

# The White Ribbon

FOR GOD AND HOME AND HUMANITY

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## MOTHERS OF MEN.

By Daniel A. Poling.

National Temperance and Citizenship  
Superintendent of United Society  
of Christian Endeavour.

(Address delivered before the National  
Convention of the Women's  
Christian Temperance Union, at  
Asbury Park, N.J., November  
5th, 1913.)

My memory is not keen enough to recall my first W.C.T.U. Convention. My mother wore over her heart a bow of white, and if I am correctly informed, I had a "speaking part" on several programmes at a very youthful age. The privilege of addressing this great Convention I count as one of the distinct honours of my life. Your history I know; your work I know; I am acquainted with the lives of your leaders; your greatest State Union gave my candidacy support in a strenuous political campaign. A support that was of inestimable value and that I shall not forget. I have been gripped by your spirit and vision, and to this hour your uncompromising and martial declaration challenges me. "Total abstinence for the individual, prohibition for the State and Nation." You have done—you are doing—a mighty work. Of all the temperance organisations, yours is the strategic one. God bless you, and may your victories increase, to the consummation of our common purpose, "the destruction of the liquor traffic."

Women compose music, but they are not musicians; they paint pictures, but they are not artists; they find new stars, but they are not astronomers; they chart the rocks, but they are not geologists; they heal the sick, but they are not physicians; they superintend the schools of great cities, but



MRS MOODY, Supt. Y's.

they are not educators; they enter with success well nigh every department of human endeavour, but they are not administrators; they glorify the pulpit, but they are not preachers; they exert a healthy influence on politics, but they are not politicians;

they contribute largely toward the solution of problems between nations, but they are not statesmen; they enter constructively every field of reform, but they are not reformers; East or West or North or South—and always—they are "**Mothers of Men.**"

But the masculine mind approaches the feminist movement with inquiry and suspicion. He is a rash man who attempts to analyse a woman's mind, to invade with even friendly intent the sanctity of a woman's soul. To-night it is my purpose to tread only a sure path. This is no place for extended metaphysical research and philosophical dissertation. I would answer the question of a man's mind with a man's question.

You would say the feminist movement is woman's quest for life, larger, fuller, more abundant life; it is the inexorable evolution of a woman's soul; it is the world-old struggle of personality to realise itself. But with arguments such as these men grope in outer darkness. I search for the man's answer to a man's question.

And education is the hope of woman's suffrage. "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." Millions think that they are opposed to woman's suffrage, when by every finer instinct of their natures they are not.

To answer the masculine question, "Why this feminist movement," I must know woman's dominating impulse, her supreme motive, her consuming passion. And I say to-night in this militant feminine presence, without fear of contradiction, that whether she bears children of her

own, or mothers another's, or mothers a community, or a State, of a reform, or the world, the dominating impulse of womanhood is the mother impulse, her motive is the mother motive, her passion is the mother passion. Always it is the impulse, the motive, the passion of "motherhood"—that her sons and daughters, the sons and daughters of the race, shall be clean, well bodied, of unspoiled soul, and worthy.

You ask me where I found the answer? The winds did not carry it to me. I did not read it in the stars. I saw it first in my mother's eyes, but then it was altogether a mystery. I found it in the brave eyes of the matchless woman, when with uncovered soul she came back to me from the valley and shadow of death bearing our first born. There in life's holy of holies, with Heaven embattled all about it, I found the answer. But I did not understand, I did not fathom it, for it is given to no man to fully understand.

Let no man say that the cry of womanhood is a sudden cry, the expression of a whim, the utterance of a just formed desire. We are at the concentric point of many generations; this is the conclusion of ages. Let me make myself perfectly clear—for the good of the race, womanhood did not ask for the ballot one generation too soon.

She has tried every other way. She has turned her heart and hand to many promising devices. Bravely she has struggled through the long darkness of prejudice in men and tradition in women. Having tested her footing thoroughly, she knows that her face is set in the only way.

She has borne the iniquities of the double standard; she has gathered up the broken bodies of her sons from off the plains of war; she has watched the virtue of her daughters burning at the stake of man's lust; she has been a beast of burden and a slave of passion. From the day of Noah's great debauch to this year of our Lord 1913 she has seen the race struggle down the years beneath its drunken load; she has wept; she has prayed; she has petitioned; she has been a clinging vine; she has wooed; she has gone to the last ditch with sacrifice. To the unequal struggle she has brought every resource of her sex. And she has not failed. Against unnumbered handicaps she

has greatly prevailed. And she will prevail! For to-day her marching legions are on the plains of Abraham; to-morrow the city falls!

I have no quarrel with the man who says that woman's sphere is the home. Nor do you. I have no quarrel with the man who declares that the home sphere is big enough to command woman's whole life. I agree. But what of the seven million women, at least, in industry, who have no homes, and what are the bounds of the modern home? What of the seven million women—Dean Sumner says ten million—driven by necessity under conditions arising in a masculine government, into the wage-earning life? "IT is to protect the home by protecting themselves that these workers outside the home, whether yet conscious of the fact or not, need the ballot."

It will take more than a sex prejudice to finally abridge freedom; it will take more than a sex tradition to finally defeat liberty. And let us remember that a government of and for the people cannot be by the people while half the people are debarred. I hope that I am enough a man to oppose any conspiracy of ignorance—or prejudice that would continue the political condition by which women are classed with criminals and aliens.

And of men's legislation without women's aid, much is folly, and more, a mere one-eyed wisdom. Mrs Pankhurst for protesting—militantly, grant—but for protesting a condition against which her soul revolted made herself liable to a sentence of 14 years. On one of her many days of arraignment she appeared in a Court where a fiend, convicted of an unspeakable crime against a little girl twelve years old, receiving the maximum sentence for his offence, was returned to prison for two years. The fact that I do not approve of militant methods does not blind my eyes to the horrible shadows of such a picture.

Women are imperatively needed to-day in the struggle for the solution of life's big problems. And in the fight for human progress, where they so gladly join, is it the part of chivalry, or wisdom, to engage them short of fully armed?

But the master motive and passion of womanhood, the mother motive, the mother passion. What of it? The sphere of womanhood is the

home, and to the ears of true women in comparison with the home, all other things are as the challenge of the incidental.

But here again we are confronted by the facts and conditions of society, society as it is to-day. We have come out of the past, and the present is different! Agreeing that woman's sphere is the home, what is the modern home? What are its present bounds? A great daily said recently: "The modern home is not a harem, shut away from life around it." And certainly it is not now as it was in the days when the narrow confines of a settler cabin and clearing contained it. "The modern home is a link in the chain of modern society, and as such is exposed to every peril which confronts society." It is bounded on the two sides of avarice by the food doper, the peddler of poisonous drugs, the exploiter of child toilers, and the cheapener of labour. It is bounded on the two sides of passion by organised prostitution and the red-mawed liquor traffic. In combating these perils men need the help "which wise, courageous women want to give, and which all women owe."

A Cleveland daily well says: "Man with instincts more largely selfish has over-emphasised his symbol of power, the dollar. Woman, intuitive, keener of conscience, surer of moral vision, and larger of human sympathy, is trying to shift the emphasis upon humanity. Nature's balance will be struck when male and female fully work together."

Yesterday the grain from which the family flour was ground grew on the home acres, was ground in the home mill, and mother baked the great, round loaves in the home oven. To-day the grain grows in a thousand far away fields, is ground in any one of ten thousand distant mills, and baked into loaves by any two of ten thousand more or less cleanly hands.

Yesterday mother made candy for the clamouring children, from home-gathered syrup, prepared in the friendly iron kettle under the home maples; to-day it rushes from the seething pots of unhealthy cities to the most remote hamlets of the land. You can buy New York "fresh to-day" chocolates in San Diego.

Yesterday mother made William's suit and Sarah's dress from flax grown, gathered, cured, corded, spun,



woven, designed, cut and fashioned all within a loud hello of the kitchen stoop. To-day, perhaps a haggard-eyed consumptive fighting for bread and breath in a crowded sweat-shop of a distant city hastily stitched together with bleeding fingers, bending close her poor, diseased eyes, the little dress your baby wears.

Yesterday we went to school on the hill where the school house roof was red, the shutters green, and the rule was the rule of three, and where no child was ever spoiled because Solomon's warning was not heeded. To-day our children find car tracks and diphtheria, the whim of an ever changing educational system, and in not a few instances, the procurers of vice districts, on the road that leads to knowledge.

Yesterday mother settled the child's labour problem with her slipper; to-day the solution of it is at the end of a long road that leads by oyster beds, and cotton mills, through factories into deep mines.

The problems of a minimum and living wage for women and the traffic called white slavery are creatures of the human modern environment, and the answers to their questions must be present tense answers.

And the liquor traffic, the home's fiercest, concrete foe, stands in the road that leads to the ultimate solution of every one of the vital social, economic, moral and political problems of this tremendous human crisis. And it goeth out only by the ballot.

And let me remind you to-night that woman's suffrage has no more unrelenting enemy than the liquor traffic; that the enfranchisement of womanhood must become a fact in Government in spite of the liquor traffic. Call John Barleycorn all the hard names in the vocabulary of decency and patriotism save one—never call him a fool. Jack London, in his compelling story, "John Barleycorn," written in the form of an autobiography, relates that he rode down from his California ranch to vote for woman's suffrage, because he knew that it would be another weapon for the smiting of the liquor traffic.

And let no suffragist make the mistake of silence in the hope of placating the "trade." May the day speedily come when every woman's club, every female organisation in the United States, will stand outspokenly

with this incomparable White Ribbon host, for a saloonless nation and a stainless flag.

Yes, the home is woman's sphere. Not the home as it was—the home as it is. Not the simple, shaded path of yesterday, but a toiler's rugged road that leads from the door stoop, into every department of human endeavour, through every phase of society's unrest, and girdles the globe. For to-day the four posts of the home are the four corners of the earth.

Let us face the issue squarely. A great militant question challenges the women of the race. It rises from sweat shops, and factories, and brothels, and mines, and molten furnaces. It is the cry of the city, and it is the cry of the town. This is the question, "What are you going to do about it?"

There are two possible answers to the question. One is the answer of tradition, and the answer of tradition is, that woman's political helplessness is her power, that woman's weakness is her strength. The way that this answer opens is in the last analysis, the way of seduction. Not necessarily not generally gross, immoral seduction, but the seduction of smiles, and tears, the seduction of the wheedler and clinging vine.

The other answer is the answer of woman's strength, and it opens the road of equality by which in all the complexities of modern life, the sexes shall complement each other.

Shall it be a resolution or a vote? Do you remember Frances Willard's resolution? Did you see it under a table, in the tobacco filth of a national political convention's platform committee room? I would rather have my wife and mother and sisters and daughters go into the voting booth with a clean American ballot, than to the political boss, with tearful intercessions—a political boss, who would very likely have eyes for only their physical charms.

Which of the two answers is the fair, clean, honest one? Which is the American answer? Which is the right answer?

What is society? Who are society? Government ought to be society's best expression of itself. It cannot be with society's morally best part not speaking. What is government in the last analysis? Government is an institution of laws, powers, functions and spirit. And how is government

achieved? No man has ever weighed a prayer, or fathomed a tear, or valued a smile, but in the last analysis; government is not by tears, nor prayers, nor smiles, but by votes.

Prayers as numberless as the sands on the sea shore have shaken the Almighty's throne, supplicating the destruction of the liquor traffic! An ocean of tears has flowed, a billion hearts have broken, all the wiles of frantic mothers ready to sell their lives, if not to give their souls, have been employed, that saloon doors might be closed forever, and to-day the rum institution still rests in the protecting shelter of a masculine dollar sign. Only by stainless ballots will we ever achieve a stainless flag. When the women of America are granted the voting privilege of citizenship, we will bury the liquor traffic beneath an avalanche of votes, deeper than the foundation of the earth!

But let no one here think that I grant the contention that woman's suffrage where it is in the process of demonstration is a failure. In Washington at least nine progressive laws must be credited largely to woman's suffrage, in Oregon twelve, in Utah thirteen, in Colorado sixteen, in Idaho nine, in Wyoming nine, and in California nineteen. These laws have to do with the home, the school, reform institutions and asylums, Juvenile Courts, pure food and drugs, working conditions of men, women, and children, public health and morals, the conservation of natural resources and the greatest conservation of all—the conservation of humanity. In nearly all of the suffrage States the age of consent has been raised to eighteen years. It is hard to realise that in some instances it used to be as low as seven years, and that it is still as low as twelve years in a few States.

The blows of suffrage fall naturally for humanity's uplift. It strikes and will strike against child labour and white slavery, for mothers' pensions and vocational training in public schools, for parks and the shortening to a proper length of the hours of toil. And it will speed the day when women will say to men, in the words of Dean Sumner, of Chicago, "No longer shall you exploit my sex in vicious marriage selection. Children of women no longer shall be compelled to suffer with blind eyes, twisted limbs, and idiotic brains, because of the sins of their fathers." The double standard of morality must go, and the immoral

dance and immodest dress, leading reasons why boys go wrong, must not survive.

But I am charged with unfairness. Have I not ignored many of the strong, direct arguments against woman's suffrage. Thus far I have tried to deal with basic principles. A mass of incidental contentions I have brushed by.

Should the responsibilities of the vote be thrust upon women who do not want it, who are opposed to having it? Yes, if woman's suffrage is right. The only time a male citizen has any right to deliberately remain away from the polls is when the candidates or principles before the people give him no opportunity to express himself, do not in any way represent him. **Even then it is a tragedy!** Any citizen who stays away from the polls for any other reason than conscience or physical disability, should be temporarily disenfranchised. We who enjoy for ourselves and our children the benefits of a free government are required by the moral law, and ought to be so required by the law of the land, to pay the price of our liberties. **Only thus can worthy government survive.**

Men have been woefully slow in discovering that women, to whom by common consent, is delegated the major portion of the moral, religious, educational, and patriotic training of the youth, are actually deprived of the one practical text book by which the vital lessons of citizenship are taught.

Thus far we have demanded of women in the training of our sons for citizenship, that they not only carry the greater portion of our load, but that they give what they themselves do not possess, that they impart what they themselves have not received. That mothers have borne and reared Presidents and other honourable men, in spite of the terrific handicap is a glorious tribute to womanhood, but a mighty mean argument to use against suffrage.

And I would remind you that when a husband and wife grow not together they grow apart. In proportion as husband and wife have mutual interests, do the years bind their hearts and blend their lives. The privileges and responsibilities of citizenship have and should have a large place in the development of the normal man, and men and women will not be as well

mated as the Creator intended they should be, until women are men's co-partners in the State.

Women have led personally some of the mightiest movements in human progress. Joan of Arc, Mary Lyons, and Frances Willard were women. Mrs Stevens and Jane Addams are women, and women have been the **fountain heads** of every great movement, for they have borne the soldiers of every reform, the captains of every emancipation. This last is to my mind greater than the bearing of arms.

But be careful how you apply the blood test, my masculine interrogator. I have come up through the cosmopolitan school of the average American young man. I have seen courage, the courage of the gridiron and hunt, the courage that beards the character assassin in his political lair of graft, the courage that marches in khaki, beneath streaming banners and behind pounding drums, and I have seen the courage of the hum-drum—the rarest of all—but I never saw courage until a brown-eyed bit of feminine pure gold, brave enough to say "yes" when I wooed her in an old Ohio homestead—the mother of my children, God bless her—showed it to me.

Do you insist that I go to the inexorable end with my argument? Do you say equal at the polls, then equal in toil, equal in vices? **When true womanhood carries a hod, she carries it with all the dignity of a queen.** But where true men are she will never again carry a hod. Equal in vices? But no man says that, and anyhow God made true womanhood different.

Last summer I went home—back to the old home. A Fourth of July parade? Yes! And to the question that your eyes flash, I would answer that a few months before, for the first time in history, the women of Portland voted! They went to the polls and elected a reform administration. They swept the city clean. The women did. My mother and my sister helped. Father cast his one vote, and the "females of the species" in our clan cast their two! The great, good men of the city had tried again and again. Standing alone, they had failed. The day that saw women vote for the first time in the metropolis of Oregon was Portland's great emancipation day.

That night I went to bed in the old home, and by my side slept a little fellow, bearing my name and carrying my blood in his veins. Just such a little fellow as I was before I grew up and went away. Midnight came and I had not slept. My heart was stirred by a hundred emotions and my mind was memory's picture gallery. Then across the threshold of the quiet room swept soft as an angel a figure in white. The cold comes down at night in the North-west. No sweltering there through sleepless, humid terrors! Mother feared that I might be uncovered and chilled in my sleep. Often she had found me thus. Close by my bed she came, and in the dim moon that crept under the blinds I sensed her stooping low. I closed my eyes. I felt her fingers touch the coverlet. She tucked it deftly—then a pause—and there as light as a breath from the milky way, her lips brushed my forehead. **Mother, voting citizen of Oregon, had not changed!**

And so, fighting comrades of the W.C.T.U., here is my conclusion for the whole matter. I am profoundly convinced that the ballot will be a weapon of uplift and freedom in the white hands of the **Mothers of Men.**

"The greatest battle that ever was fought,  
Shall I tell you where and when,  
On the maps of the world you will find it not,  
'Twas fought by the mothers of men."

'Twas fought by uncrowned womanhood, who, when the clouds of battle hung heavy o'er the land, drew from bleeding finger tips the food for babes at home; who have stood with Spartan fortitude, unbowing through a thousand gales of compromises; from whose wombs have sprung the empires of freedom, and at whose breasts have nursed the soldiers of liberty and the leaders of every righteous cause, since time began; who have kindled and rekindled in the breasts of men the fires of truth and patriotism; mothers, wives, sisters, sweethearts, who with the mingled light of devotion and sacrifice shining from their eyes, have sent their sons and loved ones, on fields of blood and greater fields of peace, courageous down to all the wars of humanity,



## News of the Unions.

(The Editor cannot promise to insert anything in the next issue that does not reach her by the 8th of the month. Correspondents are requested to write their Reports as concisely as possible, on one side of the paper only. Newspaper cuttings are unsuitable.)

### KAIKOURA.

First meeting for 1914 held on Tuesday, February 3rd, in St. Paul's Schoolroom, Mrs McAra in the chair, and eleven members and two visitors present. A discussion ensued regarding erecting a rest tent at the local Show for the convenience of mothers with young children. Literature was distributed to members. A new branch of work was taken up in Social Purity.

### GREYMOUTH.

Our first regular meeting for this year was held on Wednesday in the Sailors' Rest Hall. There was a record attendance, and a lively interest taken in all the business. Our retiring Secretary, Mrs Hansen, was heartily thanked for the many years of faithful work she has given the Union. An outdoor afternoon was given to the mothers and children of the Cradle Roll, and all enjoyed the time thoroughly. Mrs Gaskin (President) took the opportunity of giving a word of advice to all.

### GISBORNE.

Special meeting to consider Convention business called January 6th, and Management Committee appointed.

Jan. 27. Monthly meeting. Correspondence and routine business. Further arrangements for Convention considered, and plan and time-table drawn up and forwarded to N.Z. Executive. Offers of hospitality called for.

### NEW PLYMOUTH.

Oct. 29. Two new members initiated. £1 passed to N.Z. Fund, also £1 to Organising Fund. Four members took three cards each to enrol babies in their neighbourhood. Members co-operated with other Temperance societies, and a Good Temperance Sunday rally was held the following Sunday.

Nov. 26. Correspondence was read from Superintendents of Unfermented Wine, Mental Defectives, Domestic Science, Military Training, Home Meetings, and Work Among Seamen; also a testimonial to late Mr G. B. Nicholls. The home meeting held at Mrs Joll's was reported.

Dec. 3. Annual meeting, attendance small. Tea was handed round. The preamble was included in the opening devotions and repeated by

all the members, standing. Music and songs were rendered. After all reports of year's work were given, the officers of last year were re-elected. Miss Balgarnie, of London, a visitor to New Plymouth, gave an address as to future work. She laid special stress on the privilege we enjoy in being able to vote out the drink traffic, and emphasised the fact that no woman who is true to herself and to her family will ever neglect to go to the poll and record her vote against that evil. She much admired the work amongst the young children in the Dominion, and strongly urged that Young People's Unions be formed. In America both sexes are admitted, and it seemed to work admirably.

Jan. 28. Good attendance of members. One new member joined. Telegram from the Premier, in answer to resolution forwarded re licensing legislation, was read. Willard Day to be honoured on February 17th by holding a picnic at Mrs Skitrop's grounds, Mill Road. It was resolved to take up the usual collection towards World's Missionary Fund.

### WAIMATE.

Nov. Annual meeting, Mrs Graham in the chair. The Secretary read the annual report. A vote of thanks was passed to the officers of the Knox Church Sunday School for the use of hall. Mrs Roberts was elected President. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mrs Graham for her faithful services as President for the last six years.

### OXFORD.

Jan. 28. At the Coronation Hall, Mrs Gainsford presiding. The Secretary read a letter from Mrs Barton. The Treasurer read sports balance-sheet, showing credit £8. President elected delegate to Convention. Decided to give a social to say farewell to Pastor Duncombe, our faithful helper, and to invite our husbands and friends. Decided that our President and Mrs Fawcett wait on the Secretary of A. and P. Show to obtain particulars in answer to a request that Union cater at Show. Secretary gave White Ribbon hymn books as birthday present to Union. Decided to still distribute eight copies of the "White Ribbon" in memory of our late sister who paid for eight for last year. Instructed Cradle Roll Supt. to ask Dr. Forrest to address the mothers, and Secretary to thank all who helped at the sports. Miss Gainsford gave an address on the life of the women of India, and was heartily thanked. Afternoon tea handed round. Decided to donate £1 to the Maori Organising Fund, and £1 to the General Organising Fund.

### RANGIORA.

Meeting held on Friday, December 5th. Attendance good. The following officers were elected:—Pres., Mrs Cobden Cox; Sec., Miss Wadey;

Treas., Mrs H. Taylor; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Miller, Wills, and Robinson. Reports of the year's work were read and confirmed, members remarking that the President's report showed more new work taken up than ever before.

Feb. Special business meeting held on Friday, February 6th, at the Institute Hall. Decided to send a delegate to Convention. Mrs Rowse, of Petone, first President of the Rangiora Union, was present, and we were pleased to hear her speak a few words of cheer.

### WANGANUI.

First meeting for 1914 was held in Trinity Church Parlour on February 6th, Mrs J. Smith presiding. Attendance good. Mrs Smith, in a short address, urged the members to make a special effort this year, in view of the coming election. Miss Tucker elected delegate to Convention. Resolved to hold a Bazaar some time this year in aid of the Temperance Funds, members promising to assist. A vote in favour of the Bible in Schools movement was carried almost unanimously.

### WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

The first meeting of the year held in the Constable Street Rooms on February 5th, 1914, when Mrs Johnston-Wright presided. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. A tribute was paid to Mrs Boxall for the excellent manner in which she had carried out her duties as President, and for her continuous and faithful service during the seven or eight years she held office. It was decided that the Supt. of Sabbath Observance should write to the Mayor (Mr J. P. Luke) commending his attitude in connection with making a charge at the Royal Artillery Band Sunday performance. A vote on the Bible in Schools question was taken, resulting in a majority for the Bible in State Schools League. Mrs Bates was appointed delegate to Convention, and Mrs Johnston-Wright as a substitute in the event of the delegate being unable to attend. Mrs Wright spoke of the important work to be accomplished during the coming months in view of the Local Option Poll. Afternoon tea dispensed.

### MASTERTON.

Annual election of officers on December 16th, 1913, Mrs Devonport presiding. The election resulted as follows:—Pres., Mrs Devonport; Sec., Mrs Flanagan, 4, Cole Street; Treas., Mrs Sutherland. The following Superintendents were elected:—Flower Missions, Mrs J. Walker; Home Meetings, Mrs Ross; White Ribbon, Mrs Russell, Bannister Street.

Tuesday, Feb. 4. Meeting held in Knox Hall, Mrs Devonport presiding. Attendance fair. Letter received from Miss Anna Gordon, World's Sec-

retary, conveying greetings. Mrs Devonport read a letter from Canon Garland requesting that a vote be taken by the members on the question of Bible Reading in Schools, as advocated by the Bible in Schools League, which, on being put to the meeting, was carried. Mrs James Miller was appointed delegate to Convention. Proposed that the next meeting be a home meeting, and that the Secretary read a paper of an educational character.

#### HAWERA.

Meeting held on Thursday, January 20th, in the parsonage garden, at the invitation of the President, Mrs Blamires, who hoped thereby to get a large gathering. Five new names were proposed. Mrs Blamires and Messrs Halliwell and Dixon gave addresses urging each member to renewed effort in Prohibition work, and speaking hopefully of our prospects. Mrs Patterson, of Manaia, again asked for the co-operation of Hawera in engaging an Organiser. No discussion followed, but at a meeting some months ago it was resolved that we could not see our way to accede to the request, as we felt all our help should be given to the local No-License League, who at that time were talking of trying to get a lady organiser for our own electorate.

#### BLENHEIM.

The annual meeting of the W.C.T.U. was held in Wesley Hall on December 8th, 1913. Mrs Grace presided. The Secretary's annual report was read by Mrs Grace, who also gave an excellent encouraging address. The balance-sheet was read by Mrs Hay (Treasurer), and it is gratifying to know that the Union is in a healthy state financially. It was resolved that a letter of sympathy be sent to Mrs D. Sinclair, our retiring Secretary, who has been bereft of her father. After a good deal of business had been gone through, the election of officers took place. Pres., Mrs Grace; Vice-Pres., Mesdames A. J. Litchfield, J. Rose, A. Jackson, Brewer, Law, and Hancock; Sec., Mrs Gordon Litchfield, "Glenalvon," Rose Street; Assis.-Sec., Mrs D. Sinclair; Mothers' Meetings, Mesdames Brewer and Hancock; Drawing Room Meetings, Mesdames Fisher and T. Pike; Agent for "White Ribbon," Mrs W. Parker; Good Citizenship, Mesdames McNab and E. H. Penny; Literature and Medical, Temperance, Mesdames Meade, Martin, and Miss Davies; Agricultural, Mesdames A. Jackson and W. Parker; Reporter to "Express" and "White Ribbon," Mrs Fisher. Afternoon tea was served at the close of the meeting, and the President pronounced the Benediction.

#### OPOTIKI.

Dec. 11. Annual meeting held, fair attendance. Election of officers resulted as follows:—Pres., Mrs J. G. Murray; Vice-Pres., Mrs Goodall and

Mrs T. Thompson, and Mrs W. Morice; Sec., Mrs Sinclair; Treas., Mrs Holman; Supt. Cradle Roll, Mrs Pearson; Supt. Electoral Roll, Mrs J. B. Gow. Votes of thanks were passed to the retiring President and Secretary.

Jan. 8. Usual monthly meeting, Mrs Murray presiding. After general business, Miss Smith, from Christchurch, gave a short instructive address on some of the branches of W.C.T.U. work, which was very much appreciated by the members.

#### PICTON.

The postponed annual meeting was held on Friday, December 18th, Mrs Arthur (President) occupying the chair. Several apologies for absence were received. The attendance of members was good. The report of the year's work was read, and a very interesting discussion followed, when many suggestions for useful work in the coming year were considered. The Treasurer read her report, and the balance-sheet was considered very satisfactory. The officers for the coming year were elected as follows:—Pres., Mrs Arthur; Vice-Pres., Miss Jennings; Sec., Mrs Millen; Treas., Mrs Burrough; Mrs Jennings was elected Supt. of Cradle Roll. Decided to meet again the second week in March, when the Union will hold a public meeting in the evening. Decided to resume Band of Hope meetings in March. The thanks of the W.C.T.U. were extended to all those who have helped to make the Band of Hope meetings so interesting and profitable, and especially to those ministers, Revs. Dickson, Adams, Smith, and Cooke, who have each given such excellent addresses through the session.

#### INVERCARGILL.

Meeting on the 3rd, Mrs MacKenzie presiding, attendance good. Liquor advertisements in tram cars was discussed. Last month a large deputation of representative citizens interviewed the Town Council to protest against these, but the Council decided to continue the advertisements. The meeting placed on record its disappointment at this decision. Mrs Hunter and Mrs Hamilton reported on the success of the rest and tea tents at the recent Summer Show. Sister Moody Bell and Mrs Lee-Cowie were appointed delegates to the coming Convention. Two new members were admitted. During the meeting Mrs Baird made reference to the jubilee of the local Band of Hope. It was founded in 1864 by Mrs Bonthorn, who still resides in Invercargill with her daughter, Mrs Walker. Many of its early members are active Temperance workers amongst us.

#### DUNEDIN.

Opening meeting for the year held on Tuesday afternoon. The President was in the chair, and spoke in terms of appreciation of the earnest

and faithful work of the retiring President (Mrs Peter Dick). Satisfactory report from the Sailors' Rest was received from Mr R. Robertson, missionary. A hearty welcome was extended to Miss Weymouth, Financial Secretary to the United Temperance Reform Council, who gave a report of her work on behalf of the W.C.T.U. in the Wanganui district, and asked for the continued assistance of the members in distributing and collecting Democratic Vote cards. It was reported that two thousand pledges had already been received. Mrs Don reported visiting Mosgiel Union. Mrs Driver spoke impressively on "Ezekiel," who in Babylon was a "sign" unto the people of obedience and resignation to God's will. Earnest prayers were offered for strength and guidance through the present year.

#### KAIAPOI.

The twenty-fourth anniversary of this Union was celebrated on 28th January, when there was a large attendance of members and friends. Miss Roberts, from Christchurch, gave an address, tracing the history of the Temperance movement. The Secretary's annual report showed that good work had been done during the year in the following departments:—Educational, Relief, Band of Hope, Scientific Temperance, Press, Cradle Roll, Literature, and Refreshment Booth. Good reports were also read from the auxiliaries, Rangiora, Oxford, Kaikoura, and Belfast. It was decided to hold a business meeting in a fortnight's time, when a deputation would be received from the No-License League with regard to the Democratic Vote Campaign. Musical items were given by Mrs Wylee and Miss Wadey.

#### ASHBURTON.

At our meeting, held on December 9th, Mrs W. K. Watson presided over a large attendance. Superintendents were urged to forward reports to heads of departments without delay. The President referred at length to the protest made by the Editor of the local paper, in that a license was granted for a publican's booth to be held on Boxing Day, and the following resolution was carried unanimously:—"Recognising the unique value of the newspaper press, and its singular opportunities for educating and influencing public opinion, this meeting desires to express its appreciation of the leading article in last Friday's issue of the 'Ashburton Guardian' commenting on the action of the Selwyn Licensing Committee in granting a license for a publican's booth at the Trotting Club meeting to be held on Boxing Day. This Branch of the W.C.T.U. is thankful that the blunder of the Licensing Bench was not allowed to pass without a protest from the local journal. The trust is expressed that 'The Guardian' will ever be what its name implies—a sentinel ever alert to safeguard the people's



rights, privileges, and liberties." It was also moved and seconded: "That the members of the Ashburton Branch of the W.C.T.U. have noted with grave concern the manner in which the adverse report of Sergeant Emerson was ignored by the Selwyn Licensing Bench at its recent meeting at Rakaia, when a license was applied for and granted for a publican's booth at the forthcoming Trotting Club meeting. Members of this Union have frequently observed the admirable efforts made by Sergeant Emerson to maintain law and order in the Ashburton and Selwyn districts, and recognise that the Dominion is to be congratulated on having such a capable and faithful officer. The Union deplores the action of the Licensing Committee in granting an application to sell liquor in face of strong evidence given by the Sergeant." Pastor Innes was present, and delivered a forceful and instructive address on "Influence." A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the speaker.

#### NGAIRE.

Jan. 29. Cradle Roll and Sunday School picnic was held in Ngaire Gardens. A nice number attended, and a pleasant day was spent.

Feb. 3. Meeting at Mrs Morison's home, Mrs Morison (President) presiding. At the close of meeting five new members were enrolled.

#### SEDDON.

All White Ribboners will be interested in the following report, furnished by Mr R. Adams, Superintendent of the Band of Hope, which, although not under Union auspices, is the outcome of our organising efforts having been commenced by Miss Powell during her visit to Seddon, Marlborough, where she was unable to organise a branch of the Union:—

Our local Band of Hope started in May last, has had a continuous if not a prosperous career, and held its first "break-up" function last Friday, when we had just a splendid time. Permission was obtained to hold a picnic in the grounds of "The Nursery," which is simply an ideal spot for such an event. The ladies provided an abundance of tea and cakes. Forty-three children sat down on the grass to tea. It was a beautiful sight to see the happy little company. Several were only visitors, of course. The various sports and pastimes continued up till 7.30 p.m., when we repaired to the church for an hour or more, and there spent a very happy time, each juvenile member receiving a neat little Christmas card before leaving for home. We have issued 33 membership pledge cards since the opening. The meetings are to be resumed on the first Friday in March, 1914.

#### WAIOTEMARAMA.

I noho te roopu karaitiana o Waimamaku i te 12th o Hanuere, 1914, e whitu nga mema tae mai. He mihi ki nga roopu i raro i tenei Karangatangara:—E nga hoa i roto i te whakapono Karaitia Tena koutou i te ra whanua o te tatou ariki o ihu karaiti i roto hoki i te tau-hou tena koutou i roto i te ariki.—Hoi ano, Na te Hekeretari, Painaaporo H. Tuoro.

#### ORUARIKI.

Ka hui te Roopu Karaitiana, Oruariki and Oturi ka whakawhetai tia e te Tumuaki ka himene tia te 47 o nga himene ki nga pukapuka Weteriana. Ka mutu kapuare te whare mo nga take (1) Ko te Tumuaki, he Mihi W. Werihī Hekeretari, Hinerangi S. Haimona, Peeke, Ema P. Mohi mo tenei tau. (2) He whakamihi kia Makerita D. Parore kua uru mai ki tenei karangatanga i te nei ra i te nui ano o te koa o tona nga kau ki tenei taonea. E ngari te uru wawe ai ia i te whakaaroaro ano ia tena pea tetahi mo tona kai nga roopu e tu kati i te kore-kore rawa o nga tangata o tona kai nga kawhai mai ia ki te roopu tata kia ia. (3) £1 te moni awhina a tenei roopu i te hui a te roopu ki Ahikiwi. (4) £1 i te awhina i te whakapainga o te Parikarauna Maori i Oturi. (5) 10s i te awhina i te ahi mema pakeha o te roopu pakeha o te Aratapu he ponaru Mrs Stephens—Kawahakamutua e te Tumuaki—Amene. Tena koutou katoa e nga teina o nga tuaakna i roto i tenei karangatanga i te a tawhai ato tatou matua nui i te Rangī. Kia ora katoa i tenei tau hou.

Feb. 1st. Ka hui te roopu Karaitiana, Oruariki and Oturi kawhaka-whetai tia e te Tumuaki ka himene tia te 52 o nga himene ki nga pukapuka Weteriana. Katukua nga inoi mo nga mema. Ka mutu ka puare te whare mo nga take (1) He inoi ki nga naea o tatou i te hui ki Ahikiwi mia korero i nga korero o te hui ka korerotia e te kai korero. (2) He kōhi kōhi i te 2s 6d mo tenei tau hou ko mutu katukua ki te hekeretari te moni hei tuku nga ki te Tumuaki o te motu mete moni mo te pepa o tenei 12s 11d.—Kawahakamutua e te Tumuaki. Amene.

#### AHIKIWI.

Ripoata o te hui huinga whakakotahi—tanga o nga roopu i tu ki Ahikiwi i te 3rd of Hanuere, 1914. Koia enei nga roopu i eke mai ki te nei hui. (1) Pouto, (2) Oruariki and Oturi, (3) Waimamaku, (4) Ko te Ahikiwi.

Ko te Kaumātua o te nei hui (Ko Rev. W. Te Paa). Ko nga take i whakakaupatia i tenei hui.

(1) He whakakaha i enei roopu ki te ago i nga tikanga o te whakapono i raro i tona haaki i tona haaki.

(2) He whakakotahi ia ratou hei teina hei tuakana i runga i te wha-

kaaro tahi kei waiho to ratou wehewehenga hei take e taututetute ai te tahi i te tahi.

(3) He tautoko na enei roopu i te paero e kii-ana kia akona nga Tamarika ki nga tikanga o te whakapono kia akona hoki ki te katikihaina.

(4) He kupu tautoko i puta i tenei hui kea awhina nga roopu katoa i te kupu whakahau e mau i te pepa a Rev. H. W. Williams.

Te kau Gisborne na tawa wiremu i Perehi ko te ingoa o taua pepa (Te Paipera ako i nga tamariki) kei roto i taua pepa, e whakaatu ana. He huihui nga nui. Kei Ingarangi Na te Haahi Ingarangi.

Haahi Weteriana.

Haahi Peheteria.

E whakahau ana ki nga iwi karaitiana o ia haahi oia haahi. Kia kaha te Pooti i te mema Maori e whakaae ana. Ki te tautoko kia akona te paipera ki roto o nga kura Pakeha Maori hoki.

(a.) Kia riro ano ma ia haahi e ako nga tamariki i raro i tena haahi i tena haahi, e hara ia i te mea. Ko te Mahita hei ako i te paipera e rangi kea. Whakapuaretia he haora e rite ana hei ako i te paipera.

(b.) No reira ko enei roopu katoa kua tautoko i tenei whakahau. Mo te Paipera kia akona ki roto o nga kura.

Hai ano nga mea e tuku atu i tenei wama te atua te Etita o te White Ribbon. E manaaki e tiaki. Na o hoa pono nga. Na nga roopu.

(1) Pouto, (2) Oruariki, etc., (3) Waimamaku, (4) Ahikiwi.

I raro i to matoa matua.

Rev. W. Te Paa.

Ripia, N.W.

#### KAI WHAKAHAERE.

Te Awanui, Jan. 31st, 1914.

Tena ra koutou, e aku tuahine iroto i te Ariki. He mihi kia koutou, he nui nate koa ote ngakau kia koutou e whakahaere ana ito tatou take pai. Kaiahi ano ahau ka hoki iho ite Hiku ote Ika, ite kawē itenei taonga ki Waenganui ite Aopouri. Nui atu ta ratou koa ki tenei mea. Kua tu a ratou Roopu nui. E tupono hoki maua ko Kaa Tiu, kite hui, ara kite uhunga mo te rangatira o Pamopuria, mo Himiona Popata. Nui atu te tangata i reira ki te poroporo aki ki ta ratou matua. Nui atu te manaaki o enei iwi i ahau, i te taonga hoki. I haere atu tetehi oratau heamana meana koterō kite kawē ia maua ki Parengarenga raano, na ratou hoki nga hoiho mo tena haerenga roa. E kore mutu te whakamihi kinga iwi o te Nota moto ratou atawhai me ta ratou pai kita tatou taonga. E haere ana ahau kinga Roopu ote Wairoa atenei marama e haere ake nei.

Kati, e hoa ma, mate Matua ite rangi koutou katoa e manaaki iroto i te koutou mahi katoa. Aroha nui kia koutou na.

MAARI WOODHEAD.

## Correspondence.

(The Editor is not responsible for opinions expressed by correspondents.)

### WHITE SLAVERS.

(To the Editor.)

Madam,—I read the article in your paper by "J.F." upon the White Slave Traffic, but beyond showing the futility of restrictive laws to curb the social evil and the vice involved in any system of State regulation, they are not helpful, because the root cause of prostitution is purely economic; the cause is poverty, and until that cause is eradicated the evil will persist, and it is a waste of time to tinker with its effects. Acton on Prostitution says the fallen woman is the child of poverty rather than the daughter of love. To maintain otherwise is a slander on the sex, because woman is far more monogamous than man, and a life of promiscuous prostitution must be repulsive to her, but the pressure of sheer necessity drives her to it. If the evil is less in degree in New Zealand, it is only so because the economic conditions are not so severe here as in older lands, but as the Dominion increases in population the evil will become rampant, because the seed of its fruit is here now. It is the duty of the W.C.T.U. to study the primal cause of the vice if they desire to prevent a repetition of the evil here; and to accomplish this they must widen the scope of their social activities, and not confine their efforts solely to Temperance reform, though I endorse their work in that direction. If they study the social problem, and to this end I would advise them to read the writings of Henry George, they will find that the cause of poverty is land monopoly. This may not be palatable to those persons interested in land investments, but the danger to the public health is so serious in the spread of infectious disease to even innocent people, not to mention its evil effects upon unborn generations, that no sacrifice should be too great for the noble women of the W.C.T.U., whose motto is "God, Home, and Humanity." In an address upon this question at the Isaac Hopper Home, a refuge established in New York City for the reclamation of fallen women, Henry George proved that the cause of prostitution was poverty; that it in turn was directly traceable to land monopoly; that the single tax is the only cure for that evil, and that until that measure was adopted that rescue work was abortive, since it could not stop the production of fresh victims whose pander is poverty.—I am, etc.,

F. W. BURKE.

Ashburton, Jan. 25, 1914.

(Our correspondent overlooks the fact that the articles in question were on "The White Slave Trade," and not

on prostitution. We agree with our correspondent that poverty is a contributing factor to prostitution, but this cannot be said of the White Slave Trade, which takes its victims from good homes and comfortable circumstances. That traffic is another illustration of the old law of supply and demand. The demand is the lust of evil men, and to supply that demand, which pays liberally, men and, alas, women, are found fiendish enough to entrap thousands of innocent girls to a life of hellish torture and a death of shame and agony. Those articles were published to arouse our women to the immense and far-reaching nature of this traffic, and to put them on the alert to see it never gets the slightest foothold in this Dominion.—Ed. "W.R.")

### NATIONAL PROHIBITION.

(To the Editor.)

Madam,—I write to suggest that if Temperance workers want to see National Prohibition carried at the next election, it would be a good plan if Temperance workers in all towns in New Zealand were asked to hold temperance meetings on Sunday afternoons, either in the open-air or indoors. If this were done all over New Zealand, commencing soon, and not leaving it to a few weeks before the election, a great result would surely follow.—I am, etc.,

"TRY HARD."

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**Christian Temperance Union**  
 Of New Zealand.

Organised 1885.

"For God and Home and Humanity."

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 Parsonage, Kaiapoi.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:  
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 Christchurch.

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 One Tree Hill, Auckland.

Official Organ:

"The White Ribbon."

Editor: Mrs Peryman, Johnsonville,  
 Wellington.

Associate Editor: Mrs Evans, M.A.

Business Manager: Mrs Peryman,  
 Johnsonville, Wellington.

**NOMINATIONS FOR N.Z.**  
**OFFICERS.**

Rangiora nominates:—

Pres: Mrs Don.

Cor. Sec.: Miss Henderson.

Rec. Sec.: Mrs Mitchell.

Treas.: Mrs Bendely.

Wellington District and Wanganui

District each nominate:—

Pres: Mrs Don.

Cor. Sec.: Miss Henderson.

Rec. Sec.: Mrs Atkinson.

Treas.: Mrs Bendely.

**CONVENTION NOTICE.**

The Secretary of the Gisborne Union requests that names of all delegates requiring hospitality at Convention be forwarded to her as soon as possible this month. Address

MRS N. F. WALKER,

"Gortgowan," Fox Street,

Gisborne.

**The White Ribbon.**

For God and Home and Humanity.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1914.

**AGENDA**  
**TWENTY-NINTH**  
**ANNUAL CONVENTION**

OF THE

**New Zealand Women's**  
**Christian Temperance Union.**

To be held in the Scottish Hall, Gisborne, March 4th to 12th, 1914.

**PROGRAMME.**

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4.

2.45 p.m.—Executive Committee. Meeting of N.Z. Officers and Districts Presidents. World's W.C.T.U. Executive Committee of New Zealand.

7.30 p.m.—Reception.

THURSDAY, MARCH 5.

9 a.m.—Convention called to order by the President. Crusade Hymn, "Give to the Winds Thy Fears." Reading of Crusade Psalm responsively—

Praise ye the Lord. Praise the Lord, O my soul. While I live will I praise the Lord. I will sing praises unto my God while I have any being.

Put not your trust in princes, nor in the son of man, in whom there is no help.

His breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; in that very day his thoughts perish.

Happy is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help, whose hope is in the Lord his God:

Which made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is; which keepeth truth forever:

Which executeth judgment for the oppressed: which giveth food to the hungry. The Lord looseth the prisoners.

The Lord openeth the eyes of the blind: the Lord raiseth them that are bowed down: the Lord loveth the righteous.

The Lord preserveth the strangers; he relieveth the fatherless and widow: but the way of the wicked He turneth upside down.

The Lord shall reign forever, even Thy God, O Zion, unto all generations.

Praise ye the Lord.  
 Prayer.

9.45 a.m. Roll Call. Minutes. Report of Executive Committee. Appointment of Committees on Courtesies, and Resolutions. Convention Letter Writer, and Press Reporters. President's Address.

12 o'clock.—Noontide Prayer. Letters of Sympathy. Mrs Peryman's Notice of Motion. Mrs Dearlove's Notice of Motion.

12.30 p.m.—Adjournment.

2 p.m.—Devotions. Corresponding Secretary's Report. Treasurer's Report. Organiser's Report. Organising Treasurer's Report. Departmental Reports. Maori Work (Treasurer, Mrs Hughes). Evangelistic (Mrs Upton). Home Meetings (Miss Dewar). Mothers' Meetings (Mrs Jones).

5.30.—Adjournment.

FRIDAY, MARCH 6.

9.30 a.m.—Devotional Service.

10 a.m.—Roll Call. Minutes. Reports. Unfermented Wine (Mrs Gasikin). Narcotics (Mrs Wright). Literature (Mrs Dearlove). Work Among Seamen (Mrs Whitby). L.T.L. and Cradle Roll (Mrs Neal). Domestic Science (Mrs McCombs).

12 o'clock.—Noontide Prayer. Press (Mrs McKenzie).

12.30.—Adjournment.

2 p.m.—Devotions. Roll Call. Reports. Scientific Temperance Instruction (Miss Maunder). Medical Temperance (Mrs Neal). Purity and Moral Education (Dr. Elizabeth Dunn). Prison Reform (Sister Moody-Bell).

5.30.—Adjournment.

SATURDAY, MARCH 7.

9.30 a.m.—Favourite Hymns.

9.45 a.m.—Roll Call. Report of "White Ribbon" Editor. Report of Business Manager. Appointments of Editor, Associate Editor, and Business Manager. Any unfinished business.

12 o'clock.—Noontide Prayer.

12.30.—Adjournment.

MONDAY, MARCH 9.

9.30 a.m.—Devotional Meeting.

9.45.—Roll Call. Minutes. Reports. Back Blocks (Mrs Israel). Thrift (Mrs Flanagan). Hygiene (Mrs McDonald). Sabbath Observance (Mrs Hamilton). Temperance Sunday (Mrs Jansen). Good Citizenship (Mrs Judson).

12 o'clock.—Noontide Prayer.

12.30.—Adjournment.

2 p.m.—Devotions. Reports. Flower Missions and Relief Work (Miss N. Cole). Educational Bureau (Miss Powell). Y's and Medal Contests (Mrs Moody). Half an Hour with the Y's. Military Camps (Mrs Mitchell). Anti-Gambling (Mrs Heulder). Peace and Arbitration (Mrs Lee-Cowie).

5.30.—Adjournment.

#### TUESDAY, MARCH 10.

9.30 a.m.—Music and Quotations.

9.45.—Roll Call. Minutes. Reports. Rest and Refreshment Booths (Mrs Howard). Bible in Schools (Mrs Walker). Legal and Parliamentary (Miss Roberts). Notable Days (Mrs Watson).

12 o'clock.—Noontide Prayer.

12.30.—Adjournment.

#### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11.

9.30 a.m.—Devotions. Roll Call Minutes. Report of Resolutions Committee.

12 o'clock.—Noontide Prayer.

12.30.—Adjournment.

2 p.m. Devotions. Information re Alterations and Additions to Constitution. Delegate to World's Convention. Resolutions.

5.30.—Adjournment.

#### THURSDAY, MARCH 12.

9.30 a.m.—Devotions.

9.45.—Roll Call. Minutes. Appointment of Tellers. Election of N.Z. Officers and Superintendents of Departments. Resolutions.

12 o'clock.—Noontide Prayer. Question Box.

12.30.—Adjournment.

2 p.m.—Devotions. Plan of work and general discussion upon the work. Votes of thanks. Conclusion.

#### MEETINGS.

7.30 Wednesday.—Reception.

7.30 Thursday.—Memorial Service. Speakers: Miss Powell and Miss Roberts.

7.30 Friday.—Papers on "The White Slave Traffic," by Mrs Field, and "Eugenics" by Mrs Bendely.

2.30 Saturday.—Garden Party.

6.30 Sunday.—Convention Service, Anglican Church. Preacher: Rev. Dawson Thomas.

8.15 Sunday.—Public Meeting. (Speakers to be arranged for.)

8 Tuesday.—Local Entertainment.

7.30 Wednesday.—Addresses on "Woman and Labour" by Miss Roberts, and "The Democratic Vote" by Miss Powell.

#### COURTESIES EN ROUTE TO CONVENTION.

The members of the Napier Union regret that owing to the date of Convention clashing with that of the A. and P. Show at Hastings, for which the Union provide all public luncheons and teas, they will not be able to offer to entertain all Southern delegates en route.

On the return journey, any delegates wishing to break the journey in Napier, will, on writing to Mrs Ingram, Cor. Sec., Cameron Road, be notified of the name of those who will be pleased to act as hostesses.

#### HONOUR FOR NEW ZEALAND!

The following letter (with the white silk world's W.C.T.U. badge) has been received by Mrs H. Lee-Cowie, accompanying an official notification of unanimous re-election as a "World's White Ribbon Missionary."

The Academy of Music,  
Brooklyn, N.Y.,  
Oct. 28, 1913.

Mrs Harrison Lee-Cowie,  
Invercargill, N.Z.

Dear Mrs Lee-Cowie,—It is our happy privilege, on behalf of the great Convention now meeting in Brooklyn, New York, to send you a message of affectionate greeting and God-speed.

We were very sorry you could not be with us in this wonderful meeting.

We thank you for all you are doing to promote our world-wide Temperance work, the outlook for which is radiantly bright. With God's help we shall win still greater victories for God and Home and Every land.

Yours in White Ribbon bonds,  
AGNES E. SLACK,  
ANNA A. GORDON,  
Honorary Secretaries.

I walked a mile with Pleasure.

She chatted all the way,  
But left me none the wiser  
For all she had to say.

I walked a mile with Sorrow,  
And ne'er a word said she;  
But, oh, the things I learned from her,  
When Sorrow walked with me!

—"The Century."

#### OUR DEPARTMENTS.

In reading over from year to year the reports of the superintendents of our different departments, one cannot but be struck with two facts (1) the comparatively few Unions sending reports to each, and (2) the uncertainty as to which department work should be reported to, and consequent reporting of some work to more than one department. These facts, coupled with the knowledge of the difficulty we know small Unions have in finding superintendents, lead us to consider whether we could not amalgamate some of the departments, which might be well worked together. We think that smaller Unions might well appoint one Superintendent for Home and Mothers' Meetings; also Medical Temperance and Scientific Temperance instruction might well be combined. In a Union with few members, we think the Notable Days Superintendent might take Temperance Sunday as one of the notable days to be provided for. Domestic Science and Hygiene are like twin sisters; while Good Citizenship, Legal and Parliamentary and Press would make a fine tandem team. Where Superintendents are scarce the same members could take charge of work done either for sailors, soldiers (military camps) and prisoners, and in some instances would not be overburdened if invalids (Relief and Flower Mission) were also included. Then Narcotics, Anti-Gambling, and Unfermented Wine would form a trio for some capable White Ribboner to undertake. We merely throw out these suggestions for others to improve upon. We would like to see next Convention do something along these lines, so that our work might be simplified for those Unions who are fighting with very few to stand by and help them.

#### WORK.

I laid it down in silence  
This work of mine,  
And took what had been sent me,  
A resting time.  
The Master's voice had called me  
To rest apart,  
"Apart with Jesus only"  
Echoed my heart.

I took the rest and stillness  
From His hand,  
And felt the present illness  
Was what He planned.  
How often we choose labour  
When He says rest.  
Our ways are blind and crooked;  
His way is best.



## A PAGE FOR Y's.

My Dear Y's.—On the front page of this issue there is an illustration of Mrs Moody, Dominion Superintendent for Y Work. The following article is from her pen to the Y's of New Zealand. We want you to help us this year in our great fight for National Prohibition. A very happy, busy, and successful year to all our Y. Unions, and may the Y's and the mother unions at its close clasp hands and return thanks for a glorious national victory at the Licensing Poll.

Ed. "W.R.")

### RULES ADOPTED BY THE ENGLISH "Y's."

Age from 14. Time limit 6 years, when the "Y" should pass into the W.C.T.U., to give there the benefit of her "Y" training.

No married woman can belong, except she be President or General "Y" Secretary.

All officers must be Christians.

The President must be a working member of the W.C.T.U.

It is suggested that 30 years be age limit.

### WHAT GIRLS CAN DO FOR TEMPERANCE.

(Extracts from letter received from Australia by various writers.)

1. Band themselves with other people of like sentiment with themselves, and so help to increase the army of workers who are striving by organised efforts to stem the tide of intemperance.

2. To educate themselves both on the effects of alcohol on the human body, mind, and soul, and on the effects of No-License or the Prohibitory Laws in the countries where they have been tried. Then when opportunity occurs speak about these facts.

3. To carry help and comfort to the sick and sorrowful, and so make Temperance principles well thought of as aids to character. Let people say, "If Temperance means such helpful characters as this, we must be Temperance people too."

4. Be home-making girls, so that those over whom we have influence will never need to leave their home to find comfort or pleasure.

5. Train the children. It is only a few years, and they will be the men and women, and every child

trained and educated means a Christian citizen and another vote for right.

6. **Keep on keeping on.** When you begin to waver, remember it is a sign that your work is really beginning to tell and good being done, and Satan knowing this, tries to weaken you by discouragement; but God is working, and will ultimately cause righteousness to triumph. Therefore, dear girls, never lose heart.

7. Belong, and show you are proud to do so. Write if speech is impossible. Visit homes shadowed by drink with tender compassion for the tempted, and patient effort to save. Live holy. Pray always.

8. Girls can help by being convinced of the need for Temperance work, because they know the physical, economic and social damage caused by intemperance. By studying the methods of experienced workers and adopting those most suitable for their own talents and opportunities.

9. By realising that as Christian workers they are bound to fight the enemies of the Home, the Country, and the Church.

10. Girls can help by making halls beautiful for meetings with temperance banners and mottoes; prepare dainty refreshments, and serve them gracefully; set apart at least 15 minutes each day for systematic Temperance study; sing temperance songs, and teach the children to sing them; help the L.T.L.'s; hold medal contests in aid of W.C.T.U. funds; keep a pledge book on hand, and secure signatures.

11. Watch their Sunday School libraries, and introduce Temperance books. Use unfermented wines in jellies for sick people. Pay surprise visits to local Union business meetings.

12. Then, again, girls can help by carrying flowers. How many lives are brightened by these silent, sweet-smelling gifts. It is impossible to exaggerate the value of the flower mission, writes Miss E. Ormiston Chant, so tender, so softening, so purifying is the silent influence of the flowers.

May the following lines, by Cora E. Tebery, be the prayer of all "Y" members:—

"Y" HYMN.

Air: "Watch on the Rhine."  
Oh, God, our Father, in whose care  
Are Thy loved children everywhere,

Accept the grateful praise we bring,  
And grant us blessings while we sing,

For "God and Home and every land."  
We stand a pledged White Ribbon Band,

Sworn to uphold the right, what e'er befall,

Trusting our cause to Thee, our strength, our all.

We consecrate to Thee our youth,  
For Race and Purity and Truth.

Oh, help us set the "bruised" free,  
Oh, help us make the "blind" to see,  
To heal the broken hearts that mourn,  
To see sin's slaves from bondage torn—

These be the mighty aims each heart to fire,

Grant us, Oh Mighty God, each heart's desire.

Yours for Service,

S. A. MOODY.

### WORLD'S "Y" SUPERINTENDENT.

446, Central Park West,

New York City, U.S.A.

My Dear Mrs Moody,—

At the "Y" Conference of the recent World's Convention at Brooklyn, I was instructed to send to you, and to the "Y's" of New Zealand, through you, the heartiest greetings and kindest wishes of the representatives of the "Y's" of the world there assembled. Will you kindly convey this message, with the added expression of my affectionate goodwill and keen personal interest, as I continue for another term in the office of General Secretary, re-elected thereto by the World's W.C.T.U.?

I will send you a copy of the World's "Y" report, which I hope to have ready in the course of a few weeks, and I know you will do your utmost in the future as I believe you have in the past, to keep alive and growing ever stronger a warm interest in the "Y" Branch of the W.C.T.U. among the "Y's" of New Zealand.

With my love to yourself, and hoping to hear from you.—I am always, your sincere comrade,

AMY A. SWANKIE CAMERON.

The race is divided into two classes—those who go ahead and do something, and those who sit still and inquire, "Why wasn't it done the other way?"—O. W. Holmes.

**BEST VALUE  
IN THE  
DOMINION.**



**BEATALL KID GLOVES**

In Brown, Tan,  
Grey, and White,

**1/11 per Pair.**

WRITE FOR A PAIR TO

**Beath & Co., Ltd., Christchurch.**

**MAORI ORGANISER'S REPORT.**

The first month of the New Year is very promising, except for a slight accident at Kaeo, on the way to Matauri Bay. A horse bolted with me four miles on a dangerous road, and when I arrived at Matauri, 18 miles, was put straight to bed. Next day, although unable to sit up, I held the meeting, with the assistance of Miss Smith. Mrs Duthie, the school teacher, an old White Ribboner, was very kind to me. The two-day old Union hired, at great expense, a buggy to bring me in to Kaeo. Dr. Mercer was most considerate, and though I had to be in bed five days, under his care, I was soon able to leave the kind minister and his wife (Rev. Hapeta Renata) and continue with the work. At Wainui, Touwai, Waimahana, Taemaro, and Kenana, we established good Unions. At Pamopuria there was a huge gathering of people from all parts of the North, for the "tangi" for their chief, Himiona Popata. After the funeral, we were allowed to speak to all these people, and invited to visit their different settlements to establish Unions. This we have done. In the saddle every day, and up late every night, forming Unions. There are three at Pamopuria, and some at Huria, Roma, Marikena, Te Awanui, and Waireka.

This last week one of the leading ladies of Te Awanui, Ripine Kanara, and her daughter, escorted us up the long beach to Te Kao and other settlements at the North Cape. The people were very glad to at last have this work put right into their hands. We have now four splendid Unions there, and the boys are desirous of forming Unions themselves. The 75 miles ride is worth the while, when one meets with such success at the end. During this fortnight I have got many new subscribers to the "White Ribbon," also many new members to our Union. We still have the two horses lent by the Mangamuka Union to us. This, I think, is about

the largest subscription yet given to the work, for those horses have brought us over 250 miles.

The gumfields are in the clutches of a great evil—wine. The Austrians are making their fortune with the wine trade, selling it wholesale to men, women, and girls, causing great havoc. If some restriction could be put on these men it would be the saving of many souls.

Parents have also complaints about Europeans sly-grog selling to the young Maori lads not out of their teens. I have asked the Council to do their utmost to prevent this also.

We are now returning through Lake Ohia to Mangamuka, and then I shall proceed to the Northern Wairoa districts. The results of this tour have been successful beyond all expectations.

TE MAARI WOODHEAD.

EMMANUEL.

Ours to-day and evermore  
Is Thy love, O Christ!  
All Thy saints, who went before,  
That love hath sufficed.

Ours when summer dowers the earth,  
Ours when flowers are dead;  
Ours in days of joy and mirth,  
Ours when tears are shed.

Ours when all day long with foes  
In Thy name we fight;  
Ours when Thou dost send repose  
At the fall of night.

And in that important hour  
When we, homeward bend,  
On Thy changeless love and power  
We shall still depend.

—E.S.B.

**IT NEVER PAYS TO WORRY.**

"There ain't no use o' frettin'  
When there's good soft cheers an'  
stools;  
Just spend your time forgettin',  
Leave rememberin' to fools.  
Or, if you must keep thinkin',  
Choose the good to think about,  
'Twill start the bad to shrinkin',  
And shove your troubles out."

**MEMORIAL STONE FOR OUR  
LATE PRESIDENT.**

The fund for the memorial stone to our late President was closed at the end of the year. Seventy-two Unions have contributed, and the total amount collected is £37 8s 9d. (This includes a donation promised, but not yet paid.)

C. HENDERSON.

**RESTLESS HEART, DON'T  
WORRY SO.**

Dear restless heart, be still; don't  
fret and worry so;  
God hath a thousand ways His love  
and help to show;  
Just trust, and trust, and trust, until  
His will you know.

Dear restless heart, be still; for peace  
is God's own smile.  
His love can every wrong and sorrow  
reconcile;  
Just love, and love, and love, and  
calmly wait awhile.

Dear restless heart, be brave; don't  
moan and sorrow so,  
He hath a meaning kind in chilly  
winds that blow;  
Just hope, and hope, and hope, until  
you braver grow.

Dear restless heart, repose upon His  
heart an hour,  
His heart is strength and life, His  
heart is bloom and flower;  
Just rest, and rest, and rest, within  
His tender power.

Dear restless heart, be still; don't toil  
and hurry so;  
God is the silent One, forever calm  
and slow;  
Just wait, and wait, and wait, and  
work with Him below.

Dear restless heart, be still; don't  
struggle to be free;  
God's life is in your life; from Him  
you may not flee;  
Just pray, and pray, and pray, till you  
have faith to see.

—Edith Willis Linn.

**The "White Ribbon" will be posted  
to any address on receipt of 2s 6d,  
payable to Mrs Peryman, Johnson-  
ville.**



## THE STORYTELLER.

### HER WIDOWHOOD.

(By Constance Clyde.)

(Concluded.)

James Reid's brows contracted a little. His first expression of shocked amazement was wiped off his face as by a sponge, and in its place was a look almost of uneasiness. "But wouldn't you rather rest here?" he asked suddenly, almost enticingly. "Eh? In the home you helped to make?"

"Oh, no, James, not when Jack's landlord. Gladys and me don't hit it off quite, and we're better friends, my daughter-in-law and me, apart, as the saying is. I think the lawyer's come," she added without a change in her quiet tones as a slight noise of footsteps was heard outside.

A few minutes later the party had seated themselves for the function of will-reading. The servants stole in at the back. Jack, the only son of the deceased, a loutish, sullen young man, came in with his girl wife, pert and crisp-haired, with smiling eyes above a consciously demure mouth. They were followed by the lawyer, but a few minutes were spent waiting for young Mrs Patterson. She came downstairs hurriedly. One of the maids in curiosity had unpacked her box, laying a most inappropriate pink silk costume out on the bed. In spite of the solemnity of the occasion, she had to subdue a slight smile over the occurrence, as, not having time to put the costume back, she rejoined the party downstairs.

Mrs Patterson sat at the head of the table; she clasped the black mittened hands before her as the lawyer opened the sheets.

Freed from legal phraseology, the will was a very simple one. There were legacies to the servants, sums proportionate to their length of service; then followed other items, such as a "bust of Wesley and my gold repeater as marks of esteem to my brother-in-law, James Curtis Reid." Mrs Patterson nodded gentle approval at each name mentioned. The lawyer proceeded.

"To my dear wife Hannah, all my personal effects except . . ."—here a few ornaments, "some time in the family," were mentioned—"and to my only son John the business of

the hotel Edginton Arms, Edginton, Sussex, with all the moneys accruing from it, and all the moneys accruing to me from what source whatsoever, and all the furniture of the said hotel, with this proviso, that my son John give his mother a home with him, not only because of his duty as a son, but in return for her assistance in building up the business."

There were a few more words, then followed the name of the testator and the witnesses. The lawyer laid the sheets back on the table.

There were various small movements, and some changes of expression. Jack's feet were heard to shuffle; his wife glanced at the rings on her fingers; James Reid, elbow on table, pressed his hand to his forehead. Only Hannah was placid; she leant forward.

"Now, what about me, Mr Mirams?"

"That is all about you, Mrs Patterson."

"I mean the money due to me—my share?"

"There is nothing due to you, ma'am, except the personal possessions already mentioned. That would mean clothes and jewellery, save what has been excepted."

"James had no jewellery to speak of"—there was now a faint note of anxiety in her tones—"I mean the widow's third, the part the law allows the widow if the husband don't. . . ."

"There is no such law in England, madam."

"I thought there was; I thought there was," she murmured.

"So do many people, but it is quite a mistake. The wife is absolutely dependent upon her husband. It says much for the natural sense of right in men," sententiously, "that very seldom does a man take advantage of this want in the law."

She brushed his words aside. Her nervous hands were grasping the table edge. "Then . . . I've got nothing, . . . no money at all."

"No, madam, only the . . ."

Edith leant forward to touch her hand, but she paid no heed. A gleam had suddenly appeared in her face. "I put a hundred pounds into the business when I took Josiah. I made it out of poultry on my father's farm, so it's my own," triumphantly. "I can get that back with interest."

"Unless it were put in with the usual formalities, I'm afraid not."

She shook her head. "There weren't no formalities," her voice quavered once more. "There weren't no formalities. I just gave it to Josiah." She stopped. Her colour had risen; with the occasional tremble in her voice there had come a working of the features. Now the features stilled themselves, and the energy went to her eyes, that had a new steady light in them. Only once she dropped her lids, seeming to count the crape ruffings on her wrist. Then she raised her eyes again. She rose and put back her chair neatly against the table. "I want you to stay here a little." Her gaze wandered from one to the other. "I've a word to say, but I've got something to do before I say it. I want you just to be here. Yes, you stop too, Mr Mirams."

She was at the door as she let fall the last phrase a little breathlessly. The handle turned, and she was outside.

Jack Patterson's sullen face was flushed. "Upon my word, I think mother's way of taking it is rather hard on me."

"It's a disgraceful will," burst from Edith impetuously. "Mr Mirams, I wonder you didn't remonstrate with the man."

The lawyer defended himself. "As a matter of fact, I did venture to point out to my late client that the will was hardly generous to the widow. But Mr Patterson, as it happened, was very anxious to keep all the money in the business. He gave me the impression also that his wife would be content with his decision, or at least not much dissatisfied."

James Reid raised his head. "I am afraid I must absolve poor Josiah from some of the blame. He mentioned this will to me some time ago, and I, . . . well, . . . I thought my sister, being no longer a young woman, would not care . . . whether she had anything," he ended uncertainly.

"The women are not supposed to want much before fifty, or anything at all afterwards," said Edith Reid sarcastically. She looked towards the young couple, now landlord and landlady of the Edginton Arms, and her voice changed. "Jack, you hear what James says. Your father didn't understand. If he had remembered that it was Hannah who made the business, that it was really hers too,

he'd have left her something, a few hundreds at least. But you'll do it." The voice was earnest now.

Jack lowered at her with heavy humour. "You think a man shouldn't dispose of his money without consulting his wife?"

"Certainly I think so."

"Then I can't give anything to my mother without consulting Gladdie here, and I know what she'll say. Cuts both ways, you see, your women's rights."

Gladys gave a giggle, decorously subdued. Edith turned back to the other two men. "And this is what women have to put up with, and no law to prevent it, and this is only one case?"

"I don't suppose it happens very often. One seldom hears . . ."

"No, not with the higher classes, perhaps; they are protected by family rules and by public opinion, but with people like us it happens, I believe, very often, and with the very women who have done most. You don't hear of it, perhaps, because what can a woman do? Nothing, nothing whatever."

She stopped. The door behind her had opened as she finished. At the same moment her husband jumped to his feet, a look of horror on his face. Jack clutched at the table, his heavy mouth opening; his wife clasped his arm with a hysterical giggle. Involuntarily Edith followed their gaze. "Hannah," she cried, "Hannah, is that you?"

She had reason to ask. It was Hannah, but Hannah completely changed. Instead of the many-flounced crape costume, she wore a salmon-pink silk and chiffon dress with parasol and gloves of a harmonious shade in her hand. The widow's bonnet, with its crape veil, was swept away, and in its place was a fashionable hat, the pink mingling exquisitely with delicate shades of blue. Altogether no more brilliant or festive figure had ever stepped within the private parlour of the Edginton Hotel than was presented by this its hitherto demure and housewifely mistress. Strange to say, the little elderly face did not look grotesque in this gay costume. There was a dignity about the countenance that redeemed even the strange attire.

They noticed this, perhaps vaguely, as after a few amazed exclamations their voices fell into silence.

Hannah waited till there was complete silence. Then she rustled further forward. Her hands, no longer mittened, a filmy fall of lace half hid the worn knuckles, clasped the back of her chair. "You'll excuse me taking the dress," she turned to her sister-in-law; "it's a liberty, I know; not that the silk's as good as good; it's a liberty me taking it as a loan—loan—"

"Keep it," Edith found herself saying; "it's yours; only not now—"

"It's just now I'm wanting it. I'm going to tell you why I'm wearing it. You all know what I've done here. I won't say anything about being a wife and mother. The law don't hold with wives and mothers, so far as I see, but there's something the law does hold with, that's partnership, and I was Josiah's partner. It wasn't only a bit of money I put into the business. I put myself into it. For five-and-twenty years I done that. I've worked 'ard and 'ad no 'oliday, and brought the business through hard times, and what's my reward? The servant that stayed with him six years gets something, and the other as stayed with him ten gets more, according, but the wife that stayed with him five-and-twenty years and been servant, clerk, nurse, and partner, partner . . . she gets nothing."

Her son had recovered himself. "You get a 'ome, mother," he said reprovingly.

"A 'ome, a place by the fireside in the home that isn't mine now, though it's me as made it? Not that I want it for myself. It's the money's worth I want. But I haven't got it. I got nothing, and that's why I am wearing this dress, and that's why I'm going out in it."

But these words, like an electric shock, roused son and brother from their stupor. "Mother." "Hannah, you can't." "Have you forgotten you're a widow?"

"I ain't Josiah's widow. He's said so himself in his will, and who am I to go against him? And why shouldn't I wear a bright dress and lace to it? High time I began if I'm ever going to. I ain't ever had such a dress all those years. I ain't ever had nothing. But I'm going to have 'em now. Why shouldn't I, not being a widow? I'm going out, so as everyone can see. I'm going to the theayter; if there's a

matinay on. . . . I ain't been inside a theayter these twelve years, and I'll ride in one of them new taxi things before all Edginton. If it gets into the papers I don't care. If a 'Daily Mirror' man asks me why I did it, I'll tell him I've got to do it. I've got to show what it means to us women. . . . I've got to."

"Oh, Hannah, don't." It was Edith who spoke. "You've shown how you feel. Now let it rest. It will be so terrible. Poor Josiah didn't understand—"

"Yes, Edith. Josiah knew all along that Gladys and I didn't hit it off together, but there's a mean, nasty spirit in every man, as you'll find out some day, which makes them like women to be at loggerheads, so that they can think how much superior they are—easy enough, seeing they only know the people they want to, but are always shoving their wives against the women they'd be better friends with, as the saying is, apart. No, Edith, Josiah knew very well, only he didn't care. And that's why I'm doing this." She made another move to the door.

But now they grasped the full meaning of her intention, this reversal of the mourning process. "You stop her," Jack almost screamed; "tell her you'll put the law on her, Aunt Edith—the law on her for stealing your clothes."

"I can't; but oh, Hannah!"

Hannah kept her son at bay with her glance. "You may knock your mother down. It's what mothers are for in England; but that's the only way you will keep me. . . ." She tore herself from Edith's clasp, and, with James Reid's indignant outcry, "I'll never forgive you," she went, an incongruous, bright-hued figure, into the sunshine.

"No, I'll never forgive her. He said it again, dazed, stupefied a minute later. Lawyer and servants had slipped away; Jack had gone with Gladys. "Why, it wasn't every young couple as would stand having a mother-in-law in the house always. Mother didn't understand. So he had muttered as the door banged behind him. Edith stood by her husband and tried to soothe him, pointing out the psychology of the incident. "She isn't heartless. Josiah's only a sort of symbol to her now. It's a mission this; she feels she must. Oh,



she hates it as much as you do, but she's wound up." She spoke on, and the man's florid face lost its hardness; a wave of sympathy went through him. "By Jove, you're right. Hannah's had a lot to put up with. But she won't suffer, not any more. She'll always have a seat by our fireside."

"But she doesn't want seats by firesides, James." Edith almost laughed at the obtuseness of man. "She wants—can't you understand—her own life at last. No, we'll lend her the money for her own plans, and not care if she can't pay back. But she will. Hannah's a splendid business woman, as she was in the hotel. . ."

"Yes, we'll do that, . . . Edith." His eyes sought the door. "Can't you prevent it even now, this exposure before all Edginton. Look." Hannah was at the gate; a small boy was running for the taxi. "Yes, do persuade her. Tell her I believe in her, and you shall have your allowance, Edith. . . Good Heavens! no pink dress on my funeral day; no, thank you—but go, go!"

She went to the door, then paused and turned. "I shall try to persuade her, but if I fail, I shall stand by Hannah!"

"Don't fail. Don't fail," he reiterated anxiously.

He watched her cross the courtyard. A few stragglers had gathered now. Someone cried out. . . . Wheels sounded, and the taxi came in sight, . . . stopped near the festive figure.

But Edith had reached that figure by now. Her hand was on the arm, raised to grasp the door of the taxi. Mrs Patterson seemed to draw back.

James Reid watched eagerly; all his decent middle-class reticence craving protection looked out from his anxious eyes. Would his wife succeed? Would this domestic difference become public? It was a shame of Jack to refuse his mother, but still, if there was no help for it, it would be so much better for her to keep it all quiet. After all, women always had to do the endurance.

He saw Hannah put her hand into Edith's. It seemed as if she were returning. His lips prepared themselves for a forgiving smile.

Then both figures stepped into the open taxi, and the gleam of pink and blue disappeared down the quiet street!

## LETTER READ AT OXFORD UNION.

Douglas Villa, Rutherglen,  
Dec. 3, 1913.

My Beloved Comrade,—

Your kind letter, send with such loving expressions, also cheering reports, was awaiting me when I got home from the W.C.T.U. World's Convention in America. The box with the cake arrived on Monday, the first of December, for which a thousand thanks. What a delight it is to me to hear from you, and to receive your love and remembrance. Surely it was the Lord who sent me to meet the dear women of New Zealand who are now a part of my life and work, for I feel that I want to come to you all again, and if it pleases the Lord some day I will come. I know you are fighting a big battle against evil and injustice, but the God of Battles is your God, and He will carry you through. Go on, brave hearts, yours is the victory in the end. Heaven bless you is my earnest prayer.

The cake was "guid." This is Scotch, and a loyal Scottish heart beats true to you all.

We had a glorious time at Convention. I met Miss Anderson Hughes Drew, who is one of yourselves. She wants back to live in New Zealand; I think she is not at home in England. What a splendid lot of women we have in America. They are fairly out to win Prohibition for that vast country in 1920. I hope Scotland will win then too, as that is the year of our vote.

My love to all my dear sisters in Oxford. Had I done nothing more than formed your Union in New Zealand, I would not have come in vain.—Yours for God, Home, and Humanity,

HELEN BARTON (per J.C.).

**ASHBURTON**, 2nd Tuesday, Baring Square Schoolroom; Pres., Mrs W. K. Watson Willowby; Sec., Miss C. Thomas, 32 Havelock St. W.; Treas., Miss A. C. Watson, 84 Cameron St.; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Miss Butterick, Wakanui.

**AUCKLAND** District, 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 3 p.m., Central Mission Hall, Albert St.; Executive meets 2.30; Pres., Mrs Pudney, Wallace St., Ponsonby; Cor. Sec., Miss N. Dewar, Pompalier Terr., Ponsonby; Rec. Sec., Miss Evans, 399 Upper Queen St.; Treas., Miss Dewar, 4 Pompalier Terr., Ponsonby; WHITE RIBBON Agent, Mrs Gouk, Wallace St., Ponsonby.

**BLLENHEIM** District, 1st Tuesday, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Litchfield, Livermere; Sec., Mrs D. Sinclair; Treas., Mrs Hay; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs W. Parker.

**CAMBRIDGE**, first Tuesday in month, in Victoria Hall, at 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs W. D. Shepherd; Sec., Mrs A. T. Watson; Treas., Mrs L. M. Morrin.

**CHRISTCHURCH DISTRICT**, rooms corner Manchester and Worcester Streets. Second and fourth Wednesday; Pres., Mrs I. McCombs, Fendalton; Cor. Sec., Mrs R. Day, Milford St. St. Albans; Rec. Sec., Mrs B. Whyte, Warrington St., St. Albans; Treas., Mrs Seed, 44 Brittan Street, Linwood; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs Williams, 21 Philip Street, Linwood.

**DANNEVIRKE**, 2nd Wednesday, Wesleyan Schoolroom, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs W. F. Knight, Tahoraiti; Sec., Mrs Stokoe, Allardice St.; Treas., Miss Burdett, the Manse.

**DEVONPORT**, Last Wednesday, Wesleyan Schoolroom, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs G. H. Mann, Parsonage, Church St., Devonport, Auckland; Vice-Pres., Mrs Veats, Lake Rd.; Sec., Mrs A. Little, 31 Church St.; Treas., Miss Le Roy, Water-view Rd., Stanley Bay.

**DUNEDIN** District, 1st Tuesday, Y.W.C.A. Rooms, Moray Place, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Peter Dick, Roslyn; Sec. & Cor. Sec., Miss Nicol, 16 William St.; Treas., Miss L. Neal, 9 Queen St.; Agent Writing Pads & WHITE RIBBON, Mrs J. Anderson, 32 Duke St.; Supt. Sailors' Rest, Mrs D. T. Pearson, corner Castle & Union Sts.; Press Supt., Mrs Don, Canongate.

**FEILDING**, 1st Thursday, 3 p.m., St. Paul's Hall; Pres., Mrs Frost, Denbigh St.; Rec. Sec., Mrs Burnley, Glasgow Ter.; Cor. Sec., Mrs Anstice, Denbigh St.; Treas., Mrs Williamson, The Hill; WHITE RIBBON Agent, Mrs Burnley; Railway Box, Mrs Shearer; Cradle Roll, Mrs Barron, Halcombe Rd.

**GISBORNE** District, last Tuesday, 2.45 p.m., Presbyterian Schoolroom; Pres., Mrs A. Graham, Kaiti; Sec., Mrs N. F. Walker, Fox St.; Treas., Mrs Goffe, Ormond Rd.; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs J. Stewart.

**GREYMOUTH** District, last Wednesday, at 3 p.m., in Sailors' Rest Hall; Pres., Mrs Gaskin; Sec., Mrs J. Hayes, Tainui St.; Treas., Mrs Sweetman.

**HAMILTON** District, First Thursday, Wesley Class Rooms, 2.30 p.m.; Pres., Mrs W. Auld, Hamilton; Sec., Mrs J. M. Jones, Clandelands, Hamilton; Treas., Mrs Dempster, Selkirk St., Hamilton.

**HASTINGS**, 2nd Wednesday, St. Andrew's Hall, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Boyle, Lyndon Rd.; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Ramsay, Wallis, Clapham, Barbour, and Martindale; Sec., Miss Ford 206 Lyndon Rd.; Treas., Miss Ethel Nicholls, Riverslea Rd.; Supt. Maori Work, Miss McKeown; Purity and Evangelistic, Mesdames Clapham and Stewart; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs Griffiths.

**HUNTLY**, 3rd Wednesday, Presbyterian and Methodist Churches alternately, 2 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Butler; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Sheeran and Edmunds; Sec., Mrs Gleeson; Treas., Mrs Leather.

**INVERCARGILL** District, 1st Tuesday, 3 p.m. and 7.30 alternately, Allen's Hall; Pres., Mrs J. Mackenzie, North End; Vice-Pres., Mrs Baird, Mrs C. H. Macalister, Mrs H. Lee-Cowie; Rec. Sec., Mrs R. H. Walker, 130 Don St.; Cor. Sec., Sister Moody Bell, Amethyst Hall; Treas., Mrs Hunter, 110 Don St.; WHITE RIBBON Agent, Mrs Allen.

**KAIAPOI W.C.T.U. COFFEE ROOMS**, open daily. Union meets second and last Wednesday, 3 p.m. Pres., Mrs Brighting; Sec., Miss Blackwell, "The Willows"; Treas., Mrs T. G. Blackwell; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs Ward.

**LOWER HUTT**, last Tuesday, 3 p.m., W.C.T.U. Hall, Queen's Rd.; Pres., Mrs McCaw; Vice-Pres., Mrs Strand, senr.; Sec., Mrs T. Collins, Gracefield Rd.; Treas., Mrs Jenness; W.R. Agent, Miss Knight.

**LYTTELTON**, 1st, 3rd, and 5th Wednesdays, Methodist Schoolroom; Pres., Mrs Whitby; Sec., Mrs Bromley; Treas., Mrs Clark; WHITE RIBBON Agent, Miss Elsie Clark, "Waratah," W. Lyttelton.

**MANAIA**, 2nd Friday, alternate six months, Presbyterian and Methodist Churches; Pres., Mrs J. J. Patterson; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Allison and Berry; Treas., Mrs Ballantine; Sec., Mrs Hunt; Cradle Roll, Mrs Ricketts; Press Reports Miss Patterson; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs Hansen.

**MASTERTON**, 1st Tuesday, Knox Hall, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Devonport; Sec., Mrs M. Flanagan, 4 Cole St.; Treas., Mrs Sutherland; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs Russell.

**MATAKANA**, 3rd Wednesday, 2.30 p.m., Presbyterian Church; Pres., Mrs Richards; Vice-Pres., Mesdames W. Smith and Eyton; Sec., Mrs E. Roke; Treas., Mrs A. Roke.

**NAPIER** District, 1st Wednesday at Wesley Hall, and 3rd Wednesday Willard Institute, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Oldham, France Rd.; Rec. Sec., Mrs Clatworthy; Cor. Sec., Mrs Ingram, Cameron Rd.; Treas., Mrs Dearlove, Lincoln Rd.; Legal and Parliamentary, Mrs Dodds; Home Meetings, Mrs Ball; Purity, Mrs Oldham; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs Clare, Farraday St.

**NORSEWOOD**, 3rd Thursday, 2.30 p.m.; Pres., Miss M. Campbell; Vice-Pres., Mrs McCaw; Sec., Miss M. Oisen; Treas., Mrs P. G. Grant; WHITE RIBBON Agent, Miss M. Allison.

**NEW PLYMOUTH** District, last Wednesday, 3 p.m., Good Templar Lodge-room; Pres., Mrs Allan Douglas, Pendarves St.; Sec., Miss Ambury, Gover St.; Treas. and WHITE RIBBON Agent, Miss Taunt, Victoria Rd.

**NGARUAWAHIA**, 1st Thursday, 2.30 p.m., Presbyterian Church; Pres., Mrs Bycroft; Vice-Pres., Mrs Morris; Sec., Mrs W. A. Porter; Treas., Miss Morris.

**NELSON** District, 2nd Tuesday, Methodist Schoolroom, 3 p.m.; Pres., Miss Atkinson, Fairfield; Sec., Mrs Knapp, Alfred St.; Treas., Mrs Grove.

**OXFORD**, last Wednesday, 2.30 p.m., Coronation Hall; Pres., Mrs Gainsford (senr.); Sec., Mrs Comyns; Treas., Miss Caverhill; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs Hawke; Cradle Roll Supt., Mrs G. A. Ryde, Cooper's Creek.

**PALMERSTON N. DISTRICT**, 1st Friday, St. Andrew's Schoolroom, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Crabb, Fitzherbert St.; Cor. Sec., Mrs Hills, Cuba St.; Rec. Sec., Mrs Hodder, 46 Ferguson St.; Treas., Mrs Clausen, Cook St.; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs Holbrook, 41 Waldegrave St.

**PETONE**, 1st Tuesday, Church of Christ, Sydney St., 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Rowse, Udy St.; Vice-Pres., Miss Kirk; Sec., Mrs Corner, Nelson St.; Treas., Mrs Donoghue; Cradle Roll, Miss Peach; Flower Mission, Mrs McPherson; Home Meetings, Mrs Ashby; WHITE RIBBON Agent, Mrs Wilson; Literature, Mrs Barrow.

**PONSONBY**, 2nd Thursday, 2.30 p.m., Queen's Hall, Paget St.; Pres., Mrs Vickers, Millias St., Grey Lynn; Vice-Pres., Mrs C. I. Harris and Dr. Keller; Sec. and WHITE RIBBON Agent, Mrs S. A. Plummer, Coronation Rd., Epsom; Treas., Mrs M. A. Bailey, Ponsonby.

**PUKEKOHE**, 1st Thursday, Salvation Army Hall, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Nixon; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Bell, Cowan, Stevenson and Wilson; Sec., Mrs Blamires; Treas., Mrs Comrie; Supt. Cradle Roll and WHITE RIBBON, Miss Goldsworthy; Supt. Visitation, Mrs Wilson.

**RANGIORA**, last Friday, ante-room of Institute Hall, 2.45 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Cobden Cox; Sec., Miss Wadey; Treas., Mrs H. Taylor.

**SHEFFIELD**, 1st and 3rd Wednesday, 2.30 p.m., Road Board Office; Pres., Mrs Neutze, Annaf; Sec., Mrs J. Henry, Annaf; Treas., Mrs W. Kennedy, Annaf.

**STRATFORD**, 1st Thursday, 3 p.m., Methodist Church; Pres., Mrs T. White, Juliet St. South; Sec., Mrs M. T. Phillips, Skinner Rd.; Treas., Mrs T. H. Birdsall, Antonio St.

**TIMARU** District, last Tuesday, 7.30 p.m., Arcade; Pres., Mrs Rule, North St.; Sec., Miss M. Avison, Victoria St.; Treas., Mrs Rapsey; Evangelistic and Press, Mrs Lamb; Cradle Roll, Mrs Valentine; Maori Work, Mrs Bardsley, Wai-iti Rd.; WHITE RIBBON Agent, Mrs Stead, Sailors' Rest.

**TAURANGA**, second Wednesday, St. Peter's Hall, 2.45 p.m.; Pres., Miss Sorley, Cameron Rd.; Cor. Sec., Mrs P. Munro, Cameron Rd.; Rec. Sec., Mrs C. York, Morris St.; Treas., Mrs A. E. Hammond, 2nd Avenue; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs J. W. Snelgrove.

**TANEATUA**, 2nd Thursday, in Presbyterian Church, at 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Yeoman; Vice-Pres., Mrs Ravn; Sec., Mrs Johnson; Treas., Mrs Hooper; WHITE RIBBON Agent, Mrs Schofield.

**TUAKAU**, monthly, Wesleyan Church, 7.30 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Hunter; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Bridge, Roberts, and Deeble; Sec., Mrs C. Bycroft; Treas., Mrs Oldham; Supt. Band of Hope, Miss Madill; Supt. Cradle Roll, Miss Burns; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Miss Dwen.

**WAITARA**, 1st Wednesday, 3 p.m., Methodist Schoolroom; Pres., Mrs Cleave; Sec., Miss Lena Bayly; Treas., Mrs Isaac Elliott; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs Andrew.

**WAIPAWA**, 4th Tuesday, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Jas. Bibby; Vice-Pres., Mesdames McLean, Bott, and Maslin; Sec., Mrs H. McLean; Treas., Miss Johnson; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs S. Bott.

**WANGANUI EAST** meets alternately in Baptist and Presbyterian Churches last Friday, at 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Andrews; Cor. Sec., Mrs Hicks; Recording Sec., Miss Neilson, River Bank; Treas., Mrs Brough.

**WANGANUI** District, 1st Friday, 2.30 p.m., Trinity Church Parlour; Pres., Mrs J. Smith; Cor. Sec., Mrs J. McKenzie, 318 Victoria Avenue; Rec. Sec., Miss Macaniny; Treas., Mrs Siddells; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs Heatley.

**WARKWORTH**, last Thursday, 2.30 p.m., Schoolroom, Methodist Church; Pres., Mrs Blundell, The Manse; Sec., Mrs H. B. McKinney, Millburn; Treas. Mrs Tiplady, Hill St.; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs S. Morrison; Supt. Cradle Roll, Mrs Miller.

**WINCHMORE**, 1st Wednesday, 2.30 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Hanson; Sec., Miss Muirhead, Winter's Road, Ashburton; Treas., Mrs Moore; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs Glassey.

**WELLINGTON DISTRICT**, 1st Thursday, 3 p.m., Rooms, Constable St.; Pres., Mrs Evans, M.A., Hiropi St.; Sec., Mrs Spearman; Treas., Mrs Houlder, 108 Wallace St.; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs Webb, Hall St.

Girls' Association Rooms, Constable St., Newtown. Evening classes and socials. All girls invited.

**WELLINGTON CENTRAL**, 3rd Friday, 3 p.m., Y.M.C.A. Rooms; Pres., Mrs A. R. Atkinson, Wadestown; Cor. Sec., Mrs McDonald, 80 Pirie St.; Rec. Sec., Mrs Port, Pirie Street; Treas., Mrs Helyer, Oriental Bay.

**WAIPIKURAU**, 2nd Thursday, St. Andrew's Hall, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Hopkirk; Vice-Pres., Mrs Harding and Mrs McDonald; Sec., Mrs Sowry; Treas., Mrs Schmidt; Band of Hope, Mrs Nicholson.

**WOODVILLE**, meets 4th Tuesday, 3 p.m., in Ormond St. Hall; Pres., Mrs Perkins, Ross St.; Vice-Pres., Mrs T. Jackson; Sec., Mrs Forrest, Woodland Rd.; Cor. Sec., Mrs T. Cole, Woodlands Rd.; Treas., Mrs Davie, Station St.

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FEBRUARY 18, 1914.