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CHRISTCHURCH.

effort to clear the thing away. The people to-day were the pioneers of the twenty millions that would soon populate the country, and he was sure that with the amount of wastage ahead it was well worth while to try the experiment of Prohibition. He knew quite well that some of his descendants might be broken by alcohol the present licensed houses were not closed, and this was absolutely sufficient for him. (Applause.)

VOTES OF THANKS.

Dr. Sandston, in moving a vote of thanks to Drs. O'Brien and Orchard, said that their addresses had been brilliant. The doctors had a good deal to lose in one way, from their presence there, because if Prohibition was carried the general health and social life of the community must be so greatly improved that more than half of the doctor's work must come to an end. (Applause.) To say that drink strengthened the power to resist temptation was a spurious argument.

Dr. Hand Newton, in seconding the motion, said that numerous remarks had been made about returned soldiers and rum. He had served with the Forces from the beginning to the end—(applause)—in Gallipoli, Sinai, Palestine, and France. One would gather from interrupters that every man, before he went over the top, had to have a nip of whisky. There were times in the desert when this would have been very nice, but rum was not issued to the mounted troops as a routine. What was given was lime juice. The two most distinguished soldiers New Zealand had produced were General Russell and General Chaytor, and what was good enough for them should be good enough for any other digger.

FROM OUR AUSTRALIAN SISTERS ON POLLING DAY.

"West Australia comrades praying for victory."—Beresford Jones.

"Victoria wishes success."—Rees.

TEMPERANCE ESSAY COMPETITION.

NEW BRIGHTON SCHOOL.

Standard VI.: First Prize awarded to Robert Frame.

National Prohibition.

To have National Prohibition would mean a great deal for New Zealand. As she is still a young country, it is easier now to abolish the drink traffic than if left to the future. Not long ago we had a great deal of talk about Prohibition. Many of the returned soldiers voted for Continuance, but we do not know until the end of the next poll whether Prohibition is carried. If Prohibition were carried the amount of money spent in the drink trade could be used in far better occupations than in brewing and selling spirits. Vodka was prohibited in Russia before the war, but since the revolution the making of it has been resumed. The Americans have abolished the drink, and why can't a small country like ours have power to resist the temptation. The man who votes for Continuance does so in ignorance of the harm it does to his body. He earns a week's wages, but half of it is spent at the bar of a hotel that stands in his way as he goes home from work. It is not only he who suffers from the effects of drink, but also his wife and children, who are in need of food, which is so dear.

The money saved by Prohibition would enable the Government to pay off the National Debt, or to provide cheaper necessities for the working class. The sugar and other materials used in brewing liquor would become cheaper. One big brewery in America was turned into a flour mill when the country went "dry."

The Bishop of London said that more than half the crime in Great Britain is done through drink, which also causes about a quarter of the deaths. Then why do so many of New Zealand's people still vote for Continuance?

BRITISH DOMINIONS' WOMEN CITIZENS' UNION.

19, Buckingham Street, Strand,
London, W.C. 2,

October 21st, 1919.

To the Chairman, Joint Select Committee, Government of India Bill, House of Lords.

Sir,—

I am authorised by the constituent societies of this Union to write to you upon the following question:—

With the single exception of South Africa we are all enfranchised women citizens of the Empire. We know by experience as well as by theory that equality between men and women is fundamental to the well-being of every state. The women of South Africa are within measurable distance of securing the recognition of this principle in the case of their own political enfranchisement.

We therefore venture to inform you that in the four great self-governing Dominions of the Empire, women have but one opinion as regards the claim of the women of India to the same electoral rights as the men.

We are well aware that as self-governing Dominions, New Zealand, Australia, South Africa and Canada have no voice in the internal affairs of any other part of the Empire. But the principle for which we contend has been recognised by the League of Nations. It is impossible that the British Empire, itself a League of Nations within the greater League, can take a lower moral stand.

We therefore beg that in the truest and most far-reaching interests of the Empire, the Joint Select Committee will secure that the Government of India Bill shall include the granting of the franchise to the women of India on the same terms as it is to be granted to men.

Signed on behalf of the constituent societies of the British Dominions' Women Citizens' Union,

HARRIET C. NEWCOMB,
Hon. Secretary.