

of race suicide is alcohol." Dr. Sims Woodhead says we might shut up two-thirds of our hospitals if we could get rid of alcohol. A noted Judge, charging a jury, said: "The saloon causes thousands of imbecile, deformed, and diseased children to be born into the world, and increases the death-rate. The children of drinking parents are below normal in ratio of four to one, and liable to die in infancy." Is it legitimate trade that curses the unborn child? The Premier answers "Yes."

Dr. Forbes Winslow says that in 25 years he treated over 80,000 cases of insanity, and two-thirds of them were due to alcohol either by use or heredity.

The New York Commission on Lunacy reported: "The first great cause of insanity is alcohol." A celebrated conference of alienists and neurologists pronounced: "Every drop of beer destroys a nerve cell."

A Russian medical journal, commenting on the very low ratio of mental trouble in their troops in this war, says: "The main cause of the decreased rate is the total absence of alcohol. We have not had a single case of alcoholic insanity during the whole campaign."

A German official return certifies that 60 per cent. of insane, 52 per cent. of epileptics, 46 per cent. of criminals, and 82 per cent. of immoral women are born of drunken parents. At a time when all thoughtful people are deploring the increase of insanity, when Government is building huge mental hospitals, is the trade which is responsible for over 66 per cent. of these unfortunates a legitimate trade? Doctors, Health Congresses, Business Men, as well as Social Reformers, all urge the outlawing of this legitimate (?) trade, so as to increase our efficiency during the war. Shall we not need a sober and efficient (for the terms are synonymous) race in the period of industrial reconstruction which must follow the Declaration of Peace? A noted Socialist says: "The sole hope of the Labour movement is the brains of the working man. Nothing on earth is so destructive to brains and common-sense as the liquor trade." The "Economist" remarks: "Prohibition is no longer championed by eccentrics. It has reached the stage of statesmanship, and involves the existence of

nations." Congressman Hobson said: "Drink undermines national vitality, which is without doubt the determining factor in the survival of nations." Iceland has Prohibition, and with a population of 78,000, it has no gaol, no police court, no social evil, and only one policeman. When this legitimate (?) trade is outlawed, with it go the gaol, the mental hospital, and the Red Plague.

If our Premier is correct, and the trade which spoils soldiers, manufactures criminals and lunatics, curses unborn children, is the cause of race suicide, converts grain into poison, and lessens the supply of bread; if this is a legitimate trade, then it is high time New Zealand elected a House of Parliament which will outlaw this trade, and acknowledge that healthy children are a more valuable asset than all the dollars the brewer ever contributes to our national exchequer.

"They enslave their children's children who make compromise with sin."

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### SIX O'CLOCK CLOSING.

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Unions everywhere, and many scattered members, have been returning thanks to Almighty God for the victory for righteousness just won. Let us not forget that this is only the first step on our march to Prohibition, which is our objective. We will never halt until we reach this goal. Let all Unions press for Prohibition as a war measure. We want a dry country for our boys to return to.

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### TREASURER'S REPORT.

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#### ORGANISING FUND.

Donations received since last report: Kaiapoi Union, £1; Wanganui East, 15s; total, £1 15s. Expenditure (including reporter's ticket), £22 7s 1d.

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#### STRENGTH OF THE NATION MOVEMENT.

Donations received: Mrs Don, £1; Pakiri Union, 15s (an excellent donation from one of our youngest Unions).

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#### OTHER RECEIPTS.

Donations to N.Z. Fund: Nelson Union, £1 1s 3d; Kaiapoi Union, £1. NELLIE BENDELY, N. Z. Treas. Auckland, 3rd October, 1917.

### STRENGTH OF THE NATION MOVEMENT.

(Mrs Lee-Cowie, Organiser.)

"And the walls of Jericho fell down." Truly our souls rejoiced in the Lord, "Who only doeth marvellous things," when we saw the walls of liquordom totter on that never-to-be-forgotten Thursday. Our prayers are being answered, and our faith is strong enough now to remove the evil traffic from our land for ever. Pray on, my comrades; trust and obey, and He will do exceeding abundantly, more than we can ask or think. I feel that now, when every Society is alive and vigorous, every temperance warrior alert and keen, I can hand in my credentials as Organiser of the militant branch of our great movement. It has been a very busy, blessed six months, full of joy of service. I will present to next Convention an itemised account of finances, members, etc., etc. Space in our paper is too precious for such details, for I want to urge another forward move for our Union.

The Y.W.C.A. have found their niche in cities and towns in providing hostels and home protection to girls. The war gave the Y.M.C.A. its opportunity, which it took magnificently. To us comes the mute appeal of thousands of women who will need training for new and unexpected vocations in life. With thousands of our men away from farms and orchards, the outlook will be serious, and we should at once provide clever and capable girls and women for wool-classing, pruning, fruit-growing, gardening, etc. These must be trained by first-class experts, and while being trained they must be cared for by consecrated motherly women, who will help to develop soul, mind, and body; to give God and our country the very best of our triune natures. Who is ready to launch the scheme? Who is ready to finance it? Who is ready to pray for a crowning blessing on it? Who is ready to work it? Our chance has come. Don't let us miss it. We have the respect of the Christian churches, the love of all good women, the solidity of a well-established organisation, and the power of our mighty God to make a success of this great national scheme. "Speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward."