

**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.

TUESDAY, MAY 18, 1915.

### MODERATION.

We have been waiting long to hear from the Moderate League on the question of Temperance Reform. While every nation is discussing the loss of efficiency caused by alcohol and dealing in a drastic fashion with the manufacture and sale of strong drink, no word has been received from the Moderate League.

Russia is on the water waggon, and we have it on good authority that Prohibition in Russia saved Paris. Russia's rapid mobilisation, due to a sober soldiery, saved Paris. The nation that under the old regime of vodka-drinking went down completely before the sober Japs, now sober itself, is bearing itself bravely, and holding back the veteran armies of

Germany and Austria. France has curtailed the sale of liquor, and absolutely forbidden absinthe, and is rapidly advancing along the road to total Prohibition.

Norway has forbidden wheat and barley to be wasted in the manufacture of strong drink when food is so urgently needed.

Lloyd George says strong drink is a deadlier enemy than German bullets, and the Mother Country is discussing plans for grappling with this vice.

In the meantime what is this Dominion doing? Are our public men following the King's example, and banishing the traitor from their homes? With bread the high price it is, and a threatened scarcity of grain, do we hear of any attempt to stop our admittedly inadequate stock of grain being wasted in the manufacture of liquor, which is not only useless, but harmful to the consumer?

Why is not the Moderate League agitating for hotels to close at 6 p.m. and on the weekly half-holiday? Surely this reform is moderate enough to satisfy them?

One thing this war has plainly shown—that the sober nation wins. Workmen who drink lessen their efficiency by 50 per cent. Fancy 50 per cent. less output of ammunition because workmen sit and drink in hotels when work is over, and men at the front, who are giving up comfort, ease, and life itself, are endangered because the man at home won't give up his beer.

The world is simply racing towards Prohibition. The explorers, north and south, go forth without alcohol. The athletes and physical culturists arrive at the pink of condition without alcohol. The medical profession are daily conferring benefits on humanity, and as proved in hospital treatment, they do so without alcohol. Russia, France, Switzerland, Iceland, fifteen of the States of America, and the greater part of Canada are all under prohibitory law. The American Navy, the Japanese Navy, the Greek Navy, and our own Commonwealth Navy are under prohibition. Alcohol is indeed a sick man; he has one foot in the grave, and the other on a banana peel, and the end is drawing very near.—Exchange.

### IN THE FIELD.

On Monday, April 12th, I travelled to Invercargill, being entertained by the President of the South Invercargill branch, and the following day met the infant Union at Amethyst Hall. After further organising the little branch, I introduced the Kitchener pledge campaign, which was warmly taken up, the greater portion of the district being allotted for canvass. Next day I returned to Dunedin, and on the Thursday met the Sawyer's Bay Union. There was a fine attendance, and although the little branch was not quite five weeks old, the Cradle Roll Superintendent had been so energetic that she brought forward twelve children, who were duly initiated, the number being limited by the number of cards in hand. There was still a little to be done in the way of organising, a process which was not assisted by our new "tiny tots." Many of them were too old to sit still and too young to mind when spoken to, and they had a lively time—so had we. They rampaged around, played games, and shouted, being occasionally and fruitlessly called to order by their affectionate mammas. As for me, I shouted myself absolutely hoarse, but wasn't it all just fine! A good many odd days had been spent in working up the S. Dunedin Branch, which had got into low water and rather lost heart. Five new members were secured, and at the special meeting on 20th the K. of K. pledge was well taken up.

Monday afternoon, 26th, found me at Timaru, where an Executive meeting took place the same evening, at the house of Mrs Bruce, who kindly gave me hospitality. On Tuesday evening the ordinary meeting took place at the Sailors' Rest. The attendance was good, and a talk took place upon plans of work, after which the K.K. pledge was inaugurated. The rest of the week was spent in visiting, twelve new members being secured and three "White Ribbon" subscribers.

Ashburton was reached on Saturday, May 1st, Miss Watson's quiet, pleasant home being opened to me. A special meeting was held on the Tuesday, when a good attendance was secured, a new member initiated, and the K.K. pledge campaign inaugurated.

M. S. POWELL, Dom. Organiser.