

The White Ribbon

FOR GOD AND HOME AND HUMANITY

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THE WHITE RIBBON.

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MISS WILLARD ON "POVERTY."

We shall never see the golden age "until the golden rule becomes the rule for gold."

Under the search-light of knowledge in these later days it is folly for us longer to ignore the mighty power of poverty to induce evil habits of every kind.

Under the procedure of relentless competition men are ground into dust by a heavier heel than old-time tyrannies could boast, and they seek forgetfulness in those indulgencies, whose hallucinations deteriorate body and soul. They drink and debauch themselves, they gamble, they seek gross scenes of amusement and revelry; on the one hand they try to forget, and on the other to crowd into the brief space given them for recreation the utmost possible amount of sensation and delirium.

I know that this position which I take, with a full understanding of the criticism it must involve in certain minds, will be controverted by the statement that the alcohol insanity, the opium craze, and the folly of base amusement are not confined to the hand-workers of the world. But it has passed into a proverb that the unemployed rich and the unemployed poor live along strangely paralled lines in respect to their indulgencies and tastes, but the plutocrats form a very small group compared with the great army of wage-workers; and it is universally admitted that the habit of drink and other disintegrating modes of living are slowly dying out among the intelligent and fairly comfortable classes that live in the temperate zone between the two extremes.

Nothing short of wilful ignorance can account for the continued ignoring of poverty as perhaps the chief procuring cause of the brutal drinking habits with which whole areas of population are distempered throughout the English-speaking world. Those words of Holy Writ are ominously true in the present condition of things: "Let him drink and forget his poverty, and remember his misery no more."

In view of these considerations, it is more than short-sighted folly, it is unpardonable stubbornness not to say criminal apathy, in us as Temperance workers if we do not clasp hands of intelligent and earnest sympathy with the wage-worker and the unemployed. We must lengthen our cords and strengthen our stakes until they reach so far over into the camp of our bread-earning brethren that ours shall be for evermore two "camps allied" in thought and purpose to bring in the better day. We must be able to see that the eight-hours law is a temperance measure, a purity measure, a Gospel measure, and nothing less; for by means of the eight-hours law one-third more men and women among those now unemployed can find standing room in the bread-winning battalions, where they

can fight for a free and independent life and a well-ordered home. For the living wage means not only that the wage-earner shall live, but that he shall live well. RUSKIN has wisely said that there is no wealth but life, and it is the duty of the nation to clear away the impediments that hold honest and industrious people from coming to their own, developing their best capacities, enjoying that life "more abundant" to which every human heart is drawn by an instinct as irresistible as the force that draws the tides towards the sun. Poverty and dependence are the curse of women and all the world.

For this reason I am an avowed advocate of such a change in social conditions as shall stamp out the disease and contagion of poverty even as medical science is stamping out leprosy, smallpox, and cholera; and I believe the age in which we live will yet be characterised as one of those dark, dismal and damning ages when some people were so dead to the love of their kind that they left them in poverty without a heartache or a blush.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND SOCIAL LEGISLATION.

It is not generally supposed that members of the Upper House are extremely anxious to see women sitting in the halls of legislation; yet a perusal of certain debates on social politics, as reported in *Hansard*, would almost lead one to imagine that, by revealing their own incompetency, these gentlemen intitled "honourable" are seeking to pave the way for lady law-makers. A few more such exhibitions of ignorant and one-sided legislation and New Zealand women will be roused to a revolutionary pitch of indignation. Under the auspices of the Christchurch Women's Conference, a meeting to protest against the action of the Council with regard to these social questions was held in the Y.M.C.A. Rooms on October 10th. Miss Hookham, President of the Canterbury Women's Institute, presided, and a goodly number of ladies attended, representing organisations of which women are members.

The first resolution—"That this meeting protests against the refusal of the Legislative Council to endorse the action of the representatives of the people in raising the age of consent"—was moved by Mrs Cunningham. In an able speech Mrs Cunningham stated, on the authority of the heads of the two largest maternity homes in Christchurch, that the large majority of the girls who enter the homes are under eighteen. She also pointed out the irreparable injury inflicted on a girl, physically, mentally, and socially. Then the iniquitous wrong inflicted on the children of such immature mothers! By far the lesser evil was,

perchance, for a few innocent men to run the risk of blackmail. The motion was seconded by Mrs McKee, and carried unanimously.

Mrs Munnings, moved. "That this meeting protests against the refusal of the Legislative Council to endorse the action of the Representatives of the people in repealing the C.D. Acts." England repealed them so many years ago. Are we to go back? We cannot make men moral by act of Parliament, but laws have power to increase wickedness. The resolution was seconded by Mrs Wells: Our ancestors laid down their lives for the liberty of all and not for the license of the few. What says the Great Teacher on the principle of such laws? We may no longer condone the sowing of wild oats. We cannot sow evil and reap good. Immorality we shall always have in our midst! Things shall not be as they have been. Men and women with diseased bodies should not be allowed to propagate their kind. Mrs Newton remarked upon the acknowledged and proved uselessness of the laws from a sanitary point of view. Immorality and disease are increased by the enforcement of such laws from the fancied security they give. The laws of God should be studied so that coming generations may be pure. The resolution was carried unanimously.

The third resolution—"That this meeting protests against the refusal of the Legislative Council to endorse the action of the representatives of the people in amending clause 196 of the Criminal Code Act"—was entrusted to Mrs Field. The heartless absurdity of the law as at present is patent to all mothers. This motion was seconded by Miss Bain, and also carried unanimously.

ON FRIENDSHIP IN ONE'S PRIVATE CIRCLE.

Woman may easily be friends, free with and trusting each other. There is no natural obstacle against such friendship, but such mental errors as intolerance, envy, and class-prejudice may be obstacles. Women, as a whole, possess solidarity.

With respect to men, there is naturally rather rivalry than sympathy between them; but this is so often overlaid by the more recently evolved goodwill, that a free and trustful friendship results.

With respect to a man and a woman, there is every natural inducement to freedom, friendship, and trust; but this natural union has been broken, and the sexes estranged in various ways, by man's selfish desires, cunning, and domination, and a resulting timidity, suspicion, stand-off etiquette and dissociating customs and habits on the part of woman.

It is evident that, along with a sincere desire on a man's part to be sociable with his fellow-men, and pure and thoughtful towards women, there should be found an answering goodwill, trust, and freedom in friendship with him on the part of the men and women he knows; freedom in word and deed, an atmosphere above the petty differences of sex, creed, class, or condition.

Those who can be friends in this way will find that each feeds and develops the others' natures, and the more so, the more the fusion and interchange.

J. R. WILKINSON,
CANTERBURY COLLEGE, N.Z.

Book Notices.

Report on The Settlement of the people on the Land in the Colonies of New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, etc. By J. E. March.

"Now I see the secret of the making of the best persons. It is to grow in the open air, and to eat and sleep with the earth."—*Walt. Whitman.*

The Labour question is confessedly one of the great problems of the age, affecting, as it does, not simply individuals, but the physical, mental, and moral status of nations. An unemployed person does not only represent a certain amount of unutilized labour. We have to admit the fact that, generally speaking, he is a menace to himself and society at large. Evil breeds more readily in empty chambers. It is therefore clearly one of the first duties of the Government, as the guardian of the people's welfare, to see that no one person leads an idle life. And the immense superiority of soil-tilling compared with other occupations, for either the under-worked or the over-worked, is generally admitted. The problem is how to bring land and labour together. This problem is now being faced in our own colony, as the Report before us testifies.

Early in the present year, Mr March, acting under Governmental instructions, visited Australia, and inspected the various village settlements, labour colonies, etc. His report is a record of facts, with "an occasional expression of individual opinion thereon."

The mother colony, New South Wales, by no means takes the lead in settling the people on the land. A Land for Settlements Act is not yet on the Statute Book of the colony. In 1893 an Act was passed to establish and regulate labour settlements on Crown lands, providing for the appointment of Boards of Control, to whom the Crown may lease lands for labour settlements, the said Boards paying a nominal rent of, say, 6d per acre per annum.

The settlers are allowed to nominate four members of the Board. They also receive an advance of from £30 to £50, according to the number in family, such sum to be repaid by yearly instalments, beginning at the expiration of the first four years. So far only three settlements have been established. The partial failure of these three is owing to the fact that the lands selected were of inferior quality, and not sufficiently extensive for the number of settlers placed thereon. Individual rather than co-operative settlement is found the more likely to succeed, unless the settlers are known to each other, and can agree to work together. Mr March evidently considers matters in New South Wales in a very unsatisfactory condition. He says:—"On the one hand I saw a large army of able-bodied men employed on comparatively unprofitable employment—653 men at work levelling sand for two days, and only accomplishing as much as could be done by a pair of horses and a scoop in one day—with a larger army at the Labour Bureau seeking work, and on the other a few sheep trotting over excellent land which would support in comfort hundreds of families." Work for a considerable number has been found on the old goldfields, some six hundred families having been sent to join the husbands and fathers. That "fossicking" is profitable we are assured from the fact that the increase of gold in one year was of the value of £263,086.

In Victoria, in 1893, the large number of unemployed led to the passing of an Act providing for the establishment of village communities, home-stead associations, and labour colonies. No fewer than seventy-two village settlements have been formed, representing a population of nearly 7000 persons; and where the soil is good and the locality suitable they have been a marked success. The settlers are happy, healthy, and comfortable, and few indeed would on any consideration go back to a town life. The allotments vary from three to twenty acres. Permissive occupancy only is given for the first three years at a nominal rental—6d per acre. An advance of £40 is granted to each settler to aid in house-building, fencing, &c. At the end of twenty years the freehold may be obtained, provided all amounts due to the Crown have been paid. At Koo-wee-rup village settlement and a great Government work (drainage of the Koo-wee-rup swamp) are carried on simultaneously. Areas of 20-acre lots have been surveyed on either side of the drain, and the men are employed for a fortnight on the drainage works, and a fortnight on their allotments. The swamp contains some 52,900 acres, and it is hoped that, by the time the works are finished, the men will have established themselves. Each settler has a permit to occupy

his allotment for three years. At the expiry of that term he will receive a lease, and be called on to pay rent (4/- or 5/- per acre).

A Homestead Association signifies a number of persons (not less than six), who may be desirous of settling on adjacent blocks of land, no settler holding more than 50 acres. In Victoria, unfortunately, these associations have not proved a success.

The Labour Colony at Leongatha has, on the other hand, turned out remarkably well since Colonel Goldstein generously took charge in 1894 as honorary Superintendent. Mr March notes the objects of the establishment of the colony to be the following:—(1.) To provide employment for the unemployed. (2.) To enable citizens to direct "unemployed" labour to a place where they can obtain good food and shelter, and a wage according to their ability in exchange for their labour. (3.) To prepare them by proper instruction for work on the land. (4.) To obtain more profitable employment for all deserving men at the earliest possible moment.

The fact that since the establishment of the colony, in June, 1893, no fewer than 1,307 men have been received from the streets of Melbourne, speaks for itself as to the success of the movement.

In South Australia provision is made for homestead blocks and village settlements. The homestead blocks contain on an average about 13 acres (near Adelaide only 5 acres), 2857 blockers holding their land under right of purchase, and 480 on perpetual lease. A small advance is made for buildings and other permanent improvements. The system is undoubtedly a boon to working men who can find but partial employment in towns, or on farms, etc. The Village Settlement Association scheme of South Australia Mr March characterises as a new departure, and one of the most interesting systems of land settlement he has seen. The Land Settlement Aid Society was formed to assist the Government in its attempt to solve the unemployed question. All classes have helped, "the squatter sending 1000 sheep, and the wage-earner his packet of cornflour." Space forbids our giving particulars of these happy settlements, with their co-operative works, and possessions in common. Suffice it to say that a small army of almost destitute men, women, and children have been lifted from streets and highways of cities, and made self-supporting and self-reliant. The value of such work to the nation cannot be over-estimated.

"Supper Flies," and other Pieces, by Louisa Blake.

Many kindly and some noble thoughts run through this little volume. The sentiments which

inspire "The Milky Way," "Thy Brother's Blood," and other verses, reflect the graciousness of a very fine humanity. We may be allowed to subjoin the quatrains entitled "Wishing."

WISHING.

Why should mankind for ever wish
Their friends a dainty mental dish?
Nay! rather wish them opening eyes
Until the day of death's surprise.

Yes! when the heart's desire is stilled,
Most surely then a grave is filled;
On wings of wishing men should rise
Till from the earth cease anguished cries.

Content! we take thee by the throat,
Till every man is in the boat;
And on the sea of life is seen
No more the shipwrecked "might have been."

Notes and Comments.

WE are again reminded of the scanty information possessed by English people generally anent N.Z. geography. By the last English mail we see that Auckland is supposed to embrace the whole of New Zealand. The Auckland Women's Liberal League is magnified into the "N.Z. Women's Liberal League." A resolution in favour of the introduction of the C.D. Acts passed by a handful of women in one society of our northernmost city is regarded as the opinion, not only of all the women of Auckland, but also of the women throughout New Zealand, and is made the subject of a pathetic pamphlet by Mrs Josephine E. Butler. Surely a little enquiry would have made the matter clear. The very fact that a measure repealing the Acts was passed by the people's representatives should be sufficient of itself to dispel any doubts as to the soundness of N. Z. women generally on the subject.

SCRIPTURE TEXT BOOK.—Mr G. J. Smith, M.H.R., has been somewhat condemned in some quarters for moving in the matter of introducing a Scripture Text Book into the State Schools. We are reminded that the tendency of the age is to make the State responsible, not only for the intellectual welfare of the child, but also for the physical, where the parents are unable to fulfil or neglectful of their duty in the matter. Is there absolutely no necessity for the State to interfere in the case of moral training? Has every child in the colony parents able and willing to supply *mora!* culture?

OUR UPPER HOUSE.—It has been averred by the opponents of "the woman's age" that halls of legislation are not fit places for the feet of women to tread—too impure, too sordid, too grovelling are they. At last we agree. Who among us would care even to sit in the presence of men who openly

avow their belief that prostitution should be licensed by the State; that any girl over fifteen is fair prey for the grey-haired villain; that opportunities for men and women to debase themselves below the beasts of the field by means of strong drink should not be curtailed? And, horror of horrors, they have power to put their beliefs into practice! And we pay them for so doing! One hundred and fifty pounds per annum do we pay each member of our Upper House for barring the way to moral progress and reform! Is our money well spent?

A whisper of collusion floats to our ears. So our "honourables" weakly plead their "Adam" nature, do they? "The Eve (certain members of the Lower House) tempted me and I did eat." Poor "dumb, driven cattle!"

OURSELVES.—The business manager informs us that the district which promised the least in the way of circulation has done the most. At the Convention, when the possibility of publishing was discussed, the Christchurch delegate refused to undertake the responsibility of guaranteeing a certain number of subscribers, seeing that the bulk of the work connected with the publication would be done by Christchurch members. So far, however, Canterbury heads the list by a very long way, Westland coming second. Well done, Westland!

A considerable portion of our space is devoted to a report on the land settlement question—a most important matter truly, involving the pauper question. Any movement that will make our poor independent and self-reliant, compelling them to work for that which they receive, is heartily welcomed. When shall we see the initiation of a scheme for the compulsory employment of the idle rich?

We must apologise for the non-appearance of our usual serial instalment. It has been unavoidably crowded out.

AS OTHERS SEE US.—The following extract is from a private letter sent to the Christchurch Superintendent of Literature:—"Miss Forsaith desires me also to thank you for the 'WHITE RIBBON.' She is pleased to have it, and thinks that a very good article which treated of the C.D. Acts. It is a nice little paper." Miss Forsaith, as many of our readers are probably aware, is secretary to the British, Continental, and General Federation for the Abolition of the State Regulation of Vice.

Speaking of the recent English elections, Mrs Pearson, President of the Nottingham Branch of the B.W.T.A., prophesies that "short-lived will be the Government that went into office on top of a beer barrel."

WELLINGTON NOTES.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

At last our tariff is settled. Members, as well as business men, are no doubt thankful, but the discussions on the proposals have certainly been bewildering to simple-minded women folk, and will continue to be so, I fear, until our tariffs are a little less complex.

The Licensing Bill has been killed in the Legislative Chamber—not at all a surprise to thoughtful members of the Temperance Party, who had noted that during its passage in the House of Representatives there were no liquor men or brewers to be seen in the lobbies—an ominous sign that there was no danger!

The Divorce Bill is to meet the same fate. Rumour has it that pressure from the clergy has done this. But the darkest hour is just before the dawn; we can wait—right must prevail.

General Booth's meetings have thrown politics into the shade for the last few days. His reception has been grand.

BUTCHERS' MEAT AND CANCER.

The Wellington Union, having discussed the subject of the connection between butchers' meat and cancer, wrote to the rabbis in Auckland and Wellington on the matter, and received very telling letters from both gentlemen. We have been requested to publish the one following:—

"Auckland, October 12, 1894.

"Dear Madam,—In reply to your letter, I beg to state that cases of cancer and consumption are *very rare* among my people, although we have an isolated case now and then. We attribute our comparative freedom from these terrible scourges to the strict examination of our meat supply. The English statistics, death rates, etc., which I saw recently, were a remarkable comment on the beneficial effects of the scrupulous care and supervision which our meat receives. The inspection is made by properly certificated persons, who receive their diploma from the Chief Rabbi as a rule, after a severe examination as to their theoretical and practical knowledge of meat inspection. This qualification is imperative in the case of anyone examining meat for a Jewish community.

The death rate among us throughout the world is *abnormally low, out of all proportion*, when compared with that of other sections of the community—more especially in large centres does this fact become rather glaring. In Metz (France), during the last cholera epidemic, eight or nine years ago, only six Jews out of some thousands were attacked by the disease, and it was proved

clearly by the Jewish authorities that they were unobservant Jews. Scientific authorities agree that we owe our comparative immunity from disease to our meat inspection, which has been carried out long before the Christian era. With us it is a *religious duty* rather than a law of hygiene. I must also explain that before the meat is cooked *all the blood* (the seat of any disease germs) is extracted. We are not allowed to eat blood according to Judaism, and we see the blood is extracted by judicious salting and soaking in water for some time before the meat is cooked.

"As regards the milk, there is no examination of the cows from which the milk supply is drawn, although there should certainly be, milk being such an absorbent. Orthodox Jews never have milk in the preparation of food in which meat or fat enters.

"I will be only too pleased to give you any information on the questions.

"My meat inspection takes up two and a-half days in the week during winter, and three and a-half days in the week during the summer months.

"I am, dear Madam,

"Yours faithfully,

"S. A. GOLDSTEIN,

"Rabbi to the Auckland Hebrew Congregation."

Union and Temperance News.

WELLINGTON.—We had a very good attendance at our monthly meeting. The Chinese mission, which has been carried on in our city for three and a half years by some of our members, has now been given over to the Y.P.S.C.E. This has been done at their own request, on condition that if they ever wish to give up the work they give the W.C.T.U. the option of taking it up again. The President urged on all members the necessity of attending the educational meeting which is held on every third Thursday. We are hoping soon to raise some funds towards getting a room or rooms of our own. The meeting closed with our usual circle of prayer.

CHRISTCHURCH UNION.—At the general monthly meeting a portion of Mrs Josephine Butler's second appeal to women was read. Mrs Venables was authorised to communicate with the Secretary of the Moral Reform Union in England, stating that the New Zealand Unions are unanimous in their demand for the repeal of the C.D. Acts. It was resolved to petition the Churches throughout New Zealand, asking them to discountenance drinking and gambling, and specially to evidence such discountenance by refusing to elect to office anyone promoting these evils. A grant was made

for relief work, and arrangements made for the usual booth on the Show-grounds.

KAIAPOI.—On Wednesday, September 25, a special meeting in connection with this Union was called to celebrate the anniversary of the franchise. There was a very good attendance. Mesdames Dellow, Scott, and Smalley all spoke on the evils of the drink traffic, and urged women to make good use of the franchise. Mrs Smalley said that some people thought the members of the W.C.T.U. were women of one idea, whereas there are over forty different branches of work in connection with the Union. Fourteen new members have joined during the year.

PORT CHALMERS.—A successful tea meeting was held on Sept 27. The speakers at the after-meeting were Mesdames Kirkland, Porteous, and Miss Sears.

DUNEDIN.—At the monthly meeting (Mrs Dick presiding) Mrs Kirkland reported having interviewed the secretary of the Medical Professions Association *re* having a paper read at the Medical Congress on the evils of alcohol as a medicine. After some discussion on the results of the interview, it was agreed that the Secretary of the Union write to Dr Newman, of Wellington, on the subject. The Secretary was instructed to write the President of the Medical Association *re* the manifesto received from the Moral Reform Union of London. Favourable reports were received from the superintendents of Children's Work and Unfermented Wine departments. A deputation was appointed to wait on the Presbyterian Synod *re* unfermented wine. The Union was informed that Mrs Hoffman, an American lady, would be willing to visit Dunedin and lecture in the interests of the W.C.T.U., if the Union were agreeable. After an animated discussion, it was agreed to invite Mrs Hoffman. Other correspondence was dealt with, and two new members were elected.

NAPIER.—A petition, largely signed by members of the W.C.T.U., was presented by Canon Webb, at the Anglican Synod, urging the use of unfermented wine at the Lord's table. A friend of the Union had procured a bottle of Frank Wright's wine, and presented it to the Synod, so that its quality might be tested; and, although no definite decision was given, since then four Anglican Churches have adopted its use, and we have every reason to hope that more will follow. At the same meeting, on the motion of the Rev C. Jordan, seconded by the Rev J. Wills, a resolution was passed, expressing the opinion that the legalised sale of intoxicating liquors ought to be abolished by the vote of the people. "With God we are marching on."—Circular letters have been sent by the Napier W.C.T.U. to every minister in Hawke's Bay, asking them to preach a strictly temperance

sermon. This is in compliance with a request from Mrs Kirkland, N.Z. Superintendent of Evangelistic Work, and we hope will arouse those ministers who are behind the times on the Temperance question to stir themselves and feel they must be in touch with the people with this most-needed reform of the day.

CHRISTCHURCH.—The anniversary of our enfranchisement was celebrated by an "At Home" in the Art Gallery. A large number of invitations were sent out and accepted, fully 300 ladies being present. The large room was tastefully arranged and decorated, and light refreshments daintily served. The President, Mrs Ballantyne, received, while Mrs Munnings roused her audience to a sense of the responsibility resting upon them as enfranchised women, and Mrs Newton gratefully referred to Mrs Sheppard's labours on behalf of New Zealand women. Rev P. R. Monro and Mr T. E. Taylor enlightened the assembly on Temperance matters generally, and the wastefulness of the drink traffic, and the injustice of the three-fifths majority in particular. The special cause for rejoicing about the meeting was the presence in large numbers of ladies who are not to be found at any ordinary temperance gathering.

Drink, the only terrible enemy whom England has to fear.—The late Duke of Albany.

The law ought to make it easy for men to do right and difficult to do wrong, and a time may not be far distant when a man will no more think of tolerating a dramshop than of poisoning the well from which his neighbour draws water to drink.—Mr Gladstone.

One of the commonest things in society is that people are injured by drink without being drunkards. It goes on so quietly that it is difficult to observe, even though it leads to degeneration of the tissues, and spoils the health and intellect. Short of drunkenness, I should say from experience that alcohol is the most destructive agent we have in this country.—Sir William Gull.

Five thousand two hundred patents have been issued to women in the United States."

A medical college for women has been opened in St. Petersburg.

This year, in England and Wales, no fewer than 893 women have been appointed as Poor Law Guardians.

Dr Emma Johnston is the recently-appointed Health Commissioner of Peoria, Illinois.

The Durham University, since it received its new charter, permits women to become Bachelors of all kinds, except Divinity. Miss Ella Bryant is its first woman graduate Bachelor of Science.

Wellington Convention Reports.

BLLENHEIM.

Your Executive has much pleasure in submitting report and balance-sheet of the Union for year ending September 30, 1895, and congratulates the members on the satisfactory position of Union. The members at the present time number 40, in addition to which there are 14 honorary members enrolled. During the year 24 meetings have been held, which were well attended, and, during the same period, arrangements were made with Dr. Cleghorn for the purchase of the property the Union rented, which was submitted on exceptionally easy terms. This has since been received and altered and enlarged to suit the requirements of the Union, and it is in every respect most suitable. The expenditure on building and furniture for enlarged premises has tasked the financial powers of the Union; but is now largely disposed of, with the result that premises, furniture, and fittings might be said to be pretty well clear.

The purchase-money of property remains the same, at a very low rate of interest, but, to complete this arrangement in legal form, it was necessary to have trustees, and the following gentlemen kindly consented to assume the office, viz.:—Messrs. Eckford, Gifford, Girling, and Hay, to whom the Union tenders its sincere thanks. The new rooms were opened to the public by an opening social, which was well attended, and at which your President delivered an interesting inaugural address on Union Work. Saturday evening socials were held till end of the year, and there was generally a nice attendance, and the Union desires to thank those who contributed to the various programmes. In connection with this, your Executive would state that the most pressing requirement of the Union is a piano, the getting of which has been delayed, but is now in a fair way to be secured.

The balance-sheet accompanying this report shows the business done, and this result is largely arrived at by the members contributing in various ways to the success of the movement. During the year one Vice-president, Mrs Dobson, has resigned, and the office is still vacant.

R. GRACE, President.

E. ROSE, Secretary.

There are at least six tailors in Paris who do nothing else but make bicycle costumes for women.

The first instalment of the "Woman's Bible" was printed in the *Times Herald* of Chicago last July, under the superintendence of Mrs L. B. Chandler.

Reports The Home.

BURNS AND SCALDS.

By A. W.

We trust that a few words regarding the treatment of burns and scalds may find acceptance with some who may be in need of them. As a local fever is set up in the parts affected, to apply oil as a remedy is to add fuel to fire, and thus to intensify the pain. The natural method is one which we can recommend to all, knowing the benefits that are derivable from it. The parts affected should be at once immersed in cold water, and if the burn is very severe must be kept under water several hours. The coldest water will feel most soothing for the first treatments. After a time, when the inflammation has modified in severity, tepid water may be found more sedative, and finally warm water will often feel the best. The rule is easy to be remembered—"Follow the sensations of the patient." Whatever gives ease is healing. After the application of the water, a lather made of Barilla soap is wonderfully effective. This should be covered with a light covering. When the lather has disappeared wet bandages should be applied. The patient is the best judge of their thickness.

The writer, in making tea one morning for breakfast, carelessly poured the boiling water over her hand instead of into the tea pot. The injured hand was at once held in a large bowl of cold water. Instant relief was obtained, and by the time breakfast was over the pain had entirely gone. A cold cloth was then packed round the hand, and at intervals renewed. At the end of the day the hand was comparatively well, though the whole surface of the back of the hand had been badly scalded. The same method should be applied for sunburn, from which children so often suffer, especially at the sea-side. The restlessness produced by the pain prevents sleep, and is often the cause of serious disorder. The parts affected should be laved well in cold water till the pain ceases, and then packed in wet cloths. The wet cloths should be put on before going to bed, and if necessary changed once or twice during the night. The remedy is simple indeed, but it is eminently successful.

SUNNY ROOMS.—Do not shut the sun out of your rooms. "Sunny rooms make sunny lives." The germs of disease are more effectually destroyed by sun and pure air than by anything else.

COCOANUT PUDDING.—Fill a dish with slices of bread and butter, and between each layer place a liberal supply of dessicated cocoanut. Cover with well-sweetened custard and bake slowly.

Children's Corner

THE DOLL CLUB.

Twelve little girls formed themselves into a club for the purpose of sending dolls to poor children. The mother of one of the girls suggested that they name each doll for some one who had done good in the world. The girls liked this plan, and they had a fine time hunting up names.

One of the biggest dolls was called Florence Nightingale, for that good woman who spent so much time on battlefields and in hospitals, nursing the sick soldiers. One of the girls had a book that told the story of this dear woman's life, and she copied part of this on sheets of paper and pinned them to the doll's dress. Then they sent it to a little girl who had a sick mother to nurse.

In a Sunday-school paper they found a picture of Sister Dora, with a short account of the good work that she did. They cut this out and pinned it on a doll, and named her Sister Dora, and sent her to another child.

When they heard of a little cripple who loves dearly to sing hymns, they named a doll Fanny Crosby, and sent it to the little maid, with a collection of Fanny Crosby's hymns that they copied in a blank book.

They named another doll Louisa Alcott, and sent her, with a copy of "Little Women," to a dear little girl, only seven years old, who minds her younger brother and the baby all day, while the mother goes out to work. It took a good while for the club to save enough money to buy "Little Women," but the girls said that they thought it would be a lovely keepsake, and Annie could read it when she got older.

Frances Willard went to a little girl whose father had lately signed the temperance pledge, and with her was a bow of white ribbon for the little girl to wear.

Pansy was the prettiest of all the dolls, and she was sent to a chubby little four-year-old who has just begun to go to kindergarten.—*Selected.*

Motto of Miss Harris Smith, the London lady public accountant:—"None cease to rise but those who cease to climb."

"I am glad the women are fighting the temperance battle, but I do not think it very creditable to us men that we leave it so largely to be fought by the women. In the old legend St. George fought the battle for the deliverance of the women, but in modern life the women fight the battle, and St. George sits on the fence to see how it is going on!"
—DR. LYMAN ABBOTT.