

The White Ribbon

FOR GOD AND HOME AND HUMANITY

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BABY TOILERS.

By OLIVE CHRISTIAN MALVERY.*

"Do you hear the children weeping, oh,
my brothers,
Ere the sorrow comes with years?
They are leaning their young heads
against their mothers,
And that cannot stop their tears.
The young lambs are bleating in the
meadows,
The young birds are chirping in the
nest,
The young fawns are playing with the
shadows,
The young flowers are blowing towards
the west;
But the young, young children, oh, my
brothers,
They are weeping bitterly;
They are weeping in the playtime of the
others,
In the country of the free."

It is many years since Mrs Browning made articulate the cry of the child toilers in the mines of "happy" England, and those particular wrongs have been righted. But fully as appalling are the conditions under which thousands of British born and bred little ones now drag out a wretched existence. A sure antidote will the perusal of the pages of "Baby Toilers" prove to any Britisher suffering from the national complaint of swelled head. Straight from a heart red-hot with indignation does Miss Malvery (Mrs Mackirdy) write of this festering wound in the body politic of our "glorious" Empire. Not from hear-

say, not from reading has her information been gleaned, but from intimate personal knowledge, from experience gained as the result of life lived amongst these dwellers in the lowest depths of slumdom, and lived, moreover, in factory, and in attic sweating den as one of the toilers themselves.

Mrs Browning speaks of the children weeping, but the poor babes of whom Mrs Mackirdy writes have no time for tears. Tears would mean a further lessening of the scanty meals which suffice only to keep life in the frail, pinched, dwarfed little bodies of these home workers. "Am I my brother's keeper?" ask sordid employer and indifferent onlooker and fellow-citizen; and so the wages are cut down to almost vanishing point, and, to make existence possible, the

Babies' Fingers Must Bring Grist to the family mill. "The pitiful lives of these small wage-earners hurt even in the telling, but the reality—God help them! It is more dread than description could tolerably express."

In a chapter on "Belts," Mrs. MacKirdy takes her readers to a "home" where three of these baby toilers joined with their mother in making elastic belts at five farthings, or, perhaps, three halfpence

a dozen. The five-year-old mite helped to stretch the belts and make them taut, and also to slip on the slides and clasps. The earnings of this family of four amounted to between seven and eight shillings a week, and the rent of their room was half a crown. On a diet of a milkless black decoction called tea, and stale bread, these small creatures will work until eleven or twelve o'clock. "One has to seek for gross cruelty to children not in heathen lands, but in a Christian country."

Waistcoat making and the turning of the mangle each take life toll from infant workers. So also does the manufacture of cardboard boxes—the dainty white or decorated receptacles from which we take our choicest sweets and chocolates.

Three Young Children Stand

busily engaged spreading the glue on the paper and handing it to mother and sister. The room is half filled with a bed, which is piled with some rags, and on this are east the pasted boxes. Four and sixpence a week is the rent of the room, and the income the whole family can earn in the very best times amounts to ten shillings a week.

Another of these sweated industries is flower making. Mites of

*Hutchinson & Co., Paternoster Row, London.

five and six help to make the wreaths to deck the heads of confirmees—at one and eight pence a dozen wreaths; violets at three halfpence per gross, and other flowers at similar starvation wages. “These baby toilers have little time for sleep, and none at all for play. ‘I mustn’t stop to play,’ said a six-year-old boy, as he rushed out of his school yard. He had no time to play. Think of it! At six he had entered upon the tragedy of life!”

Day and night do the little ones spend in the wretched hovels, save when the school inspector happens to find them out, when, with benumbed brains, sleep-laden eyes, and starved bodies, they are hurried off for a few hours to learn their lessons as best they may. So incessantly must the toil be kept up that a corpse will remain for more than a week in the one room where the family live and eat and sleep, because time cannot be spared on working days to commit to mother earth.

Is it any wonder that disease is spread? Six children in one family are

Afflicted with Tuberculosis

and other ills—and they are all engaged in the manufacture of toy tennis bats!

Again and again does the author charge misery and want and sin to the awful drink traffic. She specially notes the economic aspect of the trade, its cost direct and indirect to the community and to the State. The “respectable” brewery comes under notice, and the shareholders therein. “I felt that heaven itself would not be a sufficient prize to gain if the cost was to be the ruin of women and the torture of little children.”

Woman’s wage is touched upon. “It is a curious fact that in all arguments relating to woman’s position as a citizen, it is maintained that she need never have, as indeed she never has had, the wages of a man. Tradition has it that the man is the supporter of the family. Among the home workers this idea that the man supports the family is a myth! Almost the entire burden falls on the women and the children.” Mrs Mackirdy has so little

hope of seeing justice done that she says: “This Utopian condition (equal wage) will not come about, at any rate, in our time.”

Incidentally, several other present-day problems are touched upon, such as the making of fathers of illegitimate children responsible for their offspring. In the matter of the indolent, drunken fathers who so largely shirk the duties of fatherhood, Mrs Mackirdy opines that a leaf should be taken from despised Germany’s book. The men should be sent to a labour colony, where toil and abstinence would be compulsory. Charitable institutions are, she naturally remarks, not objects for national pride, but blots upon the landscape, palpable evidence of both

Wickedness and Mismanagement

on the part of the people. “Criminal” charity comes in for scathing comment. What we lack in Britain is method. It is not so much that we need more ‘charity;’ this is a time when all right-thinking people should demand justice for themselves and their neighbours.”

In Birmingham, in Liverpool, and in Manchester Mrs Mackirdy found similar child toilers and sufferers—a mother and four small children working from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. stitching hooks and eyes on to cards at a rate of pay that just keeps life in the miserable bodies, and this in rich Birmingham! What the harvest of such fearful sowing must be it needs no prophet to foretell. “The health of the children of our poorer communities deteriorates steadily, and physical degeneration invariably means moral and mental retrogression. As long as children are fed on brawn and pickles and tea and crusts, we cannot expect to see much improvement in racial conditions. As long as our children are housed like vermin, so long shall we reap a rich harvest of criminals and degenerates.”

“Baby Toilers does not form pleasant reading at this Christmas season, when our minds are full of plans for the play and pleasure of the little ones in this happier land. But it is only right that we should at least know how the little brothers

and sisters in the Old Country are faring. As parts of one Empire we must stand or fall together, and as Mrs Mackirdy says, “a few leaves from the lives of the outcast, falling on our tidy paths, may cause some of us to stop awhile and think whether to us is given any responsibility in the matter of this disorder.”

NEWS OF THE UNIONS.

[We rely on our local Unions to send us news for this column. We cannot evolve it out of our inner consciousness.]

ASHBURTON.

Our Union is steadily growing in interest, and is making itself known in the town. Owing to a protest from the Union, the ladies’ waiting room at the Railway Station has been thoroughly renovated. Our last big piece of work was the entertainment of the visiting bandsmen. The men were delighted, and asked to be similarly treated at other places. When the President explained that she considered that it might be neither safe nor agreeable for her girl helpers to do such work in a license town, the bandsmen shouted, “No License for ever!”

We have a splendid undenominational Band of Hope in Ashburton, and at its meeting on November 18th, our President gave an address to between 500 and 600 people.

CHRISTCHURCH.

Mrs Cole presided at the meeting held on November 27th. Letters were received from Sir Joseph Ward and Mr H. G. Ell, M.P., acknowledging the receipt of resolutions passed with reference to the Gaming and Lotteries Act Amendment Bill. A vigorous discussion took place with regard to the Te Oranga Home, and resolutions, appearing elsewhere in this paper, were passed. It was decided to give the usual half-yearly tea to the inmates of the Jubilee Home.

The annual meeting was held on December 11th. The annual report was read and received. £1 was voted towards Christmas gifts for the sailors on the Antarctic ship “Nimrod,” this contribution to be sent through the Lyttelton Union. It was decided to accept the invitation of the Canterbury Women’s Institute to be present at a proposed public meeting to be held on February 18th, to discuss “How to Deal with Neglected and Destitute Children;” also to send delegates to a preliminary meeting to be held on February 7th. The

election of officers resulted as follows: to her consent); Corresponding Secretary, Mrs Ruth Day; Recording Secretary, Miss W. W. Smith; Treasurer, Mrs Phoebe Seed; Superintendents of departments were also appointed. It was decided to accept a portrait, from her husband, of the late Mrs Henderson, who served for some time on the Charitable Aid Board, and who took an interest in all reform work.

HAMILTON.

The annual meeting was held on December 5th. The members present each voiced the feeling, which no doubt is shared by many other temperance organisations, that the coming year was a year for aggressive work. The officers for the year are: President, Mrs. Jones; Secretary, Mrs Griffin; Treasurer, Mrs Horn; Superintendent Home Meetings, Mrs J. Tidd.

LEVIN.

There was a fair number of visitors at our social and educational meeting, held in November. A resolution was passed re Sabbath observance, in accordance with the suggestions of the N.Z. Superintendent of this department, and replies were read from the Premier and the Minister of Marine, with regard to packet licenses. The reply from the manager of the Union Company was also favourable, though it stated that nothing definite had as yet been done to make total abstinence compulsory amongst the officers. The event of the afternoon was a paper on "Hygiene," by Mrs. Sorensen, dealing chiefly with the necessity for fresh air, cleanliness, exercise, and the freedom of the body from the congesting and weakening influences of corsets and shoulder straps. The paper proved entertaining and interesting, and was freely discussed, some difference of opinion being manifested on minor points, but all apparently convinced of the importance of attention to this great subject. Tea and refreshments, dispensed by the President and Mrs Sorensen, and some musical items interspersed, rendered the meeting pleasantly social.

LOWER HUTT.

There was a better attendance than usual at our annual meeting, which was held on 26th ult. Mrs Strand, senior, was elected as President, and the Secretary and Treasurer were re-elected. We shall not hold another meeting until February.

NEW PLYMOUTH.

Our annual meeting on December 4th was a cheering success. The departmental report showed that much time and thought had been given to accomplish all the work that was put into them. We are now working in nine different directions to help to bring to pass that unto which our Union is sent: Dorcas work, maternity box, prison and rescue work, Parliamentary and legal work, cradle-roll literature, rest-room for women, "White Ribbon" agency and dis-

tribution of "On the Line" amongst the railway men. All the superintendents were re-elected. The officers were re-elected for the coming year. Seven new members joined us throughout the year; on the other hand, there have been five removals, one death, and one retired member.

RANGIORA.

Our annual meeting was held on November 29th. Mrs Pinfold was re-elected President, and Mrs Darling, whom we are hoping to welcome back shortly from her trip to the Old Land, was elected Secretary, and Miss Newton Treasurer.

STRATFORD.

Our Union met on 22nd November, and we were favoured with the presence of Mrs Kirkland, from Dunedin. Mrs Kirkland gave a most interesting account of the noble work being done in many lands by the Union. Most impressive were the speaker's remarks on prayer—more need for earnest, constant prayer. We all feel that our Union would be better for more frequent visits from gifted, capable workers from the larger centres.

The annual meeting was held on 4th instant, and the election of officers resulted as follows:—President, Mrs Kennedy (Toko); Secretary, Mrs Mackay; Treasurer, Mrs Hills.

TARIKI.

Through the kindness of the head master and School Committee, the Union held a garden party in the school grounds on November 11th. Though the weather was not the most favourable, a number of friends gathered from near and far, and a pleasant afternoon was spent. £1 17s 6d was cleared for our Union funds.

The annual meeting was held on November 19th. The Legal and Parliamentary and the Cradle Roll Committees reported good work done, and the Treasurer's sheet showed a good balance in hand. We shall try to send a delegate to Convention. The only change in the list of officers is that Mrs Coutts takes the place of Mrs A. Fenwick as Vice-President.

TIMARU.

The annual meeting was held on the 3rd instant, at the Sailor's Rest. Routine business and correspondence was gone through, and literature was handed round for distribution. Mr Stead's annual report was read, showing how our little rest is appreciated by the sailors. A large number of Bibles in different languages had been received from the British and Foreign Bible Society for use among the men. The election of officers then took place, and the meeting closed.

WAIPAWA.

Our annual meeting was held on December 5th, Mrs Bibby in the chair. The acting officers were re-elected to office, and two new members were added to our roll. After the business, Miss Heira Stirling, who is working among the Maoris in this district, in the

cause of temperance, gave a most interesting address, asking for our co-operation, which we promised to give.

Our Band of Hope is flourishing, and doing good work.

WANGANUI.

The annual meeting was held on December 6th, when there was a good attendance of members. Reports were read by the Treasurer and Secretary and Superintendents of Departments. Since last annual meeting, 18 members have joined, bringing the total membership up to 100. Mrs Smith was re-elected President, and the Treasurer and Secretary were also re-elected. The election of Superintendents of Departments was held over until the next meeting, which will be the first Friday in February. One new member was enrolled.

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

Dear Sisters,—

I see that one or two Unions have, without consulting me, nominated me for the position of N.Z. Recording Secretary. While grateful for your appreciation of my services in the past, I am sorry to be obliged to decline office for 1908, as the work with the Local Option Poll will absorb the whole of my energies. At the first meeting in the new year, it will be necessary to consider the question of sending a delegate to the Annual Convention, to meet in Auckland in the second week in March. Every branch has the right to send one, any Union with a membership of over 100 being entitled to two. I hope every branch will, if possible, avail itself of the inspiration and enthusiasm thus afforded. One country branch has held a social to raise funds for this purpose, an example others might well follow. Branches which cannot, however, send a delegate, may, upon application to me, have a proxy appointed, but they **must** enclose directions as to voting for New Zealand officers, and also as to the following resolutions, of which notice was given at the Convention of 1907:—

1. "That the Convention may appoint a Vice-President-at-large to sit upon the N.Z. Executive." Proposed by M. S. Powell.

2. "That it is desirable that the position of a N.Z. officer should be

held for only five consecutive years, and that the same officer should not be eligible for re-election to that particular office for two years." Proposed by Phoebe Seed.

I hope every Union will clearly understand that unless above conditions are complied with, no proxy can be appointed. Last year several branches were disappointed through failing to note this point.

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and New Year,

Believe me, Yours in the work,
M. S. POWELL,
N.Z. Recording Sec.

Otahuhu,

December 2nd, 1907.

Marmion,

Ormondville,

December 5, 1907.

Dear Sisters,—

As the time at which your report is returnable is now not far off, I would again remind you that you would save much trouble and waste of time if you will fill in **all** the particulars asked for. If you fill in the number of meetings held, and forget to mention your membership, I have to write again to ask for that; and if I get all other details but not the names of the new officers, it means another letter, and a stamp wasted. Please remember to give names and addresses of officers in full, not just "Last year's officers re-elected."

I rely on you all to send in your reports the first day you can, as I am new to my work, and need the help of all secretaries to do it properly.

Yours sincerely,

ALICE F. WEBB.

Act. Cor. Secretary, N.Z.W.C.T.U.

Box 209, P.O.,

Christchurch, Dec. 7th, 1907.

To the Legal and Parliamentary Superintendents of Local Branches.

Dear Fellow Workers,—

Will you kindly send me your reports for the year as soon as possible, so that I may be able to prepare my New Zealand Report in time?

With best wishes for the coming year,

Faithfully yours,

K. W. SHEPPARD,

L. and P. Supdt. for N.Z.

PARLIAMENTARY JOTTINGS.

The Session ended on the 25th November, after an eventful run of five months. General satisfaction is felt at the work accomplished. The three Land Acts alone, with the Infant Life Protection Bill, and the Gaming and Lotteries Act, would have made any Session memorable. The first goes far to prevent the octopus of land monopoly crushing out national life, as it has done all too surely in Britain and Ireland, while they have placed old-age pensions and the growing needs of education on a firm basis at last. The second has boldly affirmed the principle that a State is to consider its unfortunate children as wards, not criminals, from birth, and lays down amended regulations as to boarding-out and training. The last embodies the most drastic regulation of betting and gambling in any modern state. It proposes to shut up betting shops, and gambling saloons, it has closed the Press against betting news of any description, and apparently makes it impossible to bet, save on the race course itself. For all this we are devoutly thankful, notwithstanding that the party of reform has got two bitter pills to swallow—the retention of the totalisator, and the provisional licensing of bookmakers. The last clause recognises the true British right of the small man to lose his money, as well as the sharers of the princely profits of the totalisator. It was carried during a stormy month that afforded the diverting spectacle of Satan fighting Beelzebub. That is, the wealthy racing clubs hailed the trespassing bookmakers to court, from whence the then existing law consigned them to gaol in dozens. Before their release under the new law, petitions in their favour were signed by prominent reformers, as well as by genuine sympathisers. As a matter of principle this was doubtless right. As a matter of personal sentiment, it will always be difficult to wax warm in denying that those who elect to live without work must also live without respect. Mr. Wilford, who had previously given pointed

support to the retention of pigeon-shooting, joined Mr Herries in a spirited attempt to provide a loophole of escape for keepers of gaming and betting houses. They were not so successful there as in the matter of the pigeons. The Council wiped out both that sport and the coursing of hares in enclosed areas. When the Animals Protection Bill returned to the House, a few belated Roman holiday makers succeeded in restoring both abominations, though under some regulation.

Though the sale of drink on coasting steamers is not forbidden, it has been greatly curtailed by the Packet License Bill, which transfers the license to the captain from the steward, and does not issue any permit for very short journeys.

Delicate and difficult questions are raised by the passing of the Divorce Act Amendment, which has stopped the prevalent practice of obtaining divorce for desertion, on failure to comply with an order for restitution of conjugal rights. Two lawyers, Messrs Baume and Barclay, protested against a change which, they said, would drive unfortunate persons into immorality. That freedom to re-marry should be made anything but a matter of ease and speed goes without saying, but any change tending to keep loveless people in a union devoid of Divine sanction is a matter for searching thought. Divorce is also at last legalised in the case of long and hopeless lunacy, and where a parent has murdered children of the union.

The Beer Duty Act has passed, with cordial approval of all who desire to see No License having a fair trial, unhampered by beer shops on the boundary.

When we add the substantial benefits of the new tariff to the rest, it may be fairly admitted that the Session has justified itself this year.

J. M.

"Make channels for the streams
Where love may broadly run;
And love has overflowing streams
To fill them every one.

"But if at any time we cease
Such channels to provide,
The very fountains of love for us
Will soon be parched and dried."

PREPARATION FOR PARENTHOOD.

By Mrs MABEL L. CONKLIN.

For every other act of life preparation is made, but for the fearfully solemn act of giving to the world a human life, generally no thought or preparation is given.

I was once the guest for a brief while of an eminent scientist who has done much to open the eyes of the thinking world as to the vital need of preparation for parenthood. In his laboratory he showed me an apparatus whereby he could take the breath of an individual, condense it, and by means of chemical agents he could tell from the result the exact mental condition of that person at the moment the breath was taken, whether he or she was labouring under great excitement, moroseness, anger, or if in a perfectly normal frame of mind.

If the very breath is affected by physical and mental conditions, how terribly vital, therefore, is the need of weeks, yes, months, of mental, spiritual, and physical preparation for the duty of assuming parenthood. Inasmuch as the athlete waxes strong for the appointed contest by months of total abstinence from all physical indulgence, just so do men and women insure to their offspring the largest legacy of mental, moral, and physical strength who themselves conform to the law of chastity during the months of preparation for motherhood.

Were it the rule and not the exception for couples desiring children to conscientiously prepare for parenthood, the accidental or unwelcome child would be an impossibility. As it is, the unwelcome child is the rule; and it is a pitiful fact that large numbers of children are constantly being born who are received with a sob instead of a kiss, who come into the world knowing that there is no place for them, no love awaiting them here; for they have had indelibly stamped upon them for long months the consciousness that they are not wanted. Is it any wonder, then, that there are so many morose, sullen, unmanageable, even criminal children in our land? Are they not born so, made so by their mothers during the im-

pressionable period preceding their birth? Were it generally comprehended that from its earliest moment a child is as much a human as when months later it becomes a visible factor in the world, much of the awful conditions now existing would be overcome. In conversation with a superintendent of a penitentiary recently, I asked the question:

"How do you account for so many murderers?"

In blank amazement he replied:

"Do you—you, who are studying these subjects constantly, ask that? Why, aren't they born so, made so by their mothers? Do you suppose for a moment that the murderous thoughts and deeds of mothers during expectancy do not bear fruit in the lives of their children?"

This period of expectant motherhood is God's probation time, as it were, when a mother can make of her child, a little god or a little demon. She builds character, decides destiny, and under no other conditions does she need so much to live on the very highest planes of thought and deed as now. The Spartan mothers gave to the world the strongest race the world has ever seen, because they lived in the world beautiful during these months, absolutely free from all ignoble influences. *Purity Advocate.*

WOMEN IN GREAT BRITAIN.

The appearance of another strong paper, "Votes for Women," gives fresh evidence of the strenuousness of the fight for the franchise. From its pages we learn that a great winter campaign was entered upon in October. The programme included meetings in the great halls of the towns and cities (such as the Town Hall in Birmingham, and the Free Trade Hall in Manchester), great open-air meetings, and, not less important, "bicycle" meetings, i.e., meetings in the open, conducted in suburbs and small centres by the "Suffragette scouts," on Saturdays. Several of the Free Churches had already thrown open their doors to the women for meetings.

On October 5th, grand old Edinburgh was stirred by a national procession and gathering of women.

Women from Edinburgh and Leith, Aberdeen, Dundee, Dunfermline, Glasgow, and West of Scotland assembled in King's Park, between St. Margaret's Loch and St. Margaret's Well, round their respective banners. A procession was formed threequarters of a mile in length. Some of the women walked, but most were in carriages. The arrangements for the procession had the sanction of the Chief Constable, and by order of the Magistrates traffic was regulated. In front of the procession rode a detachment of policemen. Then came the carriages with the leaders of the movement—among them several ladies of title—then a band, and then the rank and file of the women. The route was to Synod Hall, where, and also in the hall below, great meetings were held. Thousands of spectators lined the whole route. Bannerettes, rosettes, sashes, badges, and flowers of red and white—the franchise colours—were everywhere displayed. Many of the drivers of hired carriages had be-ribboned their whips, and wore white sashes inscribed in red: "Votes for Women." One of the inscriptions read: "The Woman's Suffrage movement began in 1453, B.C., when equality was decreed (Numbers 27, 3 to 7). When was it repealed?" Another was: "Scots wha hae votes—men," followed in the next carriage by "Scots wha hae nae votes—women."

The "Englishwoman's Review" says that the new Suffrage Bill—Mr Dickinson's—gives the votes to the wives of practically all working men. "It provides that the wife of a voter, if living with her husband, shall ipso facto be entitled to a vote on the strength of his qualification."

"Is you hopin' fer de good times?"

"No, bless God. I got my sleeves rolled up, and I is workin' for em."

—Atlanta Constitution.

* * *

All but one of the nineteen Finnish women members of Parliament are total abstainers.



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 Cashmere Hills, Christchurch.

The White Ribbon :

FOR GOD AND HOME AND HUMANITY.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1907.

“THE FEAST OF THE BABE.”

With flying feet have the months sped by, and the Feast of the Babe is again at hand. Mankind in the aggregate delights in the observance of times and of seasons. And well, indeed, that it is so, for who can “doubt . . . the force of Christmas on the soul.” And what thing better for ourselves and our readers can we wish than that each may actively and consciously share in the bringing in of peace and goodwill on the earth?

A NOBLE BEQUEST.

Great interest has been aroused by the will of the late Mr Allan McLean, of Christchurch. Out of property valued at over half a million, Mr McLean bequeathed one-third to endow his late mansion as a home for indigent gentlewomen, and their children under the age of ten years. The whole scheme of the institution has been carefully elaborated and set down. The home will be controlled by a Board, whose personnel is proof of the catholic generosity of the testator, as well as his business acumen. It includes the Anglican and Catholic Bishops of Christchurch, the Minister of St. Andrew's Church, the Minister of the Durham Street Wes-

leyan Church, the senior Stipendiary Magistrate, the Mayor of Christchurch, the Chairman of the Selwyn County Council, the Chairman of the North Canterbury Hospital Board, the Chairman of the Canterbury College Board of Governors, two of the trustees under the will, and two ladies to be nominated by the other members of the Board. This unique benefaction is designed to cover the needs of many whose sorrows and privations are seldom paraded before the world. J.M.

DOMESTIC HELPS.

The Domestic Help problem is much to the fore. The holiday season, of course, always brings its special difficulties, and many mistresses of households will have to shoulder double duty during the next few weeks. But we cannot expect relief to come after the old order. The problem is, of course, an evolutionary one. New Zealand bred girls, in particular, are too—advanced, shall we say?—to care to “serve” according to ancient custom. And while a few scores or hundreds of domestic helps may be imported, the situation will not be materially affected, for these girls will soon catch the spirit of the country. No, the old order is changing, and we must adapt our homes and our habits to harmonise with the change. But the change can not be on one side alone. While it is well that domestic helps should form unions (as in Wellington and Christchurch), as an affirmation that house-workers have rights even as have other workers, these same domestics must remember that they also have duties. And if the mistress is to concede the righteous de-

mand for fixed hours and stated duties and wages, the maid will have to show that by reason of a term of apprenticeship she is able to rightly perform the work undertaken—that, in fact, she is fitted to rank as a skilled worker.

A much needed lesson as to duty in another direction has just been given. A Christchurch lady had engaged a maid, but the girl (as is so frequently the case), failed to put in an appearance. The disappointed lady took the case to Court and recovered damages from the girl for breach of contract.

SANCTIONING VICE.

The new Gaming Act has, on the whole, been received with acclaim by social reformers as promising to do away with some of the worst features of the gambling evil. A curious position is, however, brought about by this latest attempt to regulate the vice. The ostensible—and in many cases real—object of those who were instrumental in legalising the totalisator was riddance of the bookmakers. The objectionable gentleman (we believe we have as yet no woman bookmakers in New Zealand) would, it was fondly hoped, find his occupation gone. As everyone knows, that object has not been attained. The betting machine and the bookmaker have flourished and fattened side by side, the one has fed the other. This latest gaming legislation not only authorises, but insists on the two evils running in double harness. It is a curious position; but then licensing an evil is apt to bring about curious positions. Necessarily, the Legislature's only sane and ethical course is to re-

fuse absolutely to give its sanction to vice. And the W. C. T. U., having set its hand to the work, must not slacken its efforts until both totalisator and bookmaker are placed under legal and social ban.

REFORMATORY METHODS.

From end to end of the Dominion intense interest is being taken in the Te Oranga Home for Girls at Christchurch, owing to the fact becoming known that whipping and hair-cropping are used as means of punishment for troublesome inmates. The Minister for Education, under whose jurisdiction such homes are carried on, was communicated with by objectors to these modes of punishment, but has only caused further consternation by intimating that whipping and haircutting are permitted by the regulations, and also by implying that he considers such regulation desirable. It has been pointed out that, faulty as our prison system is, women offenders confined in our gaols are never subjected to such degrading treatment. Society at large is sufficiently advanced to see that not reformation, but further deterioration of character must result from such antiquated, barbarous practices, and the sooner the regulations and the administrators of the regulations are brought into accord with the spirit of the age, the happier it will be for all concerned. The case has once more emphasised the fact that our reformatory system needs reforming. We must have better classification of the inmates, and also public surveillance and control of the homes by means of local bodies, composed of men and women, popularly elected.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Nominations for N.Z. W.C.T.U. Officers.—Six Unions—Invercargill, Rangiora, Whangarei, Tariki, Otahuhu, and Stratford—have, during the month, sent in to the Editor their nominations for N.Z. officers. And the only fact to be recorded about these nominations is that the above-named Unions are so assured of the New Zealand work being at present in good hands, that they wish the ladies concerned to continue in harness another year.

*
Mrs Dohrmann.—White Ribboners throughout the Dominion will regret to hear that Mrs Dohrmann's health is not yet re-established, and that she is still laid aside from active work in the cause of social reform. Those who know her whole-hearted enthusiasm in the service of her fellows will understand somewhat of the deprivation this must be to her, and also of the loss to the Temperance and other causes.

*
Women in the Churches.—Largely owing to the influence and liberality of Mr George Bowron, a Deaconesses House has been established in Christchurch in connection with the Methodist Church. The house was formally opened by Mrs Bowron on December 5th. The building is situated on "the verge of the district that most needs its influence," and will serve as residence for the sisters already at work, and also for the probationers in training.

*
Victorian Women Wage-earners.—Nearly one-third of the women of Victoria are wage-earners, 145,000 in all. From inquiries recently made it appears that 97 per cent. of these women who have reached adult age have responsibilities other than their own personal expenses. It is very doubtful indeed if the percentage of men supporting others is as great. And yet a "woman does not need as large a salary as a man"! *

Personal.—We note that Mrs Griffin, for so many years the Secretary of the Blenheim Union, has removed to Hamilton, and has taken secretarial duties in the Union there.


A N.Z. Woman at the Melbourne Women's Work Exhibition.—A Press Association cablegram on November 11th said:—"Among the exhibits at the Women's Exhibition which attracted most attention today was Miss Rout's quite unique display of hand-made books. This New Zealand lady is responsible for some of the most original work in the Applied Art section. Lady Northcote purchased several of Miss Rout's books."

Order of Merit.—On November 30th was cabled the news that the King had been pleased to confer the Order of Merit on Florence Nightingale, "the first lady member to receive the Order." Honour was certainly never more worthily bestowed.

SUBSCRIPTIONS PAID TO DECEMBER 7th 1907.

To June, 1908—Mrs A. S. Hayman 2/6, Miss Kennigton, 2/6, both of Willowby; Mrs Geo. Andrews 2/6, Mrs J. Williams 2/6, both of Ashburton; Mrs Borrows 5/-, Dunedin; Mrs G. Lindsay 2/6, Mrs J. D. McGruer 2/6, Mrs G. Strang 2/6, Mrs J. W. Jamieson, 2/6, Mrs J. Neil 2/6, Mrs A. Weir 2/6, Mrs W. Strang 2/6, Mrs H. Ibbotson 2/6, Mrs Jackson 2/6, Mrs A. Anderson 2/6, Mrs R. Anderson 2/6, Mrs McKinnon 2/6, Mrs Lennie 2/6, Mrs W. B. Scandiott 2/6, Mrs McCurdy 2/6, Mrs S. E. McCarthy 2/6, all of Invercargill; Mrs R. W. Black, Parnell 5/-; Mrs Ingle, Marton, 2/6; Mrs John Blackie, East Taieri, 5/-; Mrs Cole, Cashmere, 2/6; Mrs E. Bicheno, Waitara, 2/6; Mrs H. Forward, St. Albans, 5/-; W.C.T.U., Christchurch, £3; Mrs Melvin, Colyton, 2/6; Mrs Alley, Lower Riccarton, 5/-; Mrs Doull, Otahuhu, 2/6; Mrs R. J. Porter, Oamaru, 5/-; Mrs J. P. Leary, Palmerston, 5/-; Mrs Northcott, Studholme, 3/-; Mrs Ensom, Timaru, 5/-; Mrs K. W. Shepard, Christchurch, 5/-; Mrs Bedford, Dunedin, 2/6; Mrs Mander, Hamilton, 2/6; Miss Maud McGibbon, Gore, 2/6; To June, 1907—Mrs C. W. Baker, Ashburton, 2/6; Mrs R. Glen, Greymouth, 3/1; Mrs Grayburn, Orari, 2/6. To December, 1907—Mrs Gresham, Invercargill, 2/6. To October, 1908—Mrs A. Millar, Invercargill, 2/6. To November, 1907—Mrs Froggart, Invercargill, 1/. To August, 1907—Mrs W. Taylor, Mangere, 2/6. To March, 1908—Mrs Bennett, Eltham, 5/-; W.C.T.U., Waitara, 5/-; Mrs Chisholm, Dunedin, 2/6. To August, 1908—Mrs Cleave, Waitara, 2/6; Miss Jeanie Kitto, Miller's Flat, 2/6; To December, 1908—Mrs Bowmaker, Christchurch, 2/6; Miss Geraldine Wilson, 2/6. To July, 1908—Mrs Steele, Rangiora, 5/-. To September, 1908—Mrs T. Manson, Palmerston North, 5/-.

M. S. COLE,
Business Manager, "White Ribbon."

...  ...

←-- POETRY. --→

CHRISTMAS BELLS.

KATE LUNDEN SUNDERLIN.

Ring, bells of Christmas! Clear adown
the stream
Of changing years the message sounds
again.

Through mists and clouds we see the
starlight's gleam,
And hear once more: "Peace, and good
will to men."

We feel the wingbeats of the angel
band;

We hear the footfall of the coming
King;

Proclaim His presence then, o'er sea
and land:

Ye heralds of His nearing kingdom,
ring!

Ring, bells, not only in yonder ivied
tower,

But send your notes down in the suffer-
ing heart.

Ring freedom in; ring till the evil
powers

Which hold the soul in thralldom shall
depart.

Ring out the selfish greed, the hate, the
strife

Which mar our peace and thwart the
common good;

Ring in the simpler, purer, holier life,
The long-awaited human brotherhood.

Ring, Christmas bells! Ring out the
narrow creeds

Whose tenets clash with all-embracing
love.

God's fatherheart is great as human
needs;

His mercy wider than the realms
above.

Ring in, ring in the years when wars
shall end,

When truth and right shall be a nation's
law;

When each man's conduct with his
faith shall blend—

Christ's golden age, which ancient pro-
phets saw.

Ring, bells of Christmas! Onward
through the night

We press in ceaseless war 'gainst sin
and wrong.

To us your peals announce the breaking
light,

Your strokes are notes of triumph, clear
and strong.

Borne on the bosom of the shifting
stream

Of earth's events, a glow is seen afar,
We follow close the ever brightening
gleam,

And lo! our guide is Bethlehem's
radiant star.

THE TE ORANGA HOME.

At a meeting of the Christchurch W.C.T.U., after a vigorous discussion concerning the Te Oranga Home, the following resolutions were passed:—"That this Union strongly protests against the inhuman system of punishment practised at the Te Oranga Home as savouring more of barbaric times than the twentieth century. The Union considers that in degrading and humiliating the unfortunate girl inmates, in their own eyes and in the eyes of their companions by flogging, cutting off the hair, cell punishment, and similar brutalities, incalculable harm is done in many ways that it is unnecessary to enumerate. Such treatment of girls is an insult to the womanhood of the colony, and should not be tolerated by New Zealand citizens." "That the Union calls upon the Minister of Education to alter these barbaric practices by introducing a more scientific and enlightened system, and so allowing the members to feel assured that his action in all such matters is in the direction of justice and humanity." "That the recent circumstances only emphasise the necessity for local Boards of Control, composed of men and women, which have been often asked for by this Union and other women's societies. This Union also emphasises the great need for careful classification of the inmates."

At a meeting of the Canterbury Women's Institute, held on December 6th, a resolution was adopted asking that the regulation permitting flogging and hair-cropping be annulled.

VICTORIAN SUFFRAGETTES.

A novel idea, happily less painful than English suffragette methods, has been carried out by the franchise leaders in Victoria. Victoria, strange to say, is the one Australian country where the women have no vote for Parliament, though, like all other Australian women, they may vote for the Senate. At a large meeting in Melbourne, a kind of historic panorama was presented of woman's share in the world's work; this pictorial pleading being amply

supplemented by a speech from Miss Vida Goldstein. Among other disabilities, Miss Goldstein emphasised unequal pay and married women having no legal right to their own children. Both these anomalies prevail here, though we have had the franchise fifteen years.

J.M.

A HOME FOR INEBRIATES.

All lovers of reform will be glad to hear that the Salvation Army has secured Bell's Island, Auckland, from the Government as a Home for Inebriates. The formal opening is expected to take place at the end of January. The home will accommodate fifty persons. If the experiment is successful, similar homes will be established in Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin, as soon as the Army can obtain suitable properties.

The Salvation Army has also bought an estate at Middlemarch, Otago, comprising a fine house of twenty large rooms, as well as 17 acres of good land. It is possible that this may be turned into an Inebriates' Home, but more probable that it will become an institution for boys. Colonel Knight says that the Army is considering a similar home for girls.

J.M.



THE HOME.

TWENTY YEARS OF HUMILIATION
WITH MY HUSBAND.

AS TOLD BY THE WIFE.

In which there is a moral, but not told,
for many a husband and wife.

For five years I had been self-supporting, my salary being a good one (for a woman), and when I decided to join my fortunes to those of the man I loved, I thought I knew the possibilities, as well as the limitations, of a modest income.

John's position in life was a humble one, and his salary little more than mine had been, but we were rich in happy anticipation, and were content to begin life together in the man-

not suited to our means (or lack of means). I felt envious of no one when settled in our little home. I had brought with me a trousseau complete and appropriate, with a supply of bed and table linen, a few really fine pictures, and the nucleus of a good library, besides a small sum of money. Having been "independent" for so long, I experienced a certain pride in being able to do this, and was determined to help as far as possible in the home making and keeping. My husband and I were in accord on most subjects, and he was sincere in his efforts to make me happy; so our married life began auspiciously. John attended to all the household accounts, and I ordered where and what I thought best, having the weekly or monthly statements sent to him, as he requested.

The first year passed, as it usually does under such circumstances, with much happiness and few shadows, these only serving to emphasise the beauty of the customary sunshine. About that time, however, my purse was empty, for, while my personal needs had been few, I had found it convenient to spend now and then for the house, charity and incidentals one feels obliged to provide for. The financial question had never been discussed by us except in a general way, yet the time came when the query naturally arose in my mind:

Shall I have to ask

John for money? Common sense answered: "Do not ask. Simply state your need of a certain amount, and suggest the wisdom of apportioning to you each week a similar sum." But pride replied: "That shouldn't be necessary; John knows, or ought to, that you need money, that he has never given you any, and that he ought to offer it."

I held my peace for another period, outwardly calm, but inwardly warring. I vainly tried on numerous occasions to get my courage to the proper pitch. Yet when the crucial moment arrived, my heart was in my throat, and I could not utter a word on the dreaded topic. Finally, in desperation, I controlled my feelings and voice sufficiently to say that I should have to have a few dollars for such and such purpose. Cowardly, I'll admit, and perhaps inexplicable to one who had not encountered a similar difficulty. John apparently took no notice of anything unusual in my voice or manner, and pleasantly said, "Is your money all gone? Well, I guess I can spare a little," in an endeavour to be facetious. A day or two later he handed me the sum I had asked for, and the subject was dropped.

It was some time before I ventured to say "Money" again; but as the good man didn't, I found I must. This time the feeling of injury or injustice was strong, but I mentally braced myself for the encounter, and said I'd like a little money if he could spare it. "Why, of course; how much do you want?"

Truly, I think he was perfectly willing, even glad, to cater to my "wants," and

didn't for an instant suspect he was hurting me or treating me unfairly. But how I suffered before and after each approach of the purse! I cut down personal expenses to a degree that was uncomfortable and unwarranted, meanwhile on frequent occasions enduring sensations of miserliness quite foreign to my nature.

And thus the years passed. Our family numbered five; the income had, fortunately, increased somewhat as the expenses had, and we lived comfortably and, on the whole, contentedly. John was kind and affectionate as ever, proud of his wife and children, and firm in the belief that no man had brighter and better. His individual tastes were not extravagant, and it was his pleasure to bring or send home, from time to time, books, fruit, confections, or even some article of personal adornment, to and to our pleasure. We always appreciated the attention and affection which prompted it, even though we might sometimes wish

the selection could have been made

by the recipient. This was usually the case when books were given, and once I ventured to say I would have been glad to select volumes from several authors rather than have the complete works of one which had just come home in ten volumes. "Why, I thought you would be sure to like these, and I thought, too, they would be fine for the children by-and-bye," said John, in such a disappointed tone that I could only hasten to assure him I did like them, and that probably it was better after all to get books in sets occasionally.

Every few months my pen brought small sums, but I had so little "rested" leisure that I was able to earn but little this way, and none in any other. When a cheque arrived, how I gloated over it! It assumed gigantic proportions, and my intention was to invest it immediately in half a dozen different directions, any one of which would have left me insolvent! However, I thoroughly enjoyed the possession, and firmly, if selfishly, made up my mind that it should provide something for myself which would otherwise never be mine! I found it difficult to decide on the object. I had numerous "wants," trivial, perhaps, yet seemingly insistent. My decision, after pending for several days, not infrequently fell on some family necessity which my cheque could compass, and I derived the greatest satisfaction from the thought that I had again spent a few dollars of my own!

My sense of justice or fairness is strong, and I innately rebelled from asking for anything which was mine by right, but which was not accorded me unless I asked for it. But this same sense of justice would occasionally lead me to suggest the advantage to us both in giving me some stated allowance, however small. Each time I was met with something like this: "Why, mamma, don't you have everything you

need, as far as we can afford it?" in such a surprised tone that I was immediately conscience stricken, and "money" was absent from vocabulary and purse for another interval.

When we reached the tenth milestone on our life-journey, John went into business for himself, and for several years we were obliged to economise as we had during the first two or three years. I did my best, and was generally considered "a good manager." I surely tried to be, and was fortunate in

having had an all-round training

which enabled me to take hold at almost any point, though physical limitations sometimes interfered with my ambitions.

The years went on, and money matters continued in the same well-worn groove, the statements of expense being sent regularly to John, after I had O.K'd them. If I announced it would be necessary for me to visit a near-by town soon to make purchases which could not be made at home, the response was: "All right, let me know when you are ready." When my plans were completed, I was expected to state how much money I would require, and I named the smallest amount I could do with, though more than once I had a reckless desire to say double that sum. On several occasions it happened that the subject of finances between husband and wife was discussed in our presence, and John used to say: "When I was drawing a salary we had but one purse, and I handed my money over to the real head of the house," smiling in my direction. I used to smile, too, but not for the same reason, and would discreetly hold my peace, deriving comfort from the thought that others did not know all I did on the vexed question. Once, directly appealed to with: "Did he really do that, Mrs J—?" I replied: "I don't want to spoil him by holding him up as a model, but I'll just say he's generally pretty fair to me, and I shouldn't complain." This ambiguous answer was sufficient for my friends, and I felt justified in thus sparing my husband. I couldn't help wondering how he felt, for I knew he was not intentionally misleading, even though I could not understand by what mental process he had come to the stand he had. I loved him too truly to wish to wound or anger him.

Time passed, and I was still travelling the proverbial "long lane," when our twentieth anniversary approached. One day a daughter, now of an age to hold some decided opinions of her own, was telling (as girls sometimes will), how her house should be "run," her father and I assisting by an occasional question or comment. She stated very emphatically that her husband should allow her a certain amount each month for household expenses, and a second one for her individual use.

"Yes, that would be a fine idea," I said, "but how would you manage it?"

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"Manage it? Why, I'll have it all perfectly understood before we are married," was her reply.

"Oh," was mine; and her father said: "That's right. Just make him understand that it's a regular allowance, or no wife, and you will probably have no trouble." Then, looking towards me, he remarked, "I always used to hand the money over to your mother when I was getting a salary."

Then the turn of the lane appeared, and perhaps unwisely, but with no "malice aforethought," I said: "John, please don't repeat that fairy tale again. I presume you have told it so many times, you begin to believe it is true."

Of course I shouldn't have said this, and I can advance every conceivable argument against me which anyone else could; but I was very tired, and the last straw found me unequal to the burden imposed.

John's eyes flashed as he quietly asked, "What do you mean?"

"I mean that you never made a practice of handing me any sum, small or large, either for my use or for the house, and that I don't care to hear you say again that you always did it."

John continued to look at me; the daughter left the room, respecting us too much to want to witness so unusual a scene, and I continued: "You should have done it. Many men do it; but you didn't. I feel it more, perhaps, than if I had not had my own money for so long, and it doesn't make it any easier when you delude yourself and others into believing you've been generous to me in this matter, when you haven't.

You haven't even been just, and I am sick and tired of asking for every cent I want to spend. A share of your income should be mine by right, and not by courtesy."

John said nothing, and whether more pained or angry I didn't know, but he quickly left the room and the house.

I can scarcely tell my feelings during the next hour. At first I felt indignant,

then hurt, repentant, and finally debased. Why had I let my tongue run away with my discretion? Why couldn't I have endured to the end? Would the next score of years have been harder than the past in this respect? Yet why should I endure? There is such a thing as righteous indignation, and I felt it was mine at the moment. I had been doing my utmost to live my ideal in home and family, yet the very article without which home and family can be neither real nor ideal was withheld from my hand. Still, I had wounded John, and lowered us both in the esteem of our eldest daughter! And, poor John, he had gone without the customary good-bye!

So I did what I had done before, for I could not let resentment rankle long in the heart of a loved one. I sat down and wrote a little note of regret, asking him not to have hard feelings over what I had said; that each time I had mentioned money adjustment to him I had vowed I never would again, for we simply saw the matter from different view-points; that as long as we had each other and our children to love and live for, we had plenty to make us very happy, and money or the lack of it must not come between us.

This I despatched by messenger, and then with a lighter heart went about my duties. The subject was not broached again, nor the note alluded to, though John was unusually reserved when he returned.

One morning a few days later, after John had gone, I discovered on my dresser a little pile of money—paper and silver—which I intuitively knew was meant for me. Was I pleased? Truly, I recoiled from it, and felt it was the outward expression of the continued reserve on John's part. My first impulse was to ignore it, for the dollars would be poor recompense for the lack of sympathy. A harder feeling followed, and I reasoned that it would be folly not to take what the gods offered—yet

I knew I could not enjoy possession gained as this had been. I did not touch the money for some hours, for it seemed tangible evidence of my unfortunate outburst. But

believing I was justified,

I finally put it in my purse. I did not part with it in haste—I had no idea of the use for which it was intended, and as John did not mention it I likewise remained silent on the subject, and awaited developments. The following week the same sum appeared in the same manner, but the barrier between the heads of the house was impassable as ever, and one of them, at least, was in a quandary, and sometimes wondered if it were worth while, after all. But, fortunately, or unfortunately, "grit" is an important factor in my make-up, and I didn't retreat from the stand I had taken, and was holding through an uncomfortable experience. In a month's time, during which the money had regularly appeared without comment or suggestion, the coolness gradually dissipated, and I adjusted myself to the new order, wondering how long it would continue. No explanation was ever made. I paid certain accounts regularly, and used the balance for clothes and incidentals.

Two years and more have elapsed, and conditions are the same. Occasionally the remittance does not appear; I say nothing, but do a little more calculating, and cut off expense where I can best do so. John has apparently forgotten that any other system ever existed, and I earnestly try to forget the circumstance which led to the change, and over which I still have qualms. I can but feel that the stand I took at so late a day might have been more advantageously taken earlier, when John would have responded more cordially; he would have been spared a deep wound, and I the long occupancy of a position of inferiority deplorably humiliating.

—The New Ladies' Home Journal.

Women's Christian Temperance Union

OF NEW ZEALAND.

ORGANISED - 1885.

'For God, and Home, and Humanity.'

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CHRISTCHURCH W.C.T.U.

GENERAL MEETING second Wednesday,
2.30 p.m.; Educational Meeting fourth
Wednesday, 2.30 p.m.; at the Y.W.C.A. Rooms,
Gloucester Street.President—Miss Roberts, Livingston Street,
Linwood.

Recor. Sec.—Miss W. W. Smith,

Corresponding Secretary.—Mrs Day, Bligh's
Road, Papanui.

Treasurer—Mrs Seed, Hereford St.

KAIAPOI W.C.T.U. COFFEE ROOMS.

OPEN Daily. Union meets second and last
Wednesday, 3 p.m. Pres.—Mrs F. Harrison.
Sec. and Agent for WHITE RIBBON—Mrs
Soulby. Assistant-Sec.—Mrs T. B. Ward.
Treas.—Mrs. T. G. Blackwell.

NAPIER W. C. T. U.

THE Union meets on 1st Wed. and 3rd
Thurs., in St. Paul's Schoolroom, at 3 p.m.
Pres.—Mrs Oldham, France Rd. Rec. Sec.—
Mrs E. A. Israel, Edwards St. Cor. Sec.—Miss
Guy, Madeira Steps. Treas.—Mrs Ingram,
Cameron Rd. Home Meetings and Press Work,
Mrs Israel; Purity, Mrs Sandilands, Fitzroy
Rd.; Literature, Miss E. McKechnie, Havelock
Rd. WHITE RIBBON Agent, Mrs Freeman,
Carlyle St.

HASTINGS W. C. T. U.

UNION meets 1st Wed. in month in St.
Andrew's Hall. Pres., Mrs Boyle, Lyndon
Rd.; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Tinsley, Ram-
say, and Gray; Sec., Mr. S. Heighway, Alex-
andra St.; Treas., Mrs McLellan, Southamp-
ton Rd.; W. R. Agent, Miss Heighway.

REEFTON W.C.T.U.

THE Union meets on the second Wednes-
day in the month, in the Wesleyan
Parsonage, Shiel St. Pres., Mrs McClymont;
Treas., Miss Roberts; Sec., Mrs R. Wills;
Assist. Sec., Mrs Jas. Lawn; Vice-Pres., Mrs
Watson; W. R. Reporter, Mrs Humphries.WAIPAWA W.C.T.U. meets on third
Thursday in the month at 3 p.m. Pres.,
Mrs Bilby; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Frost and
Cowx; Secs., Mesdames Frost and McLean;
WHITE RIBBON Agent Miss Barnet.

RANGIORA W. C. T. U.

THE UNION meets on the last Friday
of the month, in the ante-room of the
Institute Hall at 2.30 p.m. Pres.—Mrs Pinfold.
Sec. Mrs Metherell. Treas.—Mrs McKenzie.

BLENHEIM W.C.T.U.

THE UNION meets on the first Tuesday in
the month at 3 p.m. Pres.—Mrs Rose, Keg-
worth. Sec.—Miss S. Rogers. Treas.—Mrs Hay.
WHITE RIBBON Agent—Mrs W. Parker.

AUCKLAND W. C. T. U.

GENERAL Meeting in the Central Mission
Hall, Albert Street, Second and Fourth
Wednesday, 3 p.m. Executive meets 2.30

President—Mrs. Dewar, Ponsonby.

Treasurer—Mrs Hughes, Mount Eden.

WHITE RIBBON Agent—Mrs R. M. Wallis,
Mount Eden Road.Secretary—Mrs W. F. Seymour, 43 Brown
Street, Ponsonby.Correspondent—Mrs L. P. Christie, St.
Stevens Avenue, Parnell.WELLINGTON W.C.T.U. President—
Mrs Boxall, 23 Constable St. Secretary
—Mrs J. W. Taylor, Boxhill, Brooklyn. Treas.
—Miss E. Wilkinson, 20, Pirie-st. WHITE RIB-
BON Agent—Mrs Amos, 86 Rintoul St. Union
meets first Thursday in each month, in Girls'
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DUNEDIN W. C. T. U.

GENERAL MEETING held in the Y. W.
C. A. Rooms, Moray Place, First Tuesday
in the month, at 3 p.m.President—Mrs W. R. Don. Secretary—
Miss Pearson. Treasurer—Mrs Evans. Cor-
respondent—Miss Moody Bell.Agent for Writing Pad.—Mrs Heatley, Belle-
knowes.WHITE RIBBON Agent—Miss McCarthy, 99,
Cannongate St.

INVERCARGILL W.C.T.U.

GENERAL Meeting held on the first
Tuesday of every month in Allen's
Hall, Kelvin Street, at 3 p.m.

President—Mrs Baird, Spey Street.

Secretary—Mrs Mitchell, The Parsonage,
North Road

Treasurer—Mrs Small, Gladstone.

WHITE RIBBON Agent—Mrs Strang

FEILDING W.C.T.U.

THE UNION meets on first Thursday in
the month, at 2.30 p.m., in Presbyterian
Schoolroom. President—Mrs Budd. Treas.
—Mrs Frost. Cor. Sec., Mrs Wood. Rec. Sec.,
Mrs G. Spence, Kimbolton Rd. WHITE RIB-
BON Agent—Mrs Burnley.

PETONE W.C.T.U.

THE UNION meets in the Church of
Christ, Sydney-street, on first Tues-
day, at 3 p.m. President—Mrs Rowse. Vice-
President, Mrs Jackson (Life Member). Sec.
—Mrs J. M. Jansen. Treas.—Mrs D. B. Howe.LYTTELTON W.C.T.U. meets in the
Methodist Schoolroom on 1st, 3rd, and 5th
Wednesdays in the month. Pres., Mrs. Whit-
by; Sec., Mrs Bromley; Treas., Mrs Clark.TIMARU W.C.T.U.—Meetings are held the
1st Tuesday in each month at 7.30 p.m. in the
Sailors Rest. Pres., Mrs F. Smith; Sec., Miss
Avison; Treas., Miss Sibly.

NEW PLYMOUTH W.C.T.U.

THE UNION meets the last Wednesday in
the month, in Baptist Church, at 3 p.m.
President, Mrs A. Douglas. Cor. Secretary,
Miss Ambury. Treas.—Miss Sadler. WHITE
RIBBON Agent—Miss Taunt, Victoria Road.

WANGANUI W.C.T.U.

THE UNION meets in the St. Paul's Class-
room, on the first Friday in every month.
Pres.—Mrs J. Smith. Sec.—Miss Tucker, 73,
Campbell-st. Treas.—Mrs McLeod. WHITE
RIBBON Agent, Miss Brechin.

NELSON W.C.T.U.

THE UNION meets in the Methodist School-
room, on the second Tuesday in the
month, at 3 p.m. Pres.—Mrs Crump. Sec.—
Miss M. Wilson, Waimea St. Treas.—Miss
Atkinson.

TARIKI W.C.T.U.

THE UNION meets every third Tuesday in
the month, at 2 p.m., in the Wesleyan
Schoolroom. Pres.—Mrs Eason, Tariki. Sec.—
Mrs J. E. Fenwick, Waipuku. Treas.—Mrs
W. H. Fenwick, Tariki.

DEVONPORT W.C.T.U.

THE UNION meets on the last Wednesday
in the month, in the Wesleyan School-
room, at 3 p.m. President—Mrs Wilkinson
Secretary—Mrs Veats. Treasurer—Mrs Butler

LOWER HUTT W.C.T.U.

THE UNION meets on the last Tuesday in
the month, at 3 p.m. Pres.—Mrs Garlick.
Sec.—Mrs S. Strand. Treas.—Mrs Routly,
W. R. Agent.—Mrs Ledbrook.

GREYMOUTH W.C.T.U.

MEETS first Wednesday in the month at 3
p.m., in the Vestry of the Methodist
Church. Pres.—Mrs Gaskin. Treas. Mrs
Sweetman. Sec.—Mrs Hansen.

HAMILTON W.C.T.U.

THE UNION meets on the First Thursday
of the month in the Methodist School-
room. Pres., Mrs J. M. Jones, Kirikiriroa,
Waikato; Sec., Mrs Fee, Parsonage, Hamil-
ton; Assis. Sec. and Reporter to the Press,
Mrs Maunder; Treas., Mrs Norris.

GISBORNE W.C.T.U.

UNION meets 2nd Thurs. in the month in
the Presbyterian Schoolroom at 3.30 p.m.
Pres., Mrs A. Graham, Kaiti; Sec., Mrs N. F.
Walker, Fox St; Treas., Mrs D. McLeod;
WHITE RIBBON Agent, Mrs Akroyd.

LEVIN W.C.T.U.

THE UNION meets on the first Wednesday
in the month, at 3 p.m. Pres., Mrs J.
Wrigley, the Parsonage; Sec., Miss Scott,
Dist. High School; Treas., Mrs Gibson, Win-
chester St.

ASHBURTON W.C.T.U.

THE Union meets on the Second Tuesday
in the month in the Templar Hall. Pres.,
Mrs W. T. Lill, Willowby; Sec., Miss Alice
Watt; Treas., Mrs Kingston; WHITE RIBBON
Agent, Miss Butterick, Wakanui.