

The White Ribbon

FOR GOD AND HOME AND HUMANITY

VOL. 9.—No. 97.

CHRISTCHURCH, N.Z., JUNE, 1903.

2s 6d Per Annum
Post Free.

Triennial Convention of the W.C.T.U. of Australasia.

The fifth Triennial Convention of the W.C.T.U. of Australasia opened in the Independent Church, Collins-street, Melbourne, on April 28, Mrs Nicholls (Australasian President) presiding.

Altogether 150 delegates, representing all the states of the Commonwealth, as well as New Zealand, were present.

Owing (says the Melbourne *Argus*) to the business-like manner in which the proceedings were conducted a great deal of work was accomplished, and as each of the speakers was compelled to adhere rigidly to the time limit of 10 minutes allotted them the programme for the day was concluded. The morning was devoted almost entirely to the conduct of formal business incidental to a gathering of the kind, such as the appointment of officers and committees. In addition, a short memorial service was held, when tributes to the memory of Mrs Love, Mrs Barber, Mrs Thomas, and Mrs Lyall were paid by Mrs Phillips and Lady Holder. Mrs Elliott and Mrs Hansen (Western Australia), Mrs Cole (Queensland), Mrs Harrison Lee (New South Wales), and Mrs Pettifer (Victoria) were appointed delegates to represent the

reports dealing with the young women's work, juvenile work, organisation, heredity and hygiene, scientific temperance instruction, anti-opium and narcotics, Sunday-school work, literature, the press, medal contests, systematic giving, Christian citizenship, world's



MRS. S. PAGE,
PRESIDENT OF THE CANTERBURY WOMEN'S
INSTITUTE.

missionary fund, and evangelistic and cottage meetings were read, and the presidential address was delivered by Mrs Nicholls.

vity in the world of Temperance. The second World's Temperance Congress, held in London in 1900, brought together 1000 delegates, nearly every country and nearly every phase of temperance work being represented. Following on that, legislative enactment for the more satisfactory regulation or the prohibition and suppression of the drink curse had been eagerly sought for in many lands, while temperance organisations composed of medical men had been largely multiplying. There was now a growing spirit of inquiry concerning the properties of alcohol among the medical profession generally. In a recent discussion concerning the causes of tuberculosis eminent doctors in Great Britain, America, France and Germany had made strong indictments of alcohol as one of the most potent causes of that disease, and in 1900 a company of Russian scientists issued an outline of their study of alcoholism extending over two years, in which they agreed upon a series of propositions strongly condemnatory of intoxicants.

MEETING IN THE MELBOURNE TOWN HALL.

A largely-attended rally was held in the Town Hall in the evening, at which Mr Deakin (Federal Attorney-General) presided. Prior to 8 o'clock, Mr W. R. Bennetts gave an organ

Singers" (Mackenzie), and the "Hallelujah" chorus (*Messiah*), and, aided by the eloquence of the speakers, roused the audience to a high pitch of enthusiasm.

Mr Deakin received a splendid welcome. He said the W.C.T.U. had immense claims upon the consideration of the community, as it represented a great army of half a million souls. Besides that, it represented them in 40 nations—in fact, all the world over. (Cheers.) And yet the origin of the movement was not more than 30 years old:—Its organisation as a world's force was only 20 years old, while as an Australian federal union it was no more than 12 years old. In that short space of time it had become one of those great modern social and religious growths which was doing so much to shape the history of this time, and perhaps the history of the times that are to come. When speaking of such unions there was one name which never would be and never ought to be forgotten—the name of that grand and noble woman Frances Willard. (Cheers). Tens of thousands of people were entering into that woman's labours, the result of her genius for organisation. The chief and primary objects of the W.C.T.U. were to wage incessant warfare against the drink traffic and abuses of opium, tobacco, and drugs of a similar nature, and to preach the gospel of abstinence from gambling and other pernicious dissipations. Its motto was a noble one. Two-thirds of it was the motto of one of the greatest and best political saints that the last century had seen—Joseph Mazzini—whose watchword was "God and Humanity." But as a woman's union they had added the source of women's power, and chosen for their motto, "God, Home, and Humanity." (Cheers). The home was where the best reforms must be centred, and in beginning there they had begun at the tap-root of all possible advance. They had now entered into the field of politics, and had put forward proposals for the enfranchisement of women. He was proud to say that the Federal Parliament had in its first year recognised the justice of that claim, and by granting adult franchise it had established over a greater single area than any other portion of the world the joint citizenship of men with women. (Cheers). He hoped that the union based upon home would prove one of the most potent factors for converting each state into a home, each nation into a family, and finally

uniting the universal families of mankind.

Other speakers were Mrs Nicholls, Mrs Nolan (New South Wales president), the Rev. Canon Boyce (Sydney), and the Rev. S. P. Carey, of the Collins street Baptist Church.

At the conclusion of the meeting the "membership banner" for the state union which had made the biggest increase in its membership during the past three years was handed over to Mrs M'Lean (Victorian president) by the president of the New South Wales Union, the previous holder. "We in New South Wales," said Mrs Nolan in making the presentation, "have been so accustomed to handing over things to Victoria that this proceeding seems quite natural."

RESOLUTIONS AND PETITION.

The following two days were occupied in dealing with the various reports, and on the last day several resolutions brought forward by the resolution committee, advocating temperance teaching in state schools and a renewal of the union's efforts to secure the extension of the franchise, were carried unanimously, while a congratulatory vote was accorded Mr Hickford, M.L.A., for his remarks in support of the abolition of the Parliamentary bar. The principles of the W.C.T.U., which embrace, among other things, a demand for the recognition of an equal standard of morals for both sexes and the payment of equal wages to both sexes for the same work, were also most enthusiastically carried.

Mrs Rooke (Tasmania) was elected Australasian President in succession to Mrs Nicholls, who had held that position for eight years.

Before separating, the Convention decided to petition the Federal Parliament, praying that the federal capital should be a prohibition city; and it also fixed the place of meeting for the next triennial convention at Hobart.

PUBLIC AND SOCIAL FUNCTIONS.

The public functions included a Christian Citizenship and White Cross meeting, at which Mr Ramsay, M.L.A., presided, and an "Elocutionary Contest." The social element was provided by a Garden Party, held at the residence of Mr and Mrs James Ballantyne, Malvern, and three luncheons, the entertainers being the Melbourne Total Abstinence Society, the Victorian Alliance, and the Sons and Daughters of Temperance.



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

Kaipoi.

Our last meeting was held on 27th May, when there was a large attendance. The secretary read correspondence from Miss Powell re organising agent, but it was decided to adhere to resolution passed at last meeting—that this union, although sympathising with and realising the need in some parts of New Zealand for an organising agent, could not see its way clear to find the 30s necessary every quarter towards the expenses.

Mrs Ritchie, our delegate, gave an interesting report of Convention, dealing more particularly with the different points brought forward in Mrs Atkinson's paper. Mrs Soulby thanked all those members who had made her trip to Hanmer possible. She had greatly benefited by the change. (This was done as a small recognition of our secretary's long and devoted service to the union.) It was decided to hold a sale of work on July 3rd and 4th. Mrs Ritchie handed in her resignation as president, saying she exceedingly regretted that circumstances had arisen which compelled her to do so. Several members expressed their regret at losing Mrs Ritchie. Mrs Blackwell was elected president for the remainder of the year.

Christchurch

The usual meeting of the union was held on May 27th. It was reported that on May 7th an entertainment, followed by a tea, was given by members and a few friends to the inmates of the Jubilee Home, Woolston. Mrs West presided, and also gave a very amusing reading. Miss Roberts also gave a reading. A good musical programme was contributed by lady and gentleman friends.

Auckland.

At our last meeting two new members were enrolled. Our president, Mrs Dewar, has gone to Canada, and will probably be away for three months. In her absence the chair was taken by Mrs Johnston, vice-president. A short discussion on the claims of the WHITE RIBBON took place, and another pound was voted towards it. It was decided that a public meeting be held the first

week in July, Miss Hughes, the organising agent, taking the matter in hand, with other helpers, to make it a gigantic success.

Lower Hutt.

A number of the Petone W. C. T.U. members visited the Lower Hutt on May 12, to organise a branch of the same. Mrs Jackson, their president, took the chair. Eleven members were enrolled, and the following officers elected:—President, Mrs Spilman; vice-presidents, Mrs Marten and Mrs Marshall; secretary, Miss M. Jenness; treasurer, Mrs H. Baker. It was decided to hold the meetings on the second Tuesday of each month, beginning on June 9, 1903.

Invercargill.

At our April meeting we had the pleasure of hearing Mrs Ritchie, of Kaiapoi, give a short evangelistic address, which was very much enjoyed. Our last meeting, held on May 5th, was very well attended, Mrs Baird in the chair. Satisfaction was expressed that the Hospital singing band, which had got rather scattered owing to Mrs Lyons' removal north, was to be re-organised under Miss Hardie. Mrs Macalister, our delegate to Convention, gave a very clear and interesting report of the work done in Convention.

Onehunga.

The monthly meeting was held on May 14th. Miss Dewar, our delegate, gave an interesting report of the Convention held in Dunedin. Miss Hughes also gave us a short address. The president welcomed Mrs Wilding, who has lately come to this district, and who has been an active member of the union in Mt. Morgan, Queensland. At the close afternoon tea was handed round.

It was decided at a previous meeting, that each member should give 6d a quarter for the organising agent, and 3d a quarter to the WHITE RIBBON.

Wellington.

An excellent meeting was held on 7th May, and all were glad to welcome Mrs Gaskin, who was on her way home from Convention. One of our members read a good paper on Gambling and a lively discussion followed, our visitor reading an apt quotation from an English periodical. One new member was enrolled. Several new subscribers to the WHITE RIBBON have been obtained during the month. Encouraging reports from the Girls' Association

room were received. The girls are appreciating the efforts made to provide pleasant evenings. We heartily thank all who assisted us in paying off £50 of the mortgage. When the remaining £400 is paid off we hope to add to the building, and so provide comfortable living rooms for girls who have no homes.

Feilding.

Our branch, in response to a request from the late Convention, decided to contribute £3 annually towards the salary of an organising agent for the colony. The local secretary was appointed to supply Temperance matter for the half column space kindly promised by the proprietors of the Feilding "Star." Our Band of Hope monthly meetings are well attended, and new pledges are taken at each meeting.



* SOCIETIES. *



Canterbury Women's Institute.

A general meeting of the Canterbury Women's Institute was held on May 29th. The Women's Christian Temperance Union wrote, asking the Institute to join in giving a farewell social to Mrs Sheppard. It was decided that the president and secretary should attend the next meeting of the Union to assist in making the necessary arrangements. The following resolution, forwarded by the Progressive Liberal Association, was carried:—"That in the interests of the people this Institute considers it desirable that the State shall obtain possession of the Bank of New Zealand, with the object of making it a State institution, and that this Institute is also of opinion that the management of the bank should be vested in a Board, the members of which, together with the manager of the bank, should be appointed by Parliament." Copies of the resolution were ordered to be forwarded to the Premier and the members of Parliament for the district. The perusal of a letter addressed to one of the members of the Institute led to discussion regarding the training and organisation of domestic helps. It was pointed out that a home was necessary for those temporarily out of work, as well as an institution where girls could be trained and receive certificates of efficiency.

It was recognised that properly conducted housework entailed much forethought and labour, such as could not be adequately recompensed by the usual rate of pay. Girls should become specialists in housework or in special portions, and would then command much respect and consideration. It was resolved—"That domestic helps be invited to attend the next general meeting of the Institute, when the question of training and organisation could be considered, and that the Trades and Labour Council should be asked to send delegates to assist in the meeting." A letter was received calling attention to the late distressing case of infanticide at Napier, and after a debate, in which the number of cases of indecent assault brought before the recent criminal session held in Christchurch and elsewhere, was deplored, it was resolved—"That this Institute considers that in all cases in which women and children are being tried women should serve on the jury, and the cases should be heard in camera, the presence of the jury and of the representatives of the Press being sufficient safeguard for the attainment of justice." A copy was ordered to be forwarded to the Minister of Justice.

The Degenerate.

A meeting was held in Christchurch on June 4, under the auspices of St. Saviour's Guild, to see what steps should be taken in regard to the immorality referred to by Justice Denniston at a recent sitting of the Supreme Court in Christchurch. Members of Parliament were present by invitation, and Bishop Julius, Warden of the Guild, presided.

Mr Hastings-Bridge said that the matter had been brought forward by the number of cases that had lately come before the Courts, by the Judge's remarks, and by the opinions expressed by the jury. The council of the Guild thought that steps should be taken to unite with other bodies and decide upon some definite course of action. All who were engaged in the work of the Guild, and in similar work, should combine in the present case, so that the evil which was striking at the very manhood of the community should be checked. He had asked Dr. Symes, who took an active interest in the matter, to move the first motion.

Dr. Symes said that he spoke with a deep sense of responsibility. He had spent the best portion of his life in

studying the question of crime against the person. For twenty-six years he had been police surgeon here, and medical expert to the Crown in criminal cases. He had an opportunity of examining every person tried in the Supreme Court for those offences. He also had medical charge of the two reformatories here. It had been asserted that the degenerate class was increasing, proportionately, more rapidly than the rest of the population, and that the consequent growth of our gaols, asylums and numerous charitable institutions was gradually becoming a serious burden to the country. It had been proved in older countries that a considerable proportion of the crime and insanity belonged to a limited number of families. Mr Havelock Ellis, in his book on "The Criminal," had shown how a few notorious criminals had been the direct ancestors of many hundreds of the prisoners in American gaols. It was surely our duty to protect the next generation from such an evil legacy. In the case of an incorrigible offender we might surely refuse to let him propagate crime indefinitely. The motion he had prepared was as follows:—"(1) That, in cases of indecent assault, the principle of corporal punishment should be generally approved; (2) that in cases of the most serious, or repeated offences against women and children, the offender should be committed to a penal colony on an island for an indefinite period; (3) that inmates of the island colony should be offered the option of surgical sterilisation, in mitigation of a part, or the whole of their sentence." It was his firm conviction that while corporal or other punishment might be an effective deterrent to offenders of normal constitution, it was more or less useless in the case of offenders of the degenerate type.

The great questions in dealing with offenders of the degenerate class were the interests of society and the interests of the offender. Society required protection from outrage, and the prevention of propagation of such faulty stock. The offender, who was the victim of ancestral defects, and was not adapted for normal society, required a home suited to his condition. Such a home could be offered by an island, where he could live in a natural and more primitive way, freed from much of the restraint of normal society, and subject only to such supervision and control as would be necessary to preserve order.

Mrs Cunningham seconded the mo-

tion, saying that Dr. Symes's suggestions were based on scientific facts, and went to the root of the matter.

On the suggestion of Mr T. E. Taylor, the reference to an island colony was deleted from the motion, as it would lead to too much discussion.

Mr Laurensen said that the degenerates must not be allowed to propagate their race. Dr. Symes had given them an admirable paper. He believed that Parliament and the people were ready to deal with those questions. The matter could be dealt with almost from a Christian point of view. If Christians were co-workers with God, they could carry out their duty by trying to raise mankind, and by trampling out the ape and the tiger.

Bishop Julius said, No doubt, as the members had been good enough to attend, the matter would be taken up and discussed, and, perhaps, the Government would be induced to believe that noxious lives were as hurtful to the country as noxious weeds.

The motion was altered to read as follows:—"That in aggravated cases of immorality, offenders should be made subject to an indeterminate sentence."

In that form it was carried

Mr Hastings Bridge brought up the question of giving power to magistrates and judges to clear their courts during the hearing of certain cases. The Guild had been emboldened to bring the matter forward owing to the remarks of Mr Justice Denniston on two occasions.

The Rev. H. T. Purchas seconded the motion.

Mr S. S. Blackburne moved:—"That in the opinion of this meeting it shall be the duty of all parents to register their children in the father's name, subject to penalties for non-compliance with this requirement; provided that in the case of children born out of wedlock, if the father is not a consenting party to the registration, it shall only be completed after magisterial inquiry, and that, if then the parentage cannot be ascertained to the satisfaction of the magistrate the registration shall be made in the name of the mother." He said that there might be illegitimate union between parents, but there was no such thing as an illegitimate child. (Hear, hear.)

Mr Hastings Bridge seconded the motion, saying that the father should be made equally responsible with the mother.

The motion was carried.

Report on Sabbath Observance.

In submitting a report on this matter, I cannot speak of much accomplished, but of encouragement on many sides. Literature has been ordered by seven unions, but friends have personally written of the value of the papers sent. One of these is a monthly two leaved magazine, "The Pearl of Days," with beautiful illustrations, often giving a story of real life, taking up the question as it refers to trade, and efforts made to rob the working man of the God-given day of rest; also of victories won by the efforts of faithful servants of God, whether ministers, members of Parliament and others, or the secretary in London, Mr Charles Hill, to whose devoted energy much of such success is due.

We cannot close our eyes to the fact that a great change has come over our nation, and that the Lord's Day is not cherished as it was. "Things are too often done on Sunday by professing Christians which constitute a scandal to religion, which scoffers and unbelievers mock at, and which dark skinned heathen stumble at when urged to believe in the God of the Christian and His book. No one can read the early chapters of Genesis in the light of the word 'Remember' prefixed to the fourth commandment, and not see the universality of the obligation."

Obedience to God claims the observance of the day. The desecration of the day means the forgetting of God, leading to secular interests instead of spiritual. Satan robs us through the loss of that day.

The day's rest is of great importance for health. It has been asserted as to France, that one of the causes of the decline of the population is the want of Sabbath rest, there are hardly any old men artisans to be found there. "In pleading for a strict and diligent observation of the Lord's Day" (to quote the phraseology, 200 years old, of Sir Matthew Hale, the great Judge), I may express a doubt whether many realise how long and closely Sabbath observance has been interwoven with the English Constitution and national life. From Anglo-Saxon times to the present day there have been laws prohibiting Sunday labour, Sunday trading, Sunday amusements, and so on.

"What about Sunday bands, museums, cycling, golf, etc? I would say in the summary form, avoid, dis-

courage, do your best to stop all these things. Is cycling wrong? Beyond a doubt the cycling craze has led to an enormous development of Sunday desecration, pleasure taking the place of religion. If living beyond walking distance from church, it is better to cycle there than be absent or to go by train or 'bus. But if the distance is walkable, *walk* for example's sake. A man's conscience may be clear, but he owes something to his neighbour's conscience. Surely the Apostle's remark as to offending his brother by eating meat has an application here."

While rejoicing in every effort, and especially in every success in guarding this God-given day in our colony, we would, as a union, offer warm congratulations to our friends at Queenstown, for their prompt action and success in regard to the Sunday train proposed for their town in the past year. May the Christian women of New Zealand be faithful to their God.

MARIAN MINCHIN,

Supt. of Department for Sabbath Observance.

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

Copy.

ST. LOUIS, Mo.

MRS SCHNACKENBERG,

Dear Madam,

Of course you have heard of the Great World's Fair to be held in St. Louis, in 1904. The Woman's Christian Temperance Union will erect a beautiful Ice Water Fountain on the World's Fair Grounds, from which the tempted and weak may get a drink of pure cold water. To make money to pay for this fountain, we are to have a handkerchief sale. Knowing your interest in Temperance work, I write to beg you to send us a handkerchief of any kind or style. Will you do us the favour, for which we will be very grateful?

Send very soon. Write your name and the price the handkerchief ought to bring, on a paper, and pin it on the handkerchief.

Assuring you your help is needed, and will be greatly appreciated,

I am, your sister worker,

(signed) E. B. INGALLS.

National W.C.T.U. Committee, to World's Fair.

DEAR WHITE RIBBONERS,

I feel sure that many of you will like to send a handkerchief to our friend, Mrs Ingalls. I know of one that, in response to the first letter I wrote, has been sent, it was worked by an Armenian woman. We are not all of us able to send any of such great interest as that, but any contributions will be appreciated.

Yours as ever,
A. J. SCHNACKENBERG.

Address to Mrs E. B. Ingalls, 4119 Westminster Place, St. Louis, Mo. U.S.A.

DEAR WHITE RIBBONERS,

Being a visitor at the Bluff, I was invited to attend the monthly meeting of the most southerly W. C. T. U. in the world. I found a handful of brave women in the Presbyterian church, grappling with the problem of how to raise funds for the purchase of a section on which to build a room, where the men of this fast growing and flourishing sea-port town would find a cheerful fire, newspapers, books, and quiet games, to serve as a counter-attraction to the bar and billiard rooms, now the only doors open to them. The "Sailors' Rest" is used only by the deep-sea sailors, and, incredible as it seems to outsiders, cutter men are forbidden to avail themselves of its shelter. Bluff is the headquarters of the oystering-fleet, and some of the men, having no homes on shore, live and sleep aboard their tiny crafts. The great need of a comfortable room, where such homeless men can profitably spend their leisure time, is only too evident.

It is proposed to hold a bazaar in a few months' time. White Ribboners, I appeal to you to help our brave sisters to make this bazaar a financial success.

Miss Mitchell, Ocean Beach, Bluff, will gladly receive contributions of any description.

Yours in the work,
S. TWEMLOW.

Assistant Corresponding Secretary.
Bluff, June 6th, 1903.

DEAR SISTERS,

I exceedingly regret that, through an error, the Ponsonby union was omitted from the official list in the Convention number, although my footnote congratulating that Union upon re-organisation was duly printed. I have also much pleasure in announcing that a union has been formed at Lower Hutt,

secretary—Miss Jenness. May I once more thank you for your very hearty response to my appeal on behalf of the organising fund; as the letters come in I just long to answer every one of them, but that being impossible will you accept this acknowledgement. And will treasurers please note that remittances should be sent, not to me, but to Mrs Hill (see circular).

Yours in the work,
M. S. POWELL,

N. Z. Corresponding Secretary.

The Women's Institute,
London.

The fifth annual report of the Women's Institute is to hand, and shows that a most interesting and helpful programme of work has been carried out. The object of the Institute is to be a "meeting place for workers, and a centre of information." "The Institute aims at being a link between workers, not only in London, but in various parts of the world." "As colonial members can comparatively rarely avail themselves of the Institute's lectures and debates," special advantages are offered to them, viz., (1) Membership without entrance fee; (2) the right to receive all publications of the Institute, free of charge; (3) four transferable tickets a year for lectures or debates. Annual subscription 10s.

Smile A Little.

Smile upon the troubled pilgrims
Whom you pass and meet;
Frowns are thorns, and smiles are blossoms
Oft for weary feet.
Do not make the way seem harder
By a sullen face;
Smile a little, smile a little,
Brighten up the place

Smile upon your undone labour;
Not for one who grieves
O'er his task waits wealth or glory,
He who smiles achieves.
Though you meet with loss or sorrow
In the passing years,
Smile a little, smile a little,
Even through your tears.

—Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

Charity thinketh no evil, much less repeats it. There are two good rules which ought to be written on every heart—never believe anything bad about anyone unless you positively know it is true; never tell even that unless you feel that it is absolutely necessary.

THE
PREMIER HARDWARE HOUSE

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Women's Christian Temperance Union

OF NEW ZEALAND.

ORGANISED - 1885.

"For God, and Home, and Humanity."

President:

MRS A. P. ATKINSON, Arbury, Wadestown,
Wellington.

Vice-President at large:

MRS SCHNACKENBERG, Mount Albert, Auckland

Corresponding Secretary:

MISS POWELL, 28, Windmill-rd, Christchurch

Assistant Corresponding Secretary:

MISS TWELOW, c/o Dr Riley, Pirie street,
Dunedin.

Recording Secretary:

MISS MAUNDER, Hawera.

Treasurer:

MRS HILL, Bluff Hill, Napier.

OKAIAWA W.C.T.U.

THE UNION meets in the Church on the
last WEDNESDAY in the month, at 2.30 p.m.

President:.....MRS BEEMER.

Secretary:.....MISS GILLING.

Treasurer:.....MISS SCOTT.

CHRISTCHURCH W.C.T.U.

GENERAL MEETING second Wednesday,
2.30 p.m.; Educational Meeting fourth
Wednesday, 3 p.m.; at the Metaphysical Club
Rooms, Gloucester Street.

President—MISS POWELL, 28 Windmill Road.
Recor. Sec.—Mrs Wicks, Madras-st, St. Albans.
Corres. Sec.—Miss W. W. Smith, P.O. Box 114.
Treasurer—MRS. C. FERGUSSON.

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

OPEN 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Tea, Coffee, Cocoa,
1d per Cup. Hot Dinner (12 to 1 p.m.).
9d. Daily and other Papers, Magazines, etc.,
provided. Large room may be hired for concerts,
lectures, etc. Apply, Mrs. EVANS, Waverley.
Union meets second and last Wed., 3 p.m. Pres.
—Mrs. Ritchie. Sec.—Mrs Soulby. Assis.-Sec.—
Miss Blackwell. Treas.—Mrs. T. G. Blackwell

NAPIER W. C. T. U.

THE Union meets every alternate Thursday
in St. Paul's Schoolroom, at 3 p.m. Pres.—
Mrs Miller. Treas.—Mrs R. Saunders. Recor.
Sec.—Miss Howe. Corres. Sec.—Mrs E. A. Israel.

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.
Secretary—Mrs Daldy, Hepburn St.
Treasurer—Mrs Hughes, Mount Eden.
WHITE RIBBON Agent—Mrs R. M. Wallis,
Mount Eden Road.

WELLINGTON W.C.T.U. President, Mrs
Kirk, 30, Pirie-st. Sec.—Miss C. E. Kirk,
30, Pirie Street. Treas.—Miss E. Wilkinson, 20,
Pirie-st. "White Ribbon" Agent—Mrs Amos,
Owen-st. Union meets first Thurs. each month,
alternately Newtown Girls Room, 7.30 p.m., and
Wesley Class Room, 3 p.m. Girls' Association
Rooms, Constable-street, Newtown. Evening
Classes and Socials. All Girls Invited.

SANSON W. C. T. U.

THE UNION meets the first and third
Wednesday, in the Vestry of the Wes-
leyan Church. Pres.—Miss Harris, Sec.—
Mrs Crichton. Treas.—Mrs Wrigley.

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.—Mrs Griffen. Treas.—Mrs Hay.
WHITE RIBBON Agent, Mrs W. Parker.

FEILDING W.C.T.U.

THE UNION meets on the first Thursday in
the month at 2.30 p.m. in Riverside Hall.
President: Miss Minchin; Secretary, Mrs
Pickering; Treasurer, Mrs Cowles; WHITE
RIBBON Agent, Mrs Burnley.

DEVONPORT W.C.T.U.

THE UNION meets on the last Thursday
in the month, in the Wesleyan School-
room, at 3 p.m. President—Mrs Thorne. Sec
retary—Mrs Little. Treasurer—Mrs Butler.

TARIKI W.C.T.U.

THE UNION meets every second Thursday
in the month at 7.30 p.m. President—
Mrs Fenwick. Secretary—Mrs Jamison. Treas-
urer—Mrs Waite.

THE WHITE RIBBON.

—:0:—

EDITOR ... MISS L. M. SMITH, Box 114, CH.CH.

ASSOCIATE EDITOR ... MISS JESSIE MACKAY.

BUSINESS MANAGER ... MISS L. M. SMITH,
Box 114, Christchurch.

Death.

GILLING.—On May 1st, at Okaiawa, of
pneumonia, Elizabeth, the beloved
wife of William Gilling, in her 69th
year.
"With Jesus, everlasting peace and everlast-
ing rest."

The White Ribbon:

FOR GOD AND HOME AND HUMANITY

MONDAY, JUNE 15, 1903.

The Degenerate.

The women of New Zealand cannot
but be grateful to Dr Symes for his
able treatment of the subject of degener-
ates at the meeting held under the
auspices of St. Saviour's Guild and
briefly reported in our columns. The
marvel is that society has so long de-
layed taking action in the matter. We
say society advisedly, for it is certainly
due to the apathy displayed by
the general public that our legislators
have not hitherto concerned themselves
with this special menace to the race;
that, as Bishop Julius remarked,
noxious weeds rather than noxious lives
have been the subject of debate. And it
is proof, we suppose, that our evolution
is still in its infancy that we concern
ourselves so largely with the skin
scratches of the body politic, and let
pass with scant comment the deep
seated disease.

A case or two of small pox occurs on
a vessel touching our shores, and the
news is flashed from end to end of the
colony, and all manner of precautions
and pains are taken not only to isolate
and heal the sufferer, but also to dis-
cover and disinfect everything and
everybody that may possibly have been
in contact with the diseased or the di-
sease germ. And well that it is so.
But what can be said of the method
hitherto adopted of dealing with the
one suffering from an inexpressibly
more dread and dangerous disease?

We shut him (or her) up for a few weeks or months, as the case may be, without any special treatment to endeavour to combat the disease, and then let him loose, in his still abnormal condition, upon society, to bring darkness and desolation into many a life, many a home, and, saddest of all, to transmit his own depraved tendencies to a third and a fourth generation.

Those Petitions.

We have received enquiries *re* the Petitions for the Removal of Women's Disabilities. When are they to be sent in? To whom are they to be sent? We can give no information on the subject. We understand that Mrs Sheppard sent in her resignation as superintendent of the Legal and Parliamentary department to our New Zealand President some two months since, and no notification has reached us of a fresh appointment having been made. Pending the appointment, the matter is of course at a standstill, save that those in possession of petition forms may see that they are filled with signatures, and ready for use as soon as the superintendent's name is announced. The session of Parliament is close at hand, and if the pledge made at Convention is to be carried out, work in its behalf should now be in full operation.

Removal of Disabilities.

The matter of the Removal of Women's Disabilities is, we understand, this year receiving special attention not only from the N.Z. W.C.T. Union, but also from the National Council of the Women of N.Z. (to which, of course, the Union is affiliated), and a question of practical importance has arisen. Shall we draw up a Bill asking for the removal of all disabilities, or shall we specialise—take one disability only

and work for its removal? The latter course is, we believe, by many thought to be the wiser, and the suggested disability is the exclusion of women from seats in Parliament.

The executive of the National Council is, we understand, in correspondence with Mr McNab on the subject, and it is probable that he will be asked to take charge of such a Bill. Mr McNab, it will be remembered, has already proved the successful pilot of two Bills which largely affect women, the one equalising the conditions of divorce, and the "Testator's Family Maintenance," and should he take charge of a Removal of Disability Bill, we have every confidence of its safe passage.

Our Illustration.

We have much pleasure in presenting our readers with the portrait of Mrs Page, President of the Canterbury Women's Institute. Mrs Page's portrait will be welcomed by many readers not only for the sake of the lady herself, but also because she is the daughter of one of New Zealand's old and upright politicians, Mr Alfred Saunders, who was a staunch advocate of both woman suffrage and temperance. Mrs Page takes a warm and active interest in the welfare of the children of the State, and the successful meeting on their behalf chronicled in our last issue owed much to her guidance. Speaking of matters of special import to women, Mrs Page expressed the opinion that the most pressing need was the removal of all disabilities from women, and of these disabilities she believes that that debarring woman from being elected to a seat in Parliament should be first attacked. It is but the logical sequence to the granting of the franchise. Prohibition Mrs Page firmly believes in. Not that she imagines it will prove a panacea for all ills, but

"it will at least give the boys and girls a chance." Looking at the two fine little boys playing in the room one feels that their mother intends them to have every chance that lies in her power to give to develop into men of the best stamp, morally, mentally, and physically. "They have never had a dose of medicine," says Mrs Page, when speaking of a childish ailment. "The water or 'natural' treatment is always my remedy." Much of an interesting conversation might be recorded, but, mindful of the exhortation, "If my portrait appears in the WHITE RIBBON please don't say much about me," we lay down the pen.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

BEYOND THE VEIL. — Okaiawa mourns the loss of its Vice President, Mrs Gilling. "Her heart and soul," says a friend, "was in Temperance work." When so many display apathy we can ill spare enthusiasts, and we sincerely sympathise both with the Okaiawa union and the members of the bereaved family.

DEPARTURE OF MRS SHEPPARD. — The members of the W.C.T.U. throughout New Zealand will hear with regret that Mrs Sheppard purposes leaving for England some time in July, for a stay of indefinite length. The members of the Christchurch union and C. W. Institute are arranging a farewell social, to be held on the afternoon of July 8th.

TRIENNIAL CONVENTION. — Writing from Melbourne, just before sailing for Geneva, Mrs Kirkland says, "It (the Convention) was a good gathering from all parts of the Commonwealth. And a grand lot of women they are. They mean work. I have enjoyed meeting with them very much. All of them were delighted to have representatives from 'happy New Zealand,' as some of them say. The White Ribbon sisters have been most kind and attentive to their New Zealand guest." We are indebted to Mrs Kirkland for copies of the "Argus," from which our report is culled.

A N.Z. W.C.T.U. PRESIDENT'S DAUGHTER.—Says the *Englishwoman's Review*:—"At the final examination (for medical degree), held in connection with the Royal College of Physicians, the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, and the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, held in Edinburgh, there were 87 candidates, and 37 passed the examination and were admitted L.R.C.P., S.E., L.F.P., and S.G. Among these was one woman, Helen Stephen Baird, Otago, N.Z." We believe that Dr. Baird is the daughter of Mrs Baird, the president of the Invercargill Union.

A PROGRESSIVE CHURCH.—One of the Christchurch Suburban Churches—the Lincoln Road Baptist Church—has set an example most worthy of imitation. A room has been erected at the rear of the church for the social enjoyment of the men of the district. Books, papers, and games are to be provided, and it is hoped the room will become the evening rendezvous of both old and young.

AN AID TO TEMPERANCE.—The establishment in city, suburb and country district, of such rooms as the foregoing would, we feel sure, aid much in promoting the cause of Temperance. The providing of suitable places for social intercourse and enjoyment must go hand in hand with the attempt to close the public houses. It is little use to try to close one door till another is opened. We are glad to note that the Bluff union is bravely attempting the work, and commend their effort to the notice and help of our readers.

MR BLACKBURNE'S MOTION.—We need scarcely say it is with the deepest satisfaction that we draw attention to the resolution, moved by Mr Blackburne at the meeting of St. Saviour's Guild, re the registration of so-called illegitimate children in the father's name.

DOMESTIC HELPS.—We are glad to note from the report of the C.W. Institute that that society intends making an attempt to deal with the important and perplexing question of Domestic Helps. It is quite certain that hand in hand with stated hours of labour and rate of pay must go certified efficiency.

AN INVITATION.—Writing to Mrs

Sheppard, Miss Janes, Secretary of the National Union of Women Workers of Great Britain and Ireland, says,—"An idea has occurred to me of a simple sort—to be 'At home' on the first Tuesday in each month to 'International Workers.' If any of your N.Z. ladies are coming over, I hope you will give them introductions to me." The address given by Miss Janes, is 9 Southampton street, High Holborn, W.C.

The Licensing Committee In Christchurch.

The supineness which made the last election of the Christchurch Licensing Committee a "walk over" for the liquor party must have been painfully brought home to the electors on considering the work of that Committee, when it sat on June 3rd. Forty-two licenses for the city were granted without discussion; two hotels reported by the Inspector as having rough bars, and being centres of disturbance, frequented by criminals and prostitutes, were subjected to discussion, after which one was granted a license; the claim of the other (owned by a brewing firm, by the way) was adjourned, but the license has since been granted.

The bias of the Committee was plainly shown in its reception of Mr H. G. Ell, M.H.R., who presented a petition, signed by 746 citizens, praying that the hour of closing should be altered to 10 p.m. Though it was shown that almost all passenger trains reach Christchurch long before 10 o'clock, and that the majority of decent theatre-goers return at once to their homes for supper, and though the inspector deposed that the change to 10 o'clock would make the work of the police much easier, the Committee held to its first resolution, and after dismissing the representations of M.H.R., inspector of police, the seven hundred and forty-six petitioners, their own solitary temperance colleague, Mr Blackburne, as well as Commissioner Tunbridge's report, with exceeding scant ceremony, they at once granted closing at 11 p.m., and every minor concession applied for by the trade.

We cannot but feel a pang of envy on contrasting this wholesale hand-over to the liquor party in Christchurch with the vigorous action of the

Licensing Committee now sitting in Dunedin. Dunedin carried reduction last November, and saw to it that a committee pledged to do the will of the people was returned later on. The final results of its deliberations are not out at this time, but the general effect up to date of writing may be best judged by these extracts from an editorial in the *Otago Daily Times*:—

"With the bald pronouncement made by the Dunedin Licensing Committee, the era of No License may be said to have fairly commenced, for, *inter alia*, the committee announces that it has no intention to require or encourage the further expenditure of capital on hotel properties, which already seems to foreshadow the sweeping away of all licenses in the near future. . . . It is safe to say that the Dunedin Licensing Committee's manifesto will be viewed with favour by the large majority of the public. It was elected upon certain pledges, chief amongst which were the full 25 per cent reduction allowed by the Act, and the insisting upon 10 o'clock closing; and in order to arrive at the wisest and best decision, the members of the Committee have personally inspected all the hotels within their licensing district. Of the seven hotels whose licenses have already been refused, five were situated in out-lying districts, which seems to indicate the determination of the Committee to make the prohibition area as extensive as possible, and to confine the licensed houses within certain well defined limits. There are still six licenses to be refused, and other things being equal, the Committee would seem to have agreed to give preference to those licensees who will give an undertaking to confine the public sale of liquor to only one bar, and who set their face against the employment of such inducements to drinking as free counter lunches and barmaids."

This is a plain official statement of plain hard facts, but it is good reading; and we trust that three years hence Christchurch may be on a similar line of action.

J. McK.

Some say alcohol gives heat. If so, why do travellers in the Arctic regions, who take drink, succumb to the cold, while total abstainers remain unharmed?

Some say alcohol is good in hot countries. If so, why did Stanley refuse it to his men during his forced march across Africa in search of Emin Pasha?

Athletics for Women.

Physical perfection was held in the highest esteem by the ancient Greeks and Romans, and men were often chosen to fill important public positions—not because they were suited for them, but because of their unusual physical proportions and great bodily strength. Since the position which a nation held in the world of that time depended entirely on its able to hold its own against its enemies in war, it was only natural that the ancients should do honour to powerful muscles, which to them represented authority. But times have gradually changed, and, as the demand for mere brute force has become less and less, so has physical development come to be regarded as of little consequence. The conditions of modern life have tended to turn men's thoughts away from the development of bone and muscle. The perfect symmetry of form, met with in ancient Greek art, is very seldom found, and the modern sculptor—quite unable to secure a living model for his purpose—is obliged to make his figure up by combining the arm of one, the neck of another, the leg of another, etc.

The process of physical degeneration has gone on to such an extent that human beings of later generations are so different from their ancestors of 2000 or 3000 years ago, that they might almost pass for a distinct species.

Of late years there has been a kind of reawakening of the old feeling, and now-a-days the whole world is beginning to realise the great importance of well-balanced physical development, and to see that mental and moral strength are lessened by a puny, ill-developed physique, while the vigour of each part conduces to the vigour of the whole. The old ideal of "a healthy mind in a healthy body" is to be ever more fully realised in the coming years, and women as well as men are becoming alive to the great importance of this ideal to the progress and development of the human race. It will be on the young women of to-day, the mothers of the future, that the responsibility of helping humanity to attain a high degree of moral, mental and physical power largely rests, and everything that can be done to aid them in the development of their highest powers is ever widening the glorious possibilities of the race.

Prompted by thoughts of this kind, a number of Christchurch ladies have been working hard to get a large Walk-

ing Club formed this winter, to encourage one of the most valuable of all forms of physical exercise; for hill-walking, especially among dwellers on the plains, is credited by the medical profession with being an unrivalled health-preserver, conducing, as it of necessity does, to deep-breathing, which is becoming a recognised panacea of many ills.

The lady members of the Club intend to adopt for their walks a costume, the skirt of which will be long enough to be quite unobtrusive, but short enough to allow free play to the limbs, and one which will make their walking excursions as much a pleasure, and as far removed from an arduous task, as possible.

The promoters of the Club are very anxious that the public should understand that they have no thought in their minds of trying to do away with women's present dress in its proper place. They merely wish girls to see the fallacy of wearing long skirts for purposes where they are so obviously out of place and absurd, and to encourage them to adopt a more sensible form of dress. V. S.

Concerning Women.

The Benchers of Lincoln's Inn have granted permission to Miss Cornelia Sorabji to frequent their library and consult and use the books therein. Miss Sorabji is a LL.B. of Bombay, who has practised as an advocate in the High Court there, and has gone to England for further study. She is the only woman to whom the privilege of study in the Lincoln's Inn has hitherto been granted.

The first woman to pass the Civil Engineer's Examination in Paris, is Mdlle. Kanyersky, who has obtained an appointment on the Russian Railways.

A lady holds the post of Curator of the Botanical Gardens at Inchanga, South Africa.

Several Danish women's societies have petitioned for women to have the right of electing, and being elected for the Communal authorities.

It is a noteworthy fact that out of four obituary notices of women in the *Englishwoman's Review* for January, three of the subjects were over eighty years of age. The age of the fourth is not

given, but as she is spoken of as travelling with her husband in 1857, her years were evidently not few. Apparently public work agrees with women.

Miss Frances Power Cobbe, who has done so much in the cause of the advancement of women, received congratulations on the attainment of her eightieth birthday in December last.

Mrs Mary Wright has been appointed as State Dairy Commissioner for Colorado. Dr. Mary Tucker has been made Sanitary Inspector in St. Louis. Both these offices are now held by women for the first time.

Mrs M. Agnes Garrett and Miss Margaret H. Gillespie were elected Justices of the Peace at the December elections in Wyoming.

The Norwich Corporation has appointed a woman as Cemetery Clerk.

The Wandsworth Borough Council have a lady Sanitary Inspector.

Miss Mary M. Adamson has been appointed by the Government of Cape Colony as Inspector of Kindergarten work in their schools.

The Home Office authorities have appointed Miss Martindale (who, with her mother and sister, visited New Zealand a year or two since) as Woman Inspector to the Factory Department.

For the first time in the history of the Madras University, two orthodox Brahmin ladies have passed the English Language division of the B.A. examination.

Women of New York.

Mrs Russell Sage has withdrawn from the New York Society of Mayflower Descendants because, despite earnest protests, men persisted in smoking at the annual dinner. During the recent banquet at Delmonico's, cigars were so freely used all over the room, that several women became ill and were forced to leave. "I am hurt all the way through," said Mrs Sage. "It seems strange that a woman as old as I am, who has tried to live up to the highest requirements of her position, should not be respected in the decencies of life—should, in fact, be smoked at."

Quite apart from the question of any physical bad effects of tobacco is its un-

deniably deteriorating effect on good manners, in the case of most of those who indulge in it. Tolstoi says men would not think of making their neighbours uncomfortable by turning on currents of hot and cold air, or in any other way, as they unscrupulously do with their tobacco smoke. Indeed, it is to be feared that many of them finally reach the point of the "dude" who calmly declared, "The nuisance is not the cigar, but the woman who objects to it."

The Women's Municipal League of New York City has held its annual meeting. Though its membership is not large, it has every reason to be proud of its year's work. This includes eight drinking fountains put up, two miles of trees planted along the Tremont Drive, the paving of four sidewalks in one district, the maintenance of 500 window boxes in another, and the closing of shops in the Tremont neighbourhood at 10 p.m., instead of 11.30. Small parks have been reclaimed, playgrounds secured for the children of the poor, vacant lots cleared of rubbish, and city history clubs of school children formed. Miss Margaret Livingston Chanler was chosen president for the coming year.

The women of New York are earnestly working for car passengers' rights. Representative clubwomen have united in a new association to fight against the crowding and other abuses, and they propose to discover some definite means to alleviate car discomfort, and then, with the support of the women at large, to demand its adoption. The question which is to be considered is highly practical. It is said that during the rush hours, when passengers are packed like sardines, shop-girls and others are subjected not only to inconvenience, but to positive insult, and are helpless to defend themselves.—*Boston Woman's Journal.*

"Can't make Men Sober by Law."

Much is said about the impossibility of making men sober by law, and of the impropriety of attempting it. This kind of argument is supposed to have much force. But we submit that it is exactly the wrong way of putting the case. It is not a question of making men sober by law, but of making them drunkards by law; and that is a very different proposition. Men are sober;

they are born sober. Except those who inherit a taste for strong drink from drunken parents, they all incline to temperance. It takes the tempter and the dram-shop to make them drunkards. Without the dram-shop there would be few drunkards. It is the drunkard-maker. When it is established by law, then it is the making of people drunkards by law that is to be considered and not the making of men sober by law.—*Pittsburg Christian Advocate.*



From "Life and the Morning."

Look you, it is to-day as at the first.
When Adam first 'ware his new-made eyes
And opened them, behold the light! And
breath
Of God was misting yet about his mouth,
Whereof they had made his soul. Then he
looked forth
And was a part of light; also he saw
Beautiful life, and it could move. But Eve,
Eve was the child of midnight and of sleep.
Lo, in the dark God led her to his side;
It may be in the dark she heard him breathe
Before God woke him. And she knew not
light,
Nor life, but as a voice that left his lips,
A warmth that clasped her; but the stars
were out,
And she with wide child-eyes gazed up at
them.
Haply she thought that it was always night;
Haply he, whispering to her in that reach
Of beauteous darkness, gave her unworn heart
A rumour of the dawn, and wakened it
To a trembling and a wonder and a want
Kin to his own; and as he longed to gaze
On his new fate, the gracious mystery
His wife, she may have longed, and felt not
why,
After the light that never she had known.

So doth each age walk in the light beheld,
Nor think on light, if it be light or no;
Then comes the night to it, and in the night
Eve,
The God-given, the most beautiful
Eve. And she is not seen for darkness's sake;
Yet, when she makes her gracious presence
felt,
The age perceives how dark it is, and fain,
Fain would have daylight, fain would see her
well,
A beauty half revealed, a helpmeet sent
To draw the soul away from valley clods;
Made from itself, yet now a better self.

Were we not born to light?
Ay, and we saw the men and women as saints
Walk in a garden. All our thoughts were
fair:
Our simple hearts, as dovescotes full of doves,
Made home and nest for them. They fluttered
forth,
And flocks of them flew white about the world.
—JEAN INGELow.



THE HOME. VACCINATION.

By A. W.

The late small-pox scare affords an excellent opportunity to say a few words on the subject of vaccination. Now an operation that (according to Wallace, one of the greatest scientists of our age) "has never saved a single life, but has been the cause of so much disease, so many deaths, such a vast amount of utterly needless and altogether undeserved suffering," needs challenging at the outset by everyone who has the welfare of the race at heart.

The medical fraternity, or at least that part of it which favours vaccination, has had to surrender their once apparently impregnable position of "arm to arm" vaccination as fact after fact of the fearful results was marshalled against it, and has now entrenched behind the tottering support of "pure calf lymph."

Pure calf lymph! The phrase is a general muddle in itself. As Wallace says, it is utterly "misleading to apply this term to a product of disease, used to produce another disease, and now admitted to be capable of transmitting some of the most horrible diseases that afflict mankind." But since comparatively few people are aware of how the *vaccine pus* (pure lymph) is produced a little enlightenment may well make people consider before allowing their children to undergo this most loathsome operation.

Dr. Jenner, whose name will ever be associated with the introduction of vaccination into England, says, "There is a disease to which the horse is frequently subject—farriers term it the grease. It is an inflammation and swelling of the heel, from which issues matter possessing properties of a peculiar kind, which seems capable of

Generating Disease

in the human body which bears a strong resemblance to the small-pox, that I think it is highly probable may be the source of that disease. In this dairy county (Gloucester) the office of milking is done by men and women indiscriminately. One of the men, having applied dressings to the horse's heel afflicted with the grease, incau-

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tiously milked the cows, and thus the disease was communicated to the cow, and hence the name cow-pox." Further, Dr. Jenner says, "What renders the cow-pox virus so extremely singular is that the person thus affected is *for ever* after protected from the small-pox," this statement being grounded on an ignorant superstition of the country people.

Jenner believed that swine-pox, cow-pox, small-pox, and the grease, were all one and the same disease; at one time he thought the grease should pass through the cow, but upon further inquiry he arrived at a different conclusion, and used the grease in its natural state, and supplied the public with it from the horse's heels.

"Now," says an authority, "as the cows have not been kind enough" to have the cow-pox naturally for many years, the doctors are by no means at a loss to procure a supply of pure lymph

The process of poisoning a healthy beast is somewhat difficult—strong health will not unfrequently refuse for a time to be affected by it, but when it does take it, the animal will supply filth enough for half a million of people.

In order to get this PURE LYMPH, it is taken from the sores of a child vaccinated, or from a person suffering from small-pox; this matter is then introduced into the body of the animal, and when the cow begins to show marks of blood-poisoning in the shape of foul-looking sores, the discharge of the disease hybridised by man and beast, is again used

To Blood-poison Children.

This is called "vaccination from the cow direct."

Now the dangers of vaccination may

be thus briefly summed up: (1) it is likely to introduce other diseases into the system, (2) it may induce a change in the skin which deranges its vital action and so prevents the system from ridding itself of morbid matters from the blood, (3) it may produce susceptibility in a constitution to other diseases, (4) parents through vaccination may transmit an enfeebled constitution upon their offspring.

"Erysipelas was formerly a disease of adult life, now more than two-thirds of the cases are children under five years of age, and one-third under twelve months. Talk about the slaughter of the innocents!"

Dr. Caron, Chevalier of the Legion of Honour, says, "The mortality from small-pox seems to increase with the number of the vaccinations and re-vaccinations performed every day at Paris." His testimony was so well supported that vaccination ceased to become compulsory, and a writer in the *Daily News* says,—“The small-pox, after gradually declining in Paris for the last two years, has now utterly disappeared from the bills of mortality. There is not a single case in the last death returns. And yet, in this country there is no compulsory vaccination, and during the war and the commune re-vaccination, in favour of which there was a feeble movement at the beginning of 1870, almost entirely went out of fashion. The reward of half-a-crown finds few takers. It is very perverse of unvaccinated Paris to be free from small-pox while the disease rages in vaccinated London.”

"The "Medical Times and Gazette" contains a letter from Dr. Bakewell, M.D. of Health and Public Vaccinator of Trinidad, who says, "It is a

strange but undoubted fact that leprosy is greatly increased in our land: that it attacks the children of respectable parents, particularly the Europeans. Now, it is worthy of remark, vaccination has, of late years, been compulsory. The general opinion of medical men here is that it is quite possible that leprosy may be propagated by vaccination."

Mr W. Field, of London, President of the Veterinary College, says, "*grease in the horse is always accompanied by diseased lungs.*"

W. C. Collins, M.D., says "250,000 deaths annually occur from consumption, pneumonia, convulsions, atrophy, and other strumous diseases occasioned or

Superadded by Vaccination."

"It is our duty," says a report of the Vaccine Institution, "to acknowledge that cases have proved fatal from the effects of vaccination."

Testimony of this sort could be continued indefinitely, and it remains with the people of this colony to say whether they shall not insist on the immediate repeal of the Acts which, as Wallace says, "were passed by means of allegations which were wholly untrue, and promises which have all been unfulfilled. They stand alone in modern legislation as a gross interference with personal liberty and the sanctity of the home; while, as an attempt to cheat outraged nature and to avoid zymotic disease without getting rid of the foul conditions that produce or propagate it, the practice of vaccination is utterly opposed to the whole teaching of sanitary science, and is one of those terrible blunders which, in their far-reaching evil consequences, are worse than the greatest of crimes."

Removal of Women's Disabilities.

THE following is the text of the Petitions to be presented to the House of Representatives and Legislative Council
re Removal of Women's Disabilities.

To the Honourable the Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives (Legislative Council)
in Parliament assembled.

THE PETITION OF THE UNDERSIGNED WOMEN OF NEW ZEALAND HUMBLY
SHEWETH:

- THAT in a free community the laws should be in the direction of giving each of its members equality of opportunity.
THAT in the best interests of the State, every human being should be free to enter upon such duties and honourable occupations as may be suited to his or her natural or acquired capacity.
THAT only by such freedom can the State obtain the fullest economic and social value of its citizens.
THAT the legal restraints now placed upon the freedom of women exclusively, imply a sense of inferiority, and are dishonouring to the womanhood of the community.
THAT there is no evidence that women need greater legal restraint than do men.
THAT the removal of the Civil and Political Disabilities of women is a logical sequence to the extension of the franchise to them.
WE therefore pray your Honourable House that it will take such steps as are necessary for the removal of the Civil and Political Disabilities of Women.
AND your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

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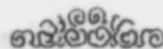
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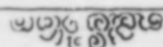
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