

The White Ribbon

For God, and Home, and Humanity.

Thought for the Month.

"Life, to be worthy of a rational being, must always be in progression; we must always purpose to do more or better than in time past."—Dr. Johnson.

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"OUR GOD IS MARCHING ON"

Glorious weather, a comfortable hall, and a fine assembly of our own W.C.T.U. sisters, must have had their share in making such an inspiring opening to Convention. All the Dominion Officers in their places on the platform, lovely flowers, smiling and kindly faces everywhere, and the invigorating personality of our President, as she took up her task for the first time, also contributed. But there was something else that made itself felt through the singing of the magnificent battle hymn, through the responsive reading, and through the voice of prayer, that set a note for the whole Convention. It seemed like a sort of dedication of all who took part, to a cause deemed "Lost." A "Lost Cause," it has been called again and again. Who could have heard that singing, and not known that our Cause was as strong as ever, because we know that the Lord God of Hosts was with us? It was that confidence, that determination to be "unaffrighted by the adversaries" that rang out with so clear a note. The opening prayer seemed to make that dedication definite; and Mrs. Hiatt's address which follows here, sounded a trumpet call so clear that none could hear it unstirred. The sound of marching feet seemed to echo in the distance; and deep called unto deep as we girded ourselves in the strength of the Lord.

The Address, given by Mrs. Hiatt, Dominion Vice-President:—

James 1:12-27: "Be ye doers of the Word." "Attempt great things for God."

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The measure of our accomplishments will rest upon the measure of our consecrated efforts as doers of the Word. Nothing happens by chance. Good is not accomplished unless there is a doer. We cannot gain any advance without sacrificial effort. Now that the licensing poll is past, the challenge to all who believe in God in goodness is "Attempt great things for God." Think of those around us, in our own street who have no thought of God, and to whom the Bible is an unknown Book. Doers of the Word must do something by way of invitation to Church and more important to Christ. The great challenging questions of the day, drinking, gambling, impurity, never challenge the multitude who care not for God's Word or God's Day. Is this not a challenge to us in our street, town, countryside, to be doers of the Word, to attempt great things for God? Attempt to arouse interest in God's love, God's understanding heart, God's power for right the adventure of going forth to crush evil. A minister tells of what an eager person can do. A doctor in India healed a man almost blind with disease; the man went away and talked among the villagers of his wonderful cure and two weeks later came back leading 23 blind men on a rope to the doctor. There should be no limits to endeavours for we have been to the Great Physician and know what He has done for us. We as lovers of the Great Physician will bring strangers to a saving knowledge of Christ and will create a sentiment towards seeking after whatsoever is honest first pure, lovely and of good report. Doers of the Word. What an opportunity! Can our Lord depend on us?

We are reminded of many doers of the Word who have passed on some, indeed, this past year, and if we cast our mind back on the years behind us, what a cloud of witnesses. Those who gladly attempted great things for God.

When I think of all I have been given, by men and women who have lived for me, great souls who through long years have striven even unto death to make me free, then I pray, I too, may have the courage to follow in the glorious way they trod, choosing to work not for myself alone, but always for my fellow men and God. This is our heritage.

Every moral issue is dependent for solution upon Christian citizens, upon us.

What of disappointments and discouragements? Forgetting the things that are behind us, we press on.

"Who knoweth whether thou art come to the Kingdom for such a time as this?" said Mordecai to Esther, and Esther went forward sacrificially but courageously doing her part, and she saved her people. "Be ye doers of the Word." "Attempt great things for God, expect great things from God." Live in expectation of advances. No Christian witness is lost; God sees to that. Pray, act, expect.

"Say not the struggle naught availeth, The labour and the wounds are vain. The enemy faints not nor faileth,

And as things have been they remain "For while the tired waves vainly breaking,

Seem here no painful inch to gain, "Far back thro' creeks, and inlets making,

Comes silent, flooding in the main."

No effort is too small to count with God. He says to us. "For I the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand saying unto thee, fear not, I will help thee." Trust Him, he has not failed one of His children. Faith in God and work for Him will remove mountains. May God give us grace to be doers of the Word with great expectation for the fulfilment of His blessed will in "The ringing in of sweeter manners, purer laws, the ringing out of the darkness of the land, and the ringing in of the Christ that is to be."



TEMPERANCE FACTS

Given at Brooklyn

President Truman declares that more people faced starvation and death to-day than during the war. He has therefore banned the use of wheat in the production of alcohol and beer.

Given at Dargaville

The great Canadian physician, Sir William Osler, was lecturing on alcohol: "Is it true," asked a student, "that alcohol makes people able to do things better?"

"No," replied Sir William, "it just makes them less ashamed of doing them badly."