

The White Ribbon

FOR GOD AND HOME AND HUMANITY

VOL. 16.—No. 183

NAPIER, N.Z., SEPTEMBER 15, 1910.

2s 6d Per Annum, Post Free
Single Copy, 3d.

FRANCHISE DAY, SEPT. 19th.

BY the time this issue is in the hands of our readers, preparations will have been made for the celebration of one of our Notable Days. Franchise Day means so much to the women of New Zealand, that all should at this time use their best endeavours to inculcate a high ideal of the responsibilities of citizenship.

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE.

HISTORY'S scroll of honour for women is not a long one, but this does not necessarily argue that the number of heroines is small. It has been said with some truth, that women are not naturally endowed with courage, but they possess in a greater degree than men, the more passive and less showy virtue of endurance. Hence it is that many a heroine, whose sphere does not extend much further than the four walls of her home, is destined to be unknown to fame, though deserving of a martyr's crown. The crown of laurels which Fame offers is worn but by a few, and among those few is Florence Nightingale, her title to a place on the scroll of fame—the greatest nurse in history.

Born on May 15th, 1820, near Florence, in Italy (hence her name),



MRS. HENRY,

Wife of Dr. Henry, of the Henry-Potts Mission Party.

she had the good fortune to have a gentle, refined mother, and a father whose ideas of a girl's education were very broad for those days. He was a wealthy country squire, superior in many ways to the usual type. He possessed two country seats, one in Derbyshire and the other in Hampshire, and at these two places Florence spent her childhood and her girlhood. She was well educated by her father, and was, besides, thoroughly domesticated. She

was deeply religious, and took great interest in her Bible class of girls. Her hobby was sick nursing, and she entered London hospitals to obtain experience. There she found that the sick were at the mercy of nurses of the Sairey Gamp type, and that there was great need for reform.

When the Crimean war broke out, and the British wounded were being tended only by clumsy orderlies and untrained comrades, Florence wrote to the Minister of War, offering to organise a band of nurses to go to Scutari. By a strange coincidence, her letter crossed one from the Minister, asking her to go. The result was that thirty-eight trained nurses arrived at Scutari the day before the battle of Inkermann, so that their work began at once in real earnest. The wounded occupied

four miles of beds, not eighteen inches apart, but the chaos that ruled was soon reduced to order by this energetic and brave band. They were naturally regarded as little less than angels by the many whose lives they saved. Florence was known among them as "The Lady of the Lamp," a word painting showing her to us as she glided among her patients in the night watches, smoothing a pillow here, encouraging a poor fellow there, receiving

the grateful looks and words of all, while her lamp lit up her sweet, calm face. Not till after the war was over, and the hospitals were empty, did Florence return to England. She then devoted herself to hospitals and nursing reform, and with the £10,000 subscribed by a grateful nation, she founded the Nightingale Training Home for Nurses at St. Thomas's Hospital.

In 1907 the late King Edward conferred on her the Order of Merit, the first occasion on which it has been presented to a woman. In 1908 the citizens of London presented her with the Freedom of the City.

Last month, at the advanced age of 90, Florence departed this life after a long illness, and the news of her death brought back to memory her great life work in the cause of fighting humanity. Not soldiers only, but all humanitarians, can thank God for such a noble woman.

C.S.L.

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.]

BLUFF.

The first Friday in each month in the Presbyterian Church Vestry.

May 6th.—Mrs Moody presiding. The following resolution was passed: "That the Premier be urged to fulfil his promise *re* the C.D. Acts,—that they be repealed during the next session of Parliament." Mrs J. Walker appointed Superintendent of Temperance Sunday Department.

May 25th.—A meeting specially called in connection with the proposed building and loan. Resolved—"That the building on property be proceeded with and a loan of £400 be raised."

June 9th.—Mrs D. Matheson appointed WHITE RIBBON Agent instead of Mrs Leith, resigned.

July 1st.—A letter *re* "Good Citizenship" read and discussed. Resolved—"Each member contribute 1s. towards Organising Fund." Mesdames Moody and J. Walker and Miss Mitchell requested to attend a meeting held in Invercargill *re* formation of Band of Hope Union.

An "American Evening," on behalf of Children's Piano Fund, was held in conjunction with the Band of Hope, July 22nd, at which the handsome sum of about £9 was realised. One new member added to the roll.

August 5th.—Communication from Sir J. G. Ward, *re* Bible Reading in State Schools, read.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

At the meeting in August, it was resolved that the action of the Revs. Dr Gibb and J. J. North be heartily endorsed in protesting against the production of the play, "The Girl from Rector's," on account of its grossly immoral tone. Mrs Houlder was appointed Reporter to WHITE RIBBON. Necessary business *re* the Provincial Convention to be held in Masterton was discussed; two Delegates were appointed.

GISBORNE.

At the meeting held in St. Andrew's School-room, August 11th, Mrs Leask, President of the Napier Union, opened with prayer. A vote of thanks was passed to Dr Gibb's for his action in regard to the exhibition of the Johnson-Jeffries pictures, and also for his recent sermons on "Signs of the Times." The meeting then adjourned to attend Dr Henry's prayer meeting.

August 12th, a large public meeting was held. Representatives of the Maori branches were present. Mrs Carroll welcomed Mrs Henry on behalf of the Maori race, her speech being interpreted by Rev. Wi Paraire. Mrs Henry gave a most interesting account of the drink crusade in America, out of which movement our Union took its rise, and spoke of the great pleasure it gave her to meet her Maori sisters; her speech was interpreted by Mr Piri Munro. The names of 16 new members were received. Miss Henry recited. Afternoon tea was dispensed by the Union.

August 30th some members of the Union met at the Old Men's Home, and spent a very pleasant social afternoon with the inmates. Mission hymns were sung and addresses given, and afternoon tea served by Mrs Church.

ASHBURTON.

On July 12th Rev. W. Lambert gave an interesting address on "The Aims and Objects of the W.C.T.U." to an appreciative gathering.

August 9th Mesdames F. Young and B. L. Missen were elected Delegates to the Provincial Convention. Communications were received from Superintendents of the Anti-Narcotic, Savings Bank and Thrift, and Backblocks Literature Departments of the Union, asking the co-operation of the branch in the work undertaken, and more particularly in the suppression of the cigarette evil. The following resolution was passed unanimously: "We, the members of the Ashburton W.C.T.U., wish to enter our emphatic protest against the system of granting holidays for the sole purpose of attending races, which we consider helps to foster the gambling spirit. We are astounded at business men placing such temptation in the way of their young employees, after the recent scathing remarks of Judge Chapman when sentencing two youths for embezzling their employers' money. We have no objection to the holiday, but it should be given for some nobler purpose, and we hold that all business men should support the Government in their endeavour to restrict this growing evil."

NELSON.

Preparations are well in hand for a Sale of Work and Garden Party to be held early in October, in the grounds of "Fairfield," the residence of Mrs A. S. Atkinson. The funds raised from this undertaking are to be devoted to providing a Tea Kiosk at the Agricultural Show in November. Several new members have been received into the Union, and increased interest is being taken in the work. Mrs A. R. Atkinson, of Wellington, gave a touching womanly address, containing many helpful remarks to mothers and guardians of young girls just merging into womanhood, and of children of younger years.

FEILDING.

Resolved to hold a united tea and public meeting of the various temperance organisations towards the end of the month. Funds for No-License League. Removal letters to be sent to Palmerston North and Toko *re* friends leaving our branch. Sister Moody Bell gave an interesting address, alluding to the privilege of women's vote, hoping all would use it. She expressed a strong hope that English women would soon have the suffrage. Said they had been wickedly misrepresented by an opposition influence, the violent law-breakers were in the pay of those opposed to female suffrage. Correspondence was read from the Premier, the local member, and the N.Z. Alliance *re* temperance legislation.

LOWER HUTT.

It was decided that letters be sent to Dr Gibb and Mr North expressing approval of the action taken in denouncing the play entitled "The Girl from Rector's." The President undertook the management of the medal contest to be held in November. Miss Dillon, Evangelistic Superintendent, gave a report on work among the Chinese. It was arranged to procure literature in Chinese for distribution. A prayer meeting will be held monthly prior to the usual meeting to invoke God's blessing on all our undertakings.

WELLINGTON CENTRAL.

On August 19th Mrs Port was elected Delegate to the Provincial Convention. The following Superintendents were appointed:—Drawing-room Meetings, Mrs Port; Cradle Roll, Mrs Kitto and Miss Keats. A Visiting Committee was also appointed. A motion of sympathy with Mrs Denton was passed. Two new members were initiated.

ONEHUNGA.

Good work is being done, some of the members collecting for the forthcoming No-License work, others interested in getting a copy of the Ten Commandments put up in the day school class-rooms.

Our "Cradle Roll" Meetings were postponed for several months, owing to illness amongst the children. We are hoping to start again next month.

TUAKAU.

At the meeting held in the Wesleyan Church 23rd August, Mrs Scanlen presiding, two new members were received. Letters were read from Sir J. Ward, the Hon. G. Fowlds, the Rev. Dukes, Mesdames Jansen and C. J. Rule, and Miss Dewar. Resolved to appoint a Superintendent for Temperance Sunday as

soon as possible, also to send a Delegate to the Convention in Auckland on 5th of October.

A Band of Hope meeting was held 18th August.

The Secretary read a paper on "The Life and Work of Florence Nightingale." The announcement of the departure of our Sister, Mrs Duker, was read, all the members standing in token of silent sympathy.

WARKWORTH.

At the meeting held in the Public Hall, August 4th. The President read an article from the WHITE RIBBON on "The C.D. Act," as each member ought to have some knowledge of what the Act really is. Our Band of Hope Superintendent reports good work, also Superintendent of the "Cradle Roll;" we have now 40 names on the Roll. A hearty vote of thanks was given to our President for the pleasant day spent at "Red Bluff" in commemorating "WHITE RIBBON Day." A Dorcas Box was started at our last meeting.

INVERCARGILL.

On August 3rd Don Street Schoolroom was filled with members and interested friends. The Acting President gave a pointed address, urging each member to induce young people to compete for the Union's various temperance prizes. Resolutions were carried supporting the Dominion Alliance's, also Dr Findlay's, with the addition "That deserters in affiliation cases be given the same treatment as wife deserters." After the initiation of seven new members the meeting took the form of a social.

At our last meeting £3 10s. was voted to the Organising Fund. It was decided to call the attention of Superintendents of Sunday Schools to the prevalence of cigarette smoking, and to ask that teachers be asked to warn their scholars against this great evil. A resolution of deep sympathy was passed with the President in her illness. Mrs Hunter was elected Treasurer in the place of Mrs Small, resigned.

The W.C.T.U. Victoria Memorial Home, Invercargill.

The annual meeting was held August 24th. The ward room of the institution was filled with an interested gathering presided over by the Mayor (Mr W. A. Ott). He gave a sympathetic address, and referred in most appreciative terms to the general management of the Home. The Report revealed the fact that the need of the Home was more than ever apparent, and the work done had been more than double that of the previous year: 33 girls had been under the care of the Home, 5 homeless women had been sheltered, and 3 other married women had been cared for in sickness; in the children's department 36 babies had been cared for (some because of the sickness of their mothers, others till homes were found for them), 9 children had been returned to their homes, and 3 adopted; 73 cases were dealt with; 1 marriage took place; and death claimed 1 adult and 3 children.

Several gentlemen spoke sympathetically, and, while deploring the necessity of such an institution, expressed their thankfulness that there were people willing and able to do such a work.

In her Annual Statement, the President (Mrs Baird) expressed pleasure at seeing some new faces, as well as those who had been helpers since the foundation of the Home. The Committee's zeal had not been damped by difficulties and discouragements encountered.

It was a Christian work, the keystone pity and compassion. Some said sin should be punished, and so did not agree with them, but in no place in Invercargill was the fact that "the way of the transgressor is hard" more plainly seen than in the Home. Mrs Baird referred to the ideal of justice, but that justice was not the justice of every day. They saw the weak made to suffer while the strong escaped. The Committee strove to succour the deserted and bring to justice the deserter. She appealed to them to recognise the urgency for these measures and to remember that "Blessed are the merciful for they shall obtain mercy."

DUNEDIN "Y's."

At the welcome tendered to Mrs Henry our Union supplied Secretaries, Collectors, and decorations, the Glee Club contributing a quartette. Several new members have been enrolled. Instructive papers have been read on "Is Alcohol Necessary to the Human Body," "Christian Citizenship," and "The Bare Majority Question," followed by discussion. Owing to the impending departure of the President, Miss Begg, to take up Mission work in Samoa, the Annual Meeting of the "Y" Union has been fixed for October 13th. It is hoped that this will be a large and enthusiastic meeting. The various Bible Classes and Endeavour Societies of Dunedin and suburbs will be circularised, and every effort made to gain new members for the new year and to place the work of the "Y" Union prominently before the public.

OTAUTAU.

At the meeting in the Presbyterian Hall August 11th, great regret was felt at the resignation of Mrs W. S. Baird as President, owing to her leaving the district. Mrs J. Brown elected President by ballot, with assurances of loyal support from all the members. Literature was read on the subject of forming a "Y" Union. A petition paper, to be presented to the Licensing Bench, asking that the sale of liquor on the show ground be prohibited, was passed round for final signatures.

On August 5th the Union met in the tea rooms for a social hour with their departing President, and presented her with a small token of regard. "God be with you till we meet again" was sung.

TIMARU.

Mrs Lamb conducted devotional service. Sparing a half-hour given to devotion is felt to be uplifting. Mrs Rule presided. Correspondence was dealt with, amongst which was an appreciative letter from the Premier and the Secretary of the West Ham Mission, London, in appreciation of our box of clothing and mutton forwarded to them, some having tasted mutton for the first time. The Borough Council say they have no power to prohibit the showing of pictures of the Johnson-Jeffries fight. Several donations were received. Mr Stead reported a quiet month, 65 sailors making 127 visits.

NELSON.

At the meeting August 16th the President, Miss Atkinson, occupied the chair. Mrs Crump gave a very cordial welcome to Mrs A. R. Atkinson, of Wellington. Mrs Atkinson's address, which was very interesting and practical, was much appreciated by all.

Our members are working hard for a "Sale of Work," which is to be held on October 12th at Mrs Atkinson's, "Fairfield."

At our July meeting we had pleasure in receiving Mrs Voyce, from the Greymouth branch, and Mrs Booth, from Glenheim.

We regret to report the death of one of our members, Miss Kamm, who was for many years a very faithful worker in our Union.

HAWERA.

At the meeting held August 11th Mrs Duffield presided. One new member was initiated. Mrs Sellars read a most interesting paper on "Citizenship." A vote of thanks was passed for the use of the Presbyterian class room. In future our meetings are to be held in the Oddfellows' Hall. Mrs Bischoff reported on "Cradle Roll" work. Temperance Sunday work was taken up. Temperance wall sheets have been placed in several of the schools in the district. A vote of sympathy was passed to the husband and family of the late Mrs Masters, of Stratford.

WORLD'S W.C.T.U. TRIENNIAL CONVENTION.

(Continued from last month.)

In a speech of marvellous vigour and brightness, Mrs Mary Harris Armor, of Georgia, entirely captivated the huge audience, who punctuated it with loud applause or laughter. She said they stated Prohibition did not prohibit. Who said it would absolutely prohibit? But it was the only thing in the world that had made the liquor traffic sit up and take notice. The disgrace of any nation did not consist in the fact that some things calling themselves men sneaked out by the back alleys and sold the stuff "in spite of all we can do," nor in the fact that some men had abnormal appetites. The disgrace that blackened civilisation was that any so-called Christian Government should throw the purple and ermine of the law on a business which dishonoured womanhood, degraded manhood, and beggared childhood.

Baroness Von Hausen, Germany, said it was very hard to secure reform in Germany. Students acquired the drink habit and this stood in the way.

Mrs Lente Stevenson and Miss Agnes Slack also gave addresses. The latter said that the liquor traffic dominated our politics and our municipal life: it crept in everywhere. But they were proud to say as temperance people that we had at present the bravest temperance Government the nation had ever known.

A Hundred One Minute Speeches.

At a crowded evening meeting in St. Andrew's Hall Mrs L. M. N. Stevens

presided, supported by the Countess of Carlisle and other special Delegates.

Apart from short intervals arranged to allow the singing of a hymn, an American anthem, and "Auld Lang Syne," nearly a hundred speeches were given in quick succession.

A similar unique meeting is held each Convention.

The humour of the "time" limit developed early in the evening, and the stern reminder "Time!" from the chair became as amusing as it was frequent. "The chair" was adamant, speakers were obliged to complete their sentences whilst they retreated before the uplifted hand of "Madam Chairman."

The shortest speech was the fourth on the list—Mrs Hallows, India. She said "India says to you this evening 'Salaam!'"

Amongst the speakers were Mrs Nolan, Australia; Lady Stout, New Zealand; and Miss Anderson Hughes, who appeared in Maori dress and told the story of the woman who, when her drunken husband was sent to prison, addressed the Magistrates with the remark "Why don't you shut up the liquor instead of shutting up my husband?" In New Zealand, she added, we are shutting up the liquor.

A most remarkable, enjoyable, and instructive meeting was concluded by a great ovation to Mrs Stevens for her conduct in the chair that night as well as throughout the week.

Queen Margaret College.

A Garden Party was given to the members of the Convention in the grounds surrounding the College. A large number were most hospitably entertained, the function being exceedingly enjoyable and delightful.

At the Convention a Delegate reported that a number of portraits of distinguished persons were hung on the walls of the College, and it was agreed that a suitably framed portrait of Frances E. Willard, the founder of the W.W.C.T.U., should be presented to the authorities for the same purpose.

WELLINGTON PROVINCIAL CONVENTION.

This Convention was held in Masterton 6th September.

At 9.30 a.m. a Devotional Meeting, conducted by Mrs Burton, was a good beginning for the day's work.

At 10 a.m. Mrs Devonport, President of the Masterton Union, welcomed the

Delegates, after which Mrs Boxall, District President, occupied the chair. Owing to illness, Mrs Kavanagh, Provincial Secretary, was unable to be present, and Mrs Macalister read the Minutes of last Convention. The roll was called, the following ladies responding:—Wellington District, Mesdames Boxall (President), Hayes, Houlder, and Keene; Wellington Central, Mesdames Macalister, Port, and Gooder; Petone, Mrs Rowse; Upper Hutt, Mesdames Jansen and Knight; Masterton, Mesdames Devonport and D'Ews; Levin, Mrs Remington. Press Reporters were appointed. A letter from Mrs (Dr) Chapple, on her visit to the World's Convention, was read, and it is hoped that all our members will read it in the WHITE RIBBON. A report of work done during the year was read.

The new Central Union is to be congratulated on having got a membership of 47 in such a short time, filling a long-felt want in the more central parts of the town.

Hutt, with a membership of 24, reports good progress, and was heartily congratulated on the amount of work it had been able to accomplish.

Upper Hutt report was most encouraging, having only been in existence ten months.

Levin is working quietly, since Miss Powell's visit fresh enthusiasm has been instilled.

Masterton are fighting for the Bible in schools, although not yet successful are still working in hope of success in the near future.

At noontide hour, a chain prayer asked God's blessing on our Convention and on the White Ribbon work all round the world. Mrs Rowse gave a report of the work done by Petone, after which we adjourned for lunch.

Roll was called at 1.30. After a short discussion on the Bible in schools question the "Question Box" was held, and several very helpful suggestions were given. A letter was read from Miss Barton, who is now in Australia, on the Maori work amongst the girls at Hokianga, and a most pathetic appeal for someone to go and help them. A paper written by Mrs Lill on "Our Boys and Girls," specially dealing with Motherhood and its claims, was read. Resolved—"This Convention expresses to Revs. Dr Gibb and J. J. North its thanks and entire sympathy with them in their courageous attitude in connection with immoral plays in face of public opinion and opposition."

In the evening the Wesleyan School-room was filled. A varied programme with speeches by Dr Helen Cowie on

"The Evil Effects of Alcohol on the Nervous System," Mrs Te Tau on her work amongst her own people, and two Maori Presidents, for whom Mrs Te Tau translated.

Resolved—"The next Convention be held at Levin." Mrs Macalister was appointed Secretary and Mrs Remington Treasurer.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

Australia.

Australian resolution *re* Woman Suffrage:—

On December 4th, 1909, the Prime Minister in the Federal Parliament of Australia read the following resolution, which was passed without dissent:—

1. That this House testifies to the fact that after sixteen years' experience of Woman Suffrage in various parts of Australasia, and nine years' experience in the Commonwealth, the reform has justified the hopes of its supporters, and falsified all the fears and prophecies of disaster, voiced by its opponents.

2. That, as foreseen by its advocates, its effects have been (a) to gradually educate women to a sense of their responsibility in public affairs; (b) to give more prominence to social and domestic legislation.

3. That Australasian experience convinces this House that to adopt Woman Suffrage is simply to apply to the political sphere that principle of government that secures the best results in the domestic sphere—the mutual co-operation of men and women for the individual and general welfare.

England.

Answer received in reply to New Zealand's protest against the cruelty inflicted on the Suffragists by the British Government:—

"10, Downing Street,
"Whitehall, S.W.,
"13 June, 1910.

"MADAM,—I am desired by the Prime Minister to acknowledge the receipt of your letter on the subject of Woman's Suffrage.

"Yours faithfully,
"R. S. MEIKLEJOHN.

"The PRESIDENT,
"New Zealand Women's
"Christian Temperance Union."

Extract from private letter written by Mrs Edith Searle Grossman, *re* the

Woman's Suffrage Protest recently sent Home :—

"I am sure the protest has done good. Of course it takes time to get up any remonstrance or petition, and have it forwarded to the other end of the world, and the militants had ceased to militate and the Government to persecute by the time it had arrived.

"But I look upon the New Zealand and Australian protests as a kind of safeguard, and am confident they will materially help to prevent any such outrages recurring. The English of to-day have the weakness of believing themselves the best, wisest, humanest people that have ever existed, and they cannot bear hostile criticism. Though they denounce the critic, they generally have the wisdom to amend their ways if the criticism is just. Nothing done at Home is likely to have so much influence in preventing any more cruelty as the proof that other nations are watching, and are likely to condemn. I should be glad if those of you who have exerted yourselves regarding the protest would know that the work has been worth doing, and not ineffectual.

"I sent most of the copies of the protest to Lady Stout, who is in touch with all the leaders of the movement, and has been received by them as our leader. She has worthily upheld the cause, and done a great deal for suffrage and also for the reputation of New Zealand. I think it was quite providential that she happened to be in England at this crisis. She had a large (private) meeting of London Society ladies, with Australian and New Zealand visitors. The protest was read aloud and received with applause. A copy was given to every one present. I understand also that it was read at one of the large meetings at the Albert Hall. I sent one copy myself to Mrs Pethick Lawrence and enclose her reply. Also I distributed some privately."

Copy of letter *re* New Zealand Suffrage Protest sent to Mrs Grossman by the Woman's Social and Political Union :—

"4, Clement's Inn,
Strand, July 15/10.

"MRS E. SEARLE GROSSMAN.

"DEAR MRS GROSSMAN,—We have all been very deeply touched by the brave and loyal protest made by the New Zealand women.

"I should like to see a universally signed petition from the Australian and New Zealand women, to King George

and Queen Mary, for the extension of political right to their sisters in the Mother Country.

"I believe that British women to-day are on the eve of enfranchisement.

"Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

"EMMELINE PETHICK LAWRENCE."

Correspondence.

DEAR SISTERS,

For the first time in fourteen months the WHITE RIBBON appears without the familiar heading "Organiser's Monthly Report," the reason being that the organiser has for the time being gone out of existence. It appears to me that, when the election nears, the duty of endeavouring to increase the number of our "dry" areas takes precedence of other work. I have therefore accepted the position of organiser for the No-license League of Palmerston North, and my energies will be confined to a smaller area.

At the same time, I hope no Union will feel relieved of its financial responsibility with regard to the Organising Fund because there is at present no worker in the field. It is imperative that we build up that fund so that, when an agent appears, there shall be no delay but a start may be made at once. I did my best to collect subscriptions at such hours as could not be utilised in visiting (and so building up the membership of the Union) and raised all expenses except—on an average—£1 a week and I am hoping to see at least £50 in the hands of the treasurer before the end of this year. Could not those branches which find a difficulty in obtaining the money make a special effort in some way? I find some branches are collecting a shilling per head from their membership to meet their assessment. This, as our President carefully explained, was not the idea at all. That kind of thing has killed many a branch when money is needed. Some well-to-do member says: "We will give a shilling a head," and the poorer one sitting by does not like to say: "I cannot afford to do so," and so she quietly drops out of the Union. When we tell women that if they join us their indebtedness will amount to 2/7 a year and they find they are expected to give a shilling here and a sixpence there some of them feel things have been misrepresented. It is true the assessment is based upon the membership but the idea is that the Union should in some way

raise a sum *equal* to a shilling per member.

I cannot close without thanking the many friends who, during my campaign, have done their best to make it a success and from whom I have received much kindness. One of the compensations of the arduous life of an organiser is the warm personal friendships formed. What a rest it is to here-and-there turn towards a home where one has on a previous occasion received a loving welcome, and held sweet communion with the saints of God. To the many friends who have so kindly admitted me into the sanctuary of the home and showered kindnesses upon me I once more tender my hearty thanks. I cannot return their kindness but I can and do pray daily that the Master would reward them for it.

Yours in His service,

MARY S. POWELL.

THE "CRADLE ROLL."

DEAR MADAM,

At the District Convention, held recently in Stratford, I am informed that "Cradle Roll" work was much to the front," but a few questions were asked which I think should be answered in print for the benefit of others who may desire advice with regard to the two questions below.

I. How to deal with children over six years old: Should their names be struck off?

A leaflet has been prepared dealing with this question, which I shall be glad to send to anyone making application, *gratis*. The children, when old enough, should be gathered together, and enrolled as members of the W.C.T.U. Loyal Temperance Legion, and instructed simply and regularly upon the nature of strong drink and its evils. A simple lesson book is suggested in the leaflet referred to. Of course the names should be carefully enrolled, and kept by some responsible member of the Union. No faithful instruction is ever lost, and very lasting impression may be made upon the young hearts and minds.

II. Children who have left the district: Should their names be crossed off?

If the new addresses can be ascertained and they happen to be where there is a branch of the W.C.T.U., the Secretary of that Union should be informed of the removal, so that she can hand the information to the local Superintendent of "Cradle Roll" work. It can be seen

from this how necessary it is to have a "Cradle Roll" in connection with every Union. Should the new addresses be in a district where there is no W.C.T.U., but the nearest Union is the one just left, the names should be kept upon the roll where they were first placed until the children reach the age of 6 or 8 years, and a reminder in the form of a card should be sent annually. As W.C.T.U. work develops, not many children will, let us hope, get beyond the influence of its work. With regard to those whose addresses are not known, but merely the town to which they have removed, the Superintendent should send the names and other particulars to the Secretary of the nearest Union to that town, so that the children may not be lost sight of.

Yours truly,

JESSIE SPENCE,
N.Z. Superintendent "C.R."

An Appreciation.

18, Huntington Avenue,
Boston, June 9, 1910.

MRS RUTH DAY AND THE LADIES OF THE
W.C.T.U. OF NEW ZEALAND.

DEAR MRS DAY,

The Agenda, &c., of the Quarter Century Convention of the W.C.T.U. of New Zealand gives me great delight. To see so wonderful results of my visit to your beautiful island is wonderfully uplifting, shut off as I am now from almost all activities by infirmities of age, among them failing sight from atrophy of the optic nerve. And the very appropriate message from the Union, warmly affectionate as it is, cheers and warms my heart. God bless you all for your goodness to me.

Lest I should never have another chance to say it, I will do it now. I believe greater results have followed my work in New Zealand than anywhere else. And I did not spare myself, nor fail to do my best *as unto the Lord*, everywhere I went. But you women of New Zealand took hold of the work aright, saw the value of franchise for woman, saw that *legal* suasion must be brought to bear upon the seller as well as moral suasion upon the drinker, and worked with your wonderful directness and persistence for the chief things first. Go on as you have, and long before your descendants are gathered in Centennial Convention, every baby that shall be born, every boy and every girl, shall

have reason to thank God for birth and home in New Zealand.

Gratefully and affectionately your friend,

MARY CLEMENT LEAVITT.

ORGANIZING FUND.

Donations received for the Organizing Fund:—

	£	s.	d.
Rangiora Union	1	0	0
Hamilton Union	3	0	0
Cambridge Union	10	6	
Waitara Union	14	0	
Invercargill Union	3	10	0
Blenheim Union	3	0	0
Waikari Union	1	0	0
Wanganui Union	2	10	0
Masterton Branch	1	0	0
Mrs Udy	1	0	0
Mrs Williams	1	0	0
Mrs Scales	1	0	0

NELLIE BENDELY,
Organizing Treasurer.

WM. CAMPBELL

GENERAL GROCER,
and TEA DEALER.

40 and 42 Manners Street, and 293 Cuba Street
Wellington, and
163 Riddiford Street, Newtown

LADIES' AND CHILDREN'S GOLF BLOUSES

ALL WOOL . . .

LATEST STYLES

From 7/6 to 20/-

W. SPEDDING,
Karangahape Road, AUCKLAND

**DR. FAWCETT'S HOMŒOPATHIC
ACCOUCHEMENT** and other Medi-
cines for Expectant Mothers. Wise in-
formation given young Wives & Mothers.
Healthy, Strong Babies. Write Mrs
E. SNOW, Alexandra-st., Palmerston N.

PLEDGE BOOKS.

NAPIER Union has issued a number of
attractive Pledge Books, to be obtained of

MRS DEARLOVE, Lincoln Road, at

1/- Each, or 10/- per Dozen.

W.C.T.U., N.Z.

List of Literature Now in Stock.

LEAFLETS AND BOOKLETS

- 'Safe Remedies,' 8d per doz
- Condensed Parliamentary Rules, 2½d each, from
Roberts' 'Rules of Order'
- 'Food for the Baby,' 2d per doz
- No License leaflets, 10d per 100
- Effects of Tobacco on Physical development, 8d
per 100
- No-License Tracts, Medical, 8d per 100
- John Burns, M.P., 'Drink, Mother of Want'
8d per 100
- 'Sabbath Observance,' by Rev A. Doull, M.A.
10d per 100
- Mrs Webb's Booklets, 6d per doz
- 'Who Did Sin,' by Lady Henry Somerset, 1s 4d
doz
- Song Leaflet 'All Round The World,' by Mr s
Katherine Lent Stevenson, 8d per 100

MEDICAL

- 'Alcohol in the Treatment of Tuberculosis,' 8d
per doz
- 'Medical Use of Alcoholic Liquors,' 8d per doz

PLEDGE CARDS

- New Pledge Cards, 5d per doz
- New Pledge Books, 2/- per doz

PLACARDS, &c.

- Placards to Advertise Meetings, 10d per doz
- Placards, Children's Photographs, 1/3 per doz

JUBILEE POST CARDS, 1/- PER DOZ.

BEAUTIFUL

CHILDREN'S PICTURES,
Suitable for Letters, 6d per Packet.

WHITE RIBBON HYMNAL,
2/- EACH.

Will friends please note prices, and send
stamps or postal note with their order. The
prices quoted includes postage in every case,
except for Constitutions.

Mrs. HISLOP,

MAYBANK,

North-east Valley, DUNEDIN.

WOMEN'S
CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE
UNION OF NEW ZEALAND.

ORGANISED, 1885.

"For God and Home and Humanity."

President:

MRS COLE, Cashmere Hills, Christchurch

Vice-President-at-Large:

MRS A R ATKINSON, Arbury, Wadestown,
Wellington

Recording Secretary:

MRS MITCHELL, Methodist Parsonage, Kaiapoi

Corresponding Secretary:

MRS PERYMAN, Willowby, Ashburton

Treasurer:

MRS McCOMBS, Fendalton road, Fendalton,
Christchurch.

OFFICIAL ORGAN:

"THE WHITE RIBBON."

Editor - - Mrs Oldham, France Rd., Napier

Associate Editor - - Mrs Low, M.A.

Business Manager - Miss Harrison,
France Rd., Napier

The White Ribbon.

For God and Home and Humanity.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1910.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT.

Dr. Findlay's Proposals.—The C.D. Acts.

AN important statement regarding his proposals for the amendment of the Public Health Act, 1908, with a view to checking the prevalence and spread of certain contagious diseases, has been made to the press by the Hon. Dr. Findlay (Minister of Justice.)

"Medical testimony, police reports and other information," said Dr. Findlay, given at the conference of clergymen and doctors held at my instance and in my office on the 24th July, revealed such a prevalence and increase of certain contagious diseases in our chief centres as to call for some immediate legal means of at least checking the further growth of the evils. The leading medical practitioners present clearly showed that these diseases were the cause of much suffering among many innocent women and chil-

dren. The extent and nature of this suffering are most distressing. For instance, probably 90 per cent of the infantile blindness in this country is due to one of these diseases, and the necessity for surgical operations on innocent women is simply deplorable. The statistics submitted not only disclosed a bad state of things, but proved that it is getting worse. In these circumstances I asked should we stand unconcerned with hands folded, or should we try to do something to check the growth of the evil? The discussion at the conference proceeded on the assurance given by the Prime Minister that the Contagious Diseases Act would be abolished, and on the further assurance that no legislation embodying the principles of that Act would be proposed. Whatever law was placed on the Statute Book must apply to men and women alike, and must aim, not at regulating or even recognising vice, but at protecting health. The proposals now under consideration are as follows:—To make the Public Health Act, 1908, applicable to certain contagious diseases by the following amendments: (a) to extend the definition of infectious diseases so as to include these contagious ones; (b) to amend section 13 to enable regulations to be made for the isolation (if necessary) of persons affected by these diseases; (c) to extend paragraph (E) of Section 18 so that persons affected by these diseases may, when necessary, be required by the district health officer to report themselves or submit themselves for public examination at special times and places; (d) to extend paragraph (F) of section 25 to make it imperative upon every medical practitioner, chemist, or other person consulted by anyone having one or other of these diseases, to give notice to the district health officer, failing compliance with this obligation a fine to be imposed, and in addition, if the convicting court thinks fit, the doctor, chemist or other person consulted to be suspended from practice or business for a period not exceeding six months, such notice to be strictly confidential, and to be destroyed as soon as it has served its purpose; (e) section 34 to be extended so that any person knowing he or she is affected by either of these diseases, and wilfully doing

anything to communicate such disease to another, shall be liable to heavy penalties, consequential amendments to be made to the machinery of the Public Health Act so as to render these provisions effective."

"It is not claimed for these proposals that they will remove the evil," said Dr. Findlay. "The most that any provision can hope for is to reduce it or check its growth. If these powers are vested in a discreet public health officer he can do much by way of advice, warning, and, if necessary, by some measure of isolation. Some facts which have been brought under my notice in connection with the condition of short sentenced prisoners of both sexes in our gaols show how necessary even isolation sometimes is. It is impossible to trace out in detail in public print the many ways in which these proposed powers would check the existing evil and protect innocent persons. They would, moreover, certainly operate as a deterrent upon vice. The compulsory notification of the disease would add to its dread. The principle of the proposals I have outlined has been approved by the Wellington branch of the British Medical Association, and I have confidence that it will be approved by all the clergy who were present at the Conference, representing as they did the Churches of all denominations. I have indeed already received the written approval of the clergy of one great denomination. A little later, when I have got fuller information, I propose to bring this matter before Cabinet for consideration."

A Criticism of Dr. Findlay's Proposals.

The following criticisms and suggestions regarding the proposals for dealing with Contagious Diseases have been sent to Dr. Findlay:—

The Legal and Parliamentary Department of the Women's Christian Temperance Union regrets the proposed introduction by Dr. Findlay of penal clauses under the Public Health Act, 1908, with regard to special Contagious Diseases.

It appears to the Department that a scheme of the kind proposed contains elements likely to defeat its

own object, and endanger, rather than protect, the public health.

This Department believes that there are only two sound lines upon which to proceed to combat the undoubted evils of syphilis, viz:—

1. The Education of the Young.

This is strongly advocated by the recent International Conference held at Brussels. This Conference was composed of some 360 members of 33 nationalities. Of these, 107 were Government delegates representing 26 different countries, mostly European, but including the United States, Persia, and Japan. Our own War Office and the Indian Office were represented, together with the Royal College of Surgeons, the Irish College of Surgeons, and the British Medical Association.

Out of the entire number, 295 were doctors, and a large number of these held public posts in the "Service of Health," or as Professors of the special subject.

The sixty-five non-medical members included Ministers of State, Heads of Police or Health Departments, delegates of municipalities, legal authorities and professors, and a few other persons individually invited on the ground of special competence, and representing, for the most part, the sociological side of the subject; among these were several women.

To show what is being done to combat this disease in those countries where they are supposed to manage these things better than in England, it may be pointed out that Dr. Boureau, of Paris, gives public lectures on the subject every year to students and to working men.

Professor Neisser has a full course every winter for the University students generally, each of whom also receives on Matriculation a notice warning him of the dangers attending an irregular life, and putting before him the moral aspects of the question. The Minister of Education had recommended that similar measures should be taken in all the Prussian Universities.

Professors Fournier, Troisfontaines, and others proposed, or had already adopted, a system whereby to diffuse information, thus affording "Protection by Knowledge."

Mr Jonathan Hutchinson, the English specialist, who attended as

one of the representatives of the Royal College of Surgeons, and whose European reputation made him the object of the most respectful attention, advised that young men in public schools and colleges should be warned and instructed, and the instruction should include moral considerations and respect for the purity of women.

A diminution of vice would bring with it a diminution of disease.

With regard to men in the Army—Mr Hutchinson said that if the matter were put before the men in a reasonable way, he was convinced that they would respond, and that would do more to diminish disease in the Army than all the regulation that could be devised.

This Department suggests that the Education Department of New Zealand should procure the services of specialists to educate the young people in our schools and universities by means of scientific teaching concerning the functions of their bodies, the dangers consequent on the misuse of them, and the value of healthful self-control. This course has not yet been tried in New Zealand, and the Legal and Parliamentary Department of the New Zealand Women's Christian Temperance Union considers that in view of the statements of such eminent specialists as are above quoted, it should be given a fair trial. The Department is convinced that this is much the most hopeful method of dealing with the evil, for it is a question of divided opinion whether, once the disease has been contracted, any subsequent treatment can cure the victim or remove the danger to the community.

The second line is:—

2. The Absolutely Free Treatment of Every Patient Suffering from any Form of this Disease.

Such treatment can only be carried out where the patient cheerfully and freely offers himself or herself for treatment, and both on the Continent of Europe and in England this has been effected only where the patients have been convinced that they are perfectly free to come and go.

At the recent Brussels Conference several speakers laid stress on the absence of compulsory detention as an essential of voluntary applications for treatment. Dr Nevins

instanced the case of the Glasgow Infirmary, where for some years patients of this kind were required on entering to sign a promise to remain until discharged. It was found that patients refused to sign, and presently ceased to come at all, and the rule had to be rescinded. The fear of compulsory detention had been fatal to success of the scheme everywhere. Dr Boureau said that there was a philanthropic society in Paris which maintained a free dispensary for these patients.

"The Clandestines whom the police fail to reach come to us," he said. "At first they feared we would detain them, but now they come freely, and often bring their companions."

The fact that prominent medical men of high standing declare emphatically that they will not notify all cases, no matter what the law may provide, is in itself a proof of the uselessness of the proposed legislation.

(Signed) FANNY COLE,
President.

M. B. LOVELL-SMITH,
Superintendent of Department.

OUR ILLUSTRATION.

Many of our readers will be delighted to recognise the familiar face of Mrs Henry, of the Henry-Potts Mission. Her mother was one of the noble army in the first Crusade War against the liquor saloon in America. Mrs Henry remembers, as a child, being taken with the party to help in the singing. To the organisation of the W.C.T.U. she willingly gives of her time and strength. The following message received from Mrs Henry will be read with especial interest:—

"As an ardent believer in the principles and practices of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, I gladly take this opportunity to convey to our New Zealand daughter the greetings of thousands of women across the sea, who, with you, are working for God and Home and Humanity.

"The women of the United States have reason to be grateful to you for the manner in which you have received our Round the World Missionaries, and accepted their suggestions and followed their precepts; and we rejoice with you in the marvellous achievements of the

New Zealand W.C.T.U. during the first twenty-five years of its history.

"New Zealand is known and honoured throughout the world for its advanced legislation in the interest of humanity. May it take one step further in advance and be the first of the nations to absolutely banish the curse of strong drink from its borders!

"Take cheer, your work is holy,
God's errands never fail!
Sweep on through storm and darkness,
The thunder and the hail.
Work on! Sail on! The morning comes,
The port you all shall win;
And all the bells of God shall ring
The ships of Temperance in!"

ATTENTION, PLEASE!

Will each Secretary kindly enter upon her Convention number Miss Powell's present address, viz: 43 Church Street East, Palmerston North. A great deal of confusion has lately been caused by applications for literature etc., being made to the wrong quarter. Please note that badges at 3d each (postage extra) may be obtained at above address, a discount of one shilling per dozen being allowed when prepaid. Unless cash with order the full price will be charged. Please do not send stamps for sums above one shilling. All purity literature is stocked by the purity Superintendent, Mrs Webb, and all Maori requisites by Mrs Hendersen. General literature may be obtained from Mrs Hislop, and Cradle Roll requirements will be met by Mrs Spence. Mrs Heatley, "Belle-Knowes," Dunedin, furnishes writing pads, and New Plymouth Union, envelopes.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Will Superintendents send all communications for Maori branches in the Gisborne District through Mrs Walker, Superintendent of Maori Work, Fox Street, Whataupoko.

Senders of reports after the 8th of the month are reminded that it is impossible to insert these in the current issue.

The Superintendent of Peace and Arbitration wishes to remind the Unions of the importance of this work, and trusts that many branches will appoint local Superintendents. Severe family bereavement prevents a circular letter being sent just now to every Union.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED

To September 8th, 1910.

To December, 1909—Miss Sampson, Wellington, 2/6.

To June, 1910—Mesdames Sweetman, Grey-mouth; Lanyon, Lyttelton; Keene, Island Bay; Crane, and Miss Alexander, Wanganui, each 2/6. Mrs Pudney, Auckland, 12/-.

To August, 1910—Mrs Low, Studholme, 2/6.

To October, 1910—Miss Roll, Kaiapoi, 2/6.

To November, 1910—Mrs Bruce, Gisborne, 2/6.

To December, 1910—Mesdames Gresham, Invercargill; Vigers, Waimate, each 2/6.

To March, 1911—Mesdames Rosevear, Dunedin; Cooper, Gisborne, each 2/6.

To May, 1911—Mesdames Dearlove, Napier; Kingston, Gisborne, each 2/6.

To June, 1911—Mesdames Pickering, Blackwell, Butcher, Ellen, Allen, Kaiapoi; Hendry, McKay, Wesley, Gilchrist, Invercargill; Williams, Hornsby, Greymouth; J. C. Graham, A. Graham, Wilks, Gisborne; McLeod, Sage, Lill, Butterick, Ashburton; Joughin, Leeston; Scanlen, Tuakau; Josling, Christchurch; Smith, Waipukurau; Jones, Wanganui; Hatchwell, Whitby, Hilyard, Bromley, Lyttelton; Misses McGeorge, Dunedin; Hannaford, Ashburton; Madill, Tuakau; Brechin, Wanganui; Mr Aitken, Wellington, each 2/6. Mesdames Ward, Kaiapoi; King, Napier, each 5/-. Mrs Lawry, Napier, 7/6.

To July, 1911—Mesdames Ball, Burne, Napier; Lewis, New Plymouth; Swanson, Hawera; Adkin, Levin; Blizzard, Wairoa; Waugh, Invercargill; Ackroyd, Gisborne; Misses Stewart, Levin; Johnson, Picton; Walker, Christchurch, each 2/6.

To August, 1911—Mesdames Bath, Jeffcoat, Invercargill; Diven, Frost, Tuakau; Bendeley, Hocking, Dunn, Hoddinott, Christchurch; Murdoch, Tauranga; Bowater, Wanganui; Misses Bates, Orari; Westwood, Tuakau; Brocklehurst, Christchurch; Johnson, Petone; Upward, Tasmania, each 2/6.

To November, 1911—Miss Edwards, Gisborne, 2/6.

To December, 1911—Mrs McIntosh, Grey-mouth, 10/-.

To June, 1912—Mrs Ferriman, Ashburton, 5/-.

Will Subscribers kindly note that all monies (unless paid to local Agents) should be sent to "Miss M. J. HARRISON, Business Manager, France Road, Napier."

Papers returned, marked "Gone; no address"—Mrs Nettleton, Montreal Street, Christchurch. Anyone knowing new or correct address will oblige by forwarding same to the Business Manager.

Hotel Accommodation on Strictly Temperance Lines.

Many of our readers who contemplate a visit to the Home Country may be glad to know of an excellent London hotel, conducted on strictly temperance principles by Mr Frederic Smith, who has given many years of his life to the promotion of national temperance work amongst

young people—a work which has had a wonderful effect in producing the present greatly improved temperance sentiment in the British Isles. From the printed tariff of the West Central Hotel (Southampton Row, London), we learn that it was established as a first-class hotel for ladies and gentlemen about thirty years ago, and it has been pronounced by the press to be "the best temperance hotel in the United Kingdom." It has accommodation for about 250 guests, has well-furnished public rooms, and is equally convenient from all parts of London. It is highly commended by ministers of religion of all denominations, the leaders of all the British temperance organisations, members of Parliament, and thousands of guests resident in all parts of the world. Apartments, service, and table d'hôte breakfast can be had from 5/- per day, dinner at 3/- The proprietor and his sons, who manage the establishment, will be pleased to send a copy of the Tariff and Guide to London to any address in New Zealand.

A LIFE FOR A LIFE.

[MRS F. M. HOWARD, CLINTON, IOWA.]

"Alice, you will not leave him?" There was a desperately pleading look on the face of the dying woman; for she knew so well all that the promise involved. The daughter turned her face away, a spasm of keenest pain distorting it, as she looked in swift review at the life before her.

"No, mother, I will not leave him," she said at last.

"But you carry a mother's blessing with you, Alice. Will that not comfort you a little?" asked the mother, anxiously. "And there is Herbert. If he should follow in his father's footsteps, it would break my heart, even in heaven."

"Yes, there is Herbert," assented Alice, dully. She had hoped to shelter Herbert in her own home, safe from the influence of his father's example. She felt in her heart that it was unjust, cruel, to bind her by a promise which might wreck her whole life, but she could not meet her mother's plea with a refusal which would embitter every dying breath, and she tried to smile. "There, mother, rest easy now. It is time for your soothing drops. Perhaps you can get to sleep."

Like a humoured child the mother swallowed her potion, and turned her face to the wall with a long sigh of content. "I am so glad," she murmured, and Alice, hearing the words, could not but feel some degree of compensation.

It was the last word she ever heard from her mother's lips; for when, an hour later, she went into the sick room, there was only the wasted form remaining. The spirit had gone out into that life where the mistakes and the sorrows of earth have lost their power to hurt and to annoy.

Henry Dale stood by his wife's coffin with tipsy contrition. It was very seldom that he

was free enough from drink to look at life with a clear vision. Day in and day out his hands were enfeebled and his mind clouded by the continual stream of intoxicants which poured down his thirsty throat, varied occasionally by an excess which palsied the hand and deadened the brain entirely.

He was a fine workman when he was himself, capable of earning high wages, but want had often come knocking at the cottage door of late; for an employer wants men with steady hands and with clear brains, when he entrusts costly material to their care.

He turned as Alice came into the room with a handful of early roses. "I ain't been good to her, Alice," he said, his trembling hand searching for a handkerchief. "I meant to be—I wish't I was a better man."

"Mother's last thought was for you," Alice said, trying not to feel the loathing for his condition which would blind her natural love for the parent.

"Yes, yes. Your mother was a good woman, and you're just like her. You won't leave me now, Alice?"

"No-o-o," Alice said, falteringly, her courage oozing away with the repulsion she felt for the liquor-laden breath, the bloodshot eyes, in the presence of death. It seemed a horrible thing to be chained to a duty which bound her to this loathsome personality, where she had hoped for the peace and joy of a home where the curse should never enter. "I promised mother I would not."

"That's right. You're a good girl, Alice." The bleared eyes twinkled with a selfish satisfaction. Her heart sank heavily; he accepted her sacrifice so easily.

He was sober on the day of the funeral. He had loved this faded woman well when he had taken her for his wife, and had meant to fulfil all the vows which he had made at the altar; but there was a lurking appetite in his physical nature which his mental nature was not strong enough to conquer. The habit had begun with a silken thread, binding gently under the guise of good fellowship; it had grown to a cable which bound him hand and foot. As he stood by the open grave, tugging at every remnant of manliness which remained, was the memory that he had made her life one long torture and disappointment.

"I wish't I was in there myself," he muttered heavily as he turned away, divided between an awful remorse, and a fierce desire for the drink which could so quickly still it. "I'd better die than live."

Alice clung to him, with the half despairing hope that this was her opportunity to touch his heart, as they reached home again. He would have slunk off to the drink dens through very force of habit, but she begged him to stay, bringing him a cup of coffee so strong that the burning thirst was in a measure assuaged.

"We might be so happy, father," she said, "if you would only sign the pledge. Herbert will go for Mr Sanderson, and he will pray with us that you may have strength to keep it."

"Do, father," urged Herbert. "We will do all we can to help you, and you owe it to Alice to me and to yourself."

The minister came and prayed, with how much faith we know not, and the wretched, trembling man signed a pledge, with an inward "if" in his soul as to his ability to keep it. He was Henry Dale when he knelt down, he was Henry Dale when he arose, with the same burning thirst and no spiritual regeneration with which to meet it.

The brother and sister hoped against hope, and watched over the father with tenderest care, but in less than a month the old familiar signals appeared, and hope died.

"What's the use?" exclaimed Herbert, passionately. "We are a drunkard's children, and we might as well give in to fate. Why should I care what becomes of me?"

"But I care, Herbert," Alice exclaimed, with horror. He had never given way so before, and an awful fear took possession of her. "I have given up my own life for your sake and his. Will you break my heart in return?"

"I meet it on every hand," he went on, still passionately and ignoring her pain. "I am turned down and sneered at by the boys, and looked on with suspicion by the girls, and if anyone does treat me decently, I'm as likely as not to meet father with rum sticking out all over him."

"But it isn't as if you had swallowed the dreadful stuff yourself, Herbert. Oh, my brother, if you fail me I shall die. I cannot endure it," and she covered her face with her hands and burst into agonising tears.

"Don't Alice, don't. I'll try to keep decent for your sake—but I've never told you, Alice—that the devil of appetite is in me, and when these things come up, it whispers and pulls me toward the drink with an almost irresistible force. It is my inheritance from my father, and sometimes I feel as if I could never forgive him for saddling me with such a curse."

"But you can rise above it, Herbert, my brother—you must. Only keep clear of the first taste, and all will be well—shun it as you would a deadly rattlesnake, waiting to strike you." And Alice rose to her feet with clasped hands, hot tears streaming down her cheeks. "I will break my word to mother, and we will go away together and begin life anew—"

"No, no, you must not do that," Herbert said hastily, in a shocked tone. "Never mind me—I'll be all right," and putting on a jaunty air of confidence which he was far from feeling, the brother tried his best to efface the anxiety his words had produced.

In the meantime, what of the other one who had so confidently expected to make Alice his wife in the near future? There had been a heart-breaking scene when she had told him of her promise, and released him from the engagement. "It was wrong—it was cruel," he said brokenly.

"No, not quite cruel, Harry. Mother had spent herself for father and Herbert until her whole soul was given to the hope of redeeming the one and saving the other. She has dropped her mantle upon me, that is all, and I cannot ask you to share it."

He was silent. He loved Alice, but he did not love her father, and it had been no feature in his dreams of a happy home, to bring into it an ugly and degrading presence which could only bring with it unhappiness for all, and who could blame him?

"Give it up, dear. It cannot be binding, a promise exhorted like that—come to me and we will have our home together as we had planned, and save Herbert," but she shook her head.

This was before her talk with Herbert, when her agonising fear for him had snapped the thread of her resolution.

After all, it was Herbert for whom her mother had feared most, and if by removing him from the scenes of his humiliation, and bringing him into a new and more hopeful environment, she could save him from himself, would not the spirit of her promise be kept, if not the

exact letter? But here Herbert himself was obdurate. Never again did he allow her to see his inmost heart, and the weeks trailed on in a deadly monotony of pain and struggle.

The father was of little help in the support of the family, and Alice's skill as a seamstress became more and more a necessity as his ability to earn grew less. Her heart was full to overflowing, for in addition to all the rest, Harry Truman had taken a wife, and she was often forced to meet him and his bride, as they went in and out of the home which was to have been hers.

She wondered if her father even half realised the sacrifice she had made for him; but if he did, he made no sign. Herbert, too, was growing reckless and defiant, and her heart grew cold and chill with its burden of dread. Her health began to suffer under the strain, and a sharp, stinging pain in her side, and a fluttering of the heart were danger signals which filled her with apprehension. The culmination came at last.

There was a fire, and Herbert with others, wrought manfully in helping to put it out, and the grateful owner of the property, in return, kindled a flame in his life which would last to his dying day, the flame of appetite and remorse. Intoxicants ran like water, and the "boys" were treated royally, under the pretext of saving them from the danger of taking cold, and Herbert was brought home in the morning dead drunk, so lost to consciousness that he did not hear the agonised scream which burst from Alice's lips as she realised his condition and fell prostrate on the floor beside him.

She was lying cold and still, a peaceful look on her pale face, when he came to himself. His father was sitting beside him, sobered by the double tragedy which had overtaken him; for he had never meant to see his only son a drunkard like himself. "We've killed her, Herbert, my boy," he said, mournfully.

"What do you mean, father?" Herbert tried to rise, but the whirling in his head was not yet over.

"Alice is gone. Heart disease, the doctor says, but you and I know. We've killed her," and great tears rolled down the cheeks of the now thoroughly awakened man. Herbert staggered to his feet, and staggered into the little parlour where Alice had done so much of her sewing. The machine was closed now and the room was in severest order, and Alice was lying with folded hands.

With an awful cry of desolation and bitter remorse, Herbert fell on his knees by her side. "Oh, Alice, come back," he cried in agony of spirit. His father came and stood beside him.

"Which shall it be, my son," he said, after the storm of sobs had somewhat abated. "Shall we go on and on with the cursed drink or help each other to quit it entirely?"

Herbert looked up into his father's face, bloated and flushed with the excesses of years, and sprang to his feet with such a sense of loathing for the fiend of drink, that his voice rang out like a clarion, as he almost shouted, "Never again, so help me Almighty God, will I touch, taste or handle the accursed stuff. I loathe it, I abhor it, and it shall never make a slave of me."

"I'm with you, my boy, but you must help me. I'm weaker than you; help me, and with God's grace to help us both, we may yet meet Alice with clean hands and hearts," was the trembling response, and by the side of her who had given all that makes life dear, and finally life itself, for their sakes, the solemn compact was sealed.—*The Union Signal.*

BEST VALUE
in the Dominion.

Fast Dyes,
Thoroughly Shrunk.

" ARGYLE SERGES "

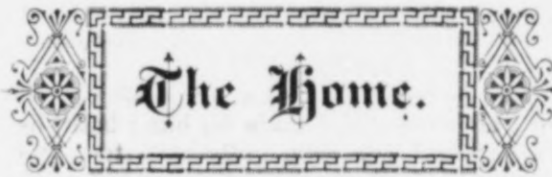
SOLD ONLY BY

Beath & Co., Ltd.

CHRISTCHURCH.

42in. Wide,
1/9½, 1/11½, 2/3, 2/6
2/11, 3/3, 3/6, 3/11.

Write for Patterns



HEALTH NOTES.

[BY MARGARET FAITHFUL.]

CONSTIPATION.

Is there any malady less considered, less attended to, than that of constipation? Is there any malady that has more far-reaching results—and disastrous ones, too—than this same constipation? I venture to affirm there is not.

The causes of constipation are manifold. They range from obstruction of the bowels to sluggishness of its action (due often to a deficiency of bile from the liver) onwards to the use of foods.

Further, a sedentary life and the lack of due exercise are most important factors which must be taken into account, especially when we are searching for a cause for each case.

Many of our physicians remark on the prevalence of constipation in modern life. The late Dr. Muskett was very emphatic on the fact that the hurry and bustle of our present day life was largely responsible for the great increase in the above malady.

It has been remarked that with women constipation is much more frequent than with men, and it might be observed here that with women the existence of this state may be fraught with most serious consequences in directions immediately connected with the digestive system.

A sallow, unhealthy skin, severe headaches, and a general sense of weakness are symptoms very common in women who suffer from this ailment.

Dr. Andrew Wilson further observes that the functions of the bowels are quite as much under the control of habit as are other actions of our frames; thus, we had need to remember that if we fall into a habit of irregularity in the matter of bowel action it will be all the harder task to re-establish regularity. Yet, part of the cure for ordinary cases is, that of commencing and continuing the attempt to regain the lost power of bowel action.

Mothers should be very careful indeed in training their children to attend to the bowels at a regular time each day. Nothing whatever should stand in the way of their teaching the little ones the importance of this natural and bodily function.

We find that many people think that a movement of the bowels once a day, however small and slight that may be, is freedom from constipation.

Now, we would say most emphatically that it is not medicine that is needed, but an increase of the vital rhythm, which is the unconscious exercise of all the body, both sleeping or waking. Medicine will carry down a portion of the offensive secretions, but investigations have found that grape seeds, or other debris, may be retained in the canal for months, even when an aperient has been regularly taken.

There is scarcely a doctor nowadays but speaks with vehemence against strong aperient medicines; in fact, most of the medicos go further, and declare there is absolute danger in taking them. An eminent physician avers that most diseases come from some form of retained waste matter, that should be outside the body instead of inside. He adds that appendicitis probably never was found except as following such a condition as has been described above, and this may be said of all uterine troubles of every kind.

There are only three escapes for the waste of the body. One is the great sewer, called the colon. This is for the fecal matter, the kidneys being a part of this system. Another is the breath for the gases. And another is the skin, for such other waste as can pass through its pores.

Now what can we offer as a cure, as an alleviation for this malady?

One excellent prescription is to wash the sewer with warm water and a little pure soap. It need hardly be stated here that the patient requires to be very careful to keep the body warm, more especially the feet, during the operation; further, that before using the enema, the nerves must not be unnecessarily taxed. Calmness of the mind is a necessity if any benefit is to be obtained from the above washing.

Try and keep up the syringing for some days in succession, for obstinate cases of constipation. Serious head troubles are often relieved at once by this treatment. Aye! and often cured in a short time by simply opening the way for nature to do her own work.

A lady doctor says:—"There are four ways that will surely cure any case of constipation—Water, Will, Work, Wait."

Again, we would mention four things that will help the onset of the above ailment, viz., most people eat too much. Most people eat too rapidly. Most people have too great a variety at their meals, and frequently have foods that will not assimilate. Many people eat when the body is fatigued, or the nerves worried.

A useful medicine is linseed tea. Pour a cupful of boiling water on a tablespoonful of linseed. Let this stand for an hour, then the whole should be drunk, and always taken fasting. An orange eaten before breakfast is a very helpful laxative. It is also most useful to take marmalade. One doctor recommends that the breakfast be finished off with a good tablespoonful of home-made marmalade. All rich foods should be avoided. Plenty of baked apples partaken of, and water drinking freely indulged in.

Recipes.

Now that there are so many suffering from colds, it may not be amiss to give here a good old-fashioned concoction that is most excellent.

Half a pint of hot water, two teaspoonsful (heaped) of good blackcurrant jam, one teaspoonful of castor sugar, one large teaspoonful of lemon juice. Put the water, jam and sugar in a pan, on the fire, and bring them to the boil; let them simmer very gently for five minutes, then strain in the lemon juice. Drink while hot. This will be found most soothing also for sore throats.

Being asked for a prescription for neuralgia, one is given that has been tried and always proved beneficial.

Citrate of quinine and iron one and a half drachms, carbonate of ammonia two drachms, tincture of orange peel two ounces, water up to six ounces. Dose, a tablespoonful three times a day an hour before food.

PALMERSTON NORTH

UNION Meets First Friday, in Baptist Church, at 3 p.m. Pres, Mrs Mowlem, Church-st East; Secretary, Mrs F. MacDonald, Baptist Manse; Treasurer, Mrs Laybourne, Ferguson-st East; Assistant-Sec and WHITE RIBBON Agent, Miss Astbury

PONSONBY WCTU

MEETS Second Thursday in the month, at 2.30 p.m., in Queen's Hall, Paget street, Ponsonby; Pres, Mrs Harris, "Burnage," Wynyard Road, Mount Eden; Sec, Mrs Plummer, "Rangiora," Elizabeth-st, Ponsonby; Treas, Mrs Hindman, Collingwood-st, Ponsonby.

UPPER HUTT WCTU

MEETS Second Wednesday, in the Club Room at 2.30 p.m.; President, Mrs Whiteman, sen; Vice-Pres, Mrs Coates; Rec Sec, Mrs Routley; Corresponding Sec, Miss Butters, the Vicarage, Trentham; Treas, Mrs Percy Edwards, Upper Hutt

CHRISTCHURCH, WCTU

Rooms, Corner Manchester and Worcester Streets
Also TEA & REST ROOMS.

MEETINGS Second and Fourth Wednesdays, General Business 2.30 p.m., Educational 3.45 p.m.

President—Mrs Cole, Cashmere Hills
Corres Sec—Mrs Day, Bligh's Rd, Papanui
Recor Sec—Mrs J Bendely, 11 Stoneyhurst-st
Treasurer—Mrs Seed, Hereford Street
WHITE RIBBON Agent—Mrs Williams, 25 Philip Street, Linwood

KAIAPOI WCTU COFFEE ROOMS

OPEN Daily. Union meets second and last Wednesday, 3 p.m. Pres.—Mrs F. Harrison; Sec. and Agent for WHITE RIBBON—Mrs Soulbly; Assis. Sec—Miss Blackwell, "The Willows"; Treas—Mrs T G Blackwell

HAMILTON WCTU

MEETS on the First Thursday of the month in "The Willard Girls' Club," at 3 p.m. President—Mrs Henderson, Frankton Junction; Cor. Sec Miss Ford; Recording Sec, Miss Houghton; Treasurer, Mrs Mason

NAPIER WCTU

THE Union meets on 1st Wednesday and 3rd Thursday in St Paul's Schoolroom at 3 p.m. Pres—Mrs Leask, 254 Hastings-st; Recording Sec Miss Shepherd, Clive Square; Corresponding Sec, Mrs Kerr, France-rd; Treas—Mrs Dearlove, Lincoln Road; Legal and Parliamentary—Mrs Dodds; Home Meetings—Mrs Ching, Carlyle-st; Press & Backblocks, Mrs Israel; Literature—Mrs Wellard; Purity, Mrs Oldham; WHITE RIBBON Agent—Mrs Freeman, Shakespeare Road

HASTINGS WCTU

UNION meets 2nd Wednesday in month in St Andrew's Hall 3 p.m. Pres—Mrs Doubleday, Vice-Pres.—Mesdames Tinsley, Ramsay, Boyle, and Venables; Sec.—Mrs Walker, Willow Park Road; Treas—Mrs T. J. Thompson; WHITE RIBBON Agent—Mrs Griffiths

WANGANUI WCTU

THE Union meets in the St Paul's Classroom on the 1st & 3rd Friday in every month. Pres., Mrs Upton; Sec., Miss Tucker, 73, Campbell Street; Treas., Mrs Siddells; WHITE RIBBON Agent, Mrs T. Tottv

ASHBURTON WCTU

THE Union meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month in the Baring Square Schoolroom. President, Mrs W T Lill, Willowby; Sec, Miss C Thomas; Treas, Miss A. Watson; WHITE RIBBON Agent, Miss Butterick, Wakanui

LEVIN WCTU

THE Union meets on the 1st Wednesday in the month, at 3 p.m. Pres., Mrs Jas Prouse, Queen street; Sec., Mrs Gibson, Winchester street; Treas., Mrs Ransom, Kent street.

WAITARA UNION meets Last Wednesday, in Methodist Schoolroom, at 3 p.m. Pres, Mrs Cleave; Sec, Miss Lena Bayly; Treasurer, Mrs Isaac Elliott; WHITE RIBBON Agent, Mrs Herbert Joll

NEW PLYMOUTH WCTU

THE Union meets the last Wednesday in the month in Baptist Church, at 3 p.m. Pres., Mrs Alan Doulags, Courtenay Street; Cor Sec, Miss Ambury, Gover st; Treas., Miss Sadler, Courtney st; WHITE RIBBON Agent, Miss Taunt, Victoria Road

AUCKLAND WCTU

GENERAL Meeting in the Central Mission Hall, Albert Street, 2nd and 4th Wednesday, 3 p.m. Executive meets 2.30

Pres.—Mrs Dewar, Pompallier Terrace, Ponsonby
Treas.—Mrs Hughes, Mount Eden
WHITE RIBBON Agent—Mrs R M Wallis, Mount Eden Road

Recording Sec—Miss Evans, c/o Y M C A
Corresponding Sec—Miss L N Dewar, Pompallier Terrace, Ponsonby

WELLINGTON DISTRICT UNION

MEETS First Thursday in each month, in Rooms, Constable street, at 3 p.m.

President—Mrs Boxall; Sec—Mrs J Hayes, Worser Bay; Treas—Mrs Houlder, 108 Wallace street; WHITE RIBBON Agent—Mrs Amos, Colombo Street

Girls' Association Rooms, Constable Street, Newtown. Evening classes and socials. All girls invited

WELLINGTON CENTRAL UNION

MEETS in Y M C A Rooms Third Friday, at 3 p.m. Pres, Mrs A R Atkinson, Wadestown; Vice-Pres, Mrs Whitcombe, Hataitai; Sec, Mrs Macalister, Kelburne; Treasurer, Mrs Helyer, Oriental Bay

DUNEDIN WCTU

GENERAL Meeting held in the Y W C A Rooms, Moray Place, 1st Tuesday in the month, at 3 p.m. President—Mrs Blair, 26A Main South Road; Secretary—Miss Simson, King-st, Roslyn; Cor Sec, Mrs Peter Dick, York Place; Treas—Mrs W Evans, Queen-st, WHITE RIBBON Agent—Mrs H Hutton, Maori Hill; Agent Writing Pads—Mrs Heatley, 3, Granville Terrace, Belleknowes; Supt Sailors' Rest, Mrs Pearson, Castle-st

INVERCARGILL WCTU

GENERAL Meeting held on the 1st Tuesday of every month in Allen's Hall, Kelvin St., at 3 p.m. Acting-Pres.—Mrs Laycock; Secretary—Mrs John McKenzie, Northend; Treas.—Mrs James Hunter; WHITE RIBBON Agent—Mrs James Hunter, Don street

DEVONPORT WCTU

THE Union meets on the last Wednesday in the month in the Wesleyan Schoolroom, at 3 p.m. President, Mrs Griffiths, Victoria Road; Sec, Mrs Veats, Lake road; Treas, Mrs Butler, Domain st, Devonport.

FEILDING WCTU

THE Union meets on 1st Thursday in the month, at 2.30 p.m., in Presbyterian School Room. Pres—Miss Sorley, Kimbolton-rd; Cor Sec—Mrs J C Thompson, Denbigh-st, Rec Sec—Mrs P W Jones; Treas—Mrs A L Frost; WHITE RIBBON Agent—Mrs Burnley; Railway Box, Mrs Shearer

PETONE WCTU

THE Union meets in the Church of Christ, Sydney-st, on 1st Tuesday in month, 3 p.m. Pres, Mrs G Rowse; Vice-Pres, Mrs Huggins; Sec.—Mrs Corner; Treasurer—Mrs Donaghue; WHITE RIBBON Agent—Mrs Austen; Literature—Mrs Corner; Visitor—Miss Dillon

MASTERTON WCTU

MEETS on the First Tuesday in each month in Knox Hall at 3 p.m. Pres, Mrs Devonport, Sec, Mrs D'Ews, South road; Treas, Mrs Millar; WHITE RIBBON Agent, Mrs Rigg.

TIMARU WCTU. Meetings are held on the last Tuesday of every month at 7.30 p.m. in the Sailors' Rest. President, Mrs Rule; Sec., Miss Avison; Assistant-Sec, Miss Smith; Treas., Miss Sibly; WHITE RIBBON Reporter, Mrs W. J. Bardsley.

RANGIORA WCTU

THE Union meets on the last Friday of the month in the ante-room of the Institute Hall at 2.30 p.m. Pres—Mrs R. Darling; Vice-Pres, Mesdames Wetherell, P. Keir, and Steele; Sec, Miss Newton; Assistant Sec, Mrs Hadecke; Treas, Mrs T. Withers.

REEFTON WCTU

THE Union meets on the 2nd Wednesday in the month, in the Wesleyan Parsonage, Shiel St. Pres—Mrs McClymont, Black's Point; Treas.—Mrs Humphreys; Sec.—Mrs R Wills; Assist. Sec.—Mrs Jas. Lawn; Vice-Pres.—Mrs Watson; WHITE RIBBON Reporter—Mrs Humphries

NELSON WCTU

THE Union meets in the Methodist Schoolroom on the 2nd Tuesday in the month, at 3 p.m. Pres, Miss Atkinson, "Fairfield;" Sec, Mrs Knapp, Alfred-st; Treas, Mrs Grove

TARIKI WCTU

THE Union meets in the Wesleyan Schoolroom, on the 3rd Wednesday in the month. President—Mrs M J Bayly, Tariki. Secretary—Mrs Eason, Tariki. Treasurer—Mrs Coutts, Tariki

GREYMOUTH WCTU

MEETS 1st Wednesday in the month at 3 p.m. in the Vestry of the Methodist Church. Pres. Mrs Gaskin; Treas., Mrs Sweetman; Sec., Mrs Hansen

LOWER HUTT WCTU

THE Union meets on the last Tuesday in the month, in WCTU Hall, Queen's Road, 3 p.m. President, Mrs McCaw; Vice-Pres, Mesdames Strand (sen) and Jansen; Secretary, Mrs Jansen; Treas, Mrs Routley, Trentham; Supt Literature, Mrs Lee; Supt Bible Reading in Schools and Narcotics, Mrs Reade; Supt Flower Work, Mrs Kavanagh; Supt Medal Contest, Mrs Shepherd; Press Work, Mrs Jansen; WHITE RIBBON Agent Mrs Ledbrook

LYTTELTON WCTU meets in the Methodist Schoolroom on 1st, 3rd, and 5th Wednesdays in the month. Pres.—Mrs Whitby; Sec.—Mrs Bromley; Treas.—Mrs Clark

GISBORNE WCTU

UNION meets 2nd Thursday in the month in the Presbyterian Schoolroom at 3.30 p.m. Pres., Mrs A Graham, Kaiti; Sec., Mrs N F Walker, Fox Street; Treas, Mrs Goffe, Ormond rd; WHITE RIBBON Agent, Mrs Akroyd

BLENHEIM WCTU

THE Union meets on the 1st Tuesday in the month at 3 p.m. Pres.—Mrs Rose, Kegworth; Sec.—Miss S. Rogers; Treas.—Mrs Hay; WHITE RIBBON AGENT—Mrs W Parker

WAIPAWA WCTU meets on 3rd Thursday in the month at 3 p.m. Pres.—Mrs Bibby; Vice-Pres.—Mesdames Cowx & McLean; Sec—Mrs Wilson; Treas—Mrs H. McLean; WHITE RIBBON Agent—Miss Barnett