

that honour which gives them place and rank in society.

When playing becomes desperate gambling, the heart is a hearth where all the fires of gentler feeling have long since died down. A thorough-going gambler could pocket gold dripping with the blood of his own wife and children. Gambling nullifies the conscience and destroys the soul. Of all the vices I believe gambling is the most hardening to the conscience. It is easier to talk to a drunkard about the error of his way than to a gambler. His finer feelings seem too atrophied and callous.

If you want a classic example turn to the story of the Crucifixion of our Lord. The Son of God hangs there in mortal anguish on the tree while at its base a group of soldiers toss dice for his seamless robe—that group of gamblers as His precious life-blood drips around them have no concern save to raffle His garments. Sitting down they watched Him there.

Shall such iniquities as I have described be vomited out amongst us and no man care?

Do we love our children and yet let them walk within a den of vipers?

Shall we pretend to virtue and religion and yet make partners of our social life men whose hearts are vicious and dishonourable?

Shall there be even in the eyes of religion no difference between the corrupters of youth and their guardians?

Are all the works of morality so effaced that priests and parsons attend the turf without personal shame and without rebuke from others?

And that men covered over with this wickedness shall find their iniquity no obstacle to their advancement among the Christian people?

Shall we ever dream again of purchasing a ticket from a wayside mongerer or of putting even a penny on a raffle? It matters not how small or large the stake—whether it be a threepenny piece or half a rich man's fortune: the principle is the same and the sin the same in the sight of God.

If you are meddling even with the edges of this vice and evil you are on a dangerous road and you are being duped by the enchantments of the Devil. Your feet stand in slippery places. In due time they shall slide if you refuse the warning. They shall slide from that Heaven which is never to be visited or entered by the gambler, down to that abyss where not only fortune and character, but the very soul, is lost. Then when the last card is turned and the last dice cast and the game is over you shall know that your own soul was the stake, and Satan the winner.

"For what shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?"

Note: This address is published with acknowledgments to the late Henry Ward Beecher from whose writings not a little of its inspiration and substance was received.

Dominion Officers' Reports

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Wellsford	.....	3
Winton	.....	1
Riccarton	.....	2
Bryndwr	.....	1
Linwood	.....	2
New Brighton	.....	1
Nelson	.....	3
Motueka	.....	8
North Brighton	.....	2
Tauranga	.....	3
Christchurch "Y's"	.....	1
Total	.....	27

C. TOOMER, Corresponding Secretary.

DOMINION TREASURER'S REPORT

RECEIPTS FROM JANUARY 11 TO JUNE 14, 1948

New Zealand Fund: Johnsonville, 10/-; Gonville (three years), £1/10/-; Invercargill North, 10/-; Picton "Y's," 5/-; Invercargill South, £1; Dargaville, 5/-; Opawa, £1; Wellsford, 5/6; Gisborne, 5/-; Eltham, £1; New Plymouth, £1; Dunedin Central, £3/3/-; Motueka, £1; Feilding, £1; Upper Hutt, £2; Wellington Central, £1; Lower Hutt, £1; Napier, £1; Aramoho, 10/-; Levin, 10/-; Dunedin South, 10/-; Ponsonby, 10/-; Brooklyn, £1; Mrs. Patterson, £2; Mrs. Pirrett, 10/6; Te Kuiti, £1; New Brighton, £1/1/-; Winton, 10/-; Christchurch, £10; Riccarton, £1; Warkworth, 13/-; Waipawa (Peace Day), 13/3; Manawatu District, £1/1/-.

Headquarters Fund: Gonville (three years), £2/0/6; Picton, 15/-; Invercargill Central, £2; Dargaville, 2/-; Rangiora Birthday League, £1/3/-; Rakaia, £5; Mrs. Wall, £5; Winton, £1; Wellington District, £10; Mrs. Harmer, £1.

Organising Fund: Oxford, £2/0/6; Gonville (three years), £2/6/6; Invercargill North, 3/9; Waimate, £5/8/-; Invercargill South, £7/10/-; Dargaville, £2/6/6; Dannevirke, £1/14/6; Opawa, £1/2/6; Masterton, £1/4/-; Southbrook, £1.

World Missionary Fund: Gonville, 8/3; Dargaville, 19/-; Riccarton, 10/-;

Invercargill Central, 5/-; Dannevirke, 5/9; Opawa, 10/-; Gisborne, 5/-; Waipukurau, 5/-; Feilding, 7/6; Napier, 8/8; Ashburton, £1; Auckland, 12/-; Hastings, 11/-.

Maori Fund: Oxford, 9/-; Gonville, £1/2/6; Picton, 4/6; Invercargill Central, 5/-; Dargaville, 14/6; Opawa, 10/-; Gisborne, 5/-; Winton, 5/-.

Franchise Day: Oxford, 14/6; Gonville, 14/5; Opawa, 10/-; Gisborne, 5/-; Winton, 5/-.

Seamen's Fund: Oxford, 6/6.

Caravan Fund: Gonville, £1; Pukehuia, £1; Donation N.Z. Alliance, £2/5/.

"White Ribbon" Fund: Winton, 5/-; From Y.P.C.T.U., per Miss Appleby, sale of stamps, £2/19/2.

Legacy from Mrs. Weir, £50.

G. GIBBS, Dominion Treasurer.

"WHITE RIBBON" BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT

NEW SUBSCRIBERS TO "THE WHITE RIBBON,"

from May 12 to June 14, 1948

Dargaville, 3; Otahuhu, 2; Warkworth, 9; Onehunga, 3; Eden, 1; Mt. Eden, 1; Auckland, 2; Wellsford, 2; Tauranga, 1; Hamilton, 1; Raetihi, 1; Gonville, 1; Wanganui, 2; Wanganui East, 1; Petone, 2; Wellington Central, 5; Springlands, 2; Riccarton, 1; New Brighton, 1; Linwood, 1; Green Island, 1; Kaikorai, 1; Gore, 4; individual, 1. Total, 49.

Total from January 1: 106.

DONATIONS TO "WHITE RIBBON" DAY FUND

The following donations to our funds are gratefully acknowledged:

Band of Hope, Waimate, £1; W.C.T.U., Invercargill, 10/-; Whangarei, 1/-; Ashburton, £1/11/-; Riccarton, 10/-; Dannevirke, 11/-; Feilding, £1/2/6; Onehunga, 14/10; Napier, 10/-; Auckland, 10/-; Opotiki, 15/-; Mornington, 11/3; Wellsford, 16/6; Waipukurau, 8/6; Hastings, £1/2/3; Nelson, £1/1/6; Reefton, 10/-; Winton, 5/-; Port Chalmers, 4/-; Christchurch, £3/3/-; Brooklyn, 10/-; Blenheim, £2; Upper Hutt, £1.

Total to date: £19/7/4.

A. D. GRIGG, Business Manager.

LIVE AS YOU PRAY

I knelt to pray when day was done
And prayed, "O Lord, bless every-one;
Lift from each saddened heart the pain,
And let the sick be well again."
And then I woke another day
And carelessly went on my way.
The whole day long I did not try
To wipe a tear from any eye;
I did not try to share the load
Of any comrade on my road;
I did not even go to see
The sick child just next door to me.
Yet once again, when day was done
I prayed, "O Lord, bless everyone."

But as I prayed, into my ear
There came a voice that whispered clear:
"Pause, thoughtless soul, before you pray.
Whom have you tried to bless today?
God's sweetest blessings always go
By hands that serve Him here below."

And then I hid my face, and cried,
"Forgive me, Lord, for I have lied;
Let me but see another day,
And I will live the way I pray."
—"The War Cry."