

officers were not in court to take charge of some poor unfortunate who has made a slip? "Committed to the care of the Salvation Army" is a common term in our newspapers.

When the Army began its work, its greatest opposition came from the liquor interests. A mild form was the throwing of buckets of water from upstairs windows on Salvationists having meetings below. A more serious organised effort was made in a large country town of which the Mayor was a brewer. The publicans made men drunk with an unlimited supply of strong drink, and set them on the Salvationists, the police offering no interference. "Skeleton Armies," bands of roughs, bearing for their insignia a skull and cross-bones, appeared in many places and attacked the Salvationists. Army officers and members were arrested and thrown into prison by magistrates who were often in league with liquor interests. The police thought it easier to lock up Salvationists than to deal with drink-maddened mobs. However, cases where magistrates had unjustly sentenced Salvationists were taken to a higher court. A number of appeals were granted, and the same towns were publicly rebuked and ordered to pay the cost of the appeals.

Every kind of evil from dishonesty to immorality was charged against General Booth and his Salvation Army but he and they learned how to suffer and overcome, and meantime continued their triumphant work of winning the lowest back to God.

The Army rules are clear and definite. Officers and members must not drink, smoke, gamble, or run into debt, and these rules keep the Army standards high. Other churches could much profit and blessing follow the Army example in setting these standards for the conduct of their members. In addition to the Army's definite opposition to liquor interests, we find them conducting homes for those who have become drunkards. They have these homes in New Zealand as well as in other countries. In our own country there is a home for men who are drunkards and drug addicts on Roto Roa Island, and a home for women in similar condition at Wellington.

There have been as many as a hundred men at a time on Roto Roa, and it has been estimated that about 77% of the men and women who pass through these homes do not come before the courts again for drunkenness. What tragedy can be behind statistics. So many men, so many women, in homes for inebriates! Their plight brings grief and shame to mothers, fathers, sisters and brothers somewhere. Who looks after drink's victims? Is it the publicans and brewers, who make their fortunes from selling this poison? You and I know very well that those who show them brotherly love are the men and women who are themselves total abstainers. The officers of the Salvation Army

carry on their work in the spirit of Christ and their great founder, General Booth, and it surely needs the grace of God to spend one's life among the outcast of society. They have their reward when men and women are set free from the enslavement of alcohol, and a greater reward still when some, alas, not all, take the greater step of yielding their lives to Christ.

The testimony of the Salvation Army was wholehearted as to the improvement wrought by Prohibition in America. Evangeline Booth gave a graphic description of the difference on the first Christmas under Prohibition and preceding ones. Men who were formerly under the care of the Salvation Army at Christmas, through intoxication, were spending their time happily at home, and the Army had a much easier time.

General Booth and his followers knew only too well that in their efforts to ameliorate social conditions, Drink was and is Public Enemy No. 1.

William Booth died in 1912. His last words to his son Bramwell are a message of love and hope and comfort to us all who labour in the cause of Temperance to remove the stumbling blocks from the way of our brothers and sisters. "The promises of God are sure."

## SPECIAL REPORTS

### HOME MEETING, DARGAVILLE UNION

On October 23rd, Dargaville ladies met together for a special occasion at the home of Mrs. Bradley, when Twenty Years' Service Badges were presented to Mrs. D. Bradley and Mrs. Noble. Mrs. Jolly opened the meeting with Devotions, a favourite hymn of Mrs. Bradley, "I Need Thee Every Hour," being sung, and prayer offered by Mrs. Green.

Mrs. Jolly spoke of the work of the two ladies during the twenty-five years of Dargaville's existence as a Union. Both were foundation members, Mrs. Bradley being "W.R." agent for eleven years. Mrs. Noble taking over when it became necessary for her to do less work. Mrs. Noble has also been Treasurer, and gave help with the Band of Hope in the early days. Minutes of the first meeting were read. Both ladies suitably replied.

A competition for the best telegram with words having as initial letters those of the words "Temperance Cause" brought some amusing and quite clever results. Afternoon tea was served by our hostesses, Mesdames Noble and Jolly.

### FEILDING CRADLE ROLL PARTY

In October, Feilding Union held a Cradle Roll Party, which was well attended by mothers and children.

### DOMINION TREASURER'S REPORT

#### Receipts, Oct. 1st to Nov. 10th

**N.Z. Fund:** Winton, 10/-; Point Chevalier, 7/6; Timaru, £1; Spreydon, 10/-; North Brighton, 5/-; Port Chalmers, £1; Shirley-Richmond, £1; Fencourt, 4/-; Papanui, 2/6; Cromwell, 10d.; Leigh, 2/-; Hastings, £1; Henderson, 5/-; Masterton, £1; Levin, 9/-.

**N.Z. Headquarters Fund:** Winton, £1; Timaru, £1; Onehunga, £1; Spreydon, 10/-; Oamaru, 16/6; Cromwell, 2/-; Papanui, 10/-; Wanganui Central, £1; Hastings £2; Opotiki, £1/10/-; Henderson, 10/-; Auckland, £5; Tauranga, £2.

**Organising and Educational Fund:** Winton, £2/11/-; Pt. Chevalier, 18/-; Spreydon, £3/3/-; Timaru, £7/16/-; Tinwald, £1/4/-; Karori, 15/-; Onehunga, £2; Mātaura, 7/6; Oamaru, £7/13/-; Shirley-Richmond, £1/5/6; Cromwell, 7/6; Papanui, £1/14/6; Pukekohe, 16/6; Leigh, 6/-; Wanganui Central, £2/5/-; Dunedin, £11/12/6; Hastings, £5/0/6; Kohi-St. Heliers, £1/2/-; Opotiki, £1/10/-; Henderson, £1/4/-; Stratford, 18/-; Auckland, £7/3/6.

**Maori Fund:** Point Chevalier, 7/-; Thames, 10/6; Miss Oates, £8; Timaru, 10/-; Riccarton, 10/-; North Brighton, 5/-; Oamaru, 10/6; Cromwell, 4/2; Papanui, 2/6; Woolston, 9/-; Christchurch Central "Y's" 12/9; Palmerston North, 10/-; Waipawa, 4/6; Wanganui Central, 12/5; Wellsford, 15/-; Dunedin, £3; Hastings, £1; Masterton, 8/6; Hamilton, 10/-; Dannevirke, 5/3; Tauranga, £1/10/-; Nelson, £1/4/-; St. Albans, 10/-.

**Franchise Day Collection:** Point Chevalier, 5/-; Riccarton, 10/-; Woolston, 4/-; Kaikorai, 5/-; North Brighton, 5/-; Hawera, 10/-; Oamaru, 8/-; Shirley-Richmond, 10/-; Cromwell, 2/-; Palmerston North, 10/-; Wanganui Central, 10/-; Kohi-St. Heliers, 2/6; Stratford, 5/-.

**World Missionary Fund:** Pukekohe, 10/-; Palmerston North, 10/-; Wanganui Central, 7/6; Stratford, 5/-; Point Chevalier, 7/6; Timaru, 5/-; North Brighton, 5/-; Oamaru, 12/6; Cromwell, 2/7; Papanui, 2/6.

**Caravan Fund:** Mrs. Hewson, 10/-; Hopwood, 5/-; Gore, £2; Masterton, £2.

M. B. LOVELL-SMITH.

Mrs. Tremain welcomed the guests and outlined the work of the W.C.T.U. Mrs. Taylor gave an interesting talk to the children, who then entertained with games. Cakes, soft drinks and ice-cream were served to the Little White Ribboners, and afternoon tea to the grown-ups. A pleasant afternoon was closed with prayer.