

The White Ribbon

FOR GOD AND HOME AND HUMANITY

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NOTES ON THE ALLIANCE CONGRESS OF 1915.

The Alliance Congress, of 1915, stands, in many respects, in striking contrast with that of 1914. In the first place, the number attending was not above half that of last year, a fact due partly no doubt to the war, partly to the absence of excitement arising from the near approach of the triennial licensing poll, partly to sickness and bereavement. Another point, even more noticeable than the small attendance, was the entire omission of public functions. The usual tea-meeting was foregone, no public meetings were held, there was nothing like the "famous march on Parliament" to appeal to the outside public; in fact everything spectacular was carefully avoided, and the attention of delegates was focussed solely on the business they had come to transact. Accordingly three sessions were held on each of the first two days, and the morning session of the third day concluded the Congress.

Tuesday, April 13th, was the opening day, and the proceedings began at 9.30 in St. John's Schoolroom, with the usual preliminary business, and the presenting of the Annual Report and Balance Sheet. The report dealt mainly with the position of the Temperance Cause in New Zealand, specially as shown by the recent licensing poll, and with the hopeful signs of progress in several European countries that are directly affected by the lamentable war. In the discussion that followed, various speakers dwelt on the causes for the decrease in the vote for National Prohibition, and while some spoke in optimistic view, others in pessimistic,



THREE WHITE RIBBON AGENTS.

- (1) Miss Butterick, Ashburton; (2) Mrs Williams, Christchurch; (3) Mrs Stewart, Gisborne.

all agreed on the necessity for steady and persistent effort on educative lines for the next three years. There was no need to be downhearted, for while from some points of view there might seem to be a loss, from others there was a decided gain.

The afternoon session was devoted to the subject of Education, in connection with which three good papers

were given. The first, by Mr Maunder, dealt with the education of the young—those under 18 years. This being the most impressionable period, it was most important that right instruction should be given on the Temperance question, and the effect of Alcohol on the body, and though Bands of Hope do good, the only effective method of reaching all was through the day school. Clear and definite teaching ought to be given on the Temperance Wall Sheets, possessed by every school in the Dominion, and this should be a compulsory subject, not left, as at present, to the discretion of the Head Master. He advocated a short course of 5 or 10 weeks, followed by a break with the subsequent renewal of the teaching, in order to keep the children in an "anti-alcohol" atmosphere. In the course of the discussion it was urged that more attention should be given to Band of Hope work, especially to make it really interesting and instructive, with simple experiments showing the deadly character and effects of alcohol. Two resolutions were passed unanimously, one urging the Education Department to make Temperance teaching compulsory, and subject to the Inspector's report, and the other urging the Churches to take up Band of Hope work.

The next paper, read by Mr T. H. Mathieson, referred to the best ways of getting hold of the young people between 18 and 21 years. This was difficult, for they were not yet thinking much about the serious things of life. Public meetings did not attract them, Church organisations, such as Bible Classes reached only a certain number, and only in some of the High

Schools was systematic temperance instruction given. But the time seemed opportune for a pledge-taking campaign, seeing how much attention had been drawn to the subject by the grave serious danger that now threatens the nation, and by the fine example set by the King and the royal household. Another method that had been carried out with good effect in some parts was to have picture shows, with films illustrative of the evil effects of drinking. More could be done, however, by personal work than in any other way, if earnest men and women, conversant with the economic aspects of the question, would get in touch with the young people, and bring personal influence to bear. In this connection, a resolution was passed that the Alliance should be asked to prepare a "vest-pocket handbook," giving in compact form, data and statistics, useful for argument. It was also resolved that the Alliance should send a letter to Christian Endeavour Societies, and kindred organisations, urging them to take up a pledge-taking campaign.

The third division of the subject, introduced by Mrs A. R. Atkinson and Rev. T. H. Radford, related to the training of new-comers. There was no doubt that the No License and the National Prohibition vote was largely influenced by the immigrant section of the population. Those coming from lands that had not Local Option, required instruction as to their powers and privileges, and as to the position of the temperance question. The new arrivals must be got hold of, whether by literature, or by a column in the newspaper, or scattered advertisements in the Saturday issue; especially they must be made to understand that the liquor advertisements were totally unreliable. The best way of all was by personal work, and much good could be done in the back-blocks by sending post-cards, leaflets, etc., to the lonely diggers and miners and workers, to whom the arrival of the mail bag has often brought only disappointment. Leaders and sub-leaders might be sent to country papers, many of which would welcome such contributions; and facts should be re-stated over and over again for the benefit of new-comers. Something might be done before the emigrants started, if there were some one at Home who could furnish the right kind of information to those just leaving, and give them

matter for reading on board. News might also be sent to the British press, marking any advance made in Prohibition in New Zealand.

The evening session was devoted to the consideration of literature, and the first subject to be dealt with was the "Vanguard." A well-deserved tribute was paid to the capable and efficient Editor, and various suggestions made for the improvement of the paper. In the opinion of some, it would be better to have more original articles, contributed by the many able men to be found in the ranks of the N.Z. Prohibition party, and to compress within narrower limits the clippings dealing with Prohibition in other lands. There should be more local notes, such as were already sent in from Auckland and Canterbury, more correspondence of an interesting nature, and stories of N.Z. life. In style it would be an improvement if long articles were broken up into short sections with striking headlines, and important truths and principles might be worked into articles of general interest. Another suggestion was to have a column for Band of Hope work, and correspondence and competitions for children. To improve the circulation, each delegate was asked to secure one new subscriber, and a canvass of those in the room resulted in some eight or ten being added to the list. The matter of a Dominion campaign paper was discussed, and the necessity for it was urged. Cheap it must be, but full of facts, a fighting paper to appeal to the rising generation, and its distribution to be as wide as possible by house to house visiting. For little or nothing could be done through the ordinary press, which was either unfriendly to Prohibition or took up a neutral attitude.

One of the most difficult tasks that the Congress had to perform was to decide upon its legislative policy. A long time was devoted to the discussion of this, perhaps the most important business brought before the Congress. Excellent addresses were given by Mr A. S. Adams and by Mr A. R. Atkinson on the reforms needed in Licensing and in Electoral legislation respectively, but in reference to both it was felt that it would be unwise to press the Government, in view of the tremendous strain caused by the present European crisis. Accordingly the burning questions that usually provoke long and earnest dis-

cussion were practically held in abeyance. One point, however, as being of special importance while a permanent camp exists for the training of the Territorials, was made the subject of a resolution, aiming at the reduction of hours during which intoxicating liquor can be sold. —Interesting points were raised in connection with electoral methods, such as the necessity for a longer interval between the closing of the rolls and the date of the election, and the adoption of the principle of polling booth areas, which, as worked in New South Wales, tends to lessen the possibility of impersonation.

Under the heading Organisation, Mr Daniells described some of the difficulties that meet an Organiser in country districts, and the methods of overcoming them; and Mr L. M. Isitt spoke strongly on the necessity for unceasing work in organising the city electorates. What we had to do, to recover lost ground, was to get 50,000 more votes. Among the sections of the community the most promising for securing this result were the young people and the women, especially the latter. He made a powerful appeal for educating the women, many of whom were grossly ignorant of the harm done to child life by alcohol. This work should prove effective, for women as a class do not drink, and therefore have no personal interest in maintaining the liquor traffic, while their love for children, and the fact that all their interests and hopes centre in the home, are a tremendous lever for gaining their sympathy and support. To this end it was resolved that the Executive of the Alliance, and that of the W.C.T.U., should confer as to the best methods of educating the women of the Dominion on the alcohol question.

The closing session of the Congress was taken up with the discussion of the Budget and the election of President, and with various unfinished business, or special resolutions. Mr Wesley Spragg had definitely announced his decision not to stand for re-election as President, but there was hardly a member of the Congress but hoped he might be prevailed on to reconsider his decision. When these hopes proved vain, several prominent gentlemen were nominated by ballot, according to the method adopted at an earlier sitting of the Congress, and eventually the choice fell on Rev.

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.)

WANGANUI EAST.

Social afternoon held in the Presbyterian Chapel, on April 30th, Mrs Andrew presiding. Resolved that "our next meeting be an open one, and that local ministers and the public be invited to join us in prayer for peace and guidance in regard to the present war." One new member was initiated. Owing to our delegate, (Miss Weymouth) not having returned from Conference, the Secretary was instructed to read her excellent report, which was enjoyed by all. Mrs Upton gave a short helpful address.

GREYMOUTH.

April 8th. Meeting was held. President in the chair. Mrs Sweetman, delegate, gave a report of the work done at Convention, which was most inspiring.

April 28th. Attendance very good. Mrs Hansen welcomed back. Some new departments of work were arranged, and superintendents appointed. Four new members joined the Union. Lately in our local paper some sailors published an appreciation of the kindness and interest taken in them, and comfort provided at our Sailors' Rest.

NGARUAWAHIA.

April 6th. Meeting held in the Presbyterian Church. Mrs French (President) in the chair. Mrs Bell gave a very interesting paper on "Sincerity." A letter of sympathy was sent to Mrs W. Bycroft in the loss of her husband. Decided to take 1 doz. "White Ribbon" (Convention number) for distribution. Our next meeting to take the form of a Quotation Afternoon; Tennyson and Mrs Hemans being the chosen subjects.

WHANGAREI.

Our monthly meeting was held on April 6th. 7 members present. The President, Mrs Williams, occupied the chair. Reports were read, and correspondence dealt with, and hospital visits arranged for. A resolution was passed, "That members urge the Band of Hope committee to recommence their monthly meetings, as an inducement to the young people to take an interest in temperance matters."

Meeting Baptist Church, nine members and one visitor present. Mrs Williams (President) in chair. Decided to hold a special prayer meeting in regard to the present war on the first Tuesday in June. Decided,

in the interests of starving Belgians and British, to insert in local paper the resolution protesting against the destruction of grain in the manufacture of alcohol. Hospital visiting was arranged for the month, two visits per week. Decided to appoint Miss Griffen as delegate to the Auckland Province No-License Council. Resolved to do our best in the "Win One" campaign.

GISBORNE.

Monthly meeting held on March 30 in St. Andrew's Schoolroom, the President, Mrs Graham, occupying the chair. 18 members present. Decided to offer the support of the Union to the Women's Branch of the Teachers' Institute (newly formed in Gisborne); to invite Miss Glanville to give a short address at our next monthly meeting on their aims and objects. Decided to nominate Mrs Walker for a seat on the Hospital and Charitable Aid Board. Members were urged to attend the householders' meeting for the election of the school committee, one fresh nomination being sent in. The Patriotic Pledge discussed and Mrs Day spoke of the good that might be done if kind motherly letters were written to those in camp who had no personal friends interested in them.

Meeting held April 27th, 17 present. The open letter of Mrs Don to the Moderate League was read and inserted in the local papers. The "Win One" campaign was discussed, and five new members received. Mrs Walker's candidature for the Hospital and Charitable Aid Board was spoken of. Though defeated, she polled very well. One of our members read an interesting letter from her son in Egypt.

Special meeting held on May 6th to hear our delegate's report. Attendance good; several new members present. Afternoon tea and a song from Miss McLeod opened proceedings. Mrs Goffe then gave us the most interesting items from Convention. Mr Bligh spoke on how best we could help our boys and girls to grow up to ideal manhood and womanhood. Mrs Walker, our late Secretary, was then presented with a very nice hand-bag as a small return for her valuable services during the last nine years. Mrs Walker expressed her thanks for the kindly feeling shown.

PETONE.

Meeting held, Mrs Rowse presiding. Secretary reported letters of condolence sent to Mrs McPherson on the death of her daughter, and Mrs Doneghue on the death of her father. Mrs Corner (delegate) gave a very good report. Decided to donate £1 to No-License League.

On March 31st a very pleasant afternoon was spent with the Cradle Roll mothers and babies. Several musical items and a very spirited and helpful address given by Mrs Peryman. Afternoon tea was handed round.

R. S. Gray. An appreciative resolution of gratitude was unanimously passed for the retiring President, and after the customary votes of thank the Congress closed.

Looking back over the proceedings one is glad to note the unanimity with which it was agreed that work for a Licensing Poll must begin immediately after the last poll, not three months before the next one, and that the time had come for active work in a pledge-signing campaign. May the inspiration that springs from such a gathering of earnest workers and the enthusiasm that it evokes be passed on to the thousands of men and women in our Dominion who are pledged to the Temperance cause, and may three years of steady, faithful service be finally crowned with success in the poll of 1917!

FOR SHE'S A JOLLY GOOD FELLOW.

We recommend the following letter to our youthful poets, and hope they will enter for this competition. All replies to be sent to Mrs Lee-Cowie, Amethyst Hall, Invercargill, by June 30th, 1915.—(Ed. W.R.)

(To the Editor).

Madam,—Is it not time we had something better than the old tap-room chorus to honour our friends with.

"He's a jolly good fellow" has such low associations, that no minister or christian worker could possibly feel honoured by having his name linked with it.

I will give 5s for the best substitute. The four lines must suit lady or gentleman, singular or plural, and fit in to the old tune. Here is a sample:—

For he is our comrade for ever,
No parting our friendship can sever,
Forget him we'll never, no never
And so say all of us, etc., etc.

Yours for everything that uplifts,
B. L. COWIE.

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

NAPIER.

April 7. Mrs Fossey presided. Report of the Christchurch Conference by Mrs Walker. Address by President, pointing out the different causes for the decreased temperance vote, but saying the W.C.T.U. was not disheartened, but all at the Conference made up their minds to work harder than ever. It was shown, however, that though we mean to work, we unfortunately must have funds for every branch of our work, and suggested the 100 per cent. increase of membership campaign, and taking the cheque books when they are available to get Temperance sympathisers to subscribe. Members were also asked to stand for the election of School Committees. Decided to start the sewing meeting on Tuesday evening at 7.30 for making new clothes for the Belgians; also members were asked to take home work if unable to come to meetings. Afternoon tea was dispensed. Three new members were initiated. Collection in aid of Missionary Fund.

April 15. Report was given of the money collected by Mrs Ingram from friends to make clothes for the Belgian poor, £33 5s. Arranged that the L.T.L. start on Friday, 23rd. A letter to be sent to Hon Allen, Minister of Defence, re stopping Chaplains being sent on troopships. Resolution passed that "The Hon the Minister of Defence be respectfully asked to ensure that a Chaplain is sent with all future contingents to the front, it being felt by the members of the W.C.T.U. that it is equally necessary for the men to be morally as well as physically fit for the arduous work they are undertaking."

May 5. Letter to be sent to Dr Florence Keller congratulating her on topping poll at the Hospital Board Election; congratulations to be sent to three new members on the Borough Council who are temperance workers. Arrangements made to attend District Convention at Waipukurau. Arranged to have one meeting a month at the Baptist Sunday School at Napier South, when an educational paper would be read. Next Thursday meeting on "The Tragedy of Ignorance." Resolved that a letter should be written to Miss Roberts asking her if possible to send a cablegram to Mr Lloyd George re his Drink Crusade, from our Dominion W.C.T.U., and the Napier Union would be quite willing to pay its share towards it.

DUNEDIN.

The following resolution was passed at the ordinary meeting of the Dunedin Union:—"That this W.C.T.U. desire to express its deep appreciation of the action of His Majesty the King in banishing intoxicating liquors from his household during the continuance of the war, and its earnest hope that His Royal example will be followed throughout the wide dominions of his Empire. They rejoice that already so many who hold offices of influence and

authority have copied their Sovereign's example and adopted the principle of abstinence as an inducement to sobriety on the part of the worker, on whose industry and fidelity so much depends. It avers its earnest conviction that nothing could more certainly ensure the safety and prosperity of the Empire as the total prohibition of the liquor traffic, which Mr Lloyd George has declared to be a greater enemy to the nation than even Germany itself, and indulges the hope that the temporary abstinence to which so many in high stations have pledged themselves will become permanent, and that their splendid example will influence for good the whole Empire." Mrs Jarvie then gave a report on the recent Conference in Christchurch. Members were urged to vote for women as members of the Hospital and Charitable Aid Board. Mr Robertson's (seamen's missionary, report was read and adopted.

May. Monthly meeting in No License Rooms, Moray Place. Mrs Driver, president, in the chair. A motion of sympathy was passed with Mrs Edmonds and Miss Nicol in their sudden bereavements. Sympathetic reference was made to those who had been bereaved by the casualties at the Dardanelles. Miss Powell, organiser, sent report of her visit to our auxiliaries. Received letter from Minister of Defence re wet canteens. The meeting expressed gratification at three ladies being placed at the top of the poll at the recent Hospital and Charitable Aid Board Election. Decided to arrange for a conference of all temperance societies and workers to inaugurate the K.K. pledge campaign. Regret was expressed that the Dunedin Union would lose the active help and interest of Mrs Jarvis, who is leaving shortly for Wellington. The following motion was brought forward for discussion, and the attention of other Unions is directed to this matter. "That this branch of the W.C.T.U. deplore the evil effects arising from the increasing use and consequent influence of motor cars at popular elections, combined with the large extension in the direction of paid canvassing, respectfully directs the attention of the Legislature to the dangers arising from these evils, and urges the Government to immediately consider legislation to combat or control these abuses.

OPOTIKI.

March 11. Usual meeting held. Mrs Murray presided; 11 members and 2 visitors present. Decided to send for a dozen copies of Convention number for distribution. Mrs Murray intimated that she would hold an "At Home" at her residence to raise funds to meet expenses of delegate, etc. Mrs Murray then read an excellent article on the life of Frances Willard in commemoration of "Frances Willard Day," which was much appreciated. Decided to hold our next meeting as a social afternoon,

when Mrs Thompson would give her report on Convention.

April 15th. Social held; 24 present. Mrs Murray presiding. Mrs Thompson gave a most interesting and comprehensive report of the proceedings of Convention, and spoke in eulogistic terms of the high character and efficiency of the leaders, and of the methodical and business-like way everything was carried out. A vote of thanks was passed to Mrs Thompson. Mrs Goodall reported that a successful Band of Hope meeting had been held. Collection 17s, and afternoon tea handed round.

April 30. The President held an "At Home" at her residence; attendance good. Each member bringing an article towards a Sale of Work, to be held later on, in aid of the funds of the Union. A prize was given by the hostess for the most original article, and one for the most saleable article. Mrs Thompson gave a short address on the origin and objects of the W.C.T.U., and spoke of the "One win One" movement, and inviting the visitors to join our Union. Several copies of the "White Ribbon" were distributed.

HAMILTON.

Home, Evangelistic, and Missionary meeting held March 23rd at the residence of Mrs Auld. Mrs Snow occupied the chair. A very helpful address given by Mrs Sorlie on "Excuses," after which several ladies spoke a few words on the subject. Afternoon tea was served, and a vote of thanks passed to Mrs Auld.

NEW PLYMOUTH.

April 30th. An executive meeting was held at the house of the President, when a fairly full scheme of work was outlined for the coming winter. Miss Bisson has been invited to assist to inaugurate Band of Hope Work. Empire day is to be observed with prayer on May 26th, the usual monthly meeting day. Provincial Convention and Sale of Work were planned for.

May 5th. A Social Afternoon was given to the returned delegates. Mrs Bruce gave an excellent report of Convention. Mrs Douglas also gave a short report of some of the suggested methods for Temperance education, which she had heard discussed at the Alliance Congress. Miss Ambury's name was added to the list of Vice-Presidents.

SAWYER'S BAY.

Meeting held March 12th to organise a branch of the W.C.T.U. Mrs Johnstone (Port Chalmers) occupied the chair. Twelve members were initiated. The following officers were elected:—President, Mrs W. M. Allan; Vice-Presidents, Mrs Findlay and Mrs Falconer; Sec., Miss Edith Robertson; Treas., Mrs Forbes; Cradle Roll Supt., Mrs W. A. Tiffany; Literature, Mrs J. Perry; Correspondence, Mrs J. Farquharson.

First monthly meeting held in the Presbyterian Church April 15th, Mrs Allen (President) in the chair. A full attendance, and all were enthusiastic. Miss Powell, Dominion Organiser, was present, and gave an address on Kitchener's and the King's abstinence pledges, and strongly urged the members to take up the work of persuading as many as possible to follow this splendid example. A special meeting will be held to arrange a definite plan for doing this. Mrs Tiffany, Cradle Roll Superintendent, has been very energetic, and reports 12 babies for enrolment. Five new members were also initiated. Afternoon tea was served.

Feb. 20. The Union here is joining hands with the local League of Service, and good results are expected.

NORTH-EAST VALLEY

March. Monthly meeting held; attendance fair. Mrs Peter Dick presided. Members were urged to do all in their power to return women on the Hospital and Charitable Aid Board, also School Committee. Two members consented to be nominated for School Committee, and two appointed to visit sick members. Secretary instructed to write and thank the Hon. Jas. Allen, Minister of Defence, for the stand he had taken against wet canteens at Trentham. Opportunity was taken to bid farewell to Mrs Hislop (one of the founders of our Branch), who is leaving on a prolonged visit to Australia, and will represent the N.Z. Union at the Australasian Convention in Adelaide.

April 22. Monthly meeting held, attendance very good. Mrs A. S. Adams presided. A vote of sympathy was passed to Mrs D. S. Beath. Resolved: "That our Branch desire to express its deep admiration of the action of His Majesty the King in banishing intoxicating liquors from his household during the continuance of the war, and its earnest hope that his example will be extensively followed throughout the wide dominions of the Empire." Mrs Adams gave a short review of the progress of the Temperance movement, specially mentioning Russia, France, and America. Mrs Peart then gave an interesting report on the recent Convention. Mrs Aukie contributed a solo. Members were urged to attend householders' meeting and use all their interest to elect women on Hospital and Charitable Aid Board.

ASHBURTON.

March. Owing to unfavourable weather meeting was poorly attended. A motion of sympathy with Mrs N. Eden, in the death of her late husband was passed. Resolved that Miss Powell be requested to visit Ashburton. Arrangements were made in connection with the Rest Tent at the A. and P. Show on March 17th and 18th. Rev W. J. Elliott wrote notifying the Union of the results of the essay com-

petition on "Alcohol." In commemoration of "Frances Willard Day," Mrs F. H. Broom gave a very interesting address on the life work of the founder of the W.C.T.U. A collection was taken up in aid of the W.M. Funds.

April. "Y's" and the adult Union held a combined meeting to receive the Delegate's reports of Convention. The reports were adopted and discussed. Arrangements were made in connection with the Refreshment Tents at the Carnival. Special meeting was held on May 4th, Mrs W. K. Watson presiding. Attendance large, including some Winchmore members. Miss Powell addressed the meeting, giving suggestions for future work, especially on Temperance lines. The K.K. pledge was referred to, and the work in connection therewith was enthusiastically taken up, a number of members volunteering to canvass streets or districts. One member joined the Union.

NEW BRIGHTON.

The monthly meeting held at Mrs White's residence on May 4th. Mrs Hall presiding. Attendance good. Five new members joining. I am pleased to report two of our members were elected on the school committee. The meeting was a devotional one, led by Mesdames Lopdell and Spratt.

NELSON.

Meeting held April 13th, Mrs Lambert presiding; attendance small. Letters of birthday greeting to be sent to Mrs Crump and Mrs Lucas (oldest member of our Union), aged 91. Members urged to work for return of Mesdames Hill and Buchanan for School Committee and Mrs Watson for Hospital and Charitable Aid Board. Decided in future to dispense with afternoon tea, because financial help is needed so much at this time. Good Citizenship meetings to be resumed in May. The Union Executive formed a strong women's committee, formed of members and non-members, to work for return of the women candidates. Home and public meetings were held, and the three women candidates were elected.

TIMARU.

March. Annual Social at the Sailors' Rest. Mrs Don, N.Z. President, urged all women to start at once on our No License campaign by bringing men members, and especially trying to capture the votes of the young people who attain their majority during the next three years. It is estimated that 54,000 young people will attain their majority before next election. Mrs Liddle, delegate, then read her account of Convention, giving an idea of the grand work which was done there, and of the enthusiasm displayed. Mrs Trott also spoke in terms of high praise of the Convention work.

April. Meeting held at Sailors' Rest. Attendance fair, Mrs Rule

presiding. Mrs Cowan sent her resignation owing to indifferent health. Decided to make her a life member. Mesdames Liddle and Butcher were appointed Hospital Visitors. Miss Powell gave us a most interesting address on the K.K. Pledge Campaign. Many ladies present took cards. On Wednesday afternoon at Wesley Hall, Miss Powell also spoke. The Mayor-ess wrote expressing regret at being unable to preside owing to prior engagements, but assured us that her sympathies were with us. Miss Powell urged the importance of pledge campaign, and members undertook to canvass districts for pledges.

WOODVILLE.

Our usual monthly meeting was held on March 30. The President gave very interesting details of the Convention. Decided to form a ladies' committee in favour of Bible-in-Schools. A letter was read asking our Union to arrange for a meeting on April 6th for Miss Bisson, of Manchester, England, to lecture, but owing to the holidays it was decided to ask her to postpone her visit until later.

The usual meeting was held on April 27. Attendance good. Mrs Crabbe, from Palmerston North, spoke on Social Purity, and Mrs Young also hoped we would each do our best to win one new member during the year, and also to get all the signatures we can for the K.K. pledge. Everyone enjoyed the meeting, and a vote of thanks was passed to the ladies.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

May. Meeting held. Mrs Boxall presided. Attendance good. Decided to observe May 27th as the day on which prayers for peace and guidance in regard to the present war be offered up. Resolved that a "pay up" social be held on May 20th and Dr Platts-Mills be asked to address the meeting, and that invitations be sent to all our new members, and so create a wider interest in the work. Two members were elected to work with members of Alliance in connection with a plan of work for the winter. Decided that our Union would do its best to have Mrs Don's letter published in the three daily papers. Two of our members were again elected on Newtown School Committee. Decided that efforts be made to get hotels closed at 6 p.m. Several new members were initiated, and the President's address from the Convention number of the "White Ribbon" was read.

HASTINGS.

March 10. Meeting held in St. Andrew's Hall. Attendance small. There was a considerable amount of business transacted. Mrs Martindale (President) was elected delegate to Convention. It was resolved to sew and make up clothing for the Belgians one afternoon a week. Next meeting to take the form of a social.

KAIKORAI.

March. Meeting held in the Presbyterian Schoolroom, Mrs Pinfold presiding. The newly-appointed President, on behalf of the Society, presented Mrs Pinfold with a handsome bag as a memento of the profitable and happy time they had spent together, also expressing their regret at losing her. Mrs Pinfold responded in her usual kindly manner.

Meeting on April 30; attendance poor. The president, Mrs Martin, presided, and spoke from the 103rd Psalm; a cheering and helpful address. She also urged on those present the need of an increased membership for our Union.

MANAIA.

March 9. Monthly meeting held, 12 members present. Mrs Hunt, who presided, spoke with deep regret of the illness of the President (Mrs Patterson), expressing the hope that she would soon be restored to health. An account by the Rev. Hammond regarding the large number of recruits rejected through drunkenness was read from the "Vanguard" by Miss York. Mrs Hunt read an account of the far-reaching benefits derived from the prohibition of vodka in Russia. It was thought that the Government here should prohibit grain being made into liquor at a time like the present. Votes of sympathy were passed with Mrs Patterson and Mrs J. Craig in their illness. Mrs C. Hansen appointed sick visitor.

OTAUTAU.

Feb. 15. Special meeting held in Presbyterian Church to meet Miss Powell. Fair attendance. Miss Powell took the chair. Mrs Brown elected delegate to Convention. Miss Powell urged upon members the great necessity of furthering the cause of Temperance.

March 11. Monthly meeting held in Presbyterian Church, President in the chair. The Secretary was authorised to procure one dozen copies of the "W.R." Convention number. Decided to leave all voting in connection with Convention to the discretion of our delegate, Mrs Brown, except in the case of N.Z. officers, our vote to be as follows:—Pres., Mrs Don; Cor. Sec., Miss Henderson; Rec. Sec., Mrs W. A. Evans; Treas., Mrs Bendely. "Pay-up" social to be held during April. President addressed meeting, asking each member to get at least one new member.

WARKWORTH.

Monthly meeting held in Methodist Church on Thursday, 25th, 12 members present. Mrs Attwood presided. The following resolutions were passed:—(1) "That word should be sent to the Auckland Union heartily endorsing their efforts for total abstinence as stipulated by Mrs Parker." (2) "That as many members as possible attend householders' meeting for the selection of School Commit-

tee." (3) "That each member should try to bring some small article to be sold among the members, proceeds to go to the treasury." Half an hour of social intercourse was spent after the usual business of the meeting.

NORMANBY.

December. Monthly meeting held Mrs Scott presided. Election of officers resulted as follows:—Pres., Mrs Scott; Vice-Pres., Mrs Butler and Mrs Clements; Sec., Mrs Saunders; Treas., Mrs Lynn; Cradle Roll, Mrs Hall; Supt. Literature, Mrs Hayward. The Union provided refreshments for all-comers on election day. A box was placed at the door for the Belgian Fund, resulting in 30s being taken. The members of Union provided baskets and help.

Feb. 10. There were 10 members present, and two new members enrolled. Decided to start Purity work. £2 was voted towards election expenses, and 12s for girls' library. Mrs X. Jones's splendid paper on "Courage" was read. Decided to hold a picnic, asking Hawera, Manaia, and Ngaere and others to join with us.

WAIPUKURAU.

April 8. A visit from Miss Bisson, who spoke on "Peeps Behind the Scenes in Manchester," a tale of personal work in the Temperance cause. Miss Bisson concluded her address by urging on all members to join the campaign started in Christchurch of winning another member each during the year, and showed how the cause would extend if that were only carried out each year.

AUCKLAND.

April. Meetings have been well attended, Mrs J. Cook presiding. Paper was read by Mrs Avery on the life of Frances Willard. Decided to organise the K.K. pledge signing campaign. Mr S. Faulkner gave an instructive address on temperance work. Delegates were appointed to attend the Auckland Provincial No License Convention. Resolved that "This meeting of Auckland District W.C.T.U. (many of whom have sons in the N.Z. Expeditionary Forces) earnestly protests against the establishment of a 'wet canteen' in the Trentham camp, as suggested in a report appearing in the "N.Z. Herald" of March 10th. We believe that such a step would be productive of serious danger to the young men in training in this Dominion. It would be contrary to the spirit of Lord Kitchener's warning to the troops on leaving England for the front, and also to the direct intention of the New Zealand Defence Act, 1909, of which Clause 03, Section X. reads as follows:—"The Canteen at any encampment shall be under the control and sole direction of the officer in command of the encampment, and no intoxicating liquor shall be sold or supplied at any such canteen

to any person." Meeting closed with an initiation service.

MASTERTON.

April 13th. Meeting held in Knox Hall. Mrs Ross, President, occupied the chair. Mrs Sutherland, delegate to Convention gave her report, which was very much appreciated.

May 4th. "At Home" was held in the Y.M.C.A. rooms; a large gathering of members and friends. Mrs Ross presided. Several ladies contributed items. Mrs Devonport spoke about the K.K. pledges, and urged all workers to secure as many pledges as possible; 8 doz pledges were ordered. The hostesses (Mesdames Sutherland and Devonport) were accorded a hearty vote of thanks for their hospitality.

OXFORD.

April. Meeting held. The President in the chair. Decided that the next meeting be held Thursday, April 22nd. A welcome given to the Ngaere delegate to Convention.

April 22nd. Meeting held in the Coronation Hall, Mrs Ryde presiding. Miss Caverhill elected to represent us at the Canterbury Council. The Secretary was instructed to ask Miss Roberts to give an address on May 8th. Letters of thanks to those who assisted with catering at the Show. £35 15s handed to Belgian Relief Fund as profits from the Refreshment Booth at Show. Resolved, "This meeting of the Oxford Branch, W.C.T.U., desire to place on record their joy and thankfulness for the rapid spread of temperance reform throughout the world, especially in their own beloved Homeland. They pray that wisdom may be given to the legislators, so that they may make, and put into practice, laws which will forever free the British Empire from its worst enemy."

April 24th. The first Junior Band of Hope was held in the Coronation Hall. Attendance good. Miss Dalziel addressed the children on the effects of alcohol on the human body.

April 20th. Meeting held. The President in the chair. Decided to hold an intercessory service on Sunday, May 23rd. All ministers to be asked to attend and take part. Mrs Hawke then gave a report of Convention, for which she was most heartily thanked. The Senior Band of Hope was held in the Coronation Hall, May 5th; Mrs Ryde presided. Attendance 45. Sister Clare addressed the Band of Hope on the words of St Paul to be temperate in all things. Mr L. Watson gave the children some very good advice. The children and friends gave a very good programme. Four young people signed the pledge.

SOUTH INVERCARGILL.

April. Meeting held at Amethyst Hall, the President, Mrs Pasley, presiding. Miss Powell spoke on the Cradle Roll and Kitchener pledges, which we hope will be heartily taken

up by our Invercargill young people. Three new members and two by transfer all help to swell the number on the White Ribbon Roll.

MOSGIEL.

April. Meeting held. Attendance good. Mrs Bedford, president, our delegate to the Convention, gave a report of some length, and spoke especially of the work carried on by the different departments. Mrs Bedford urged members to do their best for the "win one" campaign. A cordial welcome was extended to Mrs Pinfold, who comes to our branch from Kaitiaki. Resolved that the members of this branch express their gratification at the determination of the King, and of the Cabinet Ministers, and other leading citizens of England, to banish liquor from their homes during the currency of the war, and at the remarkable anti-liquor uprising therefrom; believing that the drink traffic in retarding our successful prosecution of the war, the Union expresses the hope that Mr Lloyd George will be successful in his proposal for national prohibition during the currency of the war. At the close of the meeting Mrs McDonald, White Ribbon Superintendent, made an appeal to the members on behalf of the "White Ribbon," with a result of four members becoming subscribers.

INVERCARGILL.

May meeting well attended. A splendid report of Band of Hope work was given by Mrs Garrett, Supt. Resolved to again offer prizes for Temperance essays by children in the public schools, and to urge our auxiliaries to do the same. Resolved to resume evening meetings during the winter for the convenience of those who cannot attend in the afternoons. All members of Union are asked to observe May 24th as a day of special prayer for peace. Mrs Nicholls (Temperance Organiser) came to the meeting and explained the working of the K. of K. pledge. One new member was initiated. We are very gratified that Mrs Cruickshank (one of our members) has been elected a member of the Hospital and Charitable Aid Board by a large majority.

BLUFF.

April 18th. Monthly meeting held. Attendance good. Mrs W. Johnston presided. The sympathy of the Unions goes out to Mrs Moody at this time, and our prayer is that God will comfort and sustain her in her sad bereavement. Mrs Clements, President of the Edendale Union, was welcomed and told us of the work done by her Union. A report was received from Miss Gainsford, who represented us at Convention. Decided to present each of the young men leaving Bluff for the front with a pocket Testament. One new member received. Our Band of Hope has commenced its session, and two excellent meetings have been held. This year our "Harvest Festival" in aid of our Hall funds was a great success. The amount taken was £15.

TAKAPUNA.

The first meeting for 1915 was held at Milford on Thursday, May 6th. Miss Evans spoke about the Patriotic Pledge, and the day appointed for prayer; it was decided to hold a meeting at the Methodist Church in the afternoon on May 24th. Miss Dewar asked all to do what they could to increase the membership during the coming year.

WANGANUI.

May. The monthly meeting held. Mrs Blamires presiding. Attendance good. Mr McKenzie gave us a splendid report of the business done at Convention. We are arranging for a visit from Miss Bisson. We have also arranged for special meetings, Empire Day. Decided that each member give one pair of socks to the soldiers.

ONEHUNGA.

April. Very successful meeting held. Mrs Logan, President, presided. The secretary read the Report of the N.Z. Convention, sent by Mrs Glen, of Christchurch, who acted as proxy for our Union. The President, Mrs Logan, outlined the platform of work undertaken by the W.C.T.U., and made an earnest appeal to those present to join the Union. Five new members were initiated. Afternoon tea was served.

MATAURA.

Monthly meeting held on April 30th. Attendance only fair owing to very stormy weather. President occupied the chair. Very interesting paper by Mrs Spence, "Drink and the Children," was read. President spoke of several matters brought up at Convention. Discussions took place re some of them. Decided that the May meeting be devoted to prayer for Peace.

NGAERE.

May. Meeting held at Mrs Morrison's. Good attendance. Decided to hold a prayer meeting on May 24th. Honorary members urged to attend. Decided that a letter of congratulation be written to the Normanby Union on their success in winning the banner. One of our Y. members took to provide comfort-bags for sailors. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mrs Jones, our delegate, for her excellent report of Convention. Mrs Stott presented a large parcel of children's garments to the Superintendent of the Flower Mission.

PAHIATUA.

May 6th. Monthly meeting held, Mrs Neal, President, in the chair. Mrs Godfrey, delegate, gave her Report of Convention. Letters read from Mrs Crabbe, Miss Henderson, and Mrs Upton. Decided to hold a "Peace" Prayer Meeting on Thursday evening, May 27th. The following motion was passed: "That this Union views with thankfulness the lead shown the Em-

pire by the King and leading statesmen in banishing intoxicants from their respective households, and expresses the hope that Mr Lloyd George will be successful in his proposal for the national abolition of the drink traffic during the war, believing that such traffic is a greater menace than German guns."

OTAMATEA.

I tu te huihui a te roopu wahine Karaitiana Otamatea kite hoooro aorteroa ia Maehe 20 o nga ia o tenei Marama. Pehitini kia ora e te tuhi me nga mema i hui mai ki tenei mitini. Kia Puere te whare mo nga take. (1) Kote koha marama. (2) Kote whakamarama o te Pehitini mo te moni o te timitini i whakaturia ei ete roopu wahine Otamatea hei awhina ma ratou mote whare, karakia, kia whiriwhiri kia pehea tona takotoranga he mea tuku te take kia Rev. Te Tuhi. Kaati whakamarama tenei ate Tuhi ara me tona miharo mete mihi hoki kite roopu wahine mo taratou, whakaro mote whare karakia. Heoi kotana kupu tenei nui atu hoki nga mate ototatou whare karakia, Kote whakaora. E nga wini mete puta i waho mete wanihi iroto ara me tahi atu mate ote whare. Kua kite katoa nei hoki iatou kutere kia ora nga kupu. Kote tu ake he whakapai ki nga whiriwhiri kinga i ake au ete Tuhi koi ano hoki tena Pehitini heoi ano etu ake he whakapai mo nga take kua oti ake nei inga hoa mema atae atu hoki kia koe ete Tuhi. I Awe heoi kua oti ake nei te take inga mema kia penei te ngaronga monga moni hoia nei hoki i whaii matou e Te Tuhi kia tae mai koe hei hoa mo matou. Kite whiriwhiri ite tikanga moto tatou whare karakia, heoi kotahi take i whiriwhiri ano mote taha kinga. Pakeha mote haere mai ki roto ite whare karakia Weteriana karakia ai ko tana take ki hai i pahitia ite mitini Pehitini whakamarama atu kia E. Te Tuhi mote moni Kotahi pauna i ate Roopu wahine o roto o Pouto i haere nei i roto i nga Ripouata taratou awhina mote whare karakia ite tunga o te timitini ate roopu wahine Otamatea, heoi kotana moni kohore ano, kia tae mai kite roopu wahine o konei koati pahitiana me tonu taua moni.

Rev. Te Tuhi (kaati kia ora te roopu) kote take nei mote tahi kura wihi kia whakaturia he mea pai hoki tenei mo wa tatou tama ki katoa pena kataea e koutou e te roopu te kimi te take mahita kua wiki i roto ano etahi ano onga mema karaitiana heoi whiriwhiri ana ete roopu a whakaturiana ko taukurei noa a pei mahita kura mote kura wiki monga tamariki kotahi te mema hou i whakaurungia e matou ko Aatawiri Waiano ite matou huihui. Ka hiki te mitini kia ora ka kimitia o onga himene ka inoa ate Tuhi mate atua tatou katoa emanaki.

Taukura T. Neke.

Katu he mitini ma te roopu wahine Otamatea a te whaka paunga o nga ra o te marama nei whiriwhiri mo etahi

take a mo te hoki hikipene hoki, kaati i te 6 o nga ra Aperia Katu te tahi hui ki te kainga o Tapihana Paikea Topuni Katukuna e tenei roopu wahine ta ratou moni awhina mo tana hui Kotahi pauna £1 a i te tunga ano o tetahi hui ki Oruawhoro i te 23rd Aperia i te huranga Kowhatu Eruera Te Are raua ko kauta Wellington. Katukuna ano e tenei roopu wahine tetahi moni awhina a ratou mo tana hui 108 tekau hereni heoi nui atu nga take i whaka haerea i taua huihuinga. Kaati ma to tatou matua i te rangi tatou e manaki. Kia ora.

HUI TAU.

Ite 19 onga ra, imuri ite karakia, itae mai ate kev. J. Dawson, o Poneke, kite whakaatu mai kia matou te kaute onga poto o 1914. Ko tona whakaaro tenei, kite mahi tonu nga wahine, a tae noa kite poote, 1917, ka tae noatu te whakahinga inga paparakaute; ite mea i runga inga tino taru kimo kua tupu ake itenei pakanga nui ite ao nei, iroto itenei mea, te waipiro. Ko nga mahi patu wahine, patu tamariki ite timatanga ote whawhai, i puta ake ite waipiro. Katetehi iwi nui whakaharahara, ko Russia, kua turaki rawa ite waipiro. I kitea eta ratou Kingi ite timatanga ote whawhai, te kino otenei kai mote tangata, na kua whakakorengia e ia tena kai, kia kua rawa e mahia ki tona takiwa. Tetehi mea whakamiharo tenei. I kauwhau a Dr. Florence Keller kia tupato tonu nga tamariki, nga kotiro, kei wareware kite tiaki ia ratou tinana kei tupono kite he. Kia mahara tonu kite inoi kite Matua, Mana tatou e tohutohu, e arahi, kia haere tonu irunga ite huarahi tika. Ite ata, 20 onga ra i panuitea e Mrs Peryman, te Etita, tana ripoata mote nupepa, te White Ribbon.

I roto itera tau nui atu nga tangata hou i tango i tenei pepa. I pootitia e matou ko ia tonu hei Etita mate tau hau. Kati, nui atu te pouri ite renenga ki aia, kanui nga Roopu kua wareware kite tuku mai ite 25 6d hei utu mote White Ribbon atenei tau hou. Kua he wareware kite tuku mai kiaia te 25 6d ina pau te tau ote koha o tera tau. Kua hoki e ngai-kore kite tuku mai inga ripoata Maori. I muri ite tina i haere matou kite whakarite ite karanga o tetehi wahine kite Garden Party i Opawa. Kote moni i kohia e nga wahine mote Ropu Matua, e ono pauna. Ite ahiahi rawa i hui matou i waho, itetehi wahi ote taone. Ko Mrs Cowie ite whai-korero kinga tangata. Nui atu nga tangata o waho i tu kite whakarongo.

Ite 21 onga ra, i kororongia e tenei huinga, ta ratou pouri kinga tangata o ia takiwa mote mahi haereere tonu kinga mahi takaro inga ratapu. Kote hiahia o tenei Auinga me tahuri nga wahine onga roopu kite rapu huarahi e mutu ai tenei ahua. Kia whakamahara tonu kinga tangata kia wha-

kamatau e tatou mei kore taea te mea kia tino tapu te ratapu, hei ra karakia, hei ra okioki. I muri i tena, i kororongia e matou nga mahi o etehi roopu kite whakatu inga wharekai, inga whare okioki inga taone nunui, inga Show hoki. Whakamihia atu te Tumuaki ki enei mahi. Konga moni e riro mai ana i enei tu mahi, e riro ana hei awhina ite peeke ote Roopu nana i whakahaere. E hiahia ana nga Roopu wahine kia whakaakongia nga tamariki kura kinga whakaakoranga pai ote Paipera Manga mahita, manga minita ranei o ia takiwa ratou e whakaako.

Ite ahiahi, 23 onga ra i haere nga mema, 102 kite taha ote urupa o Mrs Cole, te Tumuaki ote Roopu Matua, i mate i tera atu tau. Nui atu nga mihi mete tangi ki tenei wahine kua haere atu ki tana okiokinga. Ite 24 onga ra, itae iho te waea, e whakaatu mai ana kia matou, ite taenga atu o Judge Stringer ki Masterton kite whakawa Koete, i hoatu engu tangata he karapu ma kiaia. He tohu tenei kiaia, tino kore he hara nunui i Mahitaone i tera tau. Ko Mahitaone te taone tino kore he hotera Mai ano ite tutakitanga onga hatere o tenei taone kei te tino kore haere he hara, he herehere mo roto inga whare herehere. He karapu ma te tohu ote karakore. No tenei ra itae ihe kia-hau te reta o te Roopu wahine o Par-enga Raumatia, mete tonu ki ahau kia haere atu kite whakaaranga ote kohatu o ta ratou papa. Tae rawa mai ki au kua pahure ke te ra. Nui atu te mihi kia ratou mete tangi atu kita ratou papa kua wehe atu nei. I runga ite he o tena takiwa ite kore takuta e whakahaere ana tetehi piti-bana kia tukuna atu he neehi mo kona. Engari kia whakaae rawa nga tangata o reira kia awhinatia e ratou te neehi, ara te hoatu hoiho, poti ranei, mo ana haerenga kinga turore, katahi ano ka whakaaengia ete Kawanatanga tetehi neehi ma ratou.

Ite 25 onga ra i mutu te hui. Ite ahiahi eruutekau ma tahi matou ihaere atu kitetehi kainga Maori, ki Raupaki, kite korero kinga tangata. Ta Te Kao te nohoanga ote Tiamana. I muri inga korero i waiata nga taitamariki Maori. Ko te nuinga onga tangata o reira kua haina ite kaari mote kore inu waipiro. Heoi ano. Kia nui nga manaaki tanga kia koutou, me nga mihi aroha kia koutou na

Te Mari Woodhead.

W.C.T.U.

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Of New Zealand.

Organised 1885.

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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.

A PAGE FOR Y's.

SUGGESTIONS FOR WORK AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE.

(Mrs J. McCombs at Convention.)

That where there is any difficulty in maintaining the interest and attendance at "Y." Meetings, young People's Societies should be formed. That a campaign should be planned in connection with the 54,000 voters who come of age every three years. That a regular distribution of suitable literature be made in workrooms, shops, offices, and amongst domestic workers.

That efforts be made to interest young persons in these occupations by means of social gatherings, picnics and lectures, and that endeavours should be made to arrange for bright addresses to be given in the lunch-rooms of workrooms and factories.

That to facilitate this work, Young People's Societies should enlist the sympathy and co-operation of Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Associations, Girls' Friendly Societies, Church Guilds, and Endeavour Societies. That a special effort be made to enlist the sympathy of women teachers by inviting their co-operation.

Under the heading of work for Young People's Societies, the following suggestions are made:—

To work up regular Band of Hope Programmes.

To undertake charitable work in connection with children. Hospital work such as the distribution of books, flowers, and comforts, or arranging of concerts.

To assist in booths.

To open a reading circle, Physical Culture Classes, Mock Parliaments.

A mock election is suggested for working up attendance, the canvassing necessary to the success of the election being an excellent means to that end.

It was further suggested that a handbook should be prepared, containing information concerning the Electoral laws, Labour laws, and Licensing laws, and an account of the work of the Union should be prepared for distribution on ships from overseas at their first port of call.

Finally it was suggested that the Executive should take into considera-

tion the advisability of appointing a suitable person as organiser amongst young people.

SUPERINTENDENT'S LETTERS.

LITERATURE.

Dear Sisters,—I would draw your attention to the "Literature" column in this issue, where all prices are quoted post free, and would ask you, when ordering to kindly enclose amount for same when possible, as this means the saving of postage and time. Some who ordered will have received their K.K. pledges, which we trust will be found widely sought after and largely distributed, as many thousands are ordered, and will, it is hoped, be found from north to south of these Islands. One Union is evidently very energetically bent on being first to obtain the "Win One" membership, having ordered a large number of membership cards, and is in a fair way to win "The Banner" next year. So Unions look to your laurels.

As regards the Purity books and leaflets, I have a large assortment. Mr R. H. W. Blyth, whom many of you know, was pleased at the commencement of the year, when looking over my stock, to say that I had the largest and most varied of any bookseller in the Dominion. So I think you need not fear sending your orders along. Also on hand, "Jaya," by Miss Harband, the review of which you will find in February number of "White Ribbon"—a nice present. Anything you may wish, if not in stock, I will be pleased to obtain. Repeat orders for next 12 months "Purity Advocate" solicited, also new subscribers, 6d per annum; "American Motherhood" also.—Yours for service,

E. G. DEARLOVE.

Ngaere,

10th May, 1915.

Dear Sisters,

I would again impress upon you the importance of Mothers' Meetings, and urge every Branch to hold, at least, one or two of these during the present year. Different methods of working this department will commend themselves to different superintendents, but I would remind all that Doctors and Plunket nurses are usually found most

willing to co-operate in any forward movement to give addresses on "Purity," "Child-culture," or other suitable subjects. Where the valuable services of a Doctor or nurse are not procurable, papers on educative and modern lines might be read. The following leaflets, which have lately come under my notice, will be found helpful in "M's. Ms." Dept., and are to be purchased from Mrs Neal, Pahiatua (who will send a sample packet on application), "The Cradle Army," "Dont's for Parents," "The Tactful Mother," "Purity in Schools," "My Little Living Interrogation Point," "What to Teach Children and How," and "High Ideals for Schools." Books like "What a Young Girl Ought to Know" (price 4s 6d), which are too expensive for free distribution, might be purchased by Unions, and lent to mothers.

Hoping you will report at the end of the year all "M.M." work done, whether as a distinct and separate dept., or in conjunction with any kindred Department.

Yours in the work,

A. C. JONES,

Dominion Supt. for Mothers' Meetings.

"The local union has no mission in this world unless it be educational. Every local union should be an educational force in its own community; and to this end we need more unions in more towns and in more country districts."—Clara H. Hoffman.

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Correspondence.

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

HOW TO ABOLISH WAR.

(To the Editor).

Madam,—Your article on "Criminal Nations" pleads for the abolition of war, which you rightly say, can be done by prayer, a method greatly not believed in and even derided. Now have we all considered prayer, what it is, and how we should use it and act? Judging by results and observations we do not all appreciate the power of prayer. How it with faith can remove mountains either of ignorance or rock.

We also seem to fail to recognise our powers with prayer, open to us all the time, apart from God's intervention, that is, that most of our prayers are answerable, or not, by ourselves in our lives. This non-recognition of natural powers we can control, but do not, accounts for the seeming failure of prayer. Prayer is an effort to mould natural forces, and to succeed must follow natural laws, and must be reasonable. All reasonable things are possible with the prayer of faith.

But to succeed we must act on the primal foundations of the universe—love. Love, called in science, chemical action, light, heat, electricity, etc.

Perhaps your readers have not observed that science has established the "oneness" of the universe, and the claims of Christ. Science has shown that "matter," as we usually call it, is an illusion, it is merely a manifestation of motion. Materialism is an illusion. Spirit is the guiding power, motion the result—mind and results.

The Great Mind has allowed us wonderful powers, which most of us fail to use. We are really gods, able to perform "miracles" as Jesus did, that is, control natural forces if we so wish. Natural forces have all one base love, or chemical action, and may develop into any possible thing.

But we can wander in illusion or train ourselves for exercising powers. Our illusions are men's follies, greed for seemingly material advantages. Men's follies and greed for seemingly material advantages are the causes of war. In training ourselves to do rightly, we not only train ourselves, but others. We move the great law of

mental suggestion. If we do ill it spreads to others, if we go good, it influences others.

To acquire control of our powers we must "weary not in well doing." learn our lesson determinedly, learn it for and by love in full faith. As it were, set the clock of our minds to go steadily, and to strike at the right time "in season and out of season."

"Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you."—Matt. 6:33. To abolish war each one of us needs to give up all selfish ideas and feelings of personal greed, and trust the Great Father. Not set ourselves a standard of commerciality, but a standard of righteousness, and set our wills hard, that is, pray fervently to impress on all the world the joy and satisfaction of abandoning the illusions of selfish greed and folly, for the reality of righteousness. Then war cannot be mentioned. Read Matt 6, especially verse 33, and Luke 12, especially verse 31, and trust our Creator.

I am, etc.,

SAM. A. BROWNE.

Clevedon, Auckland,

April 2nd, 1915.

OUR GOAL: 1000 NEW SUBSCRIBERS FOR 1915.

Our journal, the "White Ribbon," owes much of its success to the devoted and faithful labours of our agents in each Union. Upon our front page will be seen the photo. of three veteran agents. Mrs Williams, of Christchurch, has the largest list of subscribers in the Dominion, and last year sent in 40 new subscriptions, and collected all subscriptions up to date. Miss Butterick, Ashburton's faithful agent, now entering on her ninth year of service, has more "W.R." subscribers (70) than the Union has members (54), and every subscriber is paid up for the current year. Mrs Stewart, of Gisborne, after long and faithful work, has had to resign owing to leaving the district. In one or two Unions where the subscriptions had been allowed to fall into arrears, officers of the Union came to the rescue, and worked hard to gather in arrears, and also to gain new subscribers. To all our earnest and hard-working agents we desire to tender our hearti-

est thanks for past favours, and we entreat them for help in our forward move. We want 1000 new subscribers this year; this is not quite a 50 per cent. increase, and we feel sure it can be done by earnest and devoted effort. The wider our circulation, the greater influence will we exert, and though to fight strong drink till we banish it from our midst is our first endeavour, we also fight every enemy of Home and Native Land.

Will all Unions get busy at once? Try and interest other women's societies in our paper, and get them to become subscribers. Unions having agents rally round and help them, and Unions without agents please appoint one at once, and send name and address on a post-card to the Business Manager. Be always on the watch for new subscribers. Palmerston North held a meeting to hear report of Convention. Their energetic agent secured seven new subscribers at that meeting. Timaru sent five new names to-day, and three new ones last week. Will other Unions please help, and all make a special effort on White Ribbon Day.

PRAYER FOR PEACE.

Dear Comrades,—You will have read in the minutes of the Annual Convention (page 6, "White Ribbon") the following:—

"That the 24th of May be observed by members of the Unions throughout New Zealand as a day on which prayers for peace and guidance in regard to the present war be offered up. Should the Unions be unable to meet on that date, that one day during that week be used for the observance, the 24th (Empire Day) being commemorated by individual members."

This proposal was carried. Will all Unions kindly see that this proposal is carried out.—Yours faithfully,

WINIFRED W. LOVELL-SMITH.
Christchurch.

"The man who misses all the fun
Is he who says "It can't be done"!
In solemn pride he stands aloof
And greets each venture with re-
proof;
The world would sleep if things were
run
By men who say "It can't be done"!



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THE FULL CITIZENSHIP OF WOMEN.

In making the claim for full citizenship woman takes her stand with every human being who seeks for equality of opportunity. We claim that no further limitations be placed on our spheres of work than are placed on the occupations of men. The woman's own choice, and her fitness for the work should be the deciding factors. If she makes a wrong choice she will suffer, but the wider the opportunity given to all human beings—men or women—the less is the likelihood of a wrong choice being made. The argument in favour of this experience of privilege is well put by John Stuart Mills. He says:—

"Is there so great a superfluity of men fit for high duties, that society can afford to reject the service of any competent person? Are we so certain of always finding a man made to our hands for any duty or function of social importance which falls vacant, that we lose nothing by putting a ban upon one half of mankind, and refusing beforehand to make their faculties available, however distinguished they may be? And even if we could do without them, would it be consistent with justice to refuse them their fair share of honour and distinction, or to deny to them the equal moral right of all human beings to choose their occupation (short of injury to others) according to their own preferences, at their own risk? Nor is the injustice confined to them; it is shared by those who are in a position to benefit by their services. To ordain that any kind of person shall not be physicians, or shall not be advocates, or shall not be members of Parliament is to injure not them only, but all who employ physicians and advocates, or elect members of Parliament, and who are deprived of the stimulating effect of greater competition on the exertions of the competitors, as well as restricted to a narrower range of choice."

Woman has definitely and permanently entered the arena of politics. Fourteen out of forty-eight of the United States of America have adopted Woman Suffrage. This represents an area continental in extent almost equal to Europe, and includes the cities of New York and San Francisco. But let us come nearer home and listen to the testimony of the Statesmen of Australia, who, in resolution, passed by both Houses of the Commonwealth Parliament in 1910, placed on record their opinion of the good effect of Woman Suffrage throughout the Continent. "That this House (and Senate) is of the opinion that the extension of the Suffrage to the Women of Australia for States and Commonwealth Parliaments on the same terms as men, has had the most beneficial results. It has led to the more orderly conduct of elections, and at the last Federal Elections, the woman's vote, in a majority of the States, showed a greater proportionate increase than that cast by men. It has given a greater prominence to legislation particularly affecting women and children, although the women have not taken up such questions to the exclusion of others of wider significance. In matters of Defence and Imperial concern, they have proved themselves as far-seeing and discriminating as men. Because the reform has brought nothing but good, though disaster was freely prophesied, we respectfully urge that all nations enjoying representative government would be well advised in granting votes to women."

Australia was the first nation to grant women the right to sit in Parliament.

The women of New Zealand since their enfranchisement in 1893 have secured, amongst other reforms equal divorce laws, a legal claim upon the property of the husband by the wife and child (previously a husband had the power to will to a stranger all the property, even when the wife had helped to secure it). The opening of the

profession of the law to women. Local and National Veto of the Liquor Traffic. The closing of the Hotel Bars on Election Day, and the raising of the Age of Consent. The Australian States, with the help of the women's vote, have accomplished similar reforms, while in America every business and profession is open to women, not excluding that of the preacher.

Women in Public Offices.

In the old country, in every position open to them, women have proved their efficiency. In Poor Law administration Miss Twining has effected many reforms, notably the appointment of visiting committees to work-houses, prior to which poor patients were tended by ignorant fellow-paupers. Miss Flora Stevenson, as Chairman of the Edinburgh School Board, and Councillor Margaret Ashton, member of the Manchester City Council, have both done good service for education. The latter has also been instrumental in procuring municipal lodging-houses for women, and the payment of a living wage for municipal women servants. The Home Office has appointed a lady inspector of Prisons, and a lady sub-inspector of Industrial Schools. Six women probation officers work the Juvenile Courts in London. Under the Education Committee there are 25 women Inspectors of Education, and for the Education Committee of every education authority the law provides that a certain proportion shall be women. The London County Council has appointed women to serve as Inspectors under its Education, Public Health, and Public Control Department. Miss Philippa Fawcett is Principal Director in the Higher Education Branch of the Education Department. Two women hold posts as Inspectors under the Midwives' Act; seven under the Infants' Life Protection Act, and three under the Shops' Act. Since 1909 the power was granted to Sanitary Authorities to appoint Health Visitors, who instruct poor people in the nurture, care,

and management of young children. Such Health Visitors have also been appointed in Durham, Warwickshire, Worcestershire and Leicestershire. There are women Sanitary Inspectors in twenty-three out of the twenty-seven Metropolitan Boroughs, and four women School Attendance Officers have been appointed. Under the recent Insurance Act women hold positions as Insurance Commissioners at £1000 per annum, an instalment, we hope, of the general establishment of the principle of Equal Pay for Equal Work.

Several women have from time to time sat as members of Royal Commissions and Departmental Committees. These are not salaried posts, but are offices of high honour, to which appointments are made by the King and the Secretary of State. Expert knowledge is required to fulfil the work.

Local Government

In New Zealand women have done useful work on School Committees and Charitable Aid Boards. Before their advent into the former of these two spheres, school-committeemen frequently averred there was not enough work for a committee to do and occasionally filled in the time of meeting discussing sheep and crops. The usefulness of women on other public bodies is limited by legal restrictions.

In the United Kingdom, where the qualification of an elector, and the duties of the elected, vary in different areas, local government is not easy to describe. I make mention of it here to show how easily hard-won privileges may be lost when those concerned are denied self-government, and also to show that by entering the honourable estate of matrimony a woman may place herself under a legal disability, in company with the minor, the lunatic, and the idiot.

The women electors of England and Wales have the right of election to Boards of Guardians, and to Parish Rural and Urban Councils, but except in London, they are disqualified by marriage from election to Town and County Councils. Previous to 1894 a woman might vote in virtue of ownership of property for Poor Law Guardians, but under the Local Government Act of 1894 she no longer has the right to do so. While women may vote in certain local government elections, a married woman may not vote as a joint occupier. She may vote in respect of a different property to the

one in respect of which her husband records his vote, but no woman is now entitled to vote in virtue of her individual ownership in any election. In this matter of local government, Scotland and Ireland are in advance of England as regards women electors, and in Scotland marriage is no disqualification to the woman candidate. Throughout Great Britain are several women serving in Town and County, Borough, Rural and Urban District Councils, but they may not vote nor be elected to the City of London Council.

The London County Council.

The London County Council Act was passed in 1888, and three women, Lady Sandhurst, Miss Cobden, and Miss Cons were, by the intention of the voters, elected, but Mr Beresford Hope, candidate for Brixton, who was defeated by Lady Sandhurst, petitioned against her election on the sole ground that she was a woman. The Court of Queen's Bench decided in his favour. Leave was given to appeal. Lord Coleridge presided in the Court of Appeal, and with him sat five colleagues. The women based their appeal upon three Acts: 1st, Lord Brougham's Act of 1851, which provided that words importing the masculine gender shall be held to include the feminine unless the contrary is expressly provided. 2nd, The Municipal Corporations' Act, 1882, which contained the following clauses, sec. 63, "For all purposes connected with, and having reference to the right to vote at Municipal Elections words in this Act importing the masculine gender include women." 3rd, Sec. 11.3, "Every person shall be qualified to be elected and to be a councillor who is at the time of election qualified to elect to the office of councillor." In 1888 the County Councils' Act incorporated these two sections of the Municipal Corporations' Act.

Notwithstanding this the appeal of the women was dismissed, all the judges agreeing that the Municipal Corporations' Act by specifically stating that feminine applied only in regard to the right to vote implied that in being voted for women were not eligible. Thus an Act of Parliament, and the portion of the Municipal Act favourable to the women were overridden. It is only since the Qualifying Act of 1907, that the right to be elected to a County Council as well as to vote has been held by women.

Again in 1890 a number of women lost their seats on Vestries and School Boards. In that year the London Government Act was passed. This created a number of Boroughs in London to take the place of Vestries. Women who, up to that time, had sat on Vestries now became ineligible as they were not qualified to sit on Boroughs at the time the Act was passed. Again in 1902, by the abolition of School Boards, and the substitution of Education Authorities, which were to be Committees of the County or Borough Councils, women, though eligible for School Boards, were ineligible for the new Education Authorities, and were again put out of positions, in which they were acknowledged to have done good service. If women had sat in Parliament during the framing of these laws these injustices would not have been allowed to pass.

(To be Concluded.)

WOMEN CANDIDATES.

We must all feel very gratified at the success of Women Candidates for Hospital and Charitable Aid Boards; also for School Committee elections. We offer hearty congratulations to our White Ribbon sisters who have been elected. Dr Florence Keller, our Purity Superintendent, headed the poll in Auckland. Dr. Platts-Mills and Mrs McLaren, both W.R. subscribers, are re-elected in Wellington; also Mrs McVicar, Wellington Central's Secretary, joins them for the first time. Our old friend, Mrs Watson, is again elected to Nelson H. and C. A. Board. Dunedin returned three women at the head of the poll. It is surely a splendid tribute to the work done by women on these Boards that Wellington, Auckland, and Dunedin returned women at the head of the poll.

Mrs Jemison, of Tariki, has just been elected Secretary and Treasurer of School Committee for the seventh successive year, and Mrs Darvall, Ngaio's Vice-President, has been re-elected Secretary.

All through the Dominion women's work has received recognition by re-election of old members, and by election of new women members. We trust that it will not be long before women are elected to our Educational and Municipal Bodies in greater numbers.

MAORI ORGANISER'S REPORT.

Since I once more started work I have visited quite a number of old Unions. On my arrival in the Hawke's Bay district I was sorry to find my visit inopportune, but was invited by all to return there after Convention. Strange to say, I find that most of our Hawke's Bay Maori Unions have been transformed into Mothers' Unions instead. On my return there I hope to have a full investigation into the why and wherefore of this alteration. I visited some of the Maoris around Palmerston, but though the individuals were greatly impressed with our Union principles, I was unable to form a Union, as these people are scattered and too far apart. I next visited Otaki, where I stayed a few days, going from house to house, speaking to the women, and arranging for a future meeting. This has been definitely arranged, and is to be held on April the 4th. This place has never before been visited by the Maori Organiser, and needs help badly. I then came down to Wellington, where I received hospitality from Mrs Curmins, of Newtown W.C.T.U., and her kind friend, Mrs Wills, of Hitopi Street. During the time spent here I was able to get my correspondence finished. Then we all proceeded to Christchurch to Convention, where we were entertained by most kind and generous hostesses. The last day of Convention, after Mrs Walker read our Maori report, that is to be sent to the Australasian Convention, I spoke to Convention about my work, and read also a letter I received from Neta Paraone, Secretary of the Rau-mate-Parenga Union. I explained the difficulties these good people have in procuring medical assistance, and asked that we might make an effort to move the Government to send them a trained nurse. It was then decided that Mrs A. R. Atkinson, Mrs Walker and myself should be a deputation to Dr. Valentine, Government Health Superintendent and Inspector. We met him the following morning, and he gave us a long interview, and was most sympathetic, and promised to do his utmost to help us.

On the evening of March 25th twenty-one of us, delegates and friends, went out by train to Lyttelton. We were there met by Miss Smith, who took us to a launch, which was waiting to take us up to the Maori

settlement at Raupaki. We were put ashore in a punt, and then ensued a merry scramble over the rocks. When all were landed safely, we proceeded to the hall, where Mrs Smith, of the Lyttelton Union, who had kindly arranged everything for the meeting, was waiting for us. With her was Te Kao, the chief of this place. He extended a hearty welcome to us all, and the meeting was opened by the singing of the well-known children's hymn, "Come to the Saviour," and I led them in Maori prayer. Then I was introduced to the people by Te Kao, and gave the Maoris an address on W.C.T.U. work amongst the Maoris. After my address, a young Lyttelton lady sang very sweetly to us all. Then some of the Maori young men and girls sang us a very pretty Maori song, and immediately afterwards three girls gave us a short "poi" dance, which was much enjoyed. Mrs Atkinson gave an encouraging and touching address to these young people, telling them of the harmfulness of alcohol to the human body, and said that though years ago the Maoris fought against us, now, in the great war in Europe, the Maori men have gone out to fight side by side with the British, to help defend the British Empire, and through this Maori and pakeha are now bound together closer by a great bond of sympathy. So, even here in New Zealand may the Maori people and the white join together in fighting another enemy—drink. The young people enjoyed her address very much. Te Kao thanked us all for a very enjoyable evening, and also expressed a wish for another visit some day. Most of the young people here belong to the Band of Hope.

FLORENCE WOODHEAD.

WOMEN'S SOCIETIES.

During Convention a deputation from other women's societies waited upon the W.C.T.U. Convention. Their aim was to get united action from all women's societies on subjects which concern all.

Mrs Wells urged all to work for peace and for such education and settlement that war would be abolished for the future. She spoke of the necessity of Government owning all places for the manufacture of arms and ammunition. Mrs Lissamon spoke on the care of neglected child-

ren. She urged that when children are boarded out by State, sufficient allowance should be made, and the exploiting of the children's labour be firmly forbidden. Young children to be sent to Kindergartens. She also urged the establishment of Cottage Homes.

Mrs Cunningham spoke strongly and eloquently in favour of the abolition of Capital Punishment. The reasons against Capital Punishment are: (1) Scientific; (2) Social; (3) Christian. (1) Scientific: We should not kill a criminal because, (a) we know too little about him. No chemist gives the constituents of a new subject without careful analysis. We know nothing of the criminals' antecedents, and to kill him is unscientific, clumsy, inadequate and slapdash. Then (b) we know too much about him. Some criminals are born or inherent criminals. From conception doomed to commit crime. This number is small and will be reduced by civilization. Others are criminals who are made criminals. This class is women's responsibility. Some are made criminals by drink traffic, or by neglect. This class of criminals are so made by bad social conditions. Then there are the insane criminals. They are always insane, but show it most when provoked. Have we the right to hang any of these criminals. A human being is most difficult to analyse and comprehend.

(2) Social:—Capital Punishment is not a deterrent. Since the Mayfield murderer was hanged, we have had four murders in this Dominion. Is it not better to have a deterrent factor than the death penalty.

Capital Punishment is brutalising to the people. Society gets rid of its criminals by Capital Punishment, but it has the hangman, and all his gruesome paraphernalia. Head gaoler of large goal, says, "It makes me sick weeks before and weeks after an execution."

Capital Punishment is suggestive of crime. It stimulates to other crimes of a similar nature. Criminals long to be hanged for the notoriety of it.

Capital Punishment is wasteful. It wastes a man. It is irretrievable.

(3) Christian:—There is no sin that is unforgivable. Criminals should be forgiven, but not placed back in society, forgiven because he is either irresponsible or wicked. "The more brutal the crime, the greater the demand upon us to forgive."

PROMOTED.**THE LATE MRS W. H. BULLOT.**

There passed from our midst on April 27th one who may truly be called "A lady with a lamp." Mrs W. H. Bullot joined the New Plymouth branch of the W.C.T.U. when it was first formed, nearly twenty years ago. From the first she was eager to work to further the No-License vote. "I can't go on the platform and talk to an audience, but I can get the people to read some of those leaflets you have sent for." And she did get people to read and study the question. The leaflets were often sent back to us so bethumbed that we were obliged to burn them and supply fresh ones. Many are voting with us to-day who first met her overtures with scornful words. This is how she lifted up her lamp, and in what she undertook she was courageous and faithful. She was a wife and mother to be proud of, always doing her best to make the world a safer place for the young especially to live in. We extend our sincerest sympathies to those who are mourning their loss.

THE KITCHENER PLEDGE.

Dear Sisters,—Will you allow me to emphasise the extreme importance of the above work? The action of His Majesty in banishing alcohol from the Royal household until the close of the war gives us the very chance of our lives, and this work should, just now, take precedence of everything else. In every Union which I have visited it has been warmly taken up, country districts being taken in sections and towns in streets or blocks. We are taking the names of all over thirteen, the age at which the military authorities take knowledge of them. Each worker takes a penny note-book, in which she enters the names of all who sign, and the ages of those under twenty-one. These are, of course, new pledges, not the names of those who have signed before. The Dominion treasury is offering a prize of £1 to the Union which secures the largest number of pledges, proportionate to its membership. When the war shows signs of drawing to a close all who have signed will be asked to sign

for life, and a second prize of £1 will be awarded to the Union which secures in this way the heaviest percentage of its Kitchener pledges. The K.K. pledge may be used as a life pledge by the signer crossing out the words "until the end of the war" and initialling the alteration.

Pledges may be obtained from Mrs Peryman or Mrs Dearlove.

Yours in the work,

M. S. POWELL.

Miss Powell's address for this month is c/o Miss Henderson, 26, Tui Street, Fendalton, Christchurch.

ASHBURTON, 2nd Tuesday, 3 p.m., in Baring Street Schoolroom; Pres., Mrs W. K. Watson, Box 37; Rec. Sec., Mrs J. H. Dent, 112 Wills St. W.; Cor. Sec., Mrs E. Buchanan, Wills St. W.; Treas., Mrs W. T. Lill, Willowby; "W.R." Supt., Miss Butterick, Wakanui.

AUCKLAND District, 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 3 p.m., Central Mission Hall, Albert St.; Executive meets 2.30; Pres., Mrs Cook, Point St., Mt. Eden; Cor. Sec., Miss N. Dewar, Pompalier Terr., Ponsonby; Rec. Sec., Miss Evans, G.F.S., Wellesley Street; Treas., Miss Dewar, 4 Pompalier Terr., Ponsonby; "W.R." Agent, Miss Pudney, 16 Wallace St., Ponsonby.

BLenheim District, 1st Tuesday, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs A. Jackson; Sec., Mrs D. P. Sinclair, Box 27; Treas., Mrs Hay, Stephenson St.; Mothers' Meetings and Cradle Roll, Mesdames Brewer and Handcock; "W.R." Agent, Mrs W. Parker, Greve Rd.

CAMBRIDGE, first Tuesday in month, in Victoria Hall, at 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs W. Hogan; Vice-Pres., Mrs P. Smith and Mrs Gow; Sec., Mrs A. T. Watson; Treas., Mrs C. H. Rycroft; Cradle Roll, Mrs M. Robert.

CHRISTCHURCH DISTRICT, rooms corner Manchester and Worcester Streets. Second and fourth Wednesday; Pres. Mrs I. McCombs, 26 Tui St., Fendalton; Cor. Sec., Mrs R. Day, Miiford St., St. Albans; Rec. Sec., Mrs Stewart, 514 Madras St.; Treas., Mrs Seed, 44 Brittan St., Linwood; "W.R." Supt., Mrs Williams, 21 Philip St., 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, Fourth Thursday, Wesleyan Schoolroom, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs G. H. Mann, Parsonage, Church St., Devonport, Auckland; Vice-Pres., Mrs Veats, Hurstmere Rd., Takapuna; Sec., Mrs A. Little, 31 Church St.; Treas., Miss Le Roy, Waterview Rd., Stanley Bay.

DUNEDIN District, 1st Tuesday, Congregational Church Hall, Moray Place, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs H. H. Driver, "The Chalet," Newington; Cor. Sec., Miss Nicol, 16 William St.; Rec. Sec., Miss Mazengarb, 362 George St.; Treas., Miss Winnie Reed, Bishops court, Roslyn; Supt. Sailors' Rest, Mrs Pearson, corner Union and Castle Streets; Supt. WHITE RIBBON and Writing Pads, Mrs Anderson, 32 Duke St.; Press Cor., Miss L. Neil, 5 Park St.

FEILDING, 1st Thursday, 3 p.m., St. Paul's Hall; Pres., Miss Moore, c/o Mr W. H. Bain, Feilding; Rec. Sec., Miss Svendson; Cor. Sec., Mrs J. C. Thompson, Deubigh St.; Treas., Mrs Williamson, The Hill; "W.R." Agent, Mrs Burnley; Railway Box, Mrs Shearer.

CISBORNE District, last Tuesday, 2.45 p.m., Presbyterian Schoolroom; Pres., Mrs A. Graham, Kaiti; Cor. Sec., Mrs F. J. Wilkes, 466, Gladstone Rd.; Rec. Sec., Mrs F. S. Malcolm, Aberdeen Rd.; Treas., Mrs Goffe, Ormond Rd.; "W.R." Agent, Mrs D. W. Coleman.

GREYMOUTH District, last Tuesday, 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 J. M. Jones, Clandelands; Sec., Mrs H. W. Milner, Clandelands; Treas., Mrs J. P. Mason, Hamilton.

HASTINGS, 2nd Wednesday, St. Andrew's Hall, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Martindale, Raureka, Southland Rd.; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Boyle, Ramsay, Wallis, Clapham and Barbour; Sec., Mrs Hansen, 202 Gray's Rd.; Treas., Mrs Barbour; Purity and Evangelistic, Mesdames Clapham and Stewart; Maori, Miss McKeown; "W.R." Supt., Mrs Collinge.

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; Sec., Sister Moody Bell, Amethyst Hall; Assistant Sec., Mrs T. W. Walker, Crinan St.; Treas., Mrs Hunter, 110 Don St.; "W.R." Agent, Mrs Hunter, 110 Don St.

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.

KAIKORAI, last Friday in month, Presbyterian Hall, Kaitiaki; Pres., Mrs Pinfold, Meth. Parsonage; W.R. Agent, Mrs Somerville; Treas., Mrs Martin; Sec., Mrs Hamilton; Cradle Roll, Miss Osborne.

LYTTELTON, 1st Wednesday, Methodist Schoolroom; Pres., Mrs Whitby; Sec., Mrs Bromley; Treas., Mrs Clark; "W.R." Agent, Miss Elsie Clark, "Waratah," W. Lyttelton.

MANAIA, 2nd Friday, Methodist Church; Pres., Mrs J. J. Patterson; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Prakinson and Hunt; Treas., Miss York; Sec., Miss Craig; Cradle Roll, Miss Ricketts; "W.R." Supt., Mrs Hunt.

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 Thursday, Presbyterian Church, 2.30 p.m.; Pres., Mrs W. Smith; Vice-Pres., Mrs Eyton; Sec., Mrs E. Roke; Treas., Mrs A. Roke; Cradle Roll, Mrs Eyton; "W.R." Agent, Miss Tindall.

NAPIER District, 1st Wednesday and 3rd Thursday, Willard Institute, Carlyle Street, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Fossey, Nelson Crescent; Rec. and Cor. Sec., Mrs Ingram, Cameron Rd.; Treas., Mrs Dearlove, Lincoln Rd.; Legal and Parliamentary, Mrs Dodds; Home Meetings, Mrs Ball; Purity, Mrs Oldham; "W.R." Supt., Mrs Dearlove.

NCARUAWAHIA, 1st Tuesday, 2.30 p.m., Presbyterian Church; Pres., Mrs T. E. French; Vice-Pres., Mrs L. Bycroft and Mrs Vincent; Sec., Mrs W. A. Porter; Treas., Mrs S. Whitburn; Supt. Cradle Roll and W.R., Mrs Kendall.

NEW PLYMOUTH District, last Wednesday, 3 p.m., Good Templar Lodge-room; Pres., Mrs Allan Douglas, Pendarves St.; Sec., Mrs Skitroph, Mill Rd.; Rec. Sec., Mrs Bruce, Molesworth St.; Treas. and "W.R." Agent, Miss Taunt, Victoria Rd.

NORSEWOOD, 3rd Wednesday, 2 p.m.; Pres., Miss Campbell; Vice-Pres., Mrs Oliver; Sec., Miss A. E. Olsen, "Willow Park"; Treas., Mrs S. Frederickson; "W.R." Agent, Miss M. Olsen, "Willow Park."

NELSON District, 2nd Tuesday, Temperance Hall, 3 p.m.; Pres., Miss Atkinson, Fairfield; Sec., Mrs Knapp, Alfred St.; Treas., Mrs A. Brown, Weka St.; "W.R." Agent, Mrs Whitford, Mount St.

OPOTIKI, 2nd Thursday, St. John's Hall, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs J. G. Murray; Sec., Mrs J. R. Sinclair; Treas. and Supt. "W.R.," Mrs Holman, Otara; Supt. L.T.L., Mrs Goodall; Cradle Roll, Mrs Pearson.

OXFORD, last Thursday, 2.30 p.m., Coronation Hall; Pres., Mrs G. Ryde; Cooper's Creek Sec., Mrs Comyns, East Oxford; Treas., Miss Caverhill; "W.R." Supt., Mrs D. Hawke; Cradle Roll Supt., Mrs Gainsford, senr.

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., 2.30 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Kowse, Udy St.; Vice-Pres., Miss Kirk, Mesdames Corner and McPherson; Sec., Mrs Burd, 37 Cuba St.; Treas., Mrs Donoghue; Cradle Roll, Miss Peach; Flower Mission, Mrs McPherson; Home Meetings, Mrs Ashby; WHITE RIBBON Agent, Mrs Wilson; Literature, Mrs James.

PONSONBY, 2nd Thursday, 2.30 p.m., Queen's Hall, Paget St.; Pres., Miss Caley; Vice-Pres., Mrs C. I. Harris and Dr. Keller; Sec. and "W.R." Agent, Mrs S. A. Plummer, Coronation Rd., Epsom; Treas., Mrs M. A. Bailey, Ponsonby.

PUKEKOHE, Methodist Church, 1st Thursday, at 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Frost; Sec., Mrs Haslem; Cor. Sec., Miss Usher; Treas., Mrs Comrie, "W.R." Supt., Miss Goldsworthy.

RANCIORA, last Friday, ante-room of Institute Hall, 2.45 p.m.; Pres., Mrs May; Treas., Mrs H. Taylor.

SHEFFIELD, 1st Wednesday, 2.30 p.m., Road Board Office; Pres., Mrs McIlraith, Annat; Sec., Mrs Pettit, Kiriwee; Treas., Mrs W. Kennedy, Annat.

STRATFORD, 1st Thursday, 3 p.m., Methodist Church; Pres., Mrs Reeve; Vice-Pres., Mrs P. H. Cameron and Mrs L. Lily; Sec., Mrs J. McAllister; Treas., Mrs Birdsall.

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

TAURANCA, 4th Thursday, 3 p.m., St. Peter's Hall; Pres., Mrs Christian, 8th Avenue; Vice-Pres., Mrs Wedderspoon and Miss Sorley, Spring St.; Cor. Sec., Mrs P. Munro, Cameron Rd.; Rec. Sec., Mrs C. York, Morris St.; Treas., Mrs A. E. Hammond, 2nd Avenue; "W.R." Supt., Mrs J. W. Snelgrove, Willow St.

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.

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

WAIMATE, 2nd Wednesday, in Knox Church Hall, at 3 o'clock; Pres., Mrs W. Roberts, Willowbridge; Sec., Mrs George Dash, Box 27, P.O.; Min. Sec., Miss Strong, Lower High St.; Treas., Mrs S. J. Hitchens, "Te Rangī," Mill Road; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs G. H. Graham, Rhodes St.

WAIPIAWA, 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., Mrs Duxfield, Okoia, Wanganui; Treas., Mrs McLeod, Wanganui E.

WANGANUI District, 1st Friday, 2.30 p.m., Trinity Church Parlour; Pres., Mrs Blamires; Cor. Sec., Mrs J. McKenzie, 46 Wilson Street; Rec. Sec., Miss McAnemy; Treas., Mrs Siddells; "W.R." Supt., Mrs W. Grant.

WARKWORTH, last Thursday, 2.30 p.m., Schoolroom, Methodist Church; Pres., Mrs Attwood, Hepburn Creek; Sec., Mrs H. B. McKinney, Millburn; Treas., Mrs Cox, Schoolhouse; "W.R." Supt., Mrs S. Morrison; Supt. Cradle Roll, Mrs Miller.

WINCHMORE, 1st Wednesday, 2.30 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Hanson; Vice-Pres., Mrs Prebble and Mrs Blair; Sec., Miss Muirhead, Winter's Road, Ashburton; Treas., Mrs Moore; WHITE RIBBON agent, Mrs Glassey.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT, 1st Thursday, 3 p.m., Rooms, Constable St.; Pres., Mrs Evans, M.A., Hiropi St.; Sec., Mrs Spearman, 6 Dawson St., Berhampore; 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., Alliance Rooms, Manners St.; Pres., Mrs A. R. Atkinson, Wadestown; Cor. Sec., Mrs McVicar, Brougham St.; Rec. Sec., Mrs Port, Pirie St.; Treas., Mrs Helyer, Oriental Bay; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs Port, Austin St.

WAIPIKURAU, 2nd Thursday, St. Andrew's Hall, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Hopkirk; Vice-Pres., Mrs Harding and Mrs Nicholson; Sec., Mrs Sowry; Treas., Mrs Robinson; Organist, Miss Moffat.

WOODVILLE, meets 4th Tuesday, 3 p.m., in Ormond St. Hall; Pres., Mrs Perkins, Ross St.; Vice-Pres., Mrs T. Jackson; Sec., Mrs T. Cole, Woodlands Rd.; Treas., Mrs Davie, Station St.; Cradle Roll, Mrs Cole; "W.R." Agent, Mrs Thompson, Fox St.