

NEW ZEALAND WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION

(Incorporated)

Organised 1885

"For God, and Home, and Humanity"

President:

Miss C. E. KIRK, J.P.,
57 Pitt St., Wadestown, N.Z. Phone 40-729.

Vice-President:

Mrs. J. HIETT, 11 Duke St., Dunedin.

Treasurer:

Miss G. GIBBS, 118 North Rd.,
Dunedin, N.E.1.

Recording Secretary:

Mrs. V. UNDERHILL, Lakings Rd.,
Yelverton, Blenheim.

Corresponding Secretary:

Mrs. H. N. TOOMER, Songer St.,
Stoke, Nelson.

Legal and Parliamentary Superintendent:

Mrs. E. J. CHESSWAS, 7 Field St.,
Aramoho, Wanganui.

DOMINION HEADQUARTERS:

46 and 48 Brougham St., Wellington, E.1.
Phone 52-062.

Official Organ:

"THE WHITE RIBBON"

Editor:

Mrs. F. N. CHRISTIAN,
"Fairlight," Tauranga.All matter for publication, reports, etc.,
should be in the hands of the Editor by the
15th of the month.

Business Manager:

Mrs. J. H. GRIGG,
1 Mallam Street, Karori, Wellington, W.3.
Telephone 26-903.All Union advertisements must be sent to
the Business Manager, to whom all payments
for Advertisements, Beacons, Y.P. Supple-
ments and subscriptions must be made.

The White Ribbon.

"For God, and Home, and Humanity"

WELLINGTON, MAY 1, 1948.

EXTRACT FROM A
CHRISTCHURCH DAILY
PAPER, MARCH, 1948More Spiritual and Moral Teaching in
all Schools is urged on Committees.

The necessity for provision being made in schools, as the most important institution in the land after the home, for more definite teaching of a moral and spiritual nature was urged by the President (Mr. J. D. Gray, of Christchurch) in his annual address to the conference of the Dominion Federation of School Committees' Associations this morning. The purpose of this would be to enable the youth to assess the true values of life, he said.

"Amid the clash and din of contending ideologies in the world today, there is the growing conviction that if the freedom-loving countries are to preserve their natural identity and liberty, they will have to be more alive to the growing menace of dictatorship," he said. Much could be done to defeat this threat in New Zealand by instructing the youth of the country in the principles on which the democratic way of life was formed—the sanctity of human life, tolerance towards one's neighbour, respect for the property of others, and the value of human personality.

Training Held Important.

The children were the future leaders of the nation, and their training would determine the quality of their leadership. An educational system which did not introduce the pupil to moral and spiritual values failed to educate in the fullest sense. The federation should have this omission rectified by insisting that in the proposed amending Education Bill provision should be made for the teaching of Christian ethics.

Mr. Gray thought that the teaching in the schools in regard to temperance was of a perfunctory character, but it was gratifying that the Education Department in its submissions to the Royal Commission on Licensing had suggested that pamphlets be prepared stating the latest scientific findings on the social effects of alcohol.

"We recommend that the pamphlet contain specific reference to the effects of over-indulgence in alcohol, and that an officer of the Department ascertain from time to time whether such teaching is being given."

Citizenship Development:

He urged that the schools should give a much fuller moral and spiritual education and should play a greater part in the development of good citizenship.

Mr. Gray said that the appointment of the Hon. T. H. McCombs as Minister of Education was generally approved by educational circles as the new Minister brought special capabilities to his task.

Mr. Gray urged that they should press for immediate planning by the Department so that necessary accommodation would be available to meet the increased demands that could be expected.

Mr. W. J. Wilson (Wellington) said that he would not like the impression to go out that they were weakening on the general question of religious teaching in the schools. He felt that there was also a danger in too many subsidies being granted by the Government as school bodies were most vigorous when they had to obtain amenities the hard way.

Mr. Gray said that he did not intend that the Government should provide everything, but that it should provide

REPORT

OF SUB-COMMITTEE SET UP TO
BRING DOWN RECOMMENDATIONS
ARISING FROM THE
PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

The Committee recommends:—

1. "That emphasis be given to moral teaching in the Primary Schools based on the Ten Commandments and the Golden Rule; and that this teaching be given an important place in the curriculum with the object of giving the child a full sense of moral and spiritual values."

2. "That the recommendation of the Royal Commission on Licensing be given effect."

Extract:—

Teachers' Training Colleges.

"Sufficient attention should be given to the training of teachers to deal with the topic of temperance in the schools. The information supplied in the text-books should be kept up to date. Attention should be given to the social effects of alcoholic excess."

Primary Schools.

1. Instruction should be given in accordance with the syllabus of 1945.

2. The Department of Education should, as the Department suggests, prepare for the assistance of teachers in the primary schools, pamphlets stating in simple form the latest scientific findings on the effects of alcohol. The Health Department should assist. We recommend that the pamphlets should include specific reference to the social effects of over-indulgence in alcohol.

3. The School Medical Officer, if he or she has the capacity for teaching, might give an occasional talk on the subject of temperance.

4. Film of a scientific nature might be used.

3. "That in the social studies given to the children in schools full emphasis be given to the principles of Democracy and the Democratic way of life."

the equipment necessary for the teaching of all the subjects in the curriculum.

A Committee to consider the recommendations of the report was set up as follows: Mrs. H. McGilip, Messrs. A. T. Dow, W. J. Wilson, Gray, J. C. Batt and Trewin.