

that it is most advisable that all sales of Crown lands, whether for cash or on deferred payment, should cease, and that all lands, whether now in the hands of the Government or which may hereafter be acquired, should be let on lease in perpetuity, subject to periodical revaluation, such revaluation to be at intervals not exceeding twenty-one years." (2) "That in the opinion of this Institute it is advisable that the Government secure a pre-emptive right to repurchase at present value all lands required for settlement, and is also of opinion that a sum of one million sterling might advantageously be expended annually by the Government of the colony in land repurchase and settlement, as such expenditure would promote a very large increase in production, considerably adding to the railway and other receipts, and facilitate a decrease in the Customs duties." (3) "That in the opinion of this Institute it is advisable that the Government of the colony undertake the retail distribution of frozen meat, the produce of the colony, by opening shops throughout the United Kingdom, and that the price to be paid to producers should be the average price which such products have realised to the exporter during the twelve months ending June 30, 1903, and that the profits accruing from the sales shall be equally divided between the producers *pro rata* and the colony, such profits accruing to the colony to be specially set apart for the repurchase of land and extension of settlement."

* CORRESPONDENCE. *

To the Editor.

DEAR MADAM.—I desire to thank, in the name of our union, all the kind friends who helped to make the sale of work we held on July 3rd and 4th such a success. We were enabled to pay off the debt of £40, which had been lent to us for nearly three years, without interest, by the Sons and Daughters of Temperance, leaving us a little in hand for other necessary uses. Will you kindly insert this in the July number of our own paper. I am,

Yours in W. R. bonds,

B. SOULBY,

Hon. Sec. W.C.T.U.

Kaiapoi, July 7th.

Half-a-crown a year will procure you a copy of the WHITE RIBBON, posted direct, and you will thus be kept in touch with a large section of the thoughtful women of the colony.

Rongotea.

(Extract from a letter to N. Z. Cor. Sec.)

I must tell you one thing which is a subject of much thankfulness to all the temperance people in Rongotea, it is the fact that no application was made for a license for Rongotea. We were afraid a successful application would be made this year, as only one temperance man was elected on the committee, but the committee said, when they were sounded on the subject, "that the Rongotea people had shown at the Local Option poll that they were more than ever against a Public House in their township." I think the W.C.T.U. can fairly claim this result as due to our work; every voter was either called on or written to, urging them to come and vote no license, and many came who never voted before.

[We believe that Rongotea has never possessed a public house. - ED. W. R.]

The Late Mrs Margaret Bullock.

From the "Wanganui Chronicle" we take the following appreciative sketch of the late Mrs Margaret Bullock, who will be specially remembered by those who were associated with her in various sessions of the National Council:—

"*Requiescat in pace.* The old words, bringing with them the very atmosphere of peace and rest, come irresistibly to our lips as we chronicle the lamented death of Mrs Margaret Bullock, which occurred on June 17, at her residence, Sydney Place, after a long and most painful illness. A woman of great mental force and capacity, gifted in an unusual degree, beloved and honoured by those who had the privilege of close friendship, her death leaves a gap not easily filled. Mrs Bullock was a ready and clever writer, and being left a widow with five young sons, mere babies, some twenty-five years ago, decided to come to Wanganui and pursue literature and journalism as a means of livelihood. Here she joined the staff of the 'Chronicle,' and acted as reporter and assistant editor on this paper for several years, her brother, Mr Gilbert Carson, being then, as now, editor-in-chief. From this time onward, in spite of the terrible malady from which she even then suffered, and which has just ended her life,

Mrs Bullock was a voluminous and valued contributor to colonial and English magazines, writing over her favourite *nom-de-plume* of "Midge." Perhaps the ruling feature of her writings was her hatred and scorn of shams of every description, and these, whether religious, moral, or simply conventional, were uncovered and denounced with an unsparing hand. Side by side with this passion for Truth was her love for the poor and oppressed. Generous to a fault, she never spared either her means, time, or physical powers, if there was a wrong which she could see her way to right, and the good she has accomplished in this way will certainly live after her. From journalism to politics is not a far cry in New Zealand, and it is not surprising that such a clever, thoughtful woman should have turned to politics with an interest at that time unusual amongst New Zealand women. For some years she acted as special Parliamentary correspondent for several colonial newspapers, and her attendance on Parliament only whetted her earnest desire to see legislation passed to enable woman to take her part in righting the many wrongs women had then to bear. As a first step towards this she gathered together a number of women in Wanganui, and the local Franchise League was started with the object of uniting with other women's societies in the colony with a view to securing woman franchise. Deceased threw all her energies into this work, rightly seeing it was the first and most important step to be taken towards the desired end of removing all civil and political disabilities from women. She undertook an active canvas of women from house to house, explaining how much the petition she carried meant to women generally. The success of this in Wanganui and elsewhere is now a matter of history. Once the franchise was granted to women, Mrs Bullock personally visited every house in Wanganui and suburbs (not then as great a task as it would be to-day), and enrolled hundreds of women, explaining how their vote might influence legislation. When the Franchise League had done its work she was foremost in founding the Women's League for the purpose of helping women to understand legislation bearing on their everyday lives. Intensely interested in all social matters, her life was full and strenuous to a degree, and was only bounded by the limitations her wretched ill-health imposed upon her."