

came to that Convention with instructions to vote for, or against the scheme, and it was carried by 32 votes to 9, Miss Powell herself saying she was converted to the scheme, and voting for it. Therefore she is morally bound to try it, until that resolution is rescinded. Miss Powell's delay in not writing until just at the last, when several Southern unions, to my knowledge, have purposed sending delegates, and have raised sufficient funds on the strength of the scheme being adopted, is most serious. This scheme has been before the unions all the year, and if Miss Powell intended to oppose it, she should have done it sooner, so that those thinking of sending delegates would have known that there was opposition. I look upon it as the only way to get a good representation from the Dominion as a whole, and a bit of Christian Socialism to have all things common, and help one another, so that every union might be able to send a delegate, wherever Convention was held, as the cost would never be beyond the means of any union. I hold that this resolution is just as binding as any other resolution passed by our Conventions, and equally legal, and that we are morally bound to support it.

Yours for loving service,

CLARA LILL.

February 4th, 1911.

### Fares of Delegates.

[To the Editor of THE WHITE RIBBON.]

DEAR SISTERS,

The time for the meeting of Convention being near, I see Mrs Lill and Miss Powell are both bringing before the unions the question of the pooling of delegates' expenses, and it is necessary to do so, as I am sure the subject has not been fully understood, and requires a good deal of consideration by the unions, and those intending to take their seat at Convention, whether or no they will take part in the scheme. It is very hard on the little unions of Taranaki. The unfortunate request that all should be loyal to the scheme puts them in a quandary. The whole year's income of some would not pay the fare, and the unions it was intended to benefit by holding Convention at New Plymouth, must content themselves with proxies, as if the sitting was in the other island. I paid £8 for travelling to Invercargill last year; this year I can go to Convention for 8s. Is it reasonable I should pay £3. You say it would be made up next year, but I may not be appointed Superintendent again, and may not go to Convention, so of course I shall not take part in the scheme,

but pay my 8s, and risk being considered disloyal.

I would urge all who can to make an effort to go as visitors; all are welcome at the meetings, and from among the visitors the proxies are chosen.

Yours for service

J. E. MAUNDER.

### Fares to Convention.

[To the Editor of THE WHITE RIBBON.]

MADAM,—I wish to express my great regret at Miss Powell's letter in the January No. of the WHITE RIBBON in regard to the pooling of fares to Convention. Although Miss Powell is not a New Zealand officer, she has the influence of one, and her letter, while not official, will have the effect of an official communication. Coming so near Convention renders it more difficult to deal with. It was made quite clear at the Invercargill Convention that the scheme was not obligatory. Surely after all Mrs Lill's efforts, and after the scheme had received the approval of Convention, it should have had two years' trial—once in the North Island, once in the South. If the unions near New Plymouth withdraw their support this year, the unions around Dunedin, or the seat of Convention, will have a precedent for withdrawing next year. I sympathise with the smaller unions. I belong to a union of two members. Moreover, this is not personal. I cannot attend Convention this year. The unions in and around Taranaki are very close together. Can they not group themselves, and get one good representative for each group, *i.e.*, if the expense of joining the scheme will debar them from joining individually. One splendid effort and act of self-sacrifice on the part of the unions in the neighbourhood of Taranaki might give the fillip to a general desire on the part of the unions to have a representative at Convention, in spite of all difficulties; and thus the various small branches would have a better representation than ever before, and perhaps in a few years we might realise our ideal of a branch in every township in the Dominion.

I am, yours in the work,

MARY MCCARTHY.

### Organising Fund.

[To the Editor of THE WHITE RIBBON.]

MADAM,—The question of an organiser will be discussed at the forthcoming Convention, and ways and means will have to be considered. I make the following suggestion: "In addition to the 7d now levied on members for New Zealand and

world's capitation, that 1s per member be paid out of the 2s 7d subscription now paid." This would save a special levy in each union. Many of the smaller unions have very few expenses, and the larger unions carrying on work requiring financial support have to make special efforts to raise the necessary funds, and the above suggestion, if carried out, would have the following advantages: The organiser's salary is not left to chance, or to the generosity of those unions who chose to make a contribution. While all unions pay alike, individual members are not called on to pay more than at present.

An organiser always in the field will increase the membership, and the activity of the branches.

Yours in the work,

MARY MCCARTHY.

## Official Correspondence.

Christchurch,

Feb. 4th, 1911.

DEAR Fellow-workers,

Just a few words to let you know that recently I have been far from well, and that it has been necessary for me to spend some weeks in a private hospital. Still, I am glad to be able to tell you that I am now getting stronger, and hope to be well enough to travel to Convention in March. I shall not, I am sorry to say, be able to take so prominent a part in the Convention as hitherto. But I know I shall have all kindly assistance necessary from the New Zealand officers and others, in my endeavour to undertake my official duties, and kindly forbearance from all members of Convention for any shortcomings that may arise through my inability to carry out all the duties which devolve on your President. The arrangements for the future I leave in your hands, and although I have allowed myself to stand for nomination as President, I trust the members of Convention will use their own judgment in the election, and do that which will be best for the cause we have so much at heart, in this strenuous year of Dominion and Local Optiou elections, and which you may decide necessitates a stronger hand at the helm than mine will be, for a time at least.

Yours still for the cause,

FANNY COLE.

Virtue alone has the power to procure for us the most stolid pleasure, namely, the peace of the soul and the hope of eternal life.