

young people were effectively educated in the evil of the alcohol habit, and its danger to both the physical and spiritual life, we would be a very long way towards gaining our objective—their lapses were often due to ignorance. Therefore, it behoved women and mothers to work—not to sit still and wait—but to obey the commands,—“Take ye away the stone,”—“the stone of ignorance and selfishness,” and “Loose him and let him go,” free from the death-producing shackles of sin and intemperance, and rejoicing in the glorious freedom wherewith Christ has made us free.

Mrs Taylor closed her address by urging greater co-operation between Executive Officers of Unions in the district, so that helpful ideas and plans of work might be discussed and exchanged; to that end an Executive meeting was arranged to be held at Hamilton on November 12th.

The Treasurer reported a credit balance of £3 17s. 3d.

An elocutionary item by Mrs Wills, and a song very sweetly sung were much enjoyed, and then the Initiatory Service was held, four ladies joining, the badge of membership—the White Bow—being fastened on by Mrs Taylor.

The election of Officers (by ballot) resulted in Mrs Jones, of Hamilton, being re-elected President; Mrs Starnes, of Morrinsville, Vice-President; Mrs Stephenson Craig, Secretary; and Mrs E. J. Davey, Treasurer.

The delegates and visitors, who numbered fifty, were the guests of the Morrinsville Union, and were entertained in right royal fashion. Morning and afternoon tea was provided, and a sumptuous luncheon, of the nature of a banquet, was laid in the Vestry of the Methodist Church. This Union was accorded a hearty and well-deserved vote of thanks for their hospitality, as was Mrs Taylor for her presence and her address.

An invitation from Hamilton for the 1927 Convention was accepted, and a memorable Convention concluded at 5.30 p.m., with the singing of “God be with you till we meet again,” and the Benediction pronounced by the President.

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“Yesterday is dead—forget it. To-morrow does not exist—don’t worry. To-day is here—use it.”—Ex.

## WITH OUR DOMINION PRESIDENT.

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Our Dominion President has been busily engaged attending District Conventions. It is a great stimulus to the workers to have her with them.

During Auckland Convention, she gave the following address at the Public Evening Meeting:—

Mrs T. E. Taylor, who gave the address, said it was a joy to realise that such a large number of the young people of New Zealand were coming under the influence, not only of the Bible Classes and Sunday Schools, but of the Band of Hope, which was one of the most important sections of the Temperance movement. She said people were deploring the fact that young men and young women of the present day were drinking liquor, but why should we blame them. It is not their fault. For lack of knowledge the people perish, and our young women in particular, did not know. It was our fault that during the past twenty years we had not worked as we ought for a Cradle Roll, a Band of Hope, and Temperance Instruction in our Public Schools. We had not taken advantage of the opportunities we had of teaching our young people the terrible thing that alcohol is, and its effect upon the human body and the brain, and on the moral and spiritual life. She also spoke on the Report of the Commission which sat recently in New Zealand to enquire into the question of Mental Defectives and Sexual Offenders, pointing out that it was a shame and disgrace that in this small Dominion, possessing almost unrivalled climatic conditions, and one of the finest educational systems in the world, there should be between 4,000 and 5,000 mentally defective and epileptic children. Speaking of the burden of these upon the State, she cited only three cases, being the descendants of drunken and degenerate parents, who, in two cases, were costing the State £10,000, and in the other £13,500. A terrible indictment that such things should exist in New Zealand, and we were responsible. The Liquor Traffic, she said, was one of the most strongly entrenched of vested interests, and they would not give up their 12 per cent. and 15 per cent. dividends

without a bitter fight. And, we must fight, and we must teach the children and the young people, the future voters, to get rid of this terrible traffic. In conclusion, she quoted Frances Willard who said: “Ah! it is women who have given the costliest hostages to fortune. Out into the battle of life they have sent their best beloved, with fearful odds against them, with snares that men have legalised and set for them on every hand. Beyond the arms that held them long, their boys have gone for ever. O! by the danger they have dared; by the hours of patient watching over beds where helpless children lay; by the incense of ten thousand prayers wafted from their gentle lips to heaven, I charge you give them power to protect, along life’s treacherous highway, those whom they have so loved. Let it no longer be that they must sit back among the shadows, hopelessly mourning over their strong staff broken, and their beautiful rod; but when the sons they love shall go forth to life’s battle, still let their mothers walk beside them, sweet and serious and clad in the garments of power.”

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The new country policeman was being initiated into his duties by the resident sergeant, who warned him to keep a particularly sharp lookout for intoxicated motorists.

“And how will I know they’re drunk, sir?”

“If you have any doubt ask the suspect to repeat after you, ‘Surely Susan should suit shy Sam?’”

“Very good, sir; I’ll write that down.”

Later in the day a motor-car pulled up outside the police station and unloaded the new constable with a handkerchief tied round his head. He had dislocated his jaw.

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## TRAVELLING WHITE RIBBONERS.

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Our readers will be glad to know that when passing through Wellington they can secure a temporary home at Mrs Mowlem’s, 52 Russell Terrace. Just take a Newtown Car, and it will put you off almost at the door.