

WORLD'S W.C.T.U.

November 28, 1925.

My Dear Comrades of New Zealand,—
Greetings.

My little message is directed especially to those who were unable to attend our World's Convention in Edinburgh.

Once again it is my pleasure to greet you. For months one planned for, prepared for, and prayed about our World's Convention, looking forward with much hopeful eagerness to meeting the beloved comrades of our "Organised Mother Love" in Edinburgh in June. Even after reservations had been retained, for purely personal reasons one had to regretfully abandon the idea of being present at the gathering. But, through the fealty of one's friends, it is my high and valued privilege to again serve the interest of our world's work as in former years.

I am sure, dear friend, you, like myself, have been thrilled by the story of this wonderful Convention. As the news has filtered through to us, by Associated Press, reports and personal letters, our hearts have been stirred with deep and strong emotions new ambitions, and new purposes.

The setting was dramatic. Picturesque, and beautiful Edinburgh, famed in song and story; the battle ground of many moral and spiritual conflicts. The glorious summer skies and balmy breezes, with the gracious presence of our Eternal Father, created aspirations, the fruit of which will be found in the coming days in many countries throughout the world. "When the Lord sent news of victory, the women who told it were a mighty host"—Psalm lxxviii, 11 (Moffat's Translation).

Great and broad programmes were formulated for the guidance of the world's workers in every land. The future, with its glorious opportunity, lies before us. How tremendous are its potentialities! What numberless avenues of service stretch their inviting way. I am sure every White Ribboner to whom these avenues of service has been given, will be questioning, what shall we do with these opportunities, obligations, and responsibilities? This new service will demand a new consecration to enable us adequately to meet the great needs and achieve the great triumphs that are possible to us in the name of our Lord.

Each country, according to its special conditions will adapt the World's programme to aid in achieving its ultimate goal.

There will be important legislation, as well as philanthropic and evangelistic effort. But, beloved friends, may one make a plea which may find its glad response in all the countries of the world—a plea for the child. May we make a heartfelt appeal for the world's childhood? Children with eager challenging eyes are looking to the organised "motherhood" to save them from the world's curse. Children in the palace, children in the slum, children in the beauty spots, children in the dark places, homeless children, suffering children, children of the drunkard, children of the outcast, happy children, sad children, motherless children, lonely children, children in groups, children in affluence, children in hunger—all children—**His children.**

The Women's Christian Temperance Union of the United States designated 1925 as Youths' Year, making special efforts to enlist all the youth of the United States in Y.P.B. and L.T.L. Endeavour. Japan has enrolled ten million children in the temperance army.

In the crusade days in the United States, the children were pledged to total abstinence. The influence that this movement, together with the scientific temperance instruction introduced into their schools over forty years ago, was an important factor in bringing about their Prohibition Amendment. The seed sown in the minds of the youth brought forth fruit in the home, Church, State, and Nation.

May we suggest that in all the lands, the next year—1926—be set apart as childhood's year? May this be not only a year of instruction in abstinence and Prohibition, but in all righteousness; in the home, the school, and the church. The boys and girls are the future hope for the exemplification of purity, Prohibition, and peace. "He took a little child and set him in the midst of them." What a glorious host they will be! What a power in bringing His Kingdom to those who are yet in the shadows!

Our World's President Miss Anna Gordon, says: "The electric to-morrow demands from the rising generation—the generation that will navigate the air—clear brains and steady nerves. We must formulate for the leaders of to-

morrow a programme that will equip youth with a knowledge of the moral, economic, and patriotic reasons for Total Abstinence and Prohibition. The "pep," prayer, and power of youth are ours for the seeking.

May your seeking, dear comrades of New Zealand, be crowned with a rich ingathering of precious youth and childhood.—Yours in this hope,

BLANCHE READ JOHNSTON,

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STATE CONTROL.

What a mission sister knows of State Control was told by Sister Bessie to South Wellington Union.

She had been invited to go round and see for herself how the system worked, where all private profit was eliminated. She went round twelve hotels, and came to the conclusion that, in spite of an external appearance of respectability, and even gentility, all the evils of the Liquor Traffic were present, all the more dangerous because they were so skilfully cloaked and hidden from view. As she said, when asked what she thought of State Purchase and Control, in the course of her rounds, it was "A very bad State, and no Control." Bowling greens and tennis courts and croquet lawns attracted the young, well-appointed "ladies' parlours" appealed to the women; luxurious, beautifully decorated cafes were provided on all hands, seemingly so innocent, yet all intended and planned to tempt the unwary and develop in them a taste for strong drink.

"No mystic voices from the heavens above.

Now satisfy the souls which Christ
confess;

Their heavenly vision is in works of love,

A new Age summons to new Saintliness.

Before the uncloistered shrine of human needs,

And all unconscious of the worth or price;

They lay their fragrant gifts of gracious deeds

Upon the altar of self-sacrifice."