

WHITE RIBBONERS IN NIUE.

The following letter will be of great interest to our White Ribboners. It tells of our work in a little known part of our Dominion:—

August 2nd, 1926.

My Dear Mrs Mowlem,—

Thank you very much for badges received by last vessel. The little bows have been chosen by the women themselves. I have 600 waiting for badges; each and all must be served together. I am waiting for the 60 honour badges for my committee leaders. I have to hand 348 badges, but what are they amongst so many.

My women are keen and enthusiastic.

Next month we have our annual meetings, and we are hoping to have a big White Ribbon rally, all with their badges.

No, all the Niue inhabitants have not donned the bow.

All of my 600 members are women over 16 years of age, and all must of necessity be church members. These 600 are mainly what we term here the Tapu Ffine (or church women).

This White Ribbon band has only been started recently, because we felt that only now were our women ready to take the movement up. In each of the 12 villages we have a committee of five women including the pastor's wife, and these are chosen by the village.

We have had meetings in each village—the setting apart of these committee women—and they have been the most inspiring and sacred meetings we have ever attended. In each village the matter has been placed before the women, and a Dedicatory Service held. Each committee woman sat apart, and each in turn stood up before her own village and repeated audibly the promise drawn up, and then, in place of the badges, which had not then arrived, I pinned on a little white ribbon bow on their dress. Mr Beharell took charge of the meeting, and the Pastor then led in prayer.

Our White Ribbon Band is not chiefly a Temperance movement. That is hardly needed here in Niue, but I have included the promise to abstain for fear at some future time drink may be introduced. Our evils in Niue are not of that order. Our chief evil is immorality, and we have to fight hard against that. Our points then include love and service to God, truthfulness, cleanliness of mind and body, care and pro-

tection of body from sin, and abstaining from intoxicating liquor.

The Committee of each village interview all new members. I have interviewed so far, and they also discipline all defaulters. As the badge has been purchased, it cannot be taken away, but these women have the authority to forbid the wearing of the badge in their village by anyone who has committed a fault for three, six, nine months, or even longer, according to the enormity of the fault. Quarrelling, lying, stealing, immorality, are the chief faults. So you see we have a fully organised movement. Not at all an easy-going affair. Possibly there are not many so organised South. At any rate, you in civilisation cannot interfere with the private life of your members. But here it is the private life which makes a person worthy or unworthy to wear our White Ribbon badge.

In October I am taking my little girl to Sydney for schooling, and I want to have this movement in full swing before I leave. Mr Beharell is just as keen as I am, and will carry on when I leave.

The strength of Niue lies in its women.

When the Vice-Regal party came to Niue, Lady Fergusson addressed my White Ribbon women at two different gatherings. She was simple and splendid, and just said the right things to them.

Now I must close. My Niue White Ribbon women send loving greetings to your New Zealand women. Would that you could come over and be present at one of our meetings. You would get a welcome. However, my loving greetings to you.

Yours very sincerely,

MARGARET J. BEHARELL.

AUCKLAND DISTRICT CONVENTION.

The Annual Convention of the Auckland District will be held on September 29th and 30th. Will delegates who require hospitality kindly write to the Secretary not later than September 22nd?

AUCKLAND DISTRICT OFFICERS.

Mrs Benfell, President, 2 Buckland Road, Epsom.

Mrs Williams, "Armley," Northcote.

Mrs Taylor, Sharrow Station Road, Otahuhu.

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

General: Mrs Mowlem, 52 Russell Terrace, Wellington South.

Badges, Brooches, and Pins, 5/- per doz.; Star of Honour, 2/- each; Hymnals, 2/3 per doz.; Hymnals, music, 3/- each; Writing Pads, 1/- and 1/9; Envelopes, 6d pkt.; Constitutions, 4d each, 3/6 doz.; Handy Booklet, 4d each, 3/6 doz.; Membership Pledge Cards and "Facts" about W.C.T.U., 6d per doz.; Treasurer and Transfer Slips 1/- 100; Pledge Books, 6d; Treasurer's Receipt Books, 1/6; W.C.T.U. Serviettes, 9d doz., 5/100; Promise Boxes, 1/6 each.

How We Won the Franchise, 9d doz., 4/- 100, 35/- 1000; White-robed Vestal, 6d doz., 3/6 100, 30/- 1000; Y Constitution, 3d each; "Women Torchbearers," 8/6 each; Appeals to Mothers, 6d doz., etc., etc.

These prices include postage.

L.T.L. and Band of Mercy: Mrs Bathgate, 106 Somme Parade, Wanganui.

Charts (with Manual of Lessons), showing effects of alcohol and tobacco on the human body, 7/6 per set; Marching Songs for Young Crusaders, 1/- each; A Handful of Hints, 1/-; Temperance Tales, 1/-; About Ourselves, 1/-; About Our Country, 1/-; It Is Written (Bible stories), 1/-; Shakespeare Manual, 1/3; Pledge Cards, 1/- per dozen; Programmes, from 3d each; L.T.L. Badges, 4d each; L.T.L. Buttons, 3d each; The Young Crusader 2/- per annum (in advance); L.T.L. Hand Books.

BAND OF MERCY.

Literature, 6d per packet; Pledges, 6d per dozen; "The Little Animal's Friend," 1/6 per year (on order).

BAND OF HOPE.

Dialogues, 3d each; Leaflets, 9d per packet; Pledges (artistic), 2/- per dozen; Reciters, from 3d. Also Pledges at 1/- per dozen.

Cradle Roll: Mrs Waddell, Private Bag, Waitara.

Cradle Roll Pledge Cards, 1/- per doz. Cradle Roll Birthday Cards, 2/- per doz.

Eighth Year Certificates, 2/- per doz.

Social and Moral Hygiene: Mrs Wilson, P.O. Box 273, Hastings.

Men, Women and God, 4/6—A discussion of Sex Questions from the Christian standpoint; Maternity without Suffering, 3/-; Way Book of Youth 2/-; How I Was Born, 9d; The Story of Life, 1/6; In Her Teens, 2/-; The Changing Girl, 2/-; Answers to Tiny Tots, 2/-.

Medical Temperance: Mrs Clara Neal, 5 Park Crescent Papell, Auckland.

Medical Temperance Leaflets at prices ranging from one penny up to sixpence per dozen.

Sample Packets, 1/- each.

Anti-Narcotic Leaflets: Sample Packets, 8d each.

All Post Free.