

**WOMEN'S
Christian Temperance Union
Of New Zealand.**

Organised 1885.

"For God and Home and Humanity."

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The White Ribbon.

For God and Home and Humanity.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1914.

BREVITIES.

The following Unions have ordered and distributed Mrs Field's leaflet:—Wellington District, Wellington Central, Gore, Kaiapoi, Stratford, Invercargill, Napier, Pahiatua, Nelson, Ngaio, Greymouth, Waipawa, Oxford, Timaru, Wanganui, Dunedin, and Waimate. As the first issue of 10,000 is nearly exhausted, will any Unions who require copies please order at once, as we do not wish to print more leaflets unless there is a demand for them.

In July, 1914, the National Convention of Alienists and Neurologists assembled in Chicago, declared alcohol responsible for a very large proportion of the insanity, epilepsy, and other forms of physical, mental, and moral degeneracy, and resolved that organised science should initiate and carry on a systematic propaganda for the education of the public regarding the

deleterious effects of alcohol, and that the medical profession take the lead in securing legislation to the ends herein specified.

A petition praying for National Prohibition was signed by over 1000 persons in Pennsylvania Penitentiary. Every signature has a tragic story telling how strong drink was the cause of their downfall.

The "Irish Citizen" of July 25 publishes the following table, showing number of babies out of every 1000 born who die before the age of one year:—New Zealand, 62; Australia, 72; Norway, 72. In these countries women have Parliamentary vote. United Kingdom, 107; Sweden, 72; Denmark, 98; Holland, 99. In these countries women have no vote, but take an active part in political organisation. Germany, 170; France 120; Ontario, 131; Austria, 209. In these countries women take no part in politics. It does not look as if the political woman neglected her babies; the highest death-rate in countries where women are enfranchised is 72 per 1000. In countries where women remain at home and take no part in politics the highest death-rate is 209 per 1000. It looks as if women's vote, as well as women's care, is needed to save our babies.

LETTER FROM WORLD'S VICE-PRESIDENT.

Rest Cottage, Evanston, Illinois,

August 4, 1914.

My Dear Comrade,—We are simply appalled by the sudden arming of all Europe and the prospect of one of the greatest wars in history, and cannot help feeling deeply concerned about our dearly loved friends on the Continent and in England. We are troubled also for the many White Ribboners among the three hundred thousand American tourists now in Europe. All will, we fear, be subjected to great inconvenience, and our comrades who reside in the war zone may suffer serious loss. In common with every member of our world-wide organisation, we deplore such a war, and dare not picture to ourselves its awful possibilities.

That our peace propaganda has been wholly in vain we will not believe. We note with thankfulness that the majority of the war cartoons in the European, as well as the American

press, emphasise the cruel, deplorable and devastating effects of war, rather than the patriotism, pomp, and glory of conquest.

It seems incredible that such a conflict can be precipitated in this century which we have fondly believed heralded the establishment of world-wide peace, and we can only hope and fervently pray that a miracle may still be wrought, and that some of the horrors of the present situation may be averted.

To you, dear sisters, who are face to face with the terrible war that now seems imminent, your comrades of the W.C.T.U. of the United States send loving, heartfelt sympathy, and the assurance that we long to help you, and are ready to render you any and all assistance within our power.—Truly and affectionately yours,

ANNA A. GORDON.

FAREWELL TO NEW ZEALAND'S SONS.

(By Mrs Harrison Lee-Cowie,
Invercargill.)

There's a rushing of feet, a springing to arms,
A wondrous response since the war's wild alarms.
Our brave boys are leaving, they've heard the loud call,
"Lads, come back with honour, or come not at all."

Be noble and fearless, be gallant and true;
The women will watch for tidings of you;
Protect your own manhood, brave sons of the brave,
There are worse things to shun than a patriot's grave.

Be dauntless in fighting the fierce foes within,
Tread down, without mercy, temptations to sin,
Protect every girl, ne'er cause one to fall,
Oh, come back with honour, or come not at all.

Your glorious intellects drug not, we plead,
Keep soul, brain and body superb for our need;
Give God of your best, be prayerful and strong,
Let Right be your might; never yield to a wrong.

From counter and office, from farm and from mill,
You are speeding in haste over river and hill,
And the women, who love you, send out this last call,
"Come back, lads, with honour, or come not at all."