevurza, 169 Peter St.; Treas., Mrs. W. J. Brown, Walnut Av.; "W.R." Supt., Miss Butterick, Wakanui.

Avondale Y's, 3rd Wednesday, 7.45 p.m. in Road Board Room, Blake Street. Pres. Miss Elsie Stevens, Vice-Pres. Misses Ada Adams, Lilla Russel & Rowley; Rec. Sec., Miss G. Wright; Cor. Sec., Miss M. Cottrill, New Windsor Rd., Avondale; Treas. Miss M. McCarthy, Station Rd.; 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 Springslands, 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. G. Beer; Treas., Mrs. C. H. Bycroft; 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. Prayer Meeting, on the third Wednesday. Pres., Mrs. T. E. Taylor, Cashmere Hills; Cor. Sec., Mrs. R. Day, Millford St., St. Albans; Rec. Sec., Miss Bishop, 12 Bealey St.; Treas., Miss M. B. Lovell-Smith, Box 114; Assistant-Treas., Miss Gordon, Holly Lea, Manchester St.; "W.R." Supt., Mrs. Day, Millford St., St. Albans.

Dannevirke, 2nd Wednesday, Wesleyan Schoolroom, 8 p.m. Pres., Mrs. Richards; Rec. Sec., Mrs. McPhee, Princes St.; Cor. Sec., Mrs. Wiseman, High St.; Treas., Miss Burdett.

Dunedin District, 1st Tuesday, No-license Rooms, Moray Place, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs. Hiatt, 264 George Row; Cor. Sec., and Press Cor., Mrs. Chisholm; Rec. Sec., Nurse Williamson; Supt. WHITE RIBBON, Mrs. Anderson, 82, Duke St.; Treas., Mrs. Young, Bishopscourt, 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 Lilliwall.

Feilding, 1st Thursday, 2.10 p.m., St Paul's Hall. Pres., Mrs. Barton, "Brabourne," Monmouth St.; Cor. Sec., Mrs. Clara Neal, 3 Fitzroy St.; Rec. Sec., Mrs. Cooke, Manchester St.; Treas., Miss Svendsen, East St.; "W.R." Agent, Miss Jordan, c/o Mr. H. Feild, "Cloverdale," North Road; Literature, Mrs. E. Bridge and Miss O'Neill.

Gisborne District, last Tuesday, 2.45 p.m., Presbyterian Schoolroom; Pres., Mrs. Goffe, Ormond Rd.; Sec., Miss W. J. Rosie, 151 Stout Street; Treas., Mrs. F. J. Wilkes, 466 Gladstone Rd.

Greymouth District, Business only last Tuesday. Prayer Meeting second Tuesday in Fallow's Rest Hall; Pres., Mrs. Gaskin; Sec., Mrs. Mason, Cobden; Treas., Mrs. A. Parkinson, Terapuhi St.; White Ribbon Agent, Mrs. T. Brown; Vice-Presidents, Sister Moody Bell and Mrs. Parkinson.

Hamilton District, 1st Thursday, Wesley Class Rooms, 2.30 p.m.; Pres., Mrs J. T. Horne, Cliffo Road; Sec., Mrs W. H. Paul, Cliffo Road; Treas., Mrs K. J. Davey, London Street; W.R. Agent, Mrs Gaulton, Rossevear Street

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

Hastings, 2nd and 4th Thursday, Methodist Hall, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Mrs Wilson, 708 Hastings St; Vice-Pres., Mrs Boyle, Mrs Burr; Mrs Moore; Rec Sec., Mrs Gloyd, Cook Street; Cor Sec., Mrs Lovell-Smith, 612 Heretaunga Street; Treas., Mrs Rossiter, Lyndon Street; "W.R." Agent, Mrs Martindale, Southland Road

Hawera meets in Wesley Hall, R. gert street on the last Thursday, at 8 p.m. Pres., Mrs J. S. Young, Cameron street; Vice Presidents, Mesdames Bone, Dixon, Gray, Liversedge, and Miss Maunders; Rec. Sec., Miss Bischoff, Turuturu Rd; Treas., Miss Maunders c/o Mrs Johnson, Morrissey St.; W.R. Agent, Miss R. Tait, Nelson St.

Henderson, 3rd Wednesday, Presbyterian and Methodist Churches, alternately, 2.30 p.m. Pres., ; Vice-Presidents, Mrs Wright and Miss Duncan; Secretary, Mrs McKay, Great North Rd.; Treas., Mrs W. Williams, Gt. North Rd.; W.R. Agent, Miss K. Duncan.

Invercargill District, 1st Tuesday, 8 p.m. in Y.M.C.A. rooms; Pres., Mrs C. H. Macalister; Ve-Pres. Mesdames Baird, McKenzie, and Peters; Rec. Sec., Mrs Rowland Lewis; Asst. Treas. Mrs A. Dewe; Cor. Sec., Mrs Parisonson, Princes St., Enwood; Treas., and "W.R." Agent, Mrs F. Lilliesap, Earn St.

Invercargill South. Meets every second Tuesday, in Methodist Schoolroom, Ythan Street, at 2.45 p.m. Pres. Mrs Pasley, Centre St. Gorge-town; Rec Sec., Mrs Garrett, 195 Ness St.; Vice-Pres. Mesdames Smart, Morris and Fairbairn; W.R. Agent, Mrs Pate; Treasurer, Mrs Aitken; Cor Sec., Mrs Parkin, Bowmont Street

Kaipoi W.C.T.U. Assembly Rooms. Union meets last Wednesday in the month, 2.30 p.m. Pres., Mrs Brighting; Sec., Miss Blackwell, "The Willows"; Treas., Mrs T. G. Blackwell; W.R. Supt., Mrs Ward.

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

Lower Hutt, 1st Tuesday, Church of Christ, Queen St., at 2.45 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Ballantyne, Belmont Rd.; Sec., Mrs Taylor, Tama St., Alicetown; Treas., Mrs Bayley, Queens Rd.; Cradle Roll, Mrs Hayes, Brunswick St.; W.R. Agent, Mrs Burn Aglionby Street.

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

Leigh, last Thursday, 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.

Manai, 2nd Friday, Methodist Church; Pres., Mrs T. Tait; Vice-Presidents, Mrs Aitken; Treas., Miss Patterson, Box 21; Sec., Mrs Ernest Wells; Cradle Roll, Miss Ricketts.

Masterton, 1st Tuesday, Knox Hall, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Devonport; Rec. Sec., Mrs M. Jackson, Cor. Sec., Mrs M. Wingate; Treas., Mrs Sutherland; White Ribbon Supt., Mrs Ross, High St.

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.

Napier District, 1st Wednesday and 3rd Thursday, in St. Paul's Presbyterian Schoolroom, 3 p.m. Pres., Mrs G. W. Venables, Ashridge Rd; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames Dodds and Findlay; Sec., Mrs Foote, Macdonald St.; Treas., Mrs Grayling, Wellesley Road; Evangelistic, Mrs Dodds; Hospital Visitors, Mesdames J. Walker and W. Findlay; Cradle Roll, Mrs Walker; W.R. Agent, Mrs Mens.

Morrinsville, meets 2nd Thursday in Methodist Vestry. Pres., Mrs Richards, The Manse, Allen St.; Sec. and Treas., Miss Wills, "Carrisbrook," Allen Street; W.R. Agent, Mrs Johnstone, Hamilton Road.

New Brighton, 3rd Thursday in Methodist Schoolroom. Pres., Mrs Hall, 36 Wainui St., New Brighton; Secretary, Mrs Nicholas, 64, Brooke St., Bexley; Treas., Mrs Gibson, Union Street; Evangelistic Supt., Mrs Walker, Union Street, N.B.; W.R. Agent, Mrs Whitley, Nelson St., N.B.

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

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, Hawera; Vice-Pres., Mrs Began and Mrs Clement; Secretary; Mrs Chapman; Treasurer, Mrs Linnand; Cradle Roll, Miss Clement; White Ribbon, Mrs Gane.

Norsewood, 3rd Thursday, 2 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Speight; Vice-Pres., Mrs Gatman; Sec., Mrs A. E. Olsen, "Willow Park"; Treas., Mrs S. Frederickson; "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, 43, Frame St.; W.R. Supt., Mrs Wright, 78, Main Road.

Nelson District, Second Tuesday, Temperance Hall, 3 p.m.; Acting Pres., Mrs Watson; Cor. Sec., Mrs Edmunds, Tory St.; Rec. Sec., Mrs Hooker, Collingwood Street; Treas., Mrs A. Brown, Weka St.; "W.R." Agent, Mrs Whitford, Mount St.

Ormondville, 2nd Wednesday at 2.30 p.m. in the Wesleyan Church. Pres., Miss Alice Webb; Vice-Pres., Mrs Small; Sec., Mrs Wilson; Treas., Mrs T. Fothergill; "White Ribbon" Agent, Mrs Newling.

Opetiki, 2nd Friday, St. John's Hall, 8 p.m. Pres., Mrs Jas Thompson; Sec., Mrs J. Gordon Treas., Mrs Holman; "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. Comyns; Sec., Mrs R. Comyns; Treas., Miss Caverhill; "W.R." Mrs D. Hawke; Cradle Roll, Mrs Gainsford, Sr., and Mrs Roy; Evangelistic, Mrs G. W. Tritt; Flower Mission, Mrs Foot; Home Meetings, Mrs Jim Clark; Notable Days, Mrs Kippenberger and Mrs L. Ancall.

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

Palmerston N District, 1st & 3rd 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

Petene, 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. Mesdames Smith and Miller; Sec. & Treas. Mrs Wilkes, York St.; Supt. Cradle Roll, Mrs Dry, Wai-kana; W.R. Agent, Mrs Jacques, York St.; President Band of Hope, Rev. G. K. Stowell.

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.

Papatoetoe. Methodist Hall, last Tuesday in month, 2.30 p.m. Pres., Mrs Porter; Vice-Presidents, Mrs Leonard; Sec., Mrs J. Bryant; Treas., Mrs Hallberry; W.R. Agent, Mrs Daisley.

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

Richmond (Nelson), 2nd Wednesday, 3 p.m., Baptist Church. Pres., Mrs L. Sutton, Upper Queen Street; Vice pres. Mesdames Hunt, Field and Price; Sec., Mrs Cropp, Salisbury Rd.; Treas., Mrs Burrough, Hill St; W.R. Agent, Mrs A. Fittall, Salisbury Rd.

Sawyer's Bay, 2nd Wednesday in Methodist Church. Pres., Mrs Allen; Sec., Mrs Wallis; Treasurer, Mrs Findlay; W.R. Agent, Mrs J. Perry; Supt Home Meetings, Mrs Horn.

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

Stratford, 4th Wednesday, 5 p.m., Methodist Schoolroom; Pres., Mrs Phillips, Brecon Road; Vice-Pres., Mrs Madill and Mrs Foster; Sec., Mrs Fenwick, Clifton Road; Treas., Miss Everias, Juliet Street; W.R. Supt., Mrs McMillan.

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 Wesley Hall, on third Wednesday, at 2.45 p.m. Pres., Mrs F. N. Christian, 6th Ave. W.; Sec., Mrs Weston, 3rd Ave.; Cor. Sec., Secretary, Mrs Petchell; Treasurer, 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, 7.50 p.m., Sailor's Rest. Pres., Mrs Rylands Brown, Grey St.; Sec., Miss M. Avison, Victoria St.; Treas., Mrs Cave, Raymond St.; Cradle Roll, Mrs King, Bank Street; White Ribbon Agent, Mrs Trott, Cane Street.

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 Rangit, 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 Poston, Bott and Robertson; Sec., Mrs James Bibby, Pose 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; "Okoiia," 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 Dist., 1st Thursday, 2.30 p.m. Trinity Church Parlour. Pres., Mrs H. Smith, 3 Liverpool St.; Sec., Mrs J. Bott, 76 Wicksteed St.; Treas., Mrs Siddells, Guyton St.; Rec. Sec., Mrs McKenzie, Wicksteed St.; "W.R." Supt., Mrs W. R. Grant, Harrison Place.

Winchmore, 2nd Wednesday alternately at Greenstreet and Winchmore. Pres., Mrs Robinson; Sec., Miss McKay; Treas., Miss Prebble; Vice-President, Mrs. McIlroy; White Ribbon Agent, Mrs Glassey.

Wellington District, 1st Thursday, 2.45 p.m., Rooms, Constable St.; Pres., Mrs Wright, 127 Constable St.; Rec. Sec., Mrs Webb, 37 Hall Street; Cor. Sec., Mrs Evans, 19 Hiropi St.; Treas., Mrs Boxall, 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 Centra, 3rd Friday, 8 p.m., Y.M.C.A. Rooms, Willis St.; Pres., Mrs A. R. Atkinson, Wadestown; Acting Pres., Mrs McDonald, 8 Huis Rd., Hataitai; Cor. Sec., Miss Helyer; Rec. Sec., Mrs Clark; Treas. Mrs Helyer, Oriental Bay; White Ribbon Supt., Mrs Port, Austi Street.

Waiukurau, 2nd Friday, St. Andrew's Hall, 8 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Hopkirk; Vice-Pres., Mrs Hardy, Nurse Murphy; Sec., Mrs Reid; W.R. Supt., Mrs Bungay; Treas., Mrs Robinson; Organist, Mrs Haswell.

Woodville, meets last Tuesday, at 2.30 p.m., in Forrester's Hall. Pres., Mrs Shearman, Ormond Street; Vice-Pres., Mrs T. Jackson; Sec., Mrs H. Mills, Gorge Road; Treas., Miss Fastier; Cradle Roll, Mrs Forrest; "W.R." Agent, Mrs Thompson, Fox St.

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