

STRONC DRINK - CERMANY'S BEST ALLY.

On May 1st, 1015, the House of Commons ordered to be printed the official report of "Bad Time kept in Shipbuilding, Munitions, and Transport Areas."

It was a voluminous document, covering 30 pages of foolscap size. We give some of the facts from that report, and black facts they are. We ask our readers to make them as widely known as possible, getting them into local papers if they can do so

In the case of 135 fitters employed on submarine engine work, each man on an average did three-quarters of an ordinary day's work. Small wonder that Germany is credited with building submarines faster than we do.

Reports show that the lost time at one shipyard by rivetters equalled 35 per cent. of the normal; platers, 25 per cent.; and driliers, 22 per cent. The manager of works on N.E. Coast, where large quantities of shell are manufactured, states that if the two public-houses just outside the works could be closed his output would be largely increased."

In one yard, out of 211 rivetters employed, only 14 lost no time in one week. Sixteen were absent the whole week; 11 were absent 40 hours or over; 14 lost 30 hours or over; 2 lost 20 hours or over; 50 lost 40 hours or over, and so on. The Captain-Superintendent of the Clyde reports:--"In a shipyard last week, where a warship is under repair, work on the inner bottom of the ship was so badly car. ried-out as to suggest at once on inspection that it could not have been done by men who were sober. It was dangerous, and had to be condemned."

The Shipbuilding Employers' Federation sent a deputation, which stated that, speaking with the experience of from 25 to 40 years. they believed that So per cent. of the present avoidable loss of time could be ascribed to no other cause than drink. The figures of weekly takings in public-houses near the yard were convincing evidence of the increased sale of liquor. The deputation submitted figures for the month of March, which showed that of each 1000 iron-workers employed, only 24 per cent. worked over the normal hours, while 640 out of every 1000 worked less than normal hours.

To prevent early morning drinking, public-houses by the Clyde were kept closed till 10 a.m. What did the patriotic publican do? Why, he put up numbers of bottles varying in price from 6d to 2s, so that the men could carry them away before closing time, for use next morning. The Director of Transports told how "Yesterday the crew of a transport deserted. The same thing happened the day before. The firemen go on board the transports drunk, making it impossible to get up a full head of steam, so greatly reducing the speed and endangering the lives of thousands of troops by making the vessels a target for submarines."

"We sent 250 dock labourers to Havre (France) under capable civilian supervision. They all got drunk, and out of hand in the first fortnight. 'In one case troops were badly needed at the front; 1000 were placed on board a transport at Southampton, and in two or three hours should have been in France. But the firemen were drinking, and a delay of 24 hours took place, and the troops had o be transferred to another ship."

Fhe Director adds: "To-day I find a transport required for urgent military service, to prepare for which should occupy seven days, will take 22 days to complete."

The officer in charge of the British Channel reports: "Twenty-six ships delayed through desertions, resulting in total delay of 34 days 6 hours, almost entirely due to drink."

Another South Coast transport officer cites typical cases: (1) Seamen under influence of drink; captain and pilot clear ropes away, and take ship our themselves. (2) Men on shore all returned drunk; ship unable to put out to sea."

With facts like these before it, with the example and request of His Majesty, Lord Kitchener, English Iudges, and Archbishops before it, still the Government refuses to deal drastically with this traffic. Why? Because it is afraid of the brewers and distillers. These most unpatriotic of men care nothing for the welfare of their country. All they think or care for are their dividends.

In the "Australian Brewers' Journal," April 20th, 1915, page 353, an official writer, referring to the armament and munition worker at Home, says: "If I were in his place, I should drink until the cows come home, and damn everything."

And what are we New Zealanders The Australian Governors doing and many public men have followed the King's example and banished liquor from their homes. Dunedin Union wrote asking His Excellency if he intended to fall into line with others in following the King's example. A reply was sent to them that "their The New letter had been received." Zealand Union then asked that liquor should be banished from Bellamy's during the war period. The members, by a secret ballot vote, decided to retain liquor at Bellamy's. After this the petition was considered by A to L Committee, and by it reported to the favourable consideration of the Government, but we have heard no more of it.

Now a petition is before the House asking for hotel bars to be closed at 6 p.m. during the war. Will every elector who favours this very moderate reform write or wire his member that he expects him to support the petition and bring pressure to bear upon the Government to introduce the necessary legislation?

OBITUARY.

AN APPRECIATION.

It is with much regret we have to record the passing away of one of our esteemed members, Mrs James Frazer, of Wanganui East, in her sixty-fourth Mrs Frazer was an old and year. honoured member of the W.C.T.U., having first joined the Union when living at Colyton, near Feilding, some fifteen years ago. When an auxiliary was organised at Wanganui East, our late sister and her loving daughter, Mrs Brown, who lived with her and nursed her all through her illness, were amongst the first to join. Mrs Frazer has been a regular attendant at our meetings, always ready and willing to help in every way possible. We will miss her cheery smile, and we will miss the dainty parcels that our sister never failed to send along for our bazaars or any other good cause. Our sincere sympathy and prayers go out to the loved ones who are left to mourn the loss of a devoted wife and good mother.

"Suddenly, just in a moment,

The Lord of Life did come,

And lifted her out of the cloudland Into the light of Home."

IN THE FIELD.

On Tuesday, August 10th, I travelled to Lower Hutt to attend the ordinary meeting of the Union. There was an improved attendance, and two new members were initiated. Mrs Knight reported that the sandbags for the front were about finished, and the Defence Department had been communicated with, asking that they might be forwarded with the 6th Expeditionary Force for the use of our own boys.

On the Thursday Mesdames Wright and Cummings gave an "At Home" in the Constable Street Rooms, Wellington, when four new members were received.

On the previous Sabbath I had conducted the morning service in the Ngaio Methodist Church, and on the Friday afternoon the monthly meeting of the Union took place, one new member joining. The intervening days had been occupied with visiting in Ngaio, as far as other engagements permitted. While thus occupied Mrs Peryman was my hostess, and we had a good time chatting over the work every evening.

At the August meeting of the Masterton Branch I had met Mrs Whincop, of Greytown, who kindly invited me to make her house my home while ascertaining the prospects of a local branch.

Thither I travelled on 14th, passing through Trentham, where the Sixth was entraining for Wellington and the front. Khaki, khaki, everywhere, and dear, brave laddies going off to —what? As they lustily cheered a khaki-clad figure on our train my eyes brimmed over, but wasn't I just proud of them !

On Tuesday (17th) I gave a talk on "Lovers" in the Presbyterian Schoolroom, the audience being numerous. Two kind ladies made a cup of tea for a few of us at the close, and some purity literature was disposed of. The following Sunday evening I conducted the service in the Presbyterian Church, a number of troopers being During the previous week present. the Rev. G. K. Stowell (Presbyterian) had been in Greytown, and, hearing of the lecture to the girls, had invited me to give it in Featherston, offering to entertain Mrs Whincop and myself. Rev. Bartlett, vicar, kindly offered the use of his schoolroom, and on the Monday evening lit up and did all he

could to make things comfortable, Mr Stowell having done his best to make the meeting known. A very fair audience gathered, although the day had been very wet and unpromising. About half-way through a diversion was created by the acetylene gas expiring, but as the platform had been provided with candles, we placidly pursued the even tenour of our way. though some amusement was caused by the lady who took up the collection proceeding with a saucer in one hand and a candle in the other, some of the audience being apprehensive lest peradventure they might contribute half-sovereigns instead of sixpences! Before leaving the following morning we called upon two ladies who had been present at the lecture, and secured them as subscribers to our paper.

About ten days having been spent in visiting Greytown, the crisis arrived on the Friday, when I called a meeting in the Oddfellows' Hall, and a strong branch was organised. Altogether over a fortnight was spent at Greytown, a few days being taken off to attend the Provincial Convention in Wellington, where two representatives of the branch only five days old were enthusiastically welcomed. The White Ribbonless condition of Greytown appears to have been weighing upon the minds of our workers in Wellington and Wairarapa for some time, and the pleasure at a good start having been made was proportionate.

On the Sunday evening friends from Morrison's Bush motored in to Greytown for me, and I conducted a service in the little Presbytenian Church. At the close the audient's, at my request, kept their seats, and Mrs Whincop got around among them with the Kitchener pledge, ten signatures being obtained, chiefly those of young men.

M. S. POWELL,

Dominion Organiser.

1:00

Miss Powell's address this month is care Mrs Denton, 324, The Terrace, Wellington.

TAKE NOTICE.

In writing to Miss Agnes Slack, World's Secretary of W.C.T.U., will our readers be careful to note "Caxton Buildings, Ripley, Derbyshire," is now her address?

THE WHITE RIBBON.

SUPERINTENDENT'S LETTERS.

LEGAL AND PARLIAMENTARY.

12, Bealey St., St. Albans, Aug. 31, 1915.

To the President, Officers, and Members of the W.C.T.U.

Dear Comrades,-

Will all Unions carefully watch for the Public Health Amendment Act. Get a copy as soon as possible from your member, carefully note its contents, and send in your protests against any compulsory measures which it may contain with regard to one treatment of venereal disease.

May I say to all Unions that, while in matters of religion or conscience, Convention has no right to bind us either individually of as Unions, yet it surely is our duty to stand loyally by the decision of Convention when it is a matter of national legislation regulating vice. We send to Convention our ablest women from all Unions (or should do), they elect to the National Executive the women whom they consider the best qualified for those important posts, for, should questions of national importance arise during the interval between Conventions, we look to the Executive to give special attention to such matters, and devise measures to promote or resist legislation, and we should be guided by their advice.

³ Convention's decisions have a still stronger claim upon us, because it is our representative voice, and gives special attention to matters of importance. Take, for instance, this matter of the Public Health Amendment Bill. After discussion on the medical proposals, submitted recently to your Unions, Convention set up a committee of women to go 'carefully through the whole subject. These women ware conversant with the details of the operation of various laws, in various countries, dealing with prostitution and venereal disease, and had knowledge of the opinions of leading European experts on these matters, and included a woman doctor in their number. After long and careful consideration, this committee brought its recommendations, and reasons for them, to Convention, which again carefully considered them before adopting them as a resolution. It seems to me to be the plain duty of Unions to abide loyally by that decision of Convention. We could never have got our franchise or Local Option vote if we had gone to local doctors, press, or politicians for their opinions on these matters, and been guided by them, instead of following unitedly the lead of our Conventions, which took great principles for their guide, and were not swayed by subtle argu-ments on side issues. The C.D. Acts have been in operation in New Zealand, they were actively enforced in

Christchurch for several years, and no one who remembers them wants them again. They were a direct incentive to vice, and have never here, or anywhere else, been effective in reducing disease, but have always had a directly contrary effect (the story of regulation in the Army proves this up to the hilt), and it took years of incessant work to secure their repeal. If the medical proposals are embodied in legislation all that work is undone, and you will have all the horrors and dangers of the C.D. Acts in full blast gain. All compulsory and penalising measures against venereal disease are being abandoned in the countries where they have been tried so long, as it is found that such measures prevent infected persons coming for medical treatment in the early and most infectious stages of these diseases. Compulsory notification cannot be enforced. No one but the doctor and patient know of the disease, the patient is, naturally, most anxious for concealment. Who is to prosecute if the doctor fails to notify. Where is the evidence to come from that will convict him. It is just at this point that men can, and will, evade this provision in the medical proposals. It will be a dead letter, as it has been in other countries where it was the law, and compulsory examination on suspicion immediately gives us state regulation of vice. I implore all Unions to stand fast, and unitedly, against all com-pulsory measures, and to advocate free treatment and education.

The condition of returning troopers does not affect this question. They are under military law, and the authorities have power to detain them until fit to be discharged. We are dealing with civil law, and with legislation that will affect us years after the war is over. I do urge unanimity against these compulsory measures, and I would suggest that Unions carefully consider the best means of **preventing and lessening the immorality** that leads to these diseases and submit their conclusions on this phase of the question for consideration by Convention.

I affectionately and earnestly urge all Union members to disassociate themselves from all gambling in connection with patriotic funds. We must not do evil that good may come. It is dishonouring to our brave soldiers to provide money for them by degrading methods. This country is rich enough, and ought to be willing and glad to make generous provision for all gallant fellows who return to us disabled in body, or wrecked in health.

I made the mistake, in my last circular to the Unions, of confusing the Crimes Amendment Bill with the Criminal Code Amendment Bill. Will all Unions carefully watch for the latter. the Criminal Code Amendment Bill, and strenuously protest against any provision which makes prosecution for crime against the person and purity of our young girls dependent on the leave of anyone. I append a resolution re the medical proposals. It may be a help to some Unions as it touches in detail the objections to these proposals. Yours in White Ribbon bonds,

Legal and Parliamentary Supt.

RESOLUTION RE VENEREAL DISEASE.

We the members of the Christchurch Branch of the W.C.T.U. beg to record our conviction that while in view of the inroads of venereal disease speedy and radical action is necessary, the Public Health Amendment Bill, as now drafted, will not fulfil its purpose. We note that while equality of treatment as regards men and women patients is apparently aimed at, the most objectionable features of the C.D. Acts are practically revived. These are:-

- 1st-Compulsory notification.
- 2nd—Compulsory examination on suspicion only.
- 3rd-Compulsory detention.

We regard the inclusion of those provisions as a revival of an ancient menace to innocent women, and a danger to the public health. We are of opinion that however framed to secure seeming equality of treatment, the provisions of this Bill would be mainly used against prostitutes in the vain endeavour to make vice safe, and we would remind you that for this purpose the most eminent European experts hold that compulsory notification, examination and detention have been not only utterly useless, but have been absolutely pernicious in their effects by creating a false sense of security. and thereby increasing vice and the diseases it engenders.

diseases it engenders. We believe that the fear of compulsorv detention would have the effect of deterring many innocent victims of these diseases from seeking properly qualified medical treatment.

We would further point out that the provisions of this Bill would almost certainly be evaded by men who are the persons most responsible for the communication of these diseases to wives and children.

We desire :--

(1) That free treatment should be provided for all sufferers from venereal disease, who voluntarily present themselves for treatment.

(2) That the Education Department should provide for the older scholars instruction in sex hygiene by properly qualified and carefully selected instructors, preferably medical men and women.

(2) That the marriage law should be amended by making venereal disease a cause for legal separation.

(4) Seeing that it is not usual for medical practitioners to inform married women affected by venereal disease of the nature of their complaint, and in consequence disease is being widely transmitted to children, we hold that medical practitioners should be compelled under penalty to disclose the truth to married women when so ffected,

(5) That amendments to the Criminal Code should be passed giving greater protection to women and girls.

L.T.L., CRADLE ROLL, AND BAND OF MERCY.

"If we would take the citadel of the liquor traffic, we must get the children afield "

Dear Fellow-Workers,-

The L.T.L. aims, by a regular course of scientific study to make our boys and girls intelligent abstainers; to develop, by thorough organisation, by training as well as by teaching, an army of disciplined temperance workers.

Many Unions are doing splendid work among our boys and girls, but others are delaying because they cannot find leaders.

Our World's Superintendent says:

"To be a leader of the Loyal Temperance Legion does not require ten talents, but requires one talent consecrated to the Master to help to save His little ones. It does not require brilliancy, but requires tact, patience, and cheerfulness. It does not reand cheerfulness. It does not re-quire that you know everything, but that you study the lessons for the boys and girls, and help them to a knowledge of the truths contained in these lessons.

It does not require ability to make vast and complicated plans of work, but a willingness to attend each meeting to present the lesson in a simple, concise and entertaining way, and to direct the work in a manner best suited to local needs.

It does not require that you be the leader of a multitude of children, but that you lead the possible few in your locality into better thinking and nobler acting

It does not require that you give all your time to the work, but that you feel the importance of it, and give all you can to it.

If each local W.C.T.U. would take up the regular, systematic study of the L.T.L. manuals, the members would become more, intelligent upon the great question of the liquor traffic, and incidentally there would come forth leaders for the L.T.L.

There is no investment that we can make that will pay as large dividends as that which we make in time, energy and money in training boys and girls in an L.T.L."

The Handbook, which I supply free, contains all information with regard to organising a Loyal Temperance Legion.

The following are helps for leaders:

Temperance Lesson Manuals.

Junior.

- 1. Scientific Temperance for Boys and girls, 4d each.
- 2. We and Our Friends. 4d each. 3. Beer and Tobacco, 4d each. 2.
- 4. The Houses We Live In, 4d each.
- Senior.
- 1. Alcohol and the Body, 4d each.
- 2. Alcohol and the Mind, 4d each.

3. Alcohol and the Pocket-Book, 4d each.

Alcohol and the Nation, 4d each.

A Handful of Hints, 8d each.

l'emperance Tales, 8d each.

About Ourselves, 8d each.

- The Anti-Cigarette Speaker, 8d each.
- Anti-Cigarette Cartoons, per set, 8d. Memory Gems for the Schoolroom, 3d each.
- What Shall I Recite? Series 1 to 36, 2d each; 4s 6d per set.
- Questions Answered, 18 4d each. Set of 8 Coloured Charts, with manual, 7s 6d per set.
- Marching Songs for Young Crusad-ers, No. 3, 10d each.

- Marching Songs, Nos. 1, 2, 4, 8d each.
 L.T.L. Pledge Cards, 1s per dozen.
 J.T.L. Badges, 3s 6d per dozen.
 "The Young Crusader," 1s 7d per year. A Temperance monthly paper for boys and girls.

Programmes.

My Temperance Dolly, 4d each. A Sick Baby, 8d each.

Entertaining Moments with Great People, 8d each. Frances Willard Programme, 8d each.

Prohibition Axeman, 8d each.

A Lark in Nonotuck Hall, 15 each.

Band of Mercy.

Our President, in her address to Convention, speaking of this department, said :- "Its aim is to secure a widespread knowledge of existing laws against cruelty to children and to animals, and a better enforcement of them; to discourage any practice, custom or fashion which involves the infliction of suffering on any living creature, and to teach universal kindness to dumb animals.

"The most direct and effective method of training children in universal kindness is by teaching them consideration for that which is more dependchild taught through the Band of Mercy to be unselfish and considerate of the rights and welfare of every living creature will be better in all the relations of life. One so taught will not, when he grows up, be likely to injure others by selling strong drink or to degrade himself by using it.

"The strongest possible argument for this work is the great need of it.'

In each L.T.L. there should be a Band of Mercy, and the children should be asked to take the following pledge:—"I will try to be kind to all living creatures, and will try to protect them from cruel usage.

Occasionally there should be a special Band of Mercy meeting, the B. or M. pledge taken, and stories told of kindness to animals. A "Pet" show may also be held.

During March and April I sent leaflets and Band of Mercy pledge cards to 26 Unions. If I have omit-ted to send a packet to any Union doing L.T.L. work, will they kindly write to me for free samples?

Cradle Roll.

Someone has said, "That nation builds upon a sure foundation whose children are trained in righteousness and purity," and in view of this fact how very necessary it is that we should guard and train the very young in the principles of Total Abstinence.

With this end in view, the Cradle Roll has been established as a department of work. The main object is to quietly have an oversight of the rising generation, and to solicit a promise of the parents that they will instruct the children in the principles of Purity and Total Abstinence.

The newly organised Unions in-variably take up Cradle Roll work, but many of the older Unions have not yet made a start.

Last year only 37 Unions purchased Cradle Roli cards, yet there were 87 Unions in existence.

I ask every Union to begin this work without further delay.

Cradle Roll Pledge Cards, 15 per doz. Cradle Roll Birthday Cards, 9d per doz.

Purity Leaflets for Mothers of C.R. Babies, 5d per doz.

Medical Temperance for Mothers of C.R. Babies, 4d per doz. ee White Bow Badge for C.R.

Wee Babies, 28 6d per doz.

Instructions and cards from Yours Sincerely in the Work,

CLARA M. NEAL, Pahiatua, Dom. Supt. L.T.L., Cradle Roll, and Band of Mercy Dept.

MEDICAL TEMPERANCE.

Objects of the Department.

1. To inform the public of the objections to the medical use of alcoholic liquors now held by the majority 01 successful physicians.

2. To snow the dangers in the home-prescription of alcohol and other powerful drugs. 3. To expose fraudulent and

dangerous proprietary or "patent" medi-cines, medicated wines and liquid "foods," the main ingredient of which is alcohol.

4. To endeavour to win the attention of physicians who prescribe alcoholic liquois to the teachings of great leaders in their profession who have abandoned such practice, and to gain their co-operation in educating the public against the common views of the beneficial effects of alcoholic liquors

5. To bring to the attention of nurses the same teachings, and to ask their co-operation in education against the self prescription of alcohol.

6. To use persuasion with publishers of newspapers and magazines against fraudulent medical advertising, and the advertising of "soft drinks" containing habit-producing drugs, such

as caffeine, and extract of coca. 7. To work for legislation which shall correct the evils of the whisky drug store, the whisky-prescribing doctor, and the dangerous "patent" medicine.

Medical Temperance Leaflets. Post Free.)

Safe Remedies in Illness, 8d per doz. Medical Temperance Quiz, 4d per doz. Alcohol Injures Children, 4d per doz.

Trained Nurses and Alcohol, 4d per doz.

The Appeal of the Insane to the Nursing Profession, 4d per doy. What Can Nurses Do for Temperange?

4d per doz.

- Alcohol the Young Man's Greatest Enemy, 4d per doz.
- Alcohol Drinking Hinders Business Success, 4d per doz.
- West Virginia Medical Society
- Against Alcohol, 4d per doz. Medical Men and the Alcohol Question, 4d per doz. Alcoholic Degeneracy, 4d per doz.

Recent Medical Opinions and Find ings upon Alcohol, 4d per doz.

- Save the Babies, 4d per doz. How the Medical Temperance Dept.
- of the W.C.T.U. Can Help to Bring National Prohibition, 4d per doz.
- Why Headache Remedies are Dan-
- gerous, 4d per doz. Alcohol and Nursing Mothers, 4d per doz.

How to Avoid Constipation, 4d per doz.

Do Weak Hearts Need Alcohol? 4d per doz.

Does Alcohol Aid Digestion, 4d per doz.

Special Medical Directions for Wo-

men, 4d per doz. Alcohol and Tuberculosis, 4d per doz. A New York Physician's Arraignment

of Alcohol, 4d per doz. Should Pledged Abstainers use Alco-

hol as Medicine? 4d per doz. Medicated Wines an Easy Road to

- Drunkenness, 4d per doz. v Drunkards Are Made in the How
- Home, 4d per doz. A Patent Medicine Quiz, 4d per doz.
- Medical Opinions of Alcohol as a Remedy in Disease, 4d per doz.
- Does the Drug Habit lead to Health or to Disease? 4d per doz.
- Deaths, Poisoning, and Drug Habits Result from Taking Patent Medicines, 3d per doz.

Why Patent Medicines Should Not be Advertised or Sold, 3d per doz. British Doctors Oppose Alcohol, 3d

per doz.

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Alcohol Shortens Life, 3d per doz. Alcohol Baths, 2d per doz. Why a Lord Mayor of London is a Total Abstainer, 2d per doz.

North Carolina Doctors Against Al cohol, 2d per doz.

Dear Fellow-Workers,-

By the list given above you will notice that our World's Superintendent has prepared several new leaflets. ask each member to do her utmost to put these into circulation. The commercial world has at last awakened to the fact that alcohol drinking lowers the efficiency of the individual, but we still have to fight the old idea that alcohol is needed in illness.

People who believe that alcoholic liquors are helpful in sickness are not likely to vote against the manufacture and sale of such liquors.

From hospital statistics we learn that alcoholic liquors are being used less each year in the best hospitals, because physicians have found that their patients are more likely to recover from disease if no alcohol 15 given. We learn, too, that alcohol is no longer regarded as a heart stimulant, but is classed as a depressant, and that instead of being ranked as a Food, as it was formerly, it is now classed as a narcotic poison by close students of its effects.

As one medical writer puts it: "There is no use in studying the action of alcohol on ourselves, as it blunts our perceptions, and renders us unable to depend on our feelings. People feel that alcohol warms them, and yet the thermometer shows that they are really colder. People feel that they are doing more work when they are taking alcohol, yet the result shows they are doing less. People People feel that alcohol improves their sight, hearing, and other senses, yet experience proves that it really injures them Alcohol not only checks healthy all. growth, predisposes to sickness, lessens the length of life, awakes hereditary cravings, and weakens the mental powers, but also deceives, making the injury an apparent improvement.

It is only by education and agitation that we can hope to win the people to favour the annihilation of the traffic in alcohol as beverage and medicine. The two must go together, for as long as liquor is allowed to be sold as medicine, so long will there be drunkards, for alcohol creates craving, no matter what name it is called by .- Yours in White Ribbon bonds,

CLARA M. NEAL, Pahiatua, Dom. Supt. Medical Temp. Dept.

PRISON REFORM DEPARTMENT.

Dear Sisters,-My department appears under this brief heading in the Convention number, and I receive very meagre reports at the end of the year. By studying the World's An-nual W.C.T.U. Report, I find that the following are included in Mrs Barnev's statement (she is the World's Superintendent of this department) :- Charitable work, including hospitals, asylums, infirmaries, almshcuses, benevolent institutions, Police Court work, prison gate assistance, visiting of prisons and released prisoners; ef-forts to displace beer in Christmas festivities in public institutions, by gifts of fruit, eggs, cake, etc., tea or milk; rescue work, homes for inebriates, re-formatories, besides any effort to gain abolition of death sentences, and also to secure the modern scheme of indeterminate sentences; also all meetings in the interests of prison or charitable reform .- Yours faithfully,

SISTER MOODY BELL, Supt. of Prison and Reform Work, etc.

Amethyst Hall, Invercargill.

(According to our N.Z. departments, charitable work is included under "Flower Mission and Relief Work," and not under Prison Reform Department.-Editor "W.R."

NOTABLE DAYS.

Unions are reminded that "Fran-chise Day" is September 19th.

Articles contained in the special Franchise number of the "W.R." will Articles contained in the be useful for reference; also original papers on such subjects as "Women as Citizens," "How We Won the Franchise," etc., etc.

At our last Annual Convention it was forcibly brought before the Delegates' notice the need there was for funds for the N.Z. Tronsury, much important work having to be left undone for lack of the necessary funds.

On Franchise Day we are all asked to take up a collection, which is pass-ed over to the N.Z. Treasury. Can we not delight the heart of the Treasurer (who is also a treasure) by each remembering her postal address sometime in September .- Yours in the work,

T. HARRISON. Superintendent Notable Days.

THE MAN AND THE WOMAN.

In primal times the brute man subdued his mate with fist or club, and he made her his slave. In later days he has held her to bondage with his approved customs and his laws-laws that deny her self-government and do not permit her a voice in the government that commands all the interests and environments of her children.

God has visited all the pains and all the chains of maternity upon the female. Shall man add to her misery by refusing her the liberty he demands for himself?

Nature bound the female to her child with an umbilical cord before it was born, and has chained her to her child after its birth with an unbreakable maternal instinct that is never missing, even in the female tiger.

Speaking generally, woman has never failed in self-sacrificing devotion to her child. Man has mostly failed of his duty; he has obviously, directly, and miserably failed to equip his child's mother with legal power to perform her rightful part in determining the surroundings and conditions that go to make the character and point the fate of her offspring.

What a miserable impertinence it is to demand that woman constantly keep within the yard-square limitation that surrounds the cradle-a man's demand -directed to the womb-man, mother of the race, who, under God, is the creator of the wombless man .- E.S.D., in the "San Francisco Star."

Correspondence.

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

(To the Editor.)

Madam,-From a foreigner's point of view the English people have always appeared to be a mad race, and one cannot wonder that we should be called insane by the onlookers. It is the onlooker who sees most of the game.

Take the present position at Home. England is fighting for the security of her position as the ruling nation of the world, and for her very existence as a free and self-ruling nation. Thousands of her men are being slain in the struggle by the German War Lords, and yet in the very midst of her people is tolerated a more deadly enemy, who is slaying thousands more. Nine million lives are lost every year, directly and indirectly, by the drink traffic. The greatest men of our nation, from the King down, have said and acknowledged that intoxicating drink will throttle England if England does not throttle the drink traffic.

Who is ruling England during this crisis? The Government and Mili-tary authorities? No! England is being ruled by the Drink Lords, who have pooled their immense wealth and joined hands with others to frustrate any scheme of the Government to increase the efficiency of her soldiers by doing away with the temptation to drink. The Drink Lords' profits must not decrease, though England perish. The people of New Zealand have said again and again, "We will not have the drink traffic," and the Drink Lords have said "You shall!" And we have it. It is still here. And these men sit on our public bodies, and these questions must not be discussed for fear of annoying them.

The military authorities say our men must be absolutely efficient, and therefore they must not have alcohol. The hotel-keepers are still selling it to them, and we see some of our men who are to defend the Empire in an intoxicated condition about our streets.

Our Government has placed lessons in the schools, teaching the children that alcohol is a narcotic poison, and is to be classed with chloroform, strychnine, and opium, and then the same Government issues licenses to men to sell this poison to anyone who wishes to buy it. If the men who sell this poison were Russian citizens they would be court-martialled and treated as traitors to their country. If they were Chinese they would be beheaded.

Russia has dealt with that enemy at one blow. France has taken the first opportunity of enforcing on the people what she has been teaching for so long. America is busy cleaning up the awful mess the traffic has

made. Other countries are experimenting in various ways to rid themselves of the traffic. It remains for the English people—a Christian people—to protect their greatest enemy, to shout themselves hoarse over the generosity of the Drink Lords. It is seen how little some of those in authority understand the nature of alcohol when Mr Allen thinks it necessary in strengthening our men to resist temptation in foreign lands, to give them an opportunity to form habit that destroys the brain and willpower, before they leave New Zealand. Is it not enough to ask of the women of New Zealand to give their sons to protect the nation, and that after months of anxiety they should be returned to them crippled for life, but that they should have the added burden of receiving them in a drunken condition?

Madam, I protest that no punishment is too severe for the man who tempts a wounded man to drink alco-hol. The civilised world was horrified to read that the Germans had poisoned the drinking wells in Africa What can we think of a Government who allows this alcohol poison to 'be given to its own soldiers? Truly the English are a great nation. They should rule the world! They cannot They rule their own people. And they should sing that grand old lie, "Bri-tains never shall be slaves." They are already slaves to the Drink Lords, and they are licking the feet of their Women of New Zealand, masters. will nothing make you think but a national disaster? Will you wait till you see your daughters violated by German soldiers, your little children flogged by German soldiers for praying in their own language, your sons shot in the streets for not walking in the gutter, that a German soldier may have the whole of the pavement ; your husbands having to cringe before German officials for the permission to earn a living? You may have time then to curse the strong drink that helped to lay England's might in the dust. Insist on the bars being closed during the war. That is the least we should ask for at this time, and be ready to do your best to help in any fight that may be waged against the greatest of England's foes-the Drink Lords.—I am, etc., PRISCA CRABB.

(To the Editor.)

Madam,-Can you inform me why girls have not been permitted to sit for the Junior Civil Service examination for the past two years? I hear the girls are not allowed to enter for this examination this year, which will make the third year that they have been prevented from entering for it. I consider this is very unjust .- Yours faithfully,

A MOTHER.

(Our correspondent is quite right. It is cruelly unjust to our girls to debar them from entering the Civil

Service, for this is practically what it amounts to. Both boys and girls should be allowed to sit for the examination, and cadets should be chosen by merit, irrespective of sex. Why don't the mothers of this Dominion stir up their representatives in the House to get justice done to their daughters? Mothers have the vote. Vote only for the man who will work to remove this injustice .--Ed. 'W.R.'')

(To the Editor.)

Macam,-Our Napier Union wishes to draw the attention of the readers of "White Ribbon" that a mistake has been published ir Miss Gibsen's let-ter re Miss Parkinson's case. No strong movement is on foot in Napier, just the petition being signed, and the Union passed a unanimous resolution "That no steps be taken in the matter."-Yours sincerely,

MAUDE FOSSEY, President. Napier, Sept. 1, 1915.

WORLD'S W.C.T.U.

My Dear Miss Henderson,-

We have been having several weeks of great preoccupation, caused by the passing onward of our beloved National Treasurer. I recently sent you a circular letter in regard to Mrs Hutchinson, but I did not thank you for your beautiful letter of March 31, which has recently come to me.

I am deeply touched by the congratulations sent by the Convention of the New Zealand W.C.T.U. While I feel very keenly my lack of fitness for the heavy responsibilities of the position, we have so many expert leaders in our work in this country that I feel I can share with them the burden, and that makes the work much easier. We rejoice in the splendid spirit shown by the White Ribboners in New Zealand, and I hope your regular W.C.T.U. work and your plans for the 1917 campaign may be succesful.

With much love to you and to the members of the W.C.T.U.-Affectionately,

ANNA A. GORDON.

My Dear Miss Henderson,-

We tenderly appreciate the sympathetic message from the Convention of the New Zealand W.C.T.U. concerning our beloved Mrs Stevens.

We thank you for the copy of the resolution, and I have taken the liberty of sharing it with Mrs Stevens's only daughter .- Affectionately, ANNA A. GORDON.

WELLINGTON PROVINCIAL CONVENTION.

The Provincial Convention of #the Wellington District was opened on September 1st in the Kent Terrace Presbyterian Church at 9.30 a.m. Mrs Crabb (Vice-President) took the chair in the absence of Mrs Evans, M.A. There were ten Unions represented, the delegates coming from Wanganui, Falmerston North, Masterton, and Wellington districts. Mrs Houlder welcomed the visiting delegates, and Mrs Crabb (President of Palmerston North Union) replied, expressing the gratitude of the visitors for the hospitality experienced in Wellington. Miss Powell, Dominion Organiser, reported that Lower Hutt Union had voted £5 for material for sandbags for the soldiers, 120 being sent to the front, and another consignment being Mrs Crabb reported under way. that Palmerston North had organised a War Committee, that was working steadily with the Red Cross League. Mrs Spearman (Secretary) presented her report, which showed that one Branch had collapsed, but a new one had been organised at Greytown, and though only five days old had already set on foot a recreation room for the soldiers in the neighbourhood. The Treasurer's report showed that the sum of £7 5s 10d passed through the treasury, a balance of 8s 4d remaining. Mrs Evans (President), in her address, which was received with much appreciation, expressed her regret at her inability to be with us in person, but was confident that all had worked loyally and enthusiastically. Amongst other topics, Mrs Evans referred to the war, and said: "When we met in Convention last September it had been going on only a few weeks, and we had not had time to realise all its terrible seriousness. Our feeling was rather that of anxious anticipation and dread as to what Now, after twelve might happen. months of experience, we look at it from a somewhat different standpoint. There are many to whom it has brought the pain of separation and bereavement, but with this is mingled pride in the heroism of their dear ones, who have been deemed worthy to suffer or die for their country's honour. To all who have been called on to suffer thus, we extend our sympathy. May we not also offer them our congratulations that they have had the privilege of proving their patriotism by making the greatest sacrifice. All over the world women are finding that the war has opened opportunities such as no lesser national upheaval would have afforded. There is the splendid opportunity for service, open alike to the highest and the humblest. From the wealthy noblewoman who throws open her country seat for the accommodation of the wounded and the sick, and gives herself and all her power of sympathy and love to the work of nursing, right down to the little eight-year-old in the primary school, who voluntarily spends her playtime in learning to knit, that she may do her little share in helping the soldiers, not one but finds some way of proving her patriotism by sacrifice. Everywhere women have risen to the occasion, and shown that when some great national crisis comes, empty conventionalism gives place to womanly devotion, expressing itself in unselfish service. In a truly wonderful way women have been coming to their own in the matter of labour and employment, being called to fill positions that hitherto have been them, so practically closed to men may be set free for service at the front. As regards our Temperance work, many of our Unions have already answered with no uncertain sound, for they are working heart and soul in the 'One-Win-One' and pledge-taking cam-paigns. And then one is grieved and ashamed to find how many there are with whom even the noble example of our own Sovereign has little weight, when one sees that our legislators, who should be our leaders in supporting all projects for our country's good, decline to deny themselves to the extent of voting against the license for Bellamy's."

Mrs Evans closed her paper with a quotation from that magnificent hymn of Chorley's, so appropriate to the present time—

"God the all-wise! By the fire of Thy chastening

Earth shall to freedom and truth be restored ;

Through the thick darkness Thy Kingdom is hastening,

Thou wilt give peace in Thy time, O Lord."

The afternoon session was opened by Miss Powell urging members to induce as many people, soldiers and citizens alike, to sign the Kitchener pledge. The next matter discussed was some of the proposals brought forward by the Medical Conference in regard to the Public Health Amendment Act, which was held in Christchurch a few months ago. It was pointed out that the subject of venereal disease was without the shadow of doubt a woman's question, because of the fact that many innocent women and children suffered through its existence, and in a country where women had political power it was emphatically a matter in which they should rouse themselves from their apathy, and take active steps to grapple with an evil that struck at the very roots of their being.

Mrs A. R. Atkinson read the resolutions brought forward against the proposals of the Medical Conference by the New Zealand W.C.T. Convention. The proposed Bill contained all the objectionable proposals of the C.D. Acts, which the Unions throughout New Zealand so strongly opposed, and succeeded in getting abolished. These were: (1) Compulsory notification; (2) compulsory examination (on suspicion only); (3) compulsory detention. Mrs Atkinson quoted, in the course of her remarks, the statements made by the highest European experts, who conceded that compulsory notification, examination, and detention were not only utterly useless, but were absolutely pernicious in their effects. In regard to the matter of detention, it was pointed out that such a thing would be a menace not only to personal freedom, but to the public health, because in the opinion of the highest medical authorities it would only drive the evil underground by causing sufferers to apply to quacks and unqualified persons. It was urged by the speaker that education and general enlightenment, as well as the provision for facilities for effective, complete, and in many cases free treatment, would do far more to lessen the evil than compulsory notification.

Dr. Edith Huntley and Mrs Peryman both stressed how much might be done by mothers in preventing this evil by the proper safeguarding, training, and instruction of their children, and by instilling into boys chivalrous ideas in regard to their attitude to girls, other boys' sisters as well as their own.

In the evening a public meeting was held. A musical programme opened the first part of the proceedings, following which Mrs A. R. Atkinson gave an address entitled "The Revenue and the Drink Traffic." After dealing in a comprehensive way with the subject, Mrs Atkinson stated that even were the bogey true, which it was not, that the people of New Zealand would in all probability be heavily taxed to make up the deficiency of revenue due to the abolition of the revenue derived from the drink traffic, was it not better so than to permit an evil that was so largely filling our industrial schools, hospitals, asylums, gaols, reformatories, and other institutions.

The Rev. K .Smith gave an inspiring address on "High Ideals," based on the "Preamble" on first page of our Constitution.

At the second day's session an invitation to hold the next Provincial Convention of 1016 in Woodville was received, and accepted with thanks.

The following resolutions were passed during Convention :--

"That this Convention earnestly requests the Minister of Defence, in view of the example of total abstinence for the duration of the war set up by His Majesty the King, to order that, should circumstances ever again occur inducing the medical military authorities to order a general alcoholic ration to the soldiers, a nonalcoholic stimular, such as hot soup, coffee, or tea, should also be offered to every man."

"This Provincial Convention regrets that the members of Parliament had not enough loyalty and patriotism to follow His Majesty the King's example of total abstinence during the war, but decided by a secret vote to continue the sale of drink at Bellamy's."

"That this Convention requests the Minister of Public Health to take further steps to ensure the protection of food, especially meat and fish, from pollution by dust, flies, etc., while on sale."

"That this Convention desires to draw the attention of the Minister of Justice to the increasing frequency of criminal assaults upon little girls of tender years; also to the comparative mildness of sentences passed upon men guilty of these offences, even on offenders convicted for the second time, of outrages on little girls, and respectfully urges that for the protection of our baby girls such criminals should be confined for life in farm colonies or reformatories."

"That this Convention suggests to mothers throughout the Dominion that wherever a film to which objection may reasonably be taken is shown in their town, they without fail communicate with the manager."

It was further resolved to give hearty support to the demands of the Catholic Federation for the inclusion of larger numbers of educational, industrial, and travel subjects in moving picture entertainments intended for children.

Mrs Peryman reported that the petition for closing of bars at 6 o'clock during the war had been largely signed, the general public in a very heavy majority being in its favour.

The importance of scientific temperance teaching in our public schools was affirmed, and a deputation was appointed to interview the Minister of This deputation was Education. most favourably received, and the matter will receive attention.

The following officers were elected: Mrs Crabb of Palmerston North, President; Mrs Spearman, Secretary; Mrs Houlder, Treasurer.

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Official Organ: "The White Ribbon."

Editor: Mrs Peryman, Johnsonville, Wellington.

Associate Editor: Mrs Evans, M.A. Business Manager: Mrs Peryman, Johnsonville, Wellington.

Che WAhite Ribbon. For God and Home and Humanity.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1915.

FRANCHISE DAY.

57

For a generation women of this Dominion have exercised the Franchise. Last year every girl born before September 19th, 1893, had attained full voting age, and now this year the second generation are beginning to place their names upon the roll.

Though thankful for much that has been won during the 22 years we have had the suffrage, we look hopefully to the future, and prayerfully prepare ourselves for the struggle for that which yet remains to be won. The law does not yet recognise complete equality of sexes, and until it does we must never cease to educate public opinion, to organise women voters, and to agitate for more advanced legislation. Many of our statutes are

THE WHITE RIBBON.

based upon the presumption that the wife belongs to her husband, and that she and her children are his property. Co-guardianship of children should be recognised by law. Certainly, when parents legally separate the Court says which parent shall have the custody of the children, but when parents are living together they should be co-guardians. Now we meet cases like this: A mother was compelled, by his bad conduct, to separate from her husband. For over a dozen years she educated and maintained her little family, not only without any assistance from her husband, but even gave him a small allowance to leave them in peace. One of the boys, grown to young manhood, was his mother's helper. Death claimed him, and because he left no will our law allows the father to step in and claim the whole of his personal effects and little property he had. Is this fair? Certainly an unmarried son's estate should be equally divided between his parents, and not the father the sole inheritor. Again, the law allows a father by will to appoint a guardian of his children, who has legal right to interfere, and in some cases override the mother's wishes. Why are not women allowed by will to appoint some woman to act with the father as guardian of her children.

The home also should be held in partnership, and neither party be al lowed to mortgage or sell without the consent of the other.

We should bring pressure to bear upon the Government that girls may enter the Civil Service, and not be barred from sitting for the entrance examinations.

One thing that women should specially press for is that better protection should be given to our girls, particularly those of tender years. Criminal offences against girls have increased so much that juries of men have asked that the attention of the Minister for Justice should be called to this increase, and asked to provide adequate punishment. We believe men guilty of such offences are unfit to be at large.

Woman police should be appointed to patrol our parks and streets, specially to guard our children. Women lawyers, juries, justices, and judges should be appointed to deal with offences against children. Many times these scoundrels escape punishment because the mother objects to take

her girl to tell the story of the wrong inflicted upon her before a Court consisting wholly of men. We remember the righteous indignation we felt once when a poor mother took a scoundrel of this type to Court, because she wanted to protect other women's daughters. The little girl told her story to the men, and then, with a callousness beyond belief, the prisoner's male lawyer turned to the mother, and said sneeringly, "Oh! yes, you've coached her well in this story." Roused to passionate indignation, the mother replied, "No! I've never spoken to her about it; my one prayer to God is that my baby girl may forget it."

The best way to remedy much of this is to allow women to become candidates for seats in Parliament. When we have women in the Legislature of the land, they cannot be kept out of the jury, the Police Force, the Magistracy, and the Bench.

Women in Australia have the right to be nominated for Parliament, and though no woman has yet been elected, we find no fault with that. We only want women to have the right to come before the electors. If rejected by the electors, we will not grumble; we'll only set to work to educate the electors.

Women voters of this Dominion, will you realise that your vote is a responsibility; that you may not lightly exercise it, but thoughtfully, carefully, prayerfully. When our girls need protection from outrage, our children from the Liquor Trade, the woman who does not use her vote for their protection is indirectly responsible for the evil. Let us join together and petition Government, and urge our member to support these reforms. Let your member know that if he does not support the reforms asked for he loses your vote. If women in thousands band together and demand justice, they will get it. They have a vote, and politicians want that vote. The most conservative of members admit that woman is "par excellence" the home-maker. Yet when they send "our boys" to Trentham no matronly women are sent to see that cooking, sleeping, and home arrangements are as they ought to be. What is the result? An outbreak of sickness, and valuable young lives sacrificed. Women are sent to nurse the sick. Why not sent before to prevent them becoming sick? A

Royal Commission is appointed to enquire into the management of Trentham Camp, but no woman is on that Commission. Why? We wonder was it because "someone had blundered," and no woman could have been trusted to hear the evidence and then not divulge to the public the name of that "someone."

A PAINFUL SUBJECT.

Some of our soldiers during their stay in Egypt succumbed to the temptations of vicious personal propensities, with the result that they contracted venereal disease, which rendered them unfit for the purpose for which they enlisted.

They have, therefore, been returned in a diseased state to New Zealand. The horrible dangers of these diseases make these men a menace to the community. A number of our Unions have therefore protested against these men being let loose to spread such disease, and have urged that the authorities should detain them until at least the most contagious of these apparently ineradicable diseases has passed. A few of our members have hesitated in supporting such a protest because it seemed inconsistent with our protest against inflicting anything like a Contagious Diseases Act on our people. We have held that the two protests are not inconsistent. The evils and injustices which the C.D. Acts would impose on innocent people, while the ease with which the truly guilty would escape, are wellknown to our readers. But the case of these soldiers is quite different.

The military authorities have given liberty to these men to indulge in vice, and have brought them back while under detention.

The military and health authorities have ample power to detain them still further without any new legislation. As Mr Herdman, the Attor ney-General, recently stated to a representative of the "Dominion," "the Defence Aauthorities and the Public Health Department are the custodians of the returned soldier until he gets his formal official release from the army.

We have every right to ask that these men shall not be released while they are a danger to the community.

WOMEN ON LOCAL BODIES.

The following will be of interest to our readers. At the municipal elections last April, in Gisborne, one of our members (Mrs Walker) stood for the Hospital and Charitable Aid Board. Though there were seven contestants (all strong men and popular citizens) for the four Borough seats, the lady polled well, coming fifth on the list, less than 100 votes behind Dr. Porter, who since has had to resign his seat owing to his departure for the Old Country. The Borough Council, which in the event of a vacancy occurring, has the power to appoint another member to the Board, at their first meeting after the vacancy was declared, by a majority of one appointed Mrs Walker. However, at the end of this meeting a notice of motion to rescind this appointment was tabled by a Councillor, who is a strong opponent of women being on these Boards. At the next meeting of the Council, the Mayor being absent from the district, the notice of motion was withdrawn in favour of another that the matter should be left over till his return, when the Council was evenly divided on the matter, and both sides standing firm, the Mayor gave his casting vote in favour of his own election to the Board. A notice of motion to rescind this was, however, tabled by Mrs Walker's supporters, who deserve our best thanks for the strong stand they are taking in the woman's cause, the seat having been offered to each one of them if the would accept nomination. This, however, they have all declined to do, though some of them were tempted to do so in the interests of the Friendly Societies for whom they did not wish to lose the seat, but they are supporting the principle of women representation on these bodies, and also consider that the people's vote should not be set aside unless there is any very good reason to the contrary. An interesting incident in connection with the contest took place at the lass meeting of the Council, when 16 W.C.T.U. ladies, with their W.R. badges much in evidence, invaded the Council Chambers, and occupying the front row of the chairs placed for the public, sat patient and attentive listeners through the somewhat lengthy proceedings, the notice of motion having

been placed at the very bottom of the order paper. Further developmnets are being awaited with interest.

BRAVO!

Kitchener sat in his London den, Silent, and grim, and grey,

- Making his plans with an iron pen, Just in Kitchener's way.
- And he saw where the clouds rose dark and dun,
- And all that it meant, he knew: "We shall want every man who can
- shoulder a gun through." To thing right
- Bravo, Kitchener! Say what you want,
- No one shall say you nay! And the world shall know, where our bugles blow,

We've a Man at the head-to day.

- Jellicoe rides on the grey North Seas,
- Watching the enemy's lines, Where the Lord High Admirals skulk at ease,

Inside of their hellish mines.

- They have drunk too deep to the boasted fight,
- They have vowed too mad a vow! What do they think, on the watch to-
- night What toast are they drinking-now?
- Brave, Jellicoe! Call them again, And whenever they take the call,
- Show them the Way, give them their "Day"!

And settle it, once for all!

And French is facing the enemy's front,

- Stubbornly, day by day, Taking the odds and bearing the brunt,
- Just in the Britisher's way.
- And he hears the message, that makes him glad, In a
- Ring thro' the smoke and flame: "Fight on, Tommy! Stick to them, lad!
- Jack's at the same old game !" Bravo. Tommy! Stand as you've stood.
- And, whether you win or fall, Show them you fight as gentlemen

should.

And die like gentlemen all!

- So Kitchener plans in London town, French is standing at bay
- Jellicoe's ships ride up and down,
- Holding the sea's highway. And you, that loaf where the skies are
- blue,
- And play by a petticoat hem, These are the men who are fighting for you,

What are you doing for them? Bravo ! then, for the men who fight !

- To hell with the men who play! It's a fight to the end, for honour and
- friend,
- It's a fight for our lives to-day.
- -Fred. E. Weatherly, in the "Daily Mail," Sept., 1914.

CEMS FROM POLICE REPORT, 1915.

Superintendent Ellison of Wellington District in his annual report says "If a respectable citizen has the misfortune to have a child taken ill of scarlatina, measles, or other infectious disease, he has to report at once to the health officer, but the avaricious money-making harlots, to whom I refer, are all at liberty to contaminate the nation from end to end, because innocent persons suffer-as do their children-just as much or more than the men who personally patronise these diseased women. One need not wonder at the number of young people wearing glasses, artificial teeth, and other evidences of constitutional weakness when female vultures are able to fatten and become wealthy while they disseminate disease in a wholesale manner."

Commissioner Cullen in commenting upon the above report says, "As regards the larger question touched upon by the Superintendent, relative to the spread of venereal disease. I can only say that I fully endorse his remarks, and think it is a matter which should receive the attention of the Public Health Authorities. While stringent regulations are in force dealing with the isolation and treatment of other infectious and contagious diseases, no attempt is made to prevent these women from spreading a disease which is more injurious and far-reachin its consequences."

In reading these extracts, one would think that only women were able to spread this disease as neither of these distinguished police officers asks for the Public Health Act to deal with male prostitutes, only women are mentioned. Now we object to all sex differentiation, but if only one sex is to be dealt with, we say the male prestitute is the more dangerous to the health of the nation. These women could do no harm to innocent wives and children were it not for the male prostitute who resorts to them, and with criminal indifference goes home to take disease to unsuspecting wife and helpless infant. The man who resorts to these women knows perfectly well the risk he is running, and is no innocent victim. The young wife at home never suspects that the husband, who has sworn to love and cherish her, wilfully and cruelly brings to her the deadly disease, which makes

her a life-long sufferer, renders her childless or the mother of diseased children, deprived of their right to be well-born, and doomed to misery, suffering and shame.

In all ages of the world, men have tried in all ways to sin and avoid its consequences, but this is always impossible. The only way to get rid of venereal disease permanently is to avoid the sin which causes it.

Scarlet Fever, Plague, Cholera, are dirt diseases, and while doctors use every endeavour to cure sufferers from these diseases, sanitary inspectors clean up the dirt conditions which cause them.

Yellow Fever flourished on Panama and other tropical regions, and was only banished when the swamps were drained and the mosquito, the carrier of disease germ was banished.

While we believe in doing everything possible to help sufferers from venereal disease, we must face the fact that no treatment has ever been discovered which can guarantee a cure. This dreadful disease has been a mighty factor in the downfall of the great empires of antiquity. Let us not make the mistake they made, and try to cure the disease without ridding ourselves of the immorality which causes it.

Let the White Ribbon women of our Dominion, the mothers of the race, set up the standard of the "white life for two."

When men live as chastely as their wives we shall hear no more of innocent women and children afflicted with venereal disease, even though "these women" be still with us.

RED CROSS WORK.

Christchurch W.C.T.U. has sent during the month to the Lady Liverpool Fund: 29 undershirts, 11 pairs socks, 2 scarves, 1 Balaclava cap, 1 pair slippers, 5 pairs pyjamas, 10 nightshirts, 2 pairs under pants, 7 face cloths, 5 bottle covers, 1 ice bag, 5 foment cloths, 54 operation cloths, 27 tray cloths, 3 large parcels medicine cloths. The sum of £9 18 4d was given and collected by friends and members towards the Fund for buying material and wool.

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

MAORI DEPARTMENT.

Dear Friends,-I wish to thank the Winchmore, Gisborne, Christchurch, Pahiatua, Onehunga, and Nelson Unions for keeping our Maori department in mind on White Ribbon Day, and taking up a collection for it, and also Mrs Fairlie, of this (Gisborne) district, who has already got her collecting card filled and returned to me. I am very sorry to have to report that our capable and faithful Organiser, Miss Woodhead, has had another serious breakdown in health since Convention, which has resulted in her being obliged to relinquish her work. In spite of this, however, the department has not been idle. Literature is being distributed, and we have had some useful leaflets in the Maori language drawn up and printed ready for distribution in the native camps. Devonport Union must be given the credit for this suggestion, and the good work that they are doing in this direction. All Unions having such camps in their neighbourhood can give great assistance by distributing those, and can have them forwarded on application to me. One of these leaflets contains Lord Kitchener's Appeal to Soldiers. Another, "The Testimony of Leading Doctors as to. the Effect of Alcohol," more especially in regard to the life of the soldier, fecovery from wounds, greater power to resist sickness, undergo hardships, etc., and also gives the splendid results of total abstinence in the Duke of Wellington's Own Regiment in India, 700 out of 1000 of whom were total abstainers. A third contains a general appeal to the natives on the drink question for the benefit of the race from every point of view. 1 would remind Unions of the desirability of appointing local superintendents who would arrange for the collection and forwarding of some financial assistance from every Union to this department every year. We have had the names of one or two suitable persons submitted to us, who may be able to take over the organising work, and we expect to make a forward move with this work when the winter is over. Do not let this important branch of our work be hampered for want of funds .- Yours in Union service,

N. F. WALKER. Upper Fox Street, Gisborne.

THE WHITE RIBBON.

SEPTEMBER 10, 1915.



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.)

NEW PLYMOUTH.

Aug. 25. Attendance was poor. Regret expressed at saying good-bye to Mrs Skitrop, our Secretary, who is leaving New Plymouth. Decided to hold a pay-up social on September 29th. The Band of Hope to be held first Friday in September. A resolution was passed protesting against the heavy sentence passed on Alice Parkinson after the jury brought in guilty of manslaughter, with strong recommendation to mercy on account of the provocation which she had received.

OPOTIKI.

Interesting meeting on August 18th. Resolutions concerning Syphilis, Geming Laws, Raffles and Art Unions carried. Mrs Cummings gave a beautiful Gospel address, 33 ladies present, the Missionary Union joining with us. Mrs Murray, our President, also Mrs Cummings, spoke on K.K. pledges, and quite a number present signed the pledge. A collection was made, and afternoon tea served.

INVERCARGILL DISTRICT.

Aug. 3, in afternoon. Reported that circulars re prize essays on wallsheet competitions had been sent to 183 schools in Southland Province. Mrs Moody (late President of the Bluff) present at meeting on her way North, welcomed with sisterly sympathy on account of recent bereave-ment. Additional resolutions re Public Health Act, sent by Miss Roberts, discussed and passed unanimously; also those against gambling. Mrs Cowie presented petition on be-half of Alice May Parkinson, whose case was mentioned in "White Rib-bon": this was signed by members present. The quarterly open letter to Moderate League was thoroughly endorsed, to be printed in three local papers at our cost. The Secretary asked for a report of Red Cross work done by our members, to be forwarded to National Cor. Sec.

Aug. 17, evening meeting. Letter of sympathy to be sent to Mrs C. W. Brown in indisposition. Mrs Garrett read a paper on "What the War Has Done for Women." Decided to ask for it again at Southland Convention on Labour Day. Resolved to send the Secretary to visit the Bluff W.C.T.U. if desired, to visit and meet the members there. A new member initiated.

NELSON.

Aug. 10. A fair attendance. Letters read from Miss Maunder re prizes for essays on the Temperance Wall Sheets; decided to leave it to the Executive; and from Miss Dewar, advocating home meetings, and three members offered their rooms. Letter from Miss Roberts re increase of gambling for patriotic funds was read. and enclosed resolutions were passed. Resolved to send copies to the secretaries of the various Funds and other organisations. The Convention resolution protesting against compulsory detention in cases of venereal disease passed, a letter from Miss Roberts on the subject having been read. Letter to the Moderate League, signed by Mrs Lee-Cowie for the N7 W.C.T.U., was read. This was afterwards published in both papers. In celebration of T. E. Taylor Day, a collection was made for the Belgian Fund, amounting to £1 105 gd. A number of garments were also given for the same purpose.

Meeting at Richmond on August 4th was well attended. Extracts were read from Mrs Don's Convention address, and four new members were initiated.

Two Good Citizenship meetings have been held, at which some accounts were given of the relief work carried on by women in some of the European countries.

The monthly prayer meeting on July 26th was well attended.

Members worked hard for the petition for the cix o'clock closing of the hotel bars, and secured many signatures

Monthly prayer meeting on August 30th was conducted by Mrs Commissioner Hodder, of the Salvation Army.; A good attendance, and the meeting was full of life and earnestness.

The monthly meeting at Richmond on September 1st was interfered with by the rain. Extracts were read with regard to women patrols and the early' closing petition. Miss Roberts's letter re gambling was read, and a resolution passed in favour of restrictive

legislation. Suggested that members make sandbags for the soldiers.

The Good Citizenship meeting on August 27th. Resolved : "That this meeting sympathises with, and as op-portunity occurs, will assist in all efforts to secure in the future the settlement of national disputes by peaceful means."

PALMERSTON NORTH.

Meeting on Friday afternoon, a good attendance. Reported that nearly 2000 signatures had been ob-tained for the closing of the public-house bars at 6 o'clock. The members agreed to take over the Thursday nights supper for the soldiers at the Show Ground. The District Nurse made an appeal for homes for two children during the sickness of their mother. Mrs Whitehead and Mrs Smith volunteered their homes. Resolved: "That this meeting most strongly deprecates the action of Parliament in its continuation of Bel-lamy's. It considers its selfishness and self-indulgence most unpardonable, unpatriotic, and quite against the best traditions of the nation, and out of keeping with the self-sacrificing spirit of the times."

TAKAPUNA.

Drawing-room meeting held at Mrs Carter's, "Seaforth," Lake Town Road, June 30th, 20 ladies and two gentlemen present. Miss Bisson spoke of her work in the bar rooms, concert halls, and lodging-houses of Manchester. The collection amount-Manchester. The collection amount-ed to 175 6d, which was given to Miss Bisson for her expenses, a portion to be given to the Navy Relief Fund.

August meeting. It was brought before the notice of the Union that the men of the National Reserve, after attending drill, were marched to the hotel, and dismissed from there. Some among them very strongly objected to it. It was proposed that our President write to Mr Harris, member of Parliament for the district, calling his attention to it.

NGARUAWAHIA.

Aug. 3. 18 members present. Mrs Porter chosen delegate for the Auckland Convention. Decided to offer prizes for temperance essays. Mrs McFarlane gave a paper on Temper-

A "Y" meeting held at Mrs Pat-terson's. Mrs Dr. Tait gave a paper on "Nursing," and read some inter-esting letters from nurses engaged at the front. A pianoforte duet was also given. We have commenced knitting for our soldiers. Decided that our next meeting should take the form of a Ked Cross evening.

April 25, 8 p.m. An after-church raily held in the Town Hall in connection with the K.K. campaign. In spite of had weather, there was a good attendance, over 50 pledges being taken. Both the Methodist and Presbyterian ministers co-operated.

RANGIORA.

Aug. Mrs May in the chair. Attendance small on account of sickness. Mrs H. Taylor's resignation as Treasurer accepted with regret. Mrs Patchett was appointed delegate to Convention at Timaru. Decided to purchase one dozen K.K. badges, to get our Temperance young men to wear them, and to sign the K.K. pledge. A successful house to house canvass for old linen for our wounded soldiers. The petition for closing liquor bars at 6 o'clock throughout the Dominion was largely signed.

N.E. VALLEY.

Aug. Attendance good. Mrs H. B. Gray presided. Miss Cliff sang a solo. Miss Jéan Begg, of the London Missionary Society, gave a short talk on her 41 years among the girls of Samoa. The girls come to the missionary school from ten to thirteen years of age, and were taught, among other things, the care of their bodies and homes. Some of them had become very successful missionaries at New Guinea. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Miss Begg. A collection was taken on behalf of our Maori work.

KAIKORAI.

Aug. 27. Mrs Somerville presided. A letter was read re temperance essays for the young. Decided to assist with same if taken up. A vote of sympathy was passed to a member whose son has died for King and country. Signatures for Alice Parkinson petition were put down, and meeting closed with the Benediction.

WANGANUI EAST.

July 30. Resolutions forwarded by Miss Roberts were put to the meeting and carried unanimously. Mrs Upton gave a very excellent paper on "The Glorified Life," which was much appreciated.

Aug. 19. Special meeting. Miss Weymouth gave an address on "Social Questions, or Dangers to Women and Girls as the Result of the Drink Traffic"

AUCKLAND.

Aug. 11. Mrs Cook gave an address on "Thought and its Influence Upon Our Lives." Decided to make the first meeting of the year the day for paying the members' fees. Miss Evans reported on the petition for 6 o'clock closing. 880 signatures secured. Further arrangements were made for the Provincial Convention, to be held next month. Resolved to send on to the Premier resolutions passed at our meeting on July 28th, expressing regret and surprise that the Government do not intend to introduce legislation to restrict racing nor to withhold racing permits; also to draw the attention of the Government to the flagrant manner in which the law relating to raffles and art unions is being broken in many parts of the Dominion to raise funds for various patriotic purposes. Miss Roberts's resolutions on venereal diseases were passed.

Aug. 24. Welcome to Mrs Moody. Mrs Von Sturmer gave a short address on "Navy Relief Work," and asked for helpers. Resolved: "That this meeting learns with much regret that the National Cabinet has declined to legislate for the curtailment of the hours for the sale of intoxicating liquors. We wish to emphasise that the legislation we desire is strictly non-partisan and entirely national and patriotic, and is much needed in the best interests of all matters associated with the present national war crisis. We therefore trust that the National Cabinet will reconsider its decision and at once place greater restrictions upon a commodity which so materially assisting our nation's foes

PETONE.

At Home was held at the President's house. Mrs Wright, senr., gave a verv good paper on "Women's Work," which caused discussion and a challenge of a debate on a 'uture occasion. Afternoon tea followed a recitation by Mrs Usmar.

Monthly meeting held; go d attendance. Address given by Ensign Seamen (Salvation Army), showing that if we keep Christ's commandments we may expect answer to prayer.

Birthday reception in honour Aug. of our President, who celebrated her eighty-second birthday. Mrs Johnson Wright gave a stirring address. Mrs Adjutant Green, whose husband is Chaplain of the Forces in Egypt, gave a most interesting address on her husband's work amongst our brave boys, and showed us some beautiful specimens of work done by the Egyptian women. Mrs McPherson offered congratulations, and musical items were rendered. A beautiful birthday cake was made and presented by Mrs Burd. Mrs Rowse, in a happy speech, returned thanks for all the good wishes.

NAPIER.

July 15. A paper was read by Mrs Freeman, written by the Rev. J. K. Archer, on "White Slave Traffic." It was a very instructive paper, and highly appreciated.

highly appreciated. July 27. T. E. Taylor and White Ribbon Davs were celebrated, when Rev. Eric Evan spoke on Temperance work and the great impetus it was given by the life of Mr T. E. Taylor, Mrs Dearlove spoke of the birth of the "White Ribbon," and read a portion out of the first number. Afternoon tea was dispensed by the members.

August 4. Discussion on the medical proposals was resumed, and the following resolution was passed, with two dissent ents:—"That the Napier Branch of the W.C.T.U. resolves that the proposals from the Medical Conference, if enforced, would be for the lessening of the evil effects of wrongdoing, as it would enforce all syphilis diseases being treated as other infectious diseases, and so protect innocent victims from the contagion." The Union also passed the following resolutions sent from the Christchurch Union re racing and gambling, and Union re racing and gambling, and the resolutions sent:—(1) "That free treatment should be provided for all persons suffering from venereal dis-eases who shall present themselves for such treatment." (2) As it stands. Not (3) on the ground that it might be a loophole for men who wish to get a separation. (4) As it wish to get a separation. (4) As it stands. (5) "That amendments to the Criminal Law should be passed giving greater protection to women and girls, excepting the one of raising the age of consent to 21 years" (on the ground that it is very hard to get a jury to convict now, and would be impossible if raised to years, as most girls are practically women at 18 vears).

August 10. Mrs Dearlove read the booklet entitled "Talks on Purity," price 1d, and pointed out the great advantage this and similar books are to mothers in teaching the subject of purity to their children, and urged that they be widely read.

Sept. 1. Samples were shown of Red Cross requisites, and canvassers reported progress in getting material. Decided to purchase a bolt of jute hessian for sandbags. Decided not to publish letter to Moderate League at cost of £1. Decided that no action be taken re Miss Parkinson's case

LOWER HUTT.

The August meeting was held in the Church of Christ, Mrs Routley (President) in the chair. Mrs Knight reported that the sandbags for the soldiers had been well taken up, almost all the number purchased by the Union (120) being ready for shipment. Arrangements were made for a canvass for soft calico for the wounded soldiers, Mrs Routley being superintendent. Two new members were initiated. Mrs Baumber was elected "White Ribbon" correspondent. Mesdames Frethey and Collins were apnointed delegates to the Provincial Convention-

NGAIO.

Monthly meeting held in Methodist Church. Mrs Peryman presided, and introduced Miss Powell, Dominion Organiser, who then gave a short address. One new member gained.

MOSGIEL. August. Mrs Bedford in the chair. Mrs Don was also present. Attendance good. Three new ones initiated. The Secretary reported good work done re early closing of hotels. Mrs Moir was deputed to interview headmaster re temperance essays. A systematic effort to obtain clean old linen and sterilise same for wounded soldiers was decided upon; also to offer our united services to make sandbags for the front. Mrs Don spoke upon "If any man lack wisdom, let him ask of God."

PAHIATUA.

Aug. 5. T. E. Taylor Day. drawing-room meeting. Miss Powell gave an address on the origin of the W.C.T.U., its aims and objects, and what it has accomplished in New Zealand. Mrs Fenn gave a recitation. Afternoon tea was served. Two

members were initiated. For Wounded Soldiers' Fund.-One member is trimming and shampooing ladies' hair, there being no ladies' hairdresser in the town. During July hairdresser in the town. During July £1 58 6d was sent in to the above fund.

Aug. 12. Special meeting held. Resolutions forwarded by Miss Roberts with regard to the totalisator and racing permits, art unions, and raffles, and the four additional ones with reference to venereal disease, were all fully discussed and passed unanimously, the President to forward them to the Prime Minister and members of the Cabinet.

Sept. 2. Greeting sent to Provincial Convention; regret that we were unable to send delegates this year. Letters read from Prime Minister, Minister of Internal Affairs, and J. H. Escott, Esq., M.P., in reply to resolu-tions passed at last meeting. Decided to protest against the sentence passed upon Alice Parkinson, and to urge the Government to give effect to the recommendation of the jury.

PONSONBY.

Aug. Dr. Keller presided. Reso-lutions from Miss Roberts were discussed. One and two were passed unanimously. It was suggested that 3 be amended as follows :---"That the marriage law should be amended by making venereal disease a cause of legal separation (if self-acquired through immoral contact)." Re resolution 4, Dr. Keller suggests this clause be deleted, as in her opinion it may cause a breach between husband and wife, and mar their future happiness. One new member initiated.

SOUTH DUNEDIN.

Mrs Don presided at Tuesday's special meeting re petition for early closing. Signatures readily gained; sympathy with movement. public Miss Reid reported progress of Cradle Roll; new members enrolled. Regret expressed at her resignation, owing to removal from Dunedin. Mrs Reid carries on the work, Mrs

Driver reported success in gathering signatures for early closing petition. Access gained to workshops. Members resolved to put their "feelings" in their pockets, and go out with tables, petitions, and ink-pencils into main thoroughfares. Mrs Don called for old linen and for members to sew at sandbags, which prove an excellent cover for men under fire.

GREYMOUTH.

Aug. Our President, in a touching speech, voiced our sympathy with Mesdames Cottle and Mills, who have lost their sons at the Front. We sent to the Minister of Justice praying for leniency towards Alice Par-kinson. Decided to hold a Sale of Work and useful articles for our Sailors' Rest, to be held 16th or 18th of October. Will some readers of this, perhaps old members, remember our needs, and send us some small gifts? We should be thankful in-deed, and will acknowledge the kindness through this paper. We welcomed the new caretaker to the Sailors' Rest, and both husband and wife became members of our Union.

WANGANUI.

Sept. The Union passed a resolution to the effect that it was prepared to support the medical profession re C.D. Act. Mrs Upton (Vice-President) attended Wellington Convention as the delegate from our Union. Dr. Dunn addressed the Union, and read a paper entitled "War Babies," which caused a good deal of discussion among the members present. The meeting then closed in the usual way.

CHRISTCHURCH.

Aug. 11. Correspondence re Provincial Convention dealt with. Mrs Howell drew attention to false cables published on the proceedings of In-ternational Women's Congress at the Hague. Mrs J. McCombs reported re protests sent to Sir Francis Bell on open defiance of Gaming and Lotteries Act, that the Minister said it was quite open to the police to prosecute whenever the law had been broken or violated.

Aug. 25. Correspondence was read from Miss Newcomb re the Women's Correspondence was read International Congress meeting at the Hague in April. A large committee was appointed to work with the local superintendent to arrange for competitions on Temperance in the city and suburban schools as soon as possible. Several members spoke protesting against the short and inadequate sentences passed on men for criminal assaults on children of tender years, and suggestions dealing with this subject were forwarded for consideration at the Provincial Convention. Miss Roberts was asked to write a paper on "Venereal Diseases," and Miss Henderson on "Women in the Adminis-tration of the Law," for the Timaru Convention on September 8th. Comfort bags were promised by several members for our sailors on the warships.

OXFORD.

Miss Powell, Dominion July 9. Organiser, was present. A resolution of sympathy was carried with Mrs C. W. Anderson on the death of her brother. Bishop Julius wrote regret-ting his inability to speak at the K.K. meeting, owing to absence from Christchurch. Decided to secure two speakers from Christchurch. Decided to ask Miss Waterman to act as assistant-secretary. Mrs Gainsford, senr., was appointed delegate to the District Convention. Miss Powell gave an address on the Win One Campaign, and urged the need of selfsacrifice and the necessity of members getting into touch with the many women opposed to our work, so as to win their sympathy and interest. Two new members were enrolled.

July 26. T. E. Taylor Day. The Revs. Paterson and Lawry addressed kevs. Faterson and Lawry addressed a public meeting held to start the K.K. pledge campaign. Mr Hawke, chairman of County Council, presid-ed, and told the meeting that the members of the County Council had taken the pledge. Miss Powell gave an address to the "Y" Branch on "Girls and Their Lovers." Collec-tion on babalf of the Marri work tion on behalf of the Maori work.

July 17. Junior Band of Hope. Mrs Ryde gave the children a lesson from one of the charts, "Everything needs water."

needs water." July 29. Senior Band of Hope. Rev. Cumming gave an address, and Rev. Two new members enrolled.

Aug. 31 A letter from Mrs Lill re Provincial Convention. Decided not to send a delegate this year. Decid-ed to hold a public social in the evening next month, as it is the W.C.T.U birthday. Mrs Kippenberger read an interesting and instructive paper on "Christian Citizenship During the War," and was accorded a most hearty vote of thanks.

BLUFF.

1.12.5

July 2. Decided to offer prizes for the best essays by school children on the Temperance Wall Sheets. De-cided to ask Mrs Cowie, of Invereargill, if she would address a meeting on Public Health Amendment Act.

July 14. Mrs Cowie addressed the meeting on the Public Health Amendment Act, and fully explained the proposed alterations. A resolution was passed strongly protesting against compulsory treatment, but supporting voluntary treatment. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mrs Cowie.

Aug. Signatures obtained to the petitions re closing hotel bars at 6 p.m.

Sept. 3. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mrs Moody for her handsome gift of an iron fence and gate in front of our building. petition dealing with the case of Alice Parkinson was signed by the members present. Deep regret was ex-pressed at the loss of our President, Mrs Moody, after 8 years' service, through removal from the district. Mrs W. Johnston, on behalf of the

members, presented Mrs Moody with a small token of their love and esteem in the shape of our badge in gold, set with pearls, with the hope that she may be long spared to wear it, and that at no very distant date she may see her way to come back again and take up her work amongst us.

GISBORNE.

Meeting held August 31st, 20 pre-ent. Resolved to send a letter of sent. sympathy to Mrs Walker in regard to the opposition she is getting about her appointment to the Hospital Board. Our members, to the number of thir-teen, attended the Council meeting the same night, but the casting vote of the Mayor again and again hindered anything being gained. woman on, and Five want a five do not. Resolved to send of our letter to each local School Committees, asking permission to approach the teachers with a view to getting essays written on the Tem-perance Wall Sheets. Six prizes to be offered by the Union. Decided to celebrate Franchise Day on September Resolved a resolution be for-21 St. warded to Minister of Justice on lines suggested by "White Ribbon" correspondent.

GREYTOWN.

At a meeting held in the Oddfellows' Hall on Friday, August 27th, at which Mrs Whincop presided, Miss M. S. Powell gave an address describing the origin and work of the organisation. At the close of the address a strong branch was organised of 22 members. Mrs Whincop was elected President, Mrs Banks Secretary, and Mrs W. A. Tate Treasurer. Arrangements were made for starting a Band of Hope, Mrs Steel being appointed Superin-tendent, Miss McWhinny "White tendent, Miss Ribbon" Agent.

OTUREI, AOROA, AND DARGA-VILLE.

A meeting of the Oturei, Aoroa, and Dargaville W.C.T.U. was held at the former place on August 22, 1915. The meeting was well represented, all the members being present. It may be explained that the above W.C.T.U. has been very much in confusion for some time past, and as a result several of the members retired from active work. It is to be clearly understood, however, that the trouble did not originate itself from the W.C.T.U., nor had the scheme of the Union any-thing to do with it. The sole trouble thing to do with it. was due to private affairs of members being allowed to interfere with one another, apart from the aim and work of the W.C.T.U. Owing to the above disarrangement, it was found neces-sary to reorganise the Union in every

way. The present President, Hinerangi T. H. Pirika, retired, and Makereta P. Parore was unanimously selected to the position of Presidentship. And on the retirement of the Secretary, Rangopai E. Campbell, it was unani-

mously selected that Wharangi W. Walsh to take the Secretaryship.

Makereta P. Parore was also made Treasurer for the Union.

Hinerangi T. H. Pirika, Rongopai E. Campbell, and Kaa H. Himene, who retired from active work in the Union, were made honorary members.

Several minor questions were dealt with, after which the meeting was closed with the singing of a hymn and the Benediction.

The meeting throughout was very enthusiastic, and we hope for a more prosperous and brighter future.

W.C.T.U. OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

My Dear Miss Henderson,-

It is very kind of the Women's Christian Temperance Union of New Zealand to send me their congratulations on being appointed a Justice of the Peace for South Australia, and I thank them most cordially, and thank you for your letter conveying the message.

The action of the Government came as a surprise, for although such a reform had often been asked for, nothing had been said about it lately, the special request of reform societies being for women as police patrols, whom we are likely to have very soon.

We are glad the W.C.T.U. was not left out, and there seems to be a large amount of approval among both men and women. I trust we may have courage and wisdom for the pioneer work, and make a safe pathway for all women who come after us.

May New Zealand soon win all similar reforms, as its women so well deserve to do.

With cordial greetings .- Yours in White Ribbon fellowship,

ELIZABETH W. NICHOLLS. Miss Henderson, B.A.,

Cor. Sec. W.C.T.U. of N.Z.

ON THE SAFE SIDE.

Zealous Sentry: "Afraid I can't let you go by without the password, sir."

Irate Officer: "But, confound you! I tell you I have forgotten it. You know me well enough. I'm Major Jones."

Sentry: "Can't help it, sir, must have the password.""

Voice from the Guard Tent: "Oh, don't stand arguing all night, Bill; shoot 'im."

FOR THE MEN AT THE FRONT.

(To be sung to the tune "Melita"-"Eternal Father, strong to save."

Lord God of Hosts, whose mighty hand

Dominion holds on sea and land, In Peace and War Thy Will we see

Shaping the larger liberty. Nations may rise and nations

fall,

Thy Changeless Purpose rules them all.

When Death flies swift on wave or field,

Be Thou a sure defence and shield !

Console and succour those who fall,

And help and hearten each and all !

O, hear a people's prayers for those

Who fearless face their country's foes!

For those who weak and broken lie,

In weariness and agony-

Great Healer, to their beds of pain Come, touch, and make them whole

again! O, hear a people's prayers, and bless

Thy servants in their hour of stress!

For those to whom the call shall come We pray Thy tender welcome home. The toil, the bitterness, all past,

We trust them to Thy love at last,

O, hear a people's prayers for all

Who, nobly striving, nobly fall!

For those who minister and heal,

And spend themselves, their skill, their zeal-

Renew their hearts with Christ-like faith.

And guard them from disease and death.

> And in Thine own good time, Lord, send

> Thy Peace on earth till Time shall end!

> > -John Oxenham.

Ashburton. 2nd Tuesday, 8 p.m., in Baring Street Schoolroom; Pres., Mrs W. K. Watson, Box 87; Rec. Sec., Mrs J. H. Dent, 112, Wills St. W.; Cor. Sec., Mrs E. Buchanan, Wills St. W.; Treas. Mrs W. T. Lil, Willowby; "W.R." Supt., Miss Butterick, Wakanui.

Auckland District, 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 8 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 St; 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., Mrš D. P. Sinelair, Box 27; Treas., Mrs Hay, Stephenson St.; Mothers' Meeting and Cradle Roll, Mesdames Brewer and Hancock; "W.R." Agent, Mrs W. Parker, Grove Rd.

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

Christchurch District. Rooms er. Manchester and Worcester Streets. Second and fourth Wednesday; Pres., Mrs I. McCombs, 26, Tni Street, Fendalton; Cor. Sec., Mrs R. Day, Milford St., 8t. Albans; Rec. Sec., Mrs Stewart, 514, Madras Street; 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 Wiseman, High St.; Treas., Miss Burdett, The Manse.

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 Reid, Bishøpscourt, Roslyn; Supt. Sailor' 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.

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.

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, Denbigh Street; Treas., Mrs Williamson, The Hill; "W.R." Agent, Mrs Burnley; Railway Box, Mrs Shearer.

Gisborne 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 Sailor's 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. 2. Mason, Hamilton.

Hastings. 2nd Wednesday, St. Andrew's Hall, 8 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Martindale, Raureka, Sonthland Rd.; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Boyle, Ramsay, Wallis, Clapham and Barbour; Sec., Mrs Harrison, 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 Edmands; Sec., Mrs Gleeson; Treas, Mrs Leather.

Invercargill District. ist Taesday. 8 p.m. and Srd Taesday, 7.80 p.m., 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, 10, Don St.; "W.R." Agent, Mrs Hunter, 110, Don Street.

Kalapoi W.C.T.U. Coffee Rooms open Daily. Union meets second and last Wednesday, 8 p.m. Pres., Mrs Brighting; Sec., Miss Blackwell, "The Willows"; Treas., Mrs T. G. Blackwell; White Ribbox Supt., Mrs Ward.

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

Lytteiton, 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, 8 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Devonport; Sec., Mrs M. Flamagan, 4 Cole Street; Treas., Mrs Sutherland; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs Russell.

Matakana, 3rd Thursday, Presbyterian Church, 2.30 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Witten, Tawharanui; Vice-Pres. Mrs Richards; Sec., Mrs E. Roke; Treas, Mrs A. Roke; Cradle Roll, Mrs Eyton; "W.R." Agent, Miss Tindall.

Mosgiel, Meets in Presbyterian Hall. 2nd Tuesday at 2.45 p.m. Pres., Mrs H D. Bedford; Sec., Mrs Pinfold; Treas., Mrs Wilson.

Napier District, 1st Wednesday, Willard Hall, Srd Thursday, Baptist Church, Napier S., Sp.m.; Pres. Mrs Fossey, Nelson Cres:; Rec. and Cor. Sec., Mrs Ingram, Cameron Rd.; Treas., Mrs Dearlove, Lincola Rd.; Legal and Parliamentary, Mrs Dodds, Home Meetings, Mrs Ball; Purity, Mrs Oldham; "W.R." Supt. Mrs Dearlove.

Ngaruawahia, 1st Tuesday, 2.80 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 Lodgeroom; Pres., Mrs Allen Douglas, Pendarves St.; Sec., Mrs W. Bruce, 251 Molesworth St.; Treas., and W.R. Agen', Miss Taunt, Victoria Rd.

Normanby, Second Wednesday, 2 p.m., Social Hall; Pres., Mrs Scott; Vice-Pres., Mrs Butler and Mrs Clement; Sec., Mrs Saunders; Treas., Mrs Lynn; Cradle Roll, Mrs K. Hall; WHITE RIBBON, Mrs Dickson; Literature, Mrs Hayward.

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

Nelson District, Second Tnesday, Temperance Half. 8 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, 8 p.m^f, 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 Tuesday, 2.80 p.m., Coronation Hall; Fres., 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.

Petene, 1st Tuesday, Church of Christ, Sydney St., 2.30 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Rowse, Udy St.; Vice-Pres., Miss Kirk, Mesdames Corner and McPherson; Sec., Mrs Burd, 37 Cuba St; Treas., Mrs Donoghue; Cradle Roll, Mrs Barrow; 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., Dr. F. Keller; Vice-Pres., Mrs C. I. Harris, Mrs C. R. Vickers, and Miss Caley; Sec., Mrs Plummer, Coronation Rd., Epsom; "W.R." Supt., Mrs Plummer; Treas., Mrs M. A. Bailey, Ponsonby.

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

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

Sheffield, 1st Wednesday, 2.80 p.m., Road Board Office; Pres., Mrs McIlraith, Annat; Sec., Mrs Pettit, Kirwee; 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.

Takapuna. Ist Thursday, 2.30 p.m., Takapuna. Methodist, and Milford Baptist, alternately. Pres., Mrs Fulljames, East Coast Rd.; Sec., Mrs Carter, Lake Town Rd.; Treas., Miss Rushbrook. Milford.

Timaru District, last Tuessay, 7.30 p.m., Arcade; Pres., Mrs Rule, North S.; Sec., Miss M. Avison, Victoria St.; Treas., Mrs Cave, Itaymond St.; Evangelistic and Press. Mrs Lamb; Cradle Roll, Mrs Valentine; Maori Work, Mrs Butcher, Wai iti Rd.; WHITE RIBBON Agent, Mrs Stead, Sailor's Rest.

Tauranga, 4th Thursday, 3 p.m., St. Peter's Hall; Prez., 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 Ave.: "W.R." Supt., Mrs J. W. Snelgrove, Willow St.

Tuakau, 2nd Thursday, Methodist Church, 2.30 p.m. Pres., Mrs Hunter; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Madill, Lee, Long and Graham; Sec., Mrs C. Bycroft; Treas., Mrs Goldsmith; Supt. Band of Hope, Miss Worthington; Supt. Cradle Roll, Miss Burns; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Miss Dwen.

Taneatua, 2nd Thursdav, in Presbyterian Church, at 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Yeoman; Vice-Pres., Mrs Raven; 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. J. Roberts, Willowbridge; Sec., Mrs Geo. Dash. Box 27, P.O.; Min. Sec., Miss Strong. Lower High St.; Treas., Mrs S. J. Hitchens. "Te Rangi," Mill Rd.; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs G. H. Graham, Rhodes St.

Waipawa, 4th Tuesday, 3 p.:n.: 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 pm.; Pres., Mrs Andrews; Cor. Sec., Mrs Hicks; Rec. Sec., Mrs Duxfield, Okoia, Wanganui; Treas., Mrs McLeod, Wanganui E.

Wanganui District, 1st Friday, 230 pm. Trinity Church Parlour, Pres., Mrs Blamires; Cor. Sec, Mrs J. McKenzie, 46 Wilson St.; 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 Atwood, 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 Rd., 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.

Girl's Association Rooms, Constable St., Newtown, Evening Classes and Socials. All girls invited.

Wellington Central, 3rd Fridav, 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.

Waipukurau, 2nd Thursday, St. Andrew's Hall, 8 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Hopkirk; Vice-Pres, Mrs Harding and Mrs Nicholson; Sec., Mrs H. French, Main St.: Treas., Mrs Robinson; Organist, Miss Mefat.

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

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