

The White Ribbon

FOR GOD AND HOME AND HUMANITY

Vol. 17.—No. 199

NAPIER, N.Z., JANUARY 18, 1912.

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

THE EXECUTIVE, CHRISTCHURCH UNION.

MADAME CURIE, NOBEL PRIZE-WINNER.

First Woman Investigator of the Century.

(BY W. FRANCIS AHERN.)

Towards the close of last year a body of men, serious, erudite, and cautious (to whose ranks no woman was ever admitted), were engaged

in France debating, while all the world waited their decision—as to whether they would admit a certain Polish woman to the honour of their membership. The body was the French Academy of Sciences, and the woman was Madame Sklodowska Curie, the humble wife of an obscure professor in chemistry, who discovered radium and evolved the whole science of radio-activity

which threatens to overturn the theories of a hundred physicists and chemists, alive and dead.

The right to be admitted to the Academy of Sciences was not of Madame Curie's seeking, for she had persistently refused all honours and favours, and the Academy had certainly little to give her, since she had already achieved more than any member of that austere society

had, and her name was more renowned than those of any of the men who debated her legibility.

The prestige of the enormous accomplishments of Madame Curie was great, for she stood at the turning-point in science—the point where all fundamental theories of energy, light, and chemical reaction had to be discarded and remoulded. But the prestige of the Academy appeared greater than all this, for in the end Madame Curie was refused admittance, not because her accomplishments did not demand it, but because she was a woman—that is all!

In the light of the above controversy, it was a fitting recompense that this little Polish lady should receive the Nobel Prize for her work in the world of science.

The Discovery of Radium.

In 1909 the Curies discovered the element that takes the world back to Newton's corpuscular theory of light, the metal with the incomprehensible radiations which seem to burn for ever and are yet not fire, which have the weirdest medicinal qualities, and are poison to the flesh, which seem to contain the secrets of eternal youth, and have led scientists to doubt the usefulness of all their classifications of matter, and to wonder vaguely if the outcome of it all will be a proof of the proto-atomic theory.

Certainly this matter of two children who came to Paris a few years ago and lived in poverty in the Latin Quarter has been the greatest contributor to the chemical and physical sciences in this generation, and the Academy of Sciences hesitated and refused to admit to its ranks this woman, who all the time lectures, experiments, and cares for her children, indifferent to their decision. When one is solving universal problems, honours that will be forgotten long before one's name has ceased to be a thing to conjure with are lightly considered.

Madame Curie is a Polish woman. Her father was a professor of physics in a Warsaw college. He was exceedingly poor, and every spare shilling he could spare from his salary went in apparatus for his laboratory. He could not afford an assistant, and as he was all day in his laboratory preparing his work,

he stayed late every night to clean up and wash his implements. When his little daughter, Sklodowska, could scarcely read she was pressed into service as a test-tube washer, and spent long days with her father doing the rough work in his experiments, and scouring the tubes and crucibles, as the students finished with them.

An Unpaid Helper.

The time came when she exhausted the possibilities of her father's laboratory, and it was decided to send her to Paris. When she arrived there she found she did not have enough money to pay the tuition at the university, so she was forced to enter a cheap technical school. Her tutor was Professor Curie, a man of middle age; with some slight scientific distinction, but no salary to speak of, and no great recognition. Her instructor soon discovered that Sklodowska had a faculty for absorbing everything he propounded, and a keen sense of analysis, which amounted almost to intuition. She soon outstripped all her fellow-students, and Professor Pierre Curie appealed to his faculty for the power to make her his assistant. They would not grant her any salary, however, and so she served as a helper once more at no salary, working constantly with the Professor at his experiments.

Pierre Curie found new employment in the Mechanic's Institute, and his serious little helper went with him. Again she was unable to get a salaried position, and continued her work unpaid, and for Curie himself. Curie's income was small in itself, but they thought they could do better if they united their resources—so they were married. They went to live in the old Latin Quarter, and continued their work under better conditions. They did not live any better, however; that was not their object. But they were able to spend so much more on apparatus and chemicals.

Here Madame Curie secured a position as a lecturer in the Sevres normal schools. Again there was more money for scientific work. In 1896 Henri Becquerel discovered by accident the emanation of light from uranium. He made an exposure of a plate without sufficient sunlight

in the presence of uranium, and, believing the plate was still good because so little light had reached it, he put it away to be used at a later date. For some reason he developed it, and found to his astonishment that a clear impression had been made—as clear as it could have been done in bright sunlight. He remembered the circumstances under which his plate had been exposed, and immediately set to work on his study of the "Becquerel" rays.

Guided by Intuition.

When Madame Curie was first shown a bit of this uranium extracted from Bohemian pitchblende, she jumped to the conclusion that there were other substances in the compound which could better account for these emanations. She told her husband about it, and though her belief was founded on little more than intuition, he had come to have considerable faith in this scientific guessing of his wife, so they set to work on pitchblende—the waste from the Bohemian uranium mines. First of all they isolated "polonium," having the iridescent qualities of uranium: and so named because Mdme. Curie was a native of Poland. The next to come out of the melting-pot was actinium, and then radium—the metal which has revolutionised science.

At the Paris Exhibition of 1900, on a little shelf in the department of retrospective science, visitors found a substance marked "Radium—Pierre and Madame Curie." There was nothing in the catalogue about it, and no descriptive card. For the discovery had been made after the catalogue was printed, and so little was known about the discovery or the discoverers that it was almost impossible to say anything about it.

On this last discovery, the Curies had spent more than £200, which meant a great deal to them. They found few people who were curious to know what they were doing, and when a few real scientists found their way from the exposition to the little laboratory behind the Pantheon, Pierre Curie was immensely flattered, and thought it gracious of his callers that they should pay him so much attention. They did not realise that their discovery really amounted to anything. The honours

that the world heaped upon them were all in the future, and Madame Curie had no premonition of the laurels that were coming, and when they came the Curies were modest, almost resentful of the attention that was heaped on them.

Radium was found to have the value in medicine of the X-rays. It was discovered that it was the most certain test for diamonds, that it would burn the skin through a metal box, and all sorts of insulation; that the rays of emanation were of a gaseous nature, like helium gas, which could be bottled; that they penetrated any substance, and gave any substance the qualities of radium, but at that time the quantity of radium in the world was infinitesimal; it had not been isolated, and the scientists had not learned enough of it to bring its properties into juxtaposition to their time-honoured principles. Still, it was interesting, wonderfully fascinating, and Professor Curie was asked to lecture on its properties before the Sorbonne.

Now Honours Come Quickly.

After the lecture honours came rapidly. The fact that it cost over £400,000 to produce a pound of radium from 2500 tons of pitchblende deterred the poor chemistry instructor from putting great quantities of it before scientific bodies for their study. The announcement that there was more gold in seawater than radium in pitchblende led the general public to believe that it was such a rare and unattainable substance that it would never be of much practical service. They did not know how little of it would work miracles, and how little it would take to set the scientists to revising their chemical axioms.

In 1905 the Royal Society of Great Britain presented the Curies with medals of recognition, and Professor Curie was given a chair in the Sorbonne.

In 1906 a blow fell on the Curie household. The professor was riding his bicycle, and was run over and carried home dead. Madame Curie, the impassive woman of science, made no demonstration. She shed no tears, but silently prepared for the obsequies, attended by her two little children, and in every way in her grief was the same modest, quiet little woman she had been in

her scientific triumph. After the funeral she was offered her husband's chair in the faculty of the University of the Sorbonne, while other honours were proffered her. As she had consistently refused all honours previously, all France half suspected she would refuse it, though no woman had ever been offered a place in the faculty of a University before. It was an unprecedented honour, and after much persuasion she accepted it. Thousands of people attended to hear her first lecture, and were surprised to see an emaciated little woman, with a portentous brow, but not the slightest symptom of Parisian "chic" in her appearance. She is not beautiful. Hers is a plain Polish face, with the high cheek bones and round chin, and the only feature that impresses one is the high, rounded forehead.

One woman only had ever occupied the position which Madame Curie had occupied, and she did not hold it officially. That woman was Novella, the beautiful daughter of Jean d'Andree, of the Bologna University. When Jean was ill his daughter lectured eloquently on canonic law, but Petrarch and some other youthful students paid so much attention to the fair face that they failed to take notes, so the city fathers forced her to lecture behind a curtain.

First a Mother—a Scientist Afterwards.

Madame Curie is not a sensationalist, however, either in appearance or manner. Her modesty is the first thing that impresses you, and her simplicity the second. She is a mother of two children, and a mother primarily. Secondarily, she is a scientist, and, last of all, a lecturer. She has been the chief experimenter in a field which has forced the chemists to put a question mark at the end of their long catalogue of elements, and has led many of them to consider the proto-atomic theory, that is the theory that all matter is essentially one, and that the division into elements is simply an arbitrary convenience, not based upon chemical fact. For does not radium emanate light which penetrates objects which light has never penetrated? And does not this emanation appear to have an actual corpuscular character, as if it were made up of fine particles thrown off from the

body of the metal? All this is opposed to the vibratory theory of light, which has long been in good scientific standing and takes science back to the days of Newton, the physicist, who pronounced the corpuscular theories of light.

Madame Curie is the woman who has erected a turning post at which science in its progress must stop and consider whether it is on the right road or not. Her intuition about the character of pitchblende has grown into a great question mark, which now materialises in tantalising fashion before the men who have been working out theories—books of them—on basic principles of which none of them is certain, since radium remains inexplicable.

Madame Curie means much to France and to science at large. And yet she is only a woman!—*Exchange.*

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.]

AUCKLAND.

December 13, annual meeting. Officers elected:—President, Mrs Dewar; Vice-Presidents, Me-lames Thorpe and Pudney and Miss Dewar; Treasurer, Mrs Hughes; Corresponding Secretary, Miss N. Dewar; Recording Secretary, Miss Evans. Reports were received and Misses Dewar and Evans were appointed Delegates to Convention.

NGARUAWAHIA.

Third annual report:—Twelve meetings were held in the Presbyterian Church and three special in the Town Hall, whilst a social afternoon was held at the dwelling of Mrs Williams. These meetings were all presided over by the President, Mrs Bycroft, who was ably assisted in the work by Miss Linda Kay.

The roll now numbers 26, all of whom are real "live" members. At the local option poll taken recently the result was—No License 262, Continuance 206, giving a majority of 56 for No License. By the efforts of the Union £15 was raised to augment the funds of the No License League.

During the year a visit was paid to Te Kowhai to see if it be advisable to form a Union there. There are many earnest temperance workers in that district. The Union wish to place on record the good work done by our District President, Mrs Auld, Miss McNeish, and the Maori Organizer, Miss Rebecca Smith.

Officers elected:—President, Mrs Bycroft; Vice-President, Mrs Morris; Secretary, Mrs W. Paterson; Treasurer, Mrs J. Williams.

HAMILTON.

December 19, a special meeting was held in Wesley Classroom, and took the form of a special thanksgiving service for the partial Prohibition victory. Mrs Wrigley on behalf of the members took the opportunity of presenting a very chaste silver cake basket and a couple of silver serviette rings to Mrs Aul. President, and a handsome silver-mounted salad bowl, spoon, and fork and two silver serviette rings to the Secretary, Mrs Jones, as a token of appreciation of their Union work. Both ladies were completely taken by surprise, and feelingly thanked the members for their valuable gifts and kind appreciation.

MORRINSVILLE.

December 14, annual meeting held in the Methodist Church Vestry. The rules were read and the roll called. The President thanked those members who helped so willingly on election day. Officers elected:—President, Mrs Brown; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames Scott, Lindsay, Richmond; Secretary, Mrs Turnbull; Treasurer, Mrs Smith; WHITE RIBBON Superintendent, Mrs Lindsay. The Secretary's report was read, also the Treasurer's, which showed a good balance in hand. A paper written by Mrs Wrigley, Hamilton, on "Women's Enfranchisement," was read and much appreciated by the hearers. It was agreed to read the same paper at next meeting, when it was hoped more would be present.

RAETIHI.

November 27th, in the Salvation Army Hall presided over by the Vice-President, Miss Gibson. Mrs Fletcher read a very interesting paper on "Anniversary Anecdotes." The meeting closed with hymn and prayer.

The Band of Hope is doing splendid work, all the meetings being well attended.

December 19, annual meeting, the President occupying the chair. Two new members were received. Officers elected:—President, Mrs Gibbs; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames Underwood and Fletcher; Treasurer, Miss Ashwell; Secretary, Mrs Stanley. The Treasurer read the yearly report, which was very satisfactory. A donation was voted to the Band of Hope. Mrs Underwood read a paper entitled "How Children are made Drunkards."

At the close of the meeting a farewell tea was given by the President, Mrs Gibbs, on behalf of the Vice-President, Miss Gibson, and Secretary, C. Trenwith, leaving the district.

NORMANBY.

November 15, third meeting of this newly-formed branch was held in the Club rooms, the President, Mrs A. Thompson, presiding. It was encouraging to see a good attendance of women. Decided at the previous meeting to take up Women's Crusade work.

December 20, the last meeting of the year, and the Branch being only just in its infancy, it was unanimously agreed that the present officers be re-elected. Decided to ask Mrs Patterson, of the Manaia Branch, to give us an address at our next meeting. Many of the members remained to make preparations for a banquet to be tendered by the local No License League to Mr Halliwell, President of the Hawera No License League.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

December 21, annual meeting, Mrs Boxall, President, in the chair. Reports were read of the different branches of work. The Crusade work has been very heartily taken up and it is hoped that something will be done in the future on the same lines. Several members from the Hutt and Petone were present. Officers elected:—President, Mrs Boxall, Constable Street; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames J. L. Wright, Ostler, and Ministers' wives; Secretary, Mrs Neal, "Clinton House," Bay Street, Petone; Treasurer, Mrs Houlder, 108, Wallace Street; WHITE RIBBON Superintendent and Press Reporter, Mrs J. Webb, 37, Hall Street. Two new members were initiated. The result of our year's work has not perhaps been what it ought, but we have fought for "God and Humanity" with all our might during the recent No License campaign.

WELLINGTON CENTRAL.

December 15, annual meeting in the Y.M.C.A. rooms, Mrs Atkinson presided. Reports were read from the Superintendents, which showed that considerable interest is being taken in the various departments. During the year 20 new Unions have been formed. Officers elected and Delegates appointed to attend the Convention, which is to be held in Dunedin early in March. The following resolutions were passed:—"That this meeting, while regretting that the smaller issue of No License has been overshadowed by the larger issue of Dominion Prohibition, rejoices greatly at the magnificent majority of votes polled at the recent election." "That this meeting begs the Convention to consider the advisability of influencing Parliament to remove the vote of Local Option from general election day to the day of Licensing Committee elections."

WELLINGTON "Y's."

December 19, an elocutionary medal contest was held in the Y.W.C.A. rooms, Dr Whyte presided. Six young ladies entered for the competition, which was judged by Mrs Sutcliffe. At the close of the evening Mrs A. R. Atkinson presented the silver medal to the winner, Miss Foster. An excellent musical programme was provided.

CHRISTCHURCH.

December 13, annual meeting. It was decided to send 24 comfort bags as Christmas gifts for the sailors to the Lyttelton Branch of the British and Foreign Sailors' Society. The annual report—with its auxiliaries, Lyttelton, Ashburton, and Winchmore—was read and adopted. Officers elected:—President, Mrs H. Cole; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs W. H. Day; Recording Secretary, Mrs T. G. Smith; Treasurer, Mrs W. H. Seed. Three new members were received. The following resolution was passed:—"This Union desires to express its deep thankfulness to Almighty God for the great advance of Temperance sentiment throughout the Dominion as evidenced by the splendid vote recorded for National Prohibition at the recent poll. The Union emphatically protests against the unjust handicap which prevents the will of the people, with a majority of over 60,000, being given effect to, and pledges itself to work strenuously for the repeal of such a gross injustice."

NEW BRIGHTON.

December 12, annual meeting held in Methodist Church. Officers elected:—Pre-

sident, Mrs A. U. McKinney; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames Bellamy, Cooper, and Clark; Secretary, Miss R. O. Goodwin; Treasurer, Miss I. Wyatt. Superintendents—Evangelistic, Mrs Spratt; Parliamentary, Mrs Clark; WHITE RIBBON, Miss Glanville; Cradle Roll, Mrs Hanham. Votes of thanks were passed to Mrs Bellamy, the Secretary, and Treasurer.

SHEFFIELD.

A very successful meeting was held at "Pynegrove," the residence of Mrs J. Gillanders, Lower Waddington, Mrs Neutze presiding. Mesdames McMillan and McIlwraith gave addresses, and several new members were enrolled.

A second drawing-room meeting was held at "Thornside," the residence of Mrs Sime, Kimberley. Miss Roberts, of Christchurch, gave a very interesting address. Six new members were enrolled.

RANGIORA.

December 8, annual meeting. While not able to rejoice in having carried No License in our electorate, we were thankful to see the large majority that had been polled for National Prohibition. The Refreshment Committee reported a good day on election day, when over £14 was cleared; £10 was voted to the Prohibition League, making a total of £15 from the funds of the W.C.T.U. The ready response for money and provisions from the townspeople was very cheering to the Temperance workers. Officers elected:—President, Mrs Metherell; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames Darling, Cresswell, Miller, and Robinson; Secretary, Miss Newton; Treasurer, Mrs Hadecke.

NAPIER.

December 14. Annual meeting held in the new Willard Institute. Mrs Oldham presided. Reports were read by Miss Hunter, Corresponding Secretary and Mrs Theakstone, Treasurer. A great deal of work has been done through the year in connection with the Maoris and the refreshment booths at the A. and P. Shows. The L.T.L. and Cradle Roll departments, Literature and White Ribbon are taken up, and will be more efficiently worked in the more convenient premises. Mesdames Freeman and Gibson were appointed delegates to the Dominion Convention. Mesdames Theakstone and Findlay were appointed collectors to help the treasurer to get in the absent members' subscriptions.

Officers elected, President, Mrs Oldham; Recording Secretary, Mrs Clatworthy; Corresponding Secretary, Miss Hunter; Treasurer, Mrs Dearlove.

TUAKAU.

November 27th. Annual Meeting. The reports showed excellent work had been done by the Union during the twelve months. Open air meetings had been addressed by the Rev. E. P. Blamires. Visits had been paid to Mercer in a motor launch to give them help in the work there. Officers were elected, Mrs Northmore appointed as Corresponding Secretary in the place of Mrs Scanlan who is leaving the district on a holiday.

Mrs Katharine Lent Stevenson, World's W.C.T.U. Missionary, was one of the Delegates to the Great Ecumenical Methodist Conference recently held in Toronto.

Napier Headquarters.—New Willard Institute.

The opening of the new W.C.T.U. Willard Institute at Napier, took place on December 14th, 1911, in the presence of a representative gathering of Clergy and White Ribboners.

The Bishop of Waiapu (Bishop Averill) was presented with a silver key with which he opened the door, saying his hope and prayer was that the blessing of God would rest upon the Institute and the work it proposed to do. In the course of the Bishop's address he congratulated the Union on their success in the work they had undertaken. His support and sympathy were wholly with the movement of Christian Temperance. God had put man into the world to make the best of himself, the higher part of his nature to control the lower, so that he should be a complete man. When National Prohibition was carried which it probably would be if the religious side of the movement was deepened and emphasised, there would still be need of temperance work. He was glad to know the movement was intended to include the Maoris and urged the necessity of providing hostels in Napier, Hastings, Gisborne and Tauranga to accommodate members of the Native race. When the religious instinct was aroused the Maoris realised that drink was a curse leading only to their degradation. Mrs Oldham, who presided, gave a statement showing the cost of the land and building to be £1100. Of this upwards of £600 had been raised, and debentures issued for 200 £1 shares repayable without interest in twelve months. Votes of thanks were given by acclamation to the architect Mr Finch, who returned the usual fees as a donation to the funds, to Mr Dearlove, who acted as honorary clerk of the works, and to Mr Fossey. The Rev. J. A. Asher proposed and Canon Tuke seconded a vote of thanks to the Bishop, who concluded the meeting by pronouncing the benediction.

Convention Reports.

The following New Zealand Superintendents of Departments ask that all reports of work done be sent to them without delay:—

Educational—Miss M. S. Powell, St. Clair, Dunedin;

Legal and Parliamentary—Miss M. Lovell-Smith, Box 114, Christchurch;

Rest and Refreshment Booths—Mrs Howard, Timaru.

MAORI ORGANIZER'S REPORT.

I te ono o Tihema ka tu te hoi ki Reweti ki te kainga o Mrs Hauraki Paul Torutoru noa iho nga ta nga i tae mai he nui atu to ratou whakapai ki nga mahi o te ropu.

AKARANA.

I te 7 o nga ra he tuhituhi i nga ripoata me te tuku i nga moni koha anga ropu o te rohe o Kaipara. Moni koha a nga ropu katoa mo te runa kapa e £3 e toru pauna koha mo te kotahi kapa hei whakauru ki te ropu o te ai £2/7/6 moni koha me nga ripene badges, £1/10/- mo te ripinema nupeka, e 17/6 tino kaha enei ropu ki te tautoko i nga mahi.

HUNTLY.

Ka haere mai ahau ki Hanatere ki te hui i te matenga o te wherowhero Teima o Kingi Mahuta, e 2000 nga tangata i tenei hui me te mahi i nga mahi karakia a Rongimarie hoki i tino pai tenei hui nui a i tino kaha a Waikato ki te whakarongo ki nga kupu kauwhau a nga Minita o nga hahi e rua nga Rev. Piripi Rakene Witeriona, Rev. Hone Hare, Rev. Karira Karaka, hahi ingarangi, Rev. Mutu Kapa, he karakia hui hui tonu ta enei iwi hore he wehe wehe nga enei Minita he kotahi tonu te mahi me nga kupu tohutohu i te 10 ka tonu ngia a te wherowhero. Tino nui nga iwi Pakeha Maori i tae mai ki tona tonu nga.

TAUMARUNUI.

Hui ano i konei mo te wa poto a he tautoko anahe te mea nui i nga mahi o te motu i 12 Tihema ka haere ano au ki.

NEW PLYMOUTH.

Noho ia Mrs Douglas a ka whakaritea te haere nga ki Parihaka me e tahi atu wahi i te 14 ka haere ano ki Pungarehu.

PUNGAREHU.

Noho au i te kainga o Mrs Kupe Nager, no Ngaitahu enei wahine raua ko tonu tema he mema mo nga ropu o te Waipounamu ara no Greymouth he nui atu te pai otu matou hui me te tini o nga tangata i hui mai no nga wahi tawhiti i te 15 ka haere au ki.

RAHOTU.

Tino pai te hui i konei me te kaha o te Heu raua kotana hoa wahine ki te tautoko i nga mahi pai katoa. I te 17 ka haere ki Puniho ki te huihui nga i reira kahore i tu he ropu mo konei ko nga iwi i whaka aro me hui katoa ki te ra iwi a Parihaka.

PARIHAKA.

18 ka tae au ki te hui i konei i tino tini nga tangata i konei me te pai o tenei

iwi tino pai ahau mena i maha iho ngara hei noho nga moku i waenganui o enei iwi hoi na te tono mai o etahi o tu takiwa ka haere mai au i te 19 i te ra pooti 20 ka hoki mai ki.

NEW PLYMOUTH and HAWERA.

Tae mai au ki te Hawera i noho au i te kainga 10 Mrs Brown, Sec. W.C.T.U., i temea he taima hara rei kahore i tu he huihui nga mo tenei wa ka waiho mo etahi wa ka hui ano.

TRAYERS ROAD.

I te kainga o Mrs Minicks he pai rawa atu tenei iwi me te noho ano i runga o nga mahi karakia me te whakapono.

23, Saturday, ka haere au ki

PAREWANUI.

He tini nga iwi o nga pito katoa o te motu nei. I tae mai ki tenei hui nui. Nga take heratahi he pupuri i te kotahitanga. Hemea paihere ki te Rangimarie he mahi ki te Atua. He mahi tika hoki ki te tangata ara he tona i nga iwi kia hui mai ki roto i tenei whakaaro i nui ano te wheka mihi a tene iwi ki nga mahi o te ropu o te motu hui mai ki tenei me te mahi o nga Minita ko te hui pai tenei i tutahi ahau no nga Minita anake te mana i runga rawa nga tangata karakia, Rev. G. O. Wiremu, Rev. T. Katene, Rev. Temiora, Rev. R. Karaka, no te Ingarangi enei no Te Weteriana, Rev. G. Kirkwood, Rev. Hammon, Rev. H. Harris, etahi ano no te Katorika, me te Ringatu, me te momona he kotahi te haora hei kuru kiatanga he tini nga Minita hei kauwhoru o ia hahi o ia hahi he e rima ahua hahi e ngari kotahi ano te taima hei kawhau ta nga mo nga hahi e rima he mea huihui te mahi a nga kai kawhau he whaka atu no te iwi o te marae kia kotahi te ahua kaua e hae hae engari kia pai he roa atu nga tahe i takoto te kaupapa o nga mahi e 700 tangata i hoi nei 10 ratou ingoa he mea whaka miharo he mea ahua reka hoki, o ti ra moku e penei ahe he huhua nga hui nunui kua tutoki ahau kaore e ri te ki tenei te pai me te hui o te ngakau i te pai o nga tehe i oti a ai te whanui o nga takiwa i haere ai nga mahi a te kotahitanga e ono ra e hui na ana ka oti nga mahi e rua wiki i noho ai ahau i konei a ka tae ki te wa hei haere nga moku i te ti ngarongaro nga tangata ki nga mahi o tenei wa a me nga mahi Ngahau hoki o te ra o te ariki me te tau hou.

Hoi nei he tini nga mema o nga ropu huhua o Aotearuane i tae mai ki tenei hui ara nga Tumuaki o ia wahi o ia wahi hoi nei na te mokai i te haere.

TE RAUHUNGA RIPEKA METE.

Address for month—

c/o Mrs Hughes,

Mt. Eden, Auckland.

Te Houhanga, Tikiwa te Takiwira.

Tihema 3rd, 1911.

Katae mai matou, te roopu wahine o Oturei and Aoroa, ki te marae o te Houhanga takiwa o Takiwira, iraro ano hoki ite mana o to tatou Ariki. Ka hui matou ka poto ki te whare hui.

1. Tuatahi ka whakawhetaitia e Reupena Waitai. Ka mutu te whakawhetaitia ka tu a Ripeka Mete, ka whakamarama ite ahuatanga otana mahi ki te whakaminenga ara ka kawhau ite tikanga o te ora mote tinana mete Wairua, ara ite turaki ite Waipiro, mete whakamarama ano hoki i te tikanga o te roopu wahine mete kahi hoki i te moni a te roopu ara i te 26 ma te wahine kotahi i te tau. Erua hereni, 2/-, e waiho ita ratou ake peeke. Erima, 5d, ki te peeke o Niu Tireni Kotahi kapa 1st ki te peeke o Ingarangi me te whakamarama ano i te tikanga mo aua moni ara inga take hei paunga mo aua moni.

Ka tu mai a Wiremu Tehau. No te Houhanga nei ahau e whakapai ana ahau ki o kupu katoa e whaka atuatu mai nei koe, me te whakamarama mai i te ahuatanga o te kahi moni me te whakapaunga mo nga moni a te Roopu Wahine. Ka mutu a Wiremu Tehau.

Ka tu mai Te Pouritanga Tehau. No te Houhanga nei ahau. E whakapai ana ahau kito whai korero e koo e Ripeka i te mea he wahine kairama ahau inua, kaati, kahore ahau i kite i te pai o tenei kai o te rama. Hoi ano, taku kite i nga ahuatanga o tenei kai o te rama, he whaka maia i te tangata ki te whakapuaki i nga hiahia ngaro otona ngakau, a he pohauhau noa iho no te ahua o te tangata, kahore hoki he painga o tenei mea o te pohauhau. Kaati, na konei keite whakapai ahau kia kore atu tenei kai te rama e puta ki te iwi Maori. I tae mai a Hoori Kakuere, kikonei, ki roto i tenei whare, ki te kawae mai ia kupu e korero tja mai na ekoe. I kauwhau ia kia kua tetangata ekai i te rama i te Hikareti Kaati, itango atu ano ahau i ana kupu. Koahau tonu nei te Tumuaki o te Komiti Wahini o konei. Kaati imuri ia ikaha ano taku pupuri i nga tikanga ara tamatou ta nga Roopu Wahine, o enei takiwa Kaati kua tae mai na koe ki te whaka ara ara i nga, Roopu Wahine, he aha hoki te he ekoe. "Kia Ora" ano ra koe iraro i te Ariki. Ka mutu a te Pouritanga Tehau.

Ka tu mai ano ko Wiremu Tehau. Kaati ekoo e Ripeka ke i te whakapai tonu atu ahau mo te ahautanga o kupu whakamarama, hoi ke i te whakaaro atu ahau inaianei, mo te moni kahi mate mema kotahi o te Roopu Wahine. I whaka aro penei ai ahau, na te nui o te pai, o te marama hoki, o whaka takitaki

i nga take katoa, kua tatu mai nei iakoe kia matou.

Ka tu a Ripeka Mete ki te whakautu i nga whai korero a Wiremu Tehau raua ko te Pouritanga ara ki te whakapai moa raua whai korero.

Ka tu mai a Makerita P. Parae. No te Houhanga nei ahau. E whakapai ana ahau kio korero katoa ekoo, e Ripeka. Kaati, iau, etu atu nei, e whakamarama atu ana ahau kia koe, koahau nei no roto ahau no te Roopu Wahine o Whangarei. I whakaatu atu ai ahau kia koe, henui no te pai o korero, e ako nei koe kia matou. Ka mutu a Makerita.

Ka tu a Ripeka. Kaati ra, "Kia Ora" katoa koutou. Taku kupu kia koutou inaianei. E whakaae ana ranei koutou ki te haina io koutou ingoa mo te Roopu Wahine? Na konei me whakamarama ake ahau i te ahuatanga o te whakahaere mo te huarahi ki nga huinga Roopu Wahine, me te ahua o te whakapaunga onga moni o te Roopu Wahine. Kaati ka tu mai a te Pouritanga. "Kia Ora ekoo." Ke i te whakapai ahau kio korero, e titiro ana ahau ki nga iwi nei, e matakua ana pea, ki te tu ki te korero kei haina pea ka hinga te waipiro, a, kahore nga Maori e tukua ki roto o nga Hotera. Ko nga rongu hoki enei kua tae mai kia matou.

Kaati ka tu a Ripeka Mete. E whaka he ana ahau ki ena rongu korero. Kapenei tonu atu ahau, he teka ena korero. Na nga iwi haurangi, ena korero, kua koutou e wehi ki te pooti kia hinga te Rama. Kei whaka rongu koutou kiena korero.

Ka tu mai a Wiremu Tehau. Kaati ekoo, e Ripeka iau etu atu nei, he whakamarama atu naku kia koe, e tika ana nga rongu korero a te Pouritanga eki i nei. Ki te pooti te Maori kia hinga te rama, ekooe ratou, e takahi atu ki nga Hotera, ahakoa kahore atu he whare moe, hoi ano te whare he Hotera ekooe etukua atu ki roto a taua whare moe ai, kai ai ranei. Na konei to matou wehi. Kaati epenei atu ana ahau inaianei me pehea ranei.

Kaati ka tu atu ko Ema P. Mohi, no Aoroa ahau no te Roopu Wahine o Oturei and Aoroa. I au ka tu atu nei, e penei atu ana ahau kia Wiremu Tehau kei a koutou ano te whiriwhiri motena wahi mo te kahi moni. Ko matou nei kotoku Roopu, na matou ano i kaika te kahi, kaati kahore he whaka kaika atu ia koutou, ma koutou ano te whiriwhiri.

Kaati ka tu mai ko Rapana Tai. No te Houhanga ahau e whaka tika katoa ana ahau kinga kupu a Ripeka. E titiro ana hoki ahau mo nga take katoa kua whakapuakina nei e Ripeka. Kanui ano te whai kupu otatou, kaati kua poto

katoa ia Ripeka te whaka atu atu mai nga take katoa hei tirohanga atu ma tatou.

Kaati ka tu a Ripeka. "Ki te hia hia koutou ki te pataitai, ki te uiui mai kia hau i nga take katoa, kua e wehi ki te patai mai."

Kaati ka tu te Pouritanga Tehau. Ke i te pai katoa otake e whakamarama mai nei hoe. Kaati ra, me waiho maku e whiriwhiri mo te tahi taim, kia tiroiro hoki i te tahi whakamaha mo te tahi Roopu mo matou, i te mea he ruarua rawa matou nga wahine otenei marae.

Ka tu a Ripeka. "Kia Ora" kei te whaka tika ahau ki to whakamarama mai ekui. Me tuku mai e koutou ta koutou whiriwhiri imuri nei. Whai hoki mau ki te Matua hei arahi ia tatou ki te oea.

Ka tu a te Pouritanga. E whakaae ana ahau he tika enei kupu tohutohu au. Me mahara ano ki te Matua nui. Kei mahara ko te turaki anake i te waipiro, mahara ano ki te Ariki.

Kaati ka kii a Ripeka. "Kia Ora" ano tatou iroto i te Ariki. Ka mutu nga korero. Ka whaka whetai tia e Ripeka. - *Amen.*

Na MIHI W. WERIHI,
Tumuaki.

Na te Hekeretari o te
Ropu Wahine,

KARAITIANA,
Oturei, Aoroa P.O.

**Roopu Karaitiana Oturu.
Takiwa o Aratapu.**

Tihema 11th, 1911.

Ka noho to matou Roopu wahine ki Oruariki, takiwa o Aoroa. Te take tuatahi a matou.

1. Ka whaka whetaitia eto matou Tumuaki e Mihi W. Werihi. Ka koretotia konga ritenga mote hunga e huihui ana kinga Karaihe. Timata ite tahi onga rarangi ite rua onga rarangi ka mutu. Ka inia ete tumuaki.

2. Ka tu a Te Rarua, P. Ihaka. He take tuatahi ma tatou kei to tatou tumuaki, raua koto tatou hekeretari.

3. Ka tu a Mihi W. Werihi (Tumuaki) kei to tatou hekeretari ke take kia tatou.

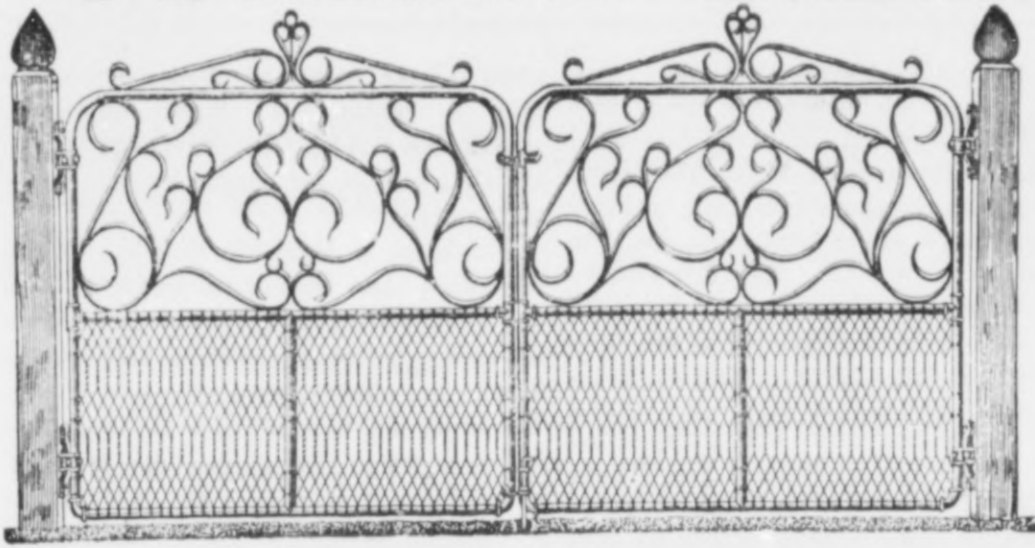
4. Ka tu a Ema. P. Mohi (hekeretari) ka panuitia te Paeroa ate Roopu Wahine Karaitiana. Kamutu te panui ite Paeroa.

5. Ka tu, a Te Rarua P. Ihaka. He kahi ite moni he take ma tatou i tenei taima.

6. Ka hanga ete Hekeretari, te Rarangi ingoa. Ka kohia te moni ate

(Continued page 8.)

CYCLONE Ornamental Gates.



DRIVEWAY GATE.

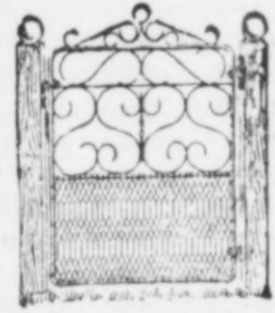
No. 44.—Height 4ft.

Opening: 9ft., 67/6; 10ft., 72/6; 11ft., 77/6; 12ft., 82/6.

HAND GATE.

No. 45.

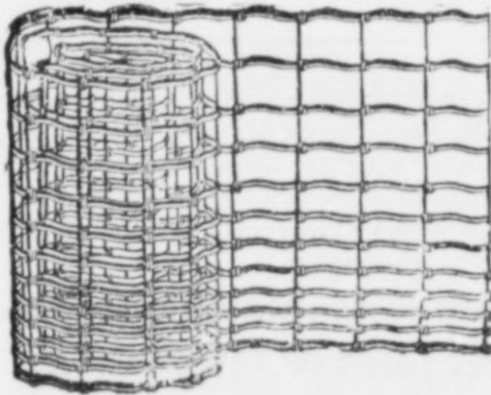
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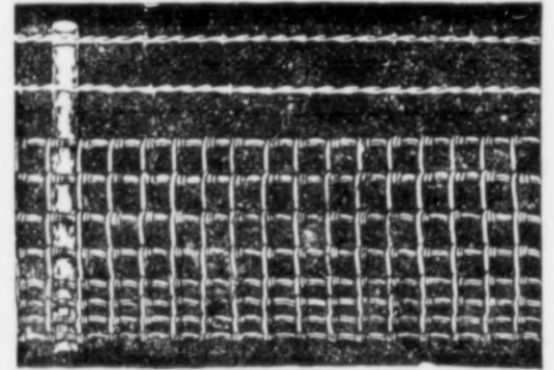
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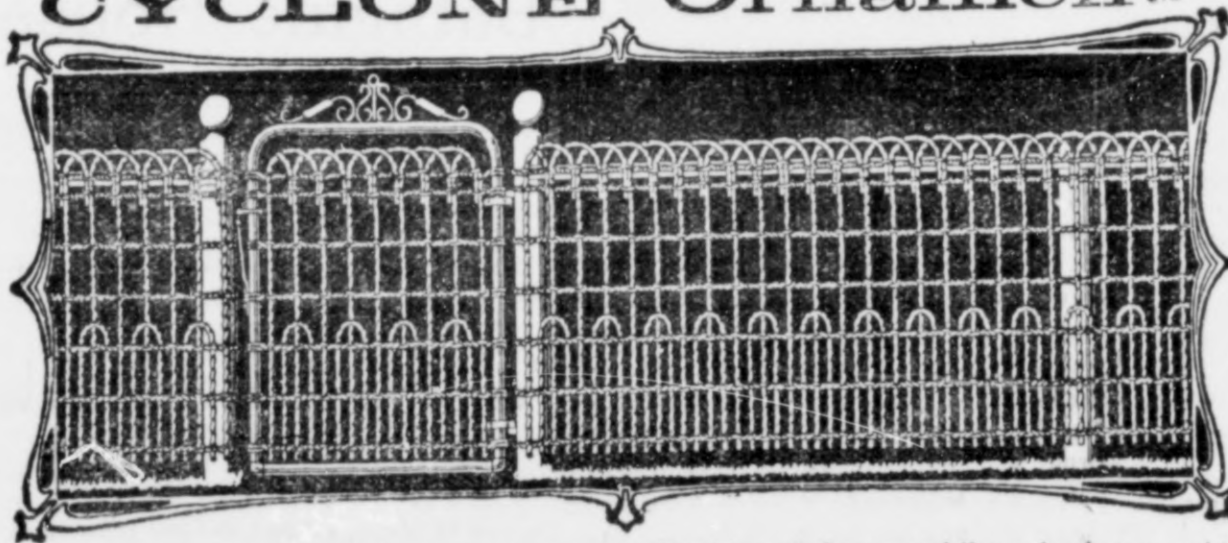
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7. Ka tu a Te Rarua, P. Ihaka. Kanui tooku pcuri iau etu ake nei. Etitiro ana ahau kahore ipoto mai otatou mema kito tatou huihuinga. Kapenei atu taku kupu, tera pea kahore to tatou Tumuaki ituku whakamahara kinga mema nareira pea te poto mai te Roopu. Kaati ete Tumuaki, ka kii tonu atu nei ahau kia tika to whakahaere, kia mahara kite whakaatu inga ra e huihui ai te Roopu. Kia takoto tika nga mahi mate Roopu kapa, ai tengaro oetahi otatou mema.

8. Ka tu a Mihi W. Werihi (Tumuaki). Kei te whakapai ahau kio kupu eako mai nei. kia hau, kia tika taku whaka haere inga tikanga mote Roopu. He tika kei au tonu taua he. Kotooku pai tena ma tatou ano tatou eako. Ka kitea mai ekoutou tooku kuaretanga, akona mai. Keite mohio katoa hoki tatou kahore ahau emohio kite whakahaere tikanga mo a tatou mahi Tera pea keite roa ote hikoinga oa tatou mahi, tera katae mai he wahi matauranga kia hau, nakonei "kia ora" te kai whakapuaki ite take

9. Ka tu a Kaa H. Himene. Taku kupu iau katu ake nei ite mea kahore rawa ahau ewhai korero. Keite rapurapu nga whakaaro ite tahi korero ekore ekitea. Me whakaako pea tatou kite inoi kite Ariki terapea tatou ewhai kupu, nakonei hoi ano taku kupu me inoi katoa tatou kito tatou Ariki. Kauga tatou emangere. He titiro naku kore rewatiou ewhai kupu.

10. Katu a Mihi W. Werihi. E whakapai ana ahau kio korero e, Kaa, kauga tatou emangere kite inoi kito tatou Matua nui ite rangi.

11. Katu a Ira R. Waitai. Kaati toku take itu ake ai ahau he nui note whakapai otoku ngakau morunga ite ahuatanga onga kupu kua whakapuakina etatou. E titiro ana ahau kei te pai te rangi oatatou korero. Mutu atu te korero ka whakahuatia te ingoa ote tatou Ariki. Kati taku kupu kia tatou Kua whaka waha nei tatou itenei pikaunga kei whakahawea otatou ngakau. Konga kupu kua whakahuatia etatou ewhakahua ana kito tatou Matua. Koia na te taimahatanga otatatou wahanga. Titiro hoki tatou, epenei ana tetahi ture ate Atua, ekore hoki a Ihowa emea e hara kore te tangata ewhakahua noana itona ingoa. Nokonei kia, u, kia kaha tatou kite pikau itenei wahanga. Kauga tatou epikau, a, kangenge tatou ka rukea noatia ake, etatou. Kaati koahau nei, kua kaumatua maua kotoku rangatira kite wehi ite Ariki, kaati kahore ahou ikaha kite inga kupu ote Ariki.

11. Katu a Te Rarua P. Ihaka. Kotooku hiahia me hoatu he taima kito tatou Hekeretari kia tumai via kite whai korero. Terapea tana kupu kia tatou. Kaati ewhakamarama ana ahau inaianei ite ahuatanga oaku kupu ako kia koe eto matou Tumuaki. Kei hirawerawe iroto ito tatou Roopu atatu korero ko tatou ano hoki ngakai whakaoti kite waimarie. Kaati motena. Kotaku hiahia iau ka whakapuaki ake nei me whaka aroaro mai atatu taane kite awhina mai ratou ia tatou ara me penei ia Piri Waata raua ko Hariata Karena, kua, tae mai nei taraua moni awhina e 2/6 na Piri Waata e 2/6 na Hariata Karena, huihui atu kite moni ikohia ete Roopu Wahine £1 10s, Kaati te huihui katoa onga moni kua takoto kita tatou ake peeke £1 15s. Kei te peeke etakoto ana inaianei.

13. Katu a Mihi W. Werihi (Tumuaki). E whakatika ana ahau kinga korero anga kwi korero imua atu iau nei. Nga kupu mo atatu tane kia whakaaro mai kite awhina iatatu Kaati etitiro he ana ahau kia tatou taane ite mea hoki kua rongo katoa ratou inga kupu ato tatou kai tohutohu a Ripeka Mete, ma ratou ewhakaaro.

14. Katu a Ema P. Mohi (Hekeretari). Kotoku teke ituake nei, kei te whakapai ahau kinga korero kua whakapuakina etatou. Tetino kupu nui iroto ia tatou korero kia u, nga whakaaro kite whakapono. Kia haka tatou kite pikau inga kupu kua homai nei kia tatou kuia a Ira R. Waitai iwhakapuaki ake nei kia kauga tatou engakau kore kitenei wahanga, mete pai ano hoki ote whakaotinga onga kupu. Mate Matua nui ano hoki ewhakakaha kite mea itana epia ai. Kei sia ano te whiriwhiri moa tatou kupu. Kaati ra "kia ora" ano tatou iroto ite Ariki.

15. Katu a Kaa H. Himene. Kei te whaka tika ahau mote take awhina ma atatu taane. Kaati kotaku tane kahore ano imohia kinga tikanga ato tatou koopu otira he ahakoa kahore ano taaku tane imohio kinga tikanga tera ano aia eawhina. Kaati, koiano te tino kupu iroto ia tatou Kia u, kite taonga nei kei hapai kau itenei taima ka hoha ai a nga ra keite takoto mai.

16. Katu a Te Rarua P. Ihaka. Iau katu atu nei, etitiro ana ahau kinga korero katoa. Krite pai. I ahu ano kite Matua hei kai arahi ia tatou. Koahau anake te mea irere kiwaho. Kaati heaha koa, nakoutou nga kupu na tatou katoa, na koutou nga whokahua ite Ariki na tatou katoa. Keite mohio hoki tatou katoa koahau nei he matapo kite tuhituhi kite korero reta, mehemea ikite ahau ite reta, tera ano pea emohio

ahau kietahi tikanga korero iko atu iaku e, mohio nei. Kaati na konei ewhaka he ana ahau kioku matua kahore nei ahau itukua kite rapu ite taki moku matauranga.

17. Katu a Mihi W. Werihi. Keite whakapai ahau kinga take katoa. Taku kupu tenei kia tatou, e hiahia ana ahau, katae kinga Ratapu erite ana ki otatou kainga nei ahakoa kore etae kite Whare Karakia, me akoako ano to tatou kai karakia ara a Keupena Waiti ia tatou tamariki ahu mai hoki kia tatou kinga kaumatua, kinga Katikihama Terapea eahua marama ake tatou, a, emohio hoki atatu tamariki.

Ka mutu ikonei, ka whakahuatia te Himene e Reupena Waitai, 52, Kinga Himene Weteriana, 116 Kinga Himene Hahi Ingarangi.

Kaati kamutu ikonei nga korero atenei Roopu Wahine, Oturu and Aoroa.

Na MIHI WERIHI, Tumuaki.

Na EMA P. MOHI, Hekeretari.

Phillips Brooks said: "He who helps a child helps humanity with a distinctness and with an immediateness which no other help given to human creatures, in any other stage of their human life, can possibly give again."

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The White Ribbon.

For God and Home and Humanity.

THURSDAY, JAN. 18, 1912

THE CARE OF THE FEEBLE-MINDED.

THIS serious question is being forced upon our notice by many of our scientists, who are so greatly concerned at the large increase in mental defectives. As is well known the degenerates increase in numbers far more rapidly than the strong and sane. According to Dr Forbes Winslow "this is the most serious and most pressing problem of the present day. There are in Great Britain 1,333,157 lunatics in asylums, and 149,000 feeble-minded degenerates in the community free to become parents. The majority of these are the offspring of drunken or feeble-minded parents. In less than 300 years, unless drastic measures are adopted, there will be

more lunatics and degenerates than sane people among the Western nations." The Duke of Portland stated in a public meeting held in Nottingham recently, "that very little could be done to improve the lot of the very poor, until the Government took action—and he hoped it would do so soon—for the segregation of men and women, who were obviously incapable of taking care of themselves and of earning a living. It could not be doubted that so long as an increasing stream of mentally defective children are growing up, so long will the condition of the people become gradually worse and worse." The Bishop of Southwell at the same meeting said "The present state of things was partly the result of Christianity, in other races such degenerates would be allowed to die. We with Christian knowledge preserved life wherever found, because life is held sacred. It seemed to him the bright side of so much suffering is, that it calls forth Christian love and compassion. That compassion and love, would lead them to prevent those so afflicted from being married or producing children, which could only perpetuate further suffering. Scientific knowledge would help to guide those who have it in their power to provide a remedy." When these questions are considered in the light of common sense, without undue sentimentalism, there must be a true solving of what is admittedly a difficult question. It is feasible and right that these suffering ones, suffering innocently in most cases for the sins of others,—even to the third and fourth generation,—should be cared for, and their lives surrounded with wholesome comfort and pleasure. In country homes, they could find a measure of employment that would enable many to earn at least part of their livelihood. The pleasing pursuits of gardening, farming, fruit growing, poultry raising, and beekeeping could be followed, under competent supervision, by many of both sexes who are mentally deficient. Farm Colonies and other Homes should be provided by the State, graded to suit various cases,

those of similar effect to be gathered together. Women could be trained in laundry work and other indoor occupations, preserving and bottling of fruit grown on the same colony. Wise heads, could not be better employed than by considering a scheme, in all its details, that might prove to be successful. Good women, seeing the need for work of this kind, have not waited for the slow movements of the State but have already established Farm Colonies. Miss Dendy, whose letters and articles in the newspapers have awakened a great deal of the interest now taken in this question, has had a Farm Colony "for those in Lancashire and Cheshire for the past twelve years. In the solving of the difficulty Farm Colonies and Homes must take chief place. Our readers will remember that some time ago an article was inserted in our paper containing particulars of the State Home at Richmond. If prompt and preventive measures are taken at the present moment, in two or three generations the whole evil might be a thing of the past. Permanent refuges for all who need them, the homeless and for those who are children all their lives, must be provided, and the appeal comes very strongly to the women of our Unions to do their duty in the matter. The ears and hearts of the members of the W.C.T.U. are always open to the cry of suffering humanity, and in the name of the Redeemer we can take up the cause of our weaker brothers and sisters. The care of the degenerates already born, and the preventing of others being brought into the world is surely true love and compassion for the afflicted. The Eugenic Society is seeking to disseminate purer and healthier views of parenthood and to elevate and ennoble, what in the past, has only too often been derided and defiled. Parenthood on the part of the diseased, the insane, or the alcoholic must be prevented for the sake of the race. The Society also stands for active legislation and for the formation and educating of public opinion, which only can make legislation effective.

Farewell Words from Mrs. Helen Barton.

Melbourne, 27/12/11.

MY DEAR COMRADES

AND FELLOW-WORKERS.

Before leaving the Land of the Southern Cross for the Land of the Mountain and Flood, I wish you all that is best in the year 1912. In saying good-bye to you all, I wish to express my heart-felt thanks for all the tokens of kind sympathy and true comradeship of which I have been the recipient in Maoriland. Though land and sea divide us, I shall never forget all your kindness and consideration to one who was a stranger and a sojourner in your Dominion. For the courtesy and attention of the R-v. J. Dawson, who is one of the best; to Mr. McDermott, with his geniality; to the Dominion Executive, the Presidents and Secretaries of the various No-License Leagues; to the President (Mrs. Cole) of the W.C.T.U., office-bearers and members of the Union, I give my grateful thanks, and carry their greetings to the dear Homeland, and hope some day to have the joy and pleasure of welcoming you to Bonnie Scotland—only don't all come at once.

Yours is indeed a lovely country. Boundless opportunities lie within your sea-girt shores; there is a great future before your nation.

I admire your splendid women: they have indeed risen to a sense of their duty in New Zealand. The power of the franchise is a glorious weapon to enable you to clear your lovely country of the cruel liquor traffic, which is a menace to the well-being of your people, and help you in making purer laws to establish in your generation more wholesome conditions for the oppressed of your sons and daughters, and bringing in the reign of righteousness which alone exalteth a nation; for women's good is men's good—they rise and fall together.

Your recent fight has been a great triumph for Prohibition: the voice of the people has been heard with no uncertain sound, and the echoes are resounding all over the world. A fresh impetus to the workers in the Temperance movement has been given, and fresh courage to yourselves. Go on, brave hearts, God is with you.

It was a great privilege to me to take part in your campaign. My soul desires the liberty of the captive slaves of the liquor curse, and I long for the suppression of the liquor traffic, which has ravaged many thousands in the Old Land, and is devastating with its withering blight everywhere in the New World.

I am sure many of you would like to know something about my six months'

campaign, which has covered thousands of miles of travel by land and sea, sometimes under very trying conditions and difficulties. Yet with it all, the Lord has brought me through it safe and sound. He was my Pillar and Cloud by day, and Fire by night. I feel better to-day than for many years. Your land has given me renewed vigour, and my total abstinence has stood me in good stead in all weathers. I shall carry away pleasant memories of loving hearts that shall be a spring of joy in my life, till the flood-gates shall burst in eternal love.

I find that during the time, I addressed three hundred and thirty meetings, indoor and outdoor; attended five conventions; slept in one hundred and ten beds, all of which were clean and comfortable; I have also visited gaols, prison camps, lock-ups, hospitals, mental hospitals, benevolent institutions, children, shelters, etc., besides the many private interviews and confidences, which has opened up a new outlook, and which shall be helpful for many new schemes of action. I cannot thank all personally for the kindness I have received, so this shall do for all. May God bless, border, and brighten all your lives with His love.

You will be pleased to hear I visited Mr. Judkins at his home yesterday, and found him wonderfully cheerful. He was pleased to hear all about your campaign. What a lively interest he displayed in your great victory. Brave, heroic soul, he is so patient under his heavy trial, and sends greetings to you all. I am sure all our prayers go out to him. May he be cheered in knowing that though God lays aside His workmen He still carries on His work, and to feel that while he had opportunity he did his share to make the world better and lift the burden off humanity. Go, thou, and do likewise!

Good-bye! good luck! God speed the end of the liquor traffic!

Yours for God, Home, and Humanity,
HELEN BARTON.

Home address—

Helenslea, Parkhead,
Glasgow, Scotland.

Organizing Fund.

Amounts received for the Organizing Fund, for December, 1911:—

	£	s.	d.
Wellington Central, second donation (£3 in all)	1	15	0
Lyttelton	1	2	0
Invercargill	3	0	0

A. R. C. TAYLOR,
Treasurer Organizing Fund.

Official Correspondence.**The National Vote.**

DEAR SISTERS,

It is with heartfelt good wishes that I greet you, at the commencement of another year.

The past year, with its hopes, fears, trust, and confidence, its strenuous battle, is behind us, and with all the many blessings it has brought to us, I venture to say that for none are we more thankful than for the magnificent vote polled for National Prohibition. We had hoped for a vote which would convince our opponents that the country was with us on this question, but only a few dared to believe that the opinion expressed at the polls would be so overwhelmingly in our favour.

The huge vote is a great moral victory, and it is an infamous injustice that such an enormous majority should still leave us practically on the losing side. And yet we may well exclaim: "What hath God wrought!" for a majority of over 50,000 votes is a clear indication that the people are determined to make an end of the liquor traffic in this Dominion. That we should still be burdened with the three-fifths majority is an outrage on justice, and I feel sure that the members of our Union are all determined to do their utmost for the removal of this unfair disability. We must decide to give all assistance possible to the New Zealand Alliance in its endeavour to remedy this injustice, and determine that before another poll is taken the three-fifths handicap shall be removed.

We have good reason to hope that this will be done, for the present Parliament contains a large proportion of men pledged to lower the majority now necessary to carry National Prohibition, and the fact that nearly fifty-six per cent of the voters are in favour of Prohibition, will doubtless carry weight with those inclined to waver, for votes count, with the average politician.

Our outlook, then, is most hopeful, but this year must find us alert, and ready for any contingency that may arise in the present state of political parties.

We must not lay aside our armour and consider the fighting over for a time, as we have done in the past, but must be ready to act when called upon, and not allow the enemy to win any advantage. The final victory may be very near, "if we are true to God and to our opportunities," and do not faint by the way.

The monument of National Prohibition which we hope to complete as a memorial to our departed leader, T. E. Taylor, and the foundation of which he helped to lay, has the pedestal erected, and the beautiful shaft pointing heavenward needs only the top-stones to complete it.

We must determine that before long this monument shall stand as our champion stood, "four-square to all the winds that blow," a sign to other nations that in National Prohibition lies their salvation from the great curse of the liquor traffic.

I trust that the year just opening may be to all of us one of great possibilities, and of great accomplishments in the spiritual life, and that faith and courage may be our watchwords.

"A new white day, and a new white year,
And ah, the pages between
This first day of hope, and that last day of
fear,
In the dim and far unseen !

Shall I read them, each one, as they come?
Or is there for me a pause—
The call of the soul to its larger home,
The law that doth crown all laws.

I know not, nor need I know,
For He who hath given the year
Hath promised strength, in that strength
I go,
Glad welcome, new friend, good cheer !"

Wishing you all "A very Happy New Year," believe me, yours for God, Home, and Humanity,

FANNY COLE,
Dominion W.C.T.U. President.

Mrs Nolan President of the Australian Women's Christian Temperance Union, on behalf of the Australian Executive, sends hearty congratulations on the splendid vote in New Zealand for National Prohibition. She says: "Your victories encourage us in Australia very greatly, and we learn by your tactics how to meet the foe."

The Australian Triennial Convention meets in Brisbane in April, and Mrs Nolan cordially invites the New Zealand Union to send a representative to that Convention.

F. COLE.

A Reminder to Treasurers.

DEAR SISTERS,

I should like to remind all Treasurers of Unions that their Annual Balance Sheets and payments of Capitation Fees are now due. Up to the present very few of these have reached me, and it is imperative that they should be sent in as soon as possible, both for the purposes

of the Annual Balance Sheet for Convention, and for the contest for the Membership Banner. Delays are dangerous, and returns that are too long delayed may be unavoidably shut out, much as I should regret having to do so, for we like to see all Unions fully represented in the year's accounts. Please therefore let me have all your returns without delay.

I shall also be glad if all Unions that have received supplies of the Souvenir Booklet for sale, will send me the money for the books.

Yours sincerely,

NELLIE BENDELY,
N.Z. Treasurer.

Kaiapoi,
January 6th, 1912

DEAR SISTERS,

The Annual Convention meets in Dunedin on Wednesday, March 13th, and we urge every Union to consider the advisability of being represented.

Every branch has a right to send one delegate, any Union whose membership exceeds one hundred being entitled to two.

Branches which cannot do so, may, upon application to me, have a proxy appointed, but they *must* enclose directions as to voting for New Zealand officers and also the following resolutions, notice of which was given at the Convention of 1911.

1. At next Convention, I, or someone in my place, will move: That Article 4, of the New Zealand Constitution be amended to include in the Executive Committee the editor of THE WHITE RIBBON and the Superintendents of Departments. Proposed by Miss M. S. Powell.
2. That I, or someone in my place, will move that Article 8 of the Constitution be altered to give larger representation of Unions, one for every fifty or fraction of fifty members, no Union to send more than three delegates to the Convention. Proposed by Mrs Blair.
3. That I, or someone in my place, will move at next Convention, the Clause in Article 10, a two-thirds vote be eliminated and a bare majority substituted. Proposed by Mrs Blair.

Will members of Convention kindly present their credentials to me at the reception, or to a Committee appointed for that purpose, to facilitate the preparation of the roll.

Wishing you all a bright and prosperous New Year,—Yours in the work,

M. W. MITCHELL,
N.Z. Recording Secretary.

White Ribboners' Pilgrimage to Evanston, Frances E Willard's Old Home.

The day after the closing of the National Convention at Milwaukee, over two hundred of the delegates came to Evanston, and with quiet, reverent steps, made a pilgrimage to Rest Cottage, the home of Frances E. Willard. Many had never before viewed the rooms made sacred by the presence in other days of this honoured leader of the white ribbon hosts. They lingered in "The Den," as she styled her study and library, every article of furniture, every book and every picture in which is suggestive of the great work done by this rare woman, who planned and laboured and sacrificed that "the world might be wider for women and more homelike for humanity."

The visitors also availed themselves of the opportunity of seeing The Willard, where are located the offices of the General Officers of the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union, and made a tour of the new Literature Building, occupied by the circulation and editorial departments of *The Union Signal*, and the general offices and stock room from which W.C.T.U. and general temperance literature are distributed.

Luncheon was served by the Home Missionary Society of the First Methodist Church of Evanston, in the beautiful new Church, located on the site of the historic church of which Frances Willard was a member.

Immediately after luncheon, by the courtesy of the City Council, over twenty automobiles were placed at the disposal of the visitors, and they were given a drive through classic Evanston, so superbly located on the shores of Lake Michigan.

A little later the Delegates took a special train for Rosehill, the beautiful cemetery a few miles south of Evanston. Reverently, two by two, the white ribbon women passed under the artistic arching entrance and along the winding white paths. Silently they encircled the Willard family lot, and many for the first time read the well-known inscription on the handsome Vermont granite boulder, "Frances E. Willard, Founder of the World's Women's Christian Temperance Union. She made the world wider for women and happier for humanity."

Standing beside the grave, on which rested a lovely wreath of white blossom starred with gold, Mrs Stevens tenderly broke the impressive silence with gracious words of sisterly comfort and heavenly vision. After speaking of the care given by Miss Gordon all through the year to the grave of Frances E. Willard and her mother, Mrs Stevens introduced Miss

Gordon as the leader of the service. Miss Gordon, in a clear low voice, vibrating with controlled emotion, asked all to join with her in repeating the twenty-third psalm and the Lord's Prayer. She then placed on the grave two wreaths, tied with white ribbon, one of arbor vitae and the other of fir balsam, sent by Vermont comrades from the childhood homes of Frances E. Willard's father and mother.

Clasping hands and feeling that they represented the white ribbon sisterhood in heaven and on earth, all softly sang: "Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love," and with bowed heads repeated the benediction, "The Lord bless thee and keep thee; the Lord make His face shine upon thee and be gracious unto thee; the Lord lift up His countenance upon thee and give thee peace."

—*Union Signal.*

Maine.

Maine *did* keep her prohibitory law. What of the lesson to be learned from the contest? Among the matchless sayings of the Master, one specific word resounds through all the ages—"WATCH!" Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty, the price of honour, the price of everything worth having.

Be on guard, as was Maine, lest while you sleep the enemy sow tares among the wheat.

The State Attorney-General, in welcoming the Maine W.C.T.U. Convention, said: "We could beat the Republicans, we could beat the farmers, but we *could not* beat the W.C.T.U."

Wherever the fight may be carried, the liquor advocates *must not* beat the W.C.T.U.!

Miss Gordon's contribution to the mighty struggle in Maine can never be estimated. She shared in the toil, the anxiety, and the honour of those strenuous days. She has set in motion a mighty force for civic righteousness by working out a successful plan, tested in the Maine campaign, for enlisting young people of all ages in Prohibition campaigns.

West Virginia is working on a similar plan for the constitutional amendment campaign and other States follow that way.

"What are you going to be next year?
Better, or worse, or the same, my dear?
If you're not better, you'll surely be worse;
Nothing stands still in the universe."

—*Exchange.*

"I asked the New Year for some motto sweet,
Some rule of life by which to guide my feet.
I asked and paused. He answered, soft and low:
'God's will to know.'
Will knowledge, then, suffice New Year? I
cried.
But ere the question into silence died,
The answer came: 'Nay, this remember, too,
God's will to do.'
Once more I asked: Is there still more to tell?
And once again the answer sweetly fell:
'Yea, this one thing all other things above,
God's will to love.'"
—*Exchange.*

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED To January 8th, 1912.

To June, 1911—Mrs Richardson, Wanganui;
Miss Hodgkinson, Invercargill, each 2/6
To July 1911—Mrs Peek, Auckland, 2/6
To November, 1911—Miss Brown, Upper
Hutt, 2/6.

To December, 1911—Mrs Calder, Reefton, 3/-
To February, 1912—Mrs Crawford, Ngaurua-
wahia, 5/-

To April, 1912—Mrs Gear, Porirua, 5/-
To June, 1912—Mesdames Mens, Napier;
Burrill, Miller, Palmerston North; Schneider,
Ashburton; Nettleton, Christchurch; Henry,
Scandrett, Invercargill, each 2/6. Campbell,
Hamner Springs; Beath, Christchurch; Denton,
Grady, Wellington; Beven, Waianiwa; Feist,
Rotorua; Boys, Invercargill; Boon, Stratford,
each 5/- Miss Roberts, Christchurch, 10/-

To July, 1912—Mesdames Laybourn, Horne,
Hodder Palmerston North; McLeod, Bluff;
each 2/6.

To August, 1912—Mesdames Tipping, Wai-
pukurau; Leete, Invercargill, each 2/6.

To September, 1912—Mesdames Ching,
Napier; Manson, Palmerston North; Martin-
dale, Hastings; Hyde, Cole, Invercargill, each
2/6.

To October, 1912—Mesdames Withell, Ash-
burton; Hodgkinson, Waiuku; McClure, Christ-
church; Miss Corbett, Ashburton, each 2/6. Mrs
Bower, Levin, 5/-

To November, 1912—Mesdames Jamieson,
Waipukurau; Diprose, Auckland. Kershaw,
Wellington; Ngawini Eru, Matakoho; Emera,
Mohi, Aoroa; H. Maiowha, Naumai; Keita H.
Manukau, Kaipara; Kare Tari, Naumai; Keita
Tepana, Kaihu; Rev. H. Paul, Reweti; Mrs H.
Tee Paa, Naumai, each 2/6.

To December, 1912—Mesdames Butler, Gis-
borne; Ritchie, Whitehead, Palmerston North;
Cuz, Ashburton; Wood, Wellington; Maxwell,
Flesher, Nuttall, Preston and Miss Webb,
Christchurch, each 2/6.

To June 1913—Mrs Leary, Palmerston North,
2/6.

To July, 1913—Mesdames Astbury, Palmer-
ston North, 2/6; Mills, Wellington, 10/-

To August, 1913—Mrs Bendely, Auckland,
5/-

To September, 1913—Miss Trevurza, Ash-
burton, 2/6.

Papers returned, marked "Gone; no ad-
dress"—Mrs Rand, Otaki; Mrs Mills, Tariki,
Taranaki; Mrs Hirdman, Wellington Street,
Ponsonby, Auckland; Mrs F. G. Gurnsey,
Gloucester; H. Linwood, Christchurch; Rev.
Nixon, New Plymouth. Anyone knowing new
or correct address will oblige by forwarding
same to Business Manager.

All monies, unless paid to local Superin-
tendents, should be sent to—"MISS M. J.
HARRISON, Business Manager, France Road,
Napier."

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

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Maori Hospital and Training Home.

The movement to erect a Maori Hospital and Training Home for Maori nurses at Lansdowne, near Masterton, in connection with which Mrs Tai Te Tau is taking a leading part, is being well supported. About £1100 will be required for the building, and of this amount over £300 has been collected from Maoris who are interested in the project. In addition, Mr Puhara Te Tau has given two acres of land at Lansdowne for a site for the hospital, and Mr and Mrs Te Tau and relatives have decided to donate the income from forty acres of their land to the upkeep of the institution. It is hoped to collect a sum of £500 from the Maoris, and this will carry a Government subsidy, which will leave about £100 to be obtained.—*Exchange.*

The Storyteller.

THE RECONSTRUCTION of the COLONEL

[JENNIE N. STANDIFER.]

When Annie Brooks and Allen Lambert were married, Colonel Hampton Brooks, uncle and guardian of the bride, gave her away with his blessing, and promptly turned over to the groom his niece's neat little fortune of £10,000 in real estate and cash.

"Women," the Colonel was accustomed to say, "are no more fitted for business than men are fitted for housework and baby-tending. The Lord made them each for a special sphere, and they should not dabble in each other's work, or meddle with each other's rights."

He invariably appended the latter statement when total abstinence or temperance movements were under discussion, usually settling the question as to the right or wrong of the open saloon by asserting:

"Take away the individual's liberty of action and you strike a blow at the vitals of our great republic."

Being accustomed to regard the Colonel as the embodiment of wisdom, not one of his family dared to raise the feeblest protest against this opinion.

Soon after Annie's marriage, her husband, having complete control of her property, and she being dependent upon his bounty, sold her land and town residences in Mississippi, and moved to the prairie district of Arkansas. While the Colonel regretted his niece's departure, he expressed no objection, believing that her husband held control of her destiny.

During the first year of her residence in Arkansas, Annie Lambert wrote frequently to her uncle and to members of his family, and gave glowing descriptions of her beautiful prairie home. But gradually the letters became less cheerful, and were infrequent. In ten years, letters from her were a rarity, and her circumstances in her home, or the condition of the family pocketbook, were never mentioned.

Besides being a busy lawyer, the Colonel was a member of the State Senate, and so much occupied by his own affairs, and the public weal, was he that it did not occur to him to wonder at his niece's silence. It was in the midst of a heated discussion by the politicians of his State upon the amendment of the law relating to the property rights of married women, that he received a letter from Annie.

It fairly startled the Colonel. She implored him to come to her at once, saying that she needed his help and advice, and that there was no way to help her unless she saw him in person.

"Annie must be getting cranky," Colonel Brooks said to his wife. "But I'll humour the child. I'll give her a surprise by going to her without replying to her letter."

It was upon a cold, gloomy November afternoon that the Colonel stepped from the train at the station ten miles from where Annie lived. He procured a horse from the livery stable, and ascertained the whereabouts of the Lambert farm. The road was boggy, and he travelled slowly. He was within half a mile of the place to which he had been directed, when it began to rain in torrents. A double log cabin was near the road and he hurried to it for shelter. Riding through the open gate, he stopped near a shed where a ragged, tow-headed youth was chopping wood.

"Evenin', Mister!" greeted the boy, cordially. "Light and come in."

"Thank you, my boy. May I hitch my horse under the shed until the shower is over?"

"Sartin! Hitch him and come right in to the stove room and dry off."

The boy led the way in to the rickety lean-to, where a rusty old cooking stove was smoking with a newly-made fire, and a young girl was making preparations to cook supper.

"Sorry I can't take you to the open fireplace," the boy apologized, "but Maw is uncommon sick with fever and ager."

"This is all right, son. I'm glad to get near the stove."

"Jest set here and make yourself to home, Mister, while I'm splittin' wood

under the shed. Paw's down to the Cross Roads, and thar ain't no tellin' when he will pull in."

"Go on about your wood chopping. I'll excuse you," replied the Colonel.

The girl was in the pantry mixing bread. A small child opened the door leading into the adjoining room, and stood gazing with wondering eyes at the stranger. Before the visitor could greet her, a woman's tired, drawing voice floated into the "stove room."

"I sho' would like to help you, Mis' Lambert, but my ole man ain't much better'n yours as a pervider. We got flour bread now in the house for the fust time in two months, and if I lent it out, he would raise the roof off'n the house, if he found it out."

"If you could just lend me a quart of meal, and a few slices of meat, Mrs Simmons, I'd pay you back in a day or two. As soon as Mr Lambert sobers up, he will buy some provisions. We are almost starving."

"That's about the fix of most of us since Bill Dinkins opened his saloon at the Cross Roads. If something ain't done to stop him, we won't have a shelter over our heads by another year. But you git the meat and meal outen the box thar in the cornder, Mis' Lambert. Wish it was more I could do for you."

"I suppose you know our place is to be sold next week," replied a hopeless voice. "If I could only have held the land, or—"

From the vicinity of the gate came a hoarse, snarling call:

"Annie! Annie! Come on home and cook my supper! It's gad around and gab with you, the minute I'm gone. Get along here, I tell you!"

Colonel Brooks heard the woman in the next room rush to the door, and down the steps. It was still raining, but he thanked the girl for the privilege of sitting by the stove, and hurried out to his horse.

"Goin', Mister? Better wait till the rain's over!" advised the boy.

"Thank you, but I am going to the Lamberts', and that is not far away. That was his wife in your mother's room was it not?"

"Yes, sir. Yonder she goes now, a tearin' down the road after her old man like Tucker, and him a ridin' at a gallop and cussin' her at every jump! It's a shame the way he beats her when he's drunk."

Boiling with indignation the Colonel started down the road in pursuit, but the jaded horse made slow progress, and he barely kept the man and woman in sight. A quarter of a mile down the road was a "wet weather branch," which was now

overflowing its banks. Colonel Brooks saw the man he was following ride the horse recklessly into the stream, and the woman run after him, regardless of the icy water and mud. Her hair was half-way down her back, and her thin garments were bespattered with mud from the horse's hoofs.

"Stop!" shouted the Colonel at the top of his voice.

But the woman seemed deaf to everything save the man's growling curses. On down the miry road they went, at a rate that was amazing. Finally they turned in at a ramshackle gate, and the woman entered the cabin, and struck a light. The man took the saddle and bridle from the horse, threw them into the "entry," and stamped into the room where his wife awaited him.

Colonel Brooks hitched his horse and ran up the tumble-down steps.

"What do you mean by gadding over the country and not a bite of supper cooked?" demanded the harsh voice inside the cabin.

"I didn't have anything to cook, Allen," replied the woman. "I went over to Mrs Simmons' to borrow some meat and meal."

"And talk about me, did you? I'll teach you to idle away your time and gossip—"

"Don't, Allen! Don't strike me! You're drunk, and—"

With the fury of a tiger, Colonel Brooks strode into the room and grasped the man's uplifted hand.

"Allen Lambert, you have me to deal with now!"

The man, suddenly sobered, turned pale with fright.

"Colonel Brooks!" he stammered.

"Yes, and your wife, the woman whom you swore to love and cherish and protect is my niece."

He turned his gaze upon the faded, haggard woman in her drabbed dress, and continued:

"You cowardly, sneaking rascal! I have half a mind to kill you outright!"

In his rage the Colonel caught the trembling man by the shoulder and shook him as a terrier would a rat.

"I will thrash you within an inch of your life!"

He raised his riding whip, but his arm was caught and held by the frail little woman.

"Don't—don't, Uncle! It is not Allen who has mistreated me, but it's the whiskey in him that has turned him to a demon. He is not himself."

"I couldn't retain my self-respect and let such cruelty go unpunished, Annie."

"Leave his punishment to a higher Power, Uncle. You must take me home with you. I cannot bear this life longer!"

Allen Lambert looked up in dismay.

"You cannot mean that, Annie. I know I have been neglectful—cruel, even, but—forgive me, Annie! I promise you I will never touch another drop of whiskey!"

"You have made that promise often, Allen. I have been degraded, insulted, half-starved, and you have reached the limit. In another week we will be homeless—you have spent all of my money, and I refuse to support you longer."

"You are right, Annie!" declared the Colonel. "This man has betrayed the trust imposed in him, and as your nearest of kin, I will see that you are protected. If you can reform and go to work, I will give you a job on one of my plantations, but never can you enter my door, or claim Annie, unless there is a complete reformation, Lambert."

"How can I reform, Colonel, with the temptations around me?" wailed the miserable man.

"Leave them! *Put temptation out of your reach!*"

The Colonel stopped suddenly. All his life long he had advocated the theory that a man who was too weak to resist the temptation to drink more than he could walk straight under, was not worth the saving. "Put temptation out of a man's reach!" That was what the dry ticket had argued in the last political campaign, and he had laughed at the idea. Evidently his theory and practice did not agree. But Annie must be rescued at all hazards, and the poor wretch who had fallen into the depths of degradation must be given a chance—if he would take it.

"I'll offer you one more chance, Allen Lambert," said the Colonel slowly. "I will give you the management of a place I own in a dry county. If you have manhood enough left to reform, and straighten out again, I'll see what I can do for you later. But until then I am Annie's protector, and you are not to annoy her with your presence. When your business is closed out here, you can return to Mississippi. (I will leave a ticket for you at the station.) You may prepare for a daylight start, Annie, as I go home to-morrow."

The Colonel returned to his native State with a troublesome "bee in his bonnet." During his entire public

career he had fought against the proposed amendment of the law regarding the property rights of married women, and he had also, when Prohibition became an issue of a campaign, boldly espoused the wet ticket. And now—he realized that his most cherished theories and policies were somewhat faulty.

For weeks after he had brought poor, crushed, overworked little Annie home, he pondered over the perplexing question as to whether he should become a political turncoat, or stolidly stick to his old principles.

One morning, as the Colonel sat in his office, the door opened and Allen Lambert entered.

"I have come to accept your proposition, Colonel Brooks," he said humbly. "I tried to fight it out—to reform in Arkansas, where whiskey is almost as plentiful as water,—but it was no use. I must get where I can't get it. I am ready for work on a farm a hundred miles from a grog-shop, if I can find it."

"Very well, Allen, you shall have a chance. And the Lord helping me"—the Colonel's voice was strong and clear—"I vow here, and now, to reconstruct my policy as to the liquor question, and other matters concerning the rights of the helpless, no matter what may be said of me, and though I am snowed way under in my next candidacy for office!"

The Home.

Out-door Schools.

One of the most recent manifestations of what may be called the "out-door movement" is the out-door school, which seems rapidly to be growing in favour as a method not only of improving the health of the children subjected to injurious home conditions, but also of maintaining the health of normal pupils.

The following forcible reasons in favour of open-air schools are quoted from an article in *The Survey*, New York, by Dr Thomas Spees Carrington, who writes:

"The school children of to-day are the men and women of to-morrow. There is at present a strong movement to discover and prevent physical defects among them, and one of the most insidious causes of deformities and ill-health is tuberculosis in its many forms. Children seem more susceptible to it than

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CHRISTCHURCH.

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

adults. It often attacks their glands, bones, and heart and lungs. It would seem best to remove from a child's environments anything which lowers the vitality of the body and handicaps nature particularly during school hours.

"Out-door schools are an experiment of only two or three years' standing, but already they have shown that the children who attend them, although tuberculous, are, after a few weeks in the open air, in better physical condition than many children in the public schools. This is shown by their appearance, by a comparison of weights, and by other tests. The children of the out-door schools usually have a healthy colour, while many school children appear pale and weak.

"One cause for the anaemic condition of school children is the warm, dry air of the schoolroom, which lowers their vitality.

"Bad air kills interest in work and gives such diseases as grippe, pneumonia, and tuberculosis a chance to overcome the natural resistance of the body. Children have to spend three to six hours a day in the classroom, breathing air that may be laden with germs; for the ventilation of a school building is seldom good."

Schools of this kind now exist in many of our larger cities and in some small towns, and they seem to have justified their existence in all cases. Where the children come from tuberculous parents and live in crowded quarters, the improvement in their physical condition from out-door schools is marked. The results—physical, mental, educational, moral, and disciplinary—have all been good. Resistance to infectious colds and influenza is increased, and eyes and voices improve. The writer, however, urges that normal children, as well as sickly ones, be given the benefit of these invigorating methods. A mother in New Jersey writes to the *New York Sun* that she recently visited her boy's school and found the windows shut and the air stifling. The same town is building an open-air school for weak children! The mother suggests that they should build it large, as the regular school will supply plenty of weak children under the conditions she discovered.—*The Literary Digest*.

Home Treasures.

Another year is beginning,
The old one is with the dead;
So a page of Time is ended,
Another before us spread.

Now the New Year's dawn is peeping,
And we've heard the merry clang
Of bells, in the steeples pealing,
As their message out they rang.

"List to the tale we are telling;
We have rung the Old Year's knell.
'Tis past, but with New Year's Morning
We've another tale to tell."

Methought as I heard them sounding
They seemed to speak unto me,
And they said, "Come, tell the children
What the past has done for thee."

So I thought, "I will bid the youngsters
Sit round, while the tale is told
Of my own, my darling children,
More precious than gems or gold."

For amongst our priceless treasures
We reckon those children three,
Whom God, in His love and goodness
Has given papa and me.

They came to us when the others
Were to men and women grown;
And they stay in the nest beside us
Now the elder birds are flown.

Molly, and Ruth, and Charlie;
You'd say they are Saxons true,
By their faces fair and their curly hair,
And their eyes so clear and blue.

First comes "Ministering Molly";
'Twas a friend who named her so,
Because her hands are so willing,
Her feet as ready to go.

Just say you want something fetching;
She listens, so eager-eyed,
And almost ere you have finished
You find it is by your side.

Our thoughtful Ministering Molly
Looks after the younger pair,
In a little motherly fashion,
With a grave and serious air.

She's a bookworm, too, is Molly,
Would read through the livelong day;
Yet—how strange it seems to tell it!—
She's the merriest romp at play.

Her face? Never mind the outside;
This much I will say to you—
Good hearts are before fair faces;
She's honest and brave and true.

And a kindly Scottish neighbour
Has said of our girlies twain,
That "while little Ruth is bonny,
Our Molly's a wise-like wean."

We call little Ruth our "Birdie,"
For her nature teems with song,
And her thoughts are full of sunshine
As she gaily trips along.

She is gifted with the power
To see that God's world is fair,
To find sweets in every flower,
And hear music everywhere.

How a tale of sorrow stirs her,
And her blue eyes fill with tears!
Or they light with glad emotion
When a merry tale she hears.

She shares with us when in trouble,
She rejoices in our joy;
And what a wealth of affection
She lavishes on "The Boy"!

For "The Boy" is what we call him,
Our dear little four-year-old;
The tale of that short life, you'll think,
Will all of it soon be told.

And this is Ruth's opinion,
Which ever the same has been—
"Our Charlie's the dearest, bonniest boy
That ever the world has seen."

Then what must he be to "Mother"?
O, children, if ye but knew
What rivers of love keep flowing
From your parents' hearts to you.

I think you would hardly wonder
That oft there comes to my breast
A great, glad sense of riches,
Till I'm almost with joy opprest.

But I lift my voice to Heaven
In thanks, for that priceless Word,
Which tells us the little children
Are the heritage of the Lord.

Ye ask, "Are your children faultless?"
Ah, no! But we'll let that be;
I only started to tell you
How precious they are to me.

I have a mantle to cover
Their faults, save from One above;
'Tis a simple but certain shelter,
And the name is "A Mother's Love."

I look at our children growing,
As the years still onward roll,
And I know how solemn a work it is
To train an immortal soul.

So I cry from my heart, "O Father
How vast is this trust to me!
Yet help me to nurse these children,
And to rear them, Lord, for Thee,

"I feel that my strength is weakness,
But O, let Thy grace be mine!
And as for our precious children,
O number them, Lord, as Thine!"

Alcohol is not a food; it is not a stimulant; it is a narcotic.—*Sir Victor Horsley.*

ASHBURTON, 2nd Tuesday, Baring Square Schoolroom; Pres, Mrs W T Lill, Willowby; Sec, Miss C Thomas, 32 Havelock st W; Treas Miss Watson, Middle road, Allerton; **WHITE RIBBON** Supt, Miss Butterick, Wakanui

AUCKLAND District, 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 3 p.m., Central Mission Hall, Albert-st; Executive meets 2.30; Pres, Mrs Dewar, Pompa-lie Terrace, Ponsonby; Cor Sec, Miss L N De var, Pompa-lie Terr, Ponsonby; Treas, Mrs Hughes, Mount Eden; **WHITE RIBBON** Supt, Mrs Gouk, Wallace st, Ponsonby; Rec Sec, Miss Evans, c/o Y W C A

BLENHEIM District, 1st Tuesday, 3 p.m.; Pres, Mrs Litchfield, Livermere; Sec, Mrs D. Sinclair; Treas, Mrs Hay; **WHITE RIBBON** Supt, Mrs W Parker

CHRISTCHURCH DISTRICT—Rooms Corner Manchester and Worcester Streets
Also **TEA & REST ROOMS.**

Second and Fourth Wednesdays, General Business 2.30 p.m., Educational 3.45 p.m.
President—Mrs Cole, Cashmere Hills
Cor Sec—Mrs Day, Bligh's Rd, Papanui.
Rec Sec—Mrs J Bendely, 11 Stonehurst-st
Treasurer—Mrs Seed, Hereford Street

WHITE RIBBON Supt Mrs Williams, 25 Philip Street, Linwood

DANNEVIRKE, 2nd Wednesday, Wesleyan School-room, 3 p.m.; Pres Mrs W F Knight, Tahoraiti; Sec, Miss Moore, North School; Treas, Miss Burdett, the Manse

DEVONPORT, Last Wednesday, Wesleyan Schoolroom, 3 p.m.; Pres, Mrs Veats, Lake road; Sec, Mrs A Little, 31 Church-st; Treas, Miss Le Roy, Waterview-rd, Stanley Bay

DUNEDIN District, 1st Tuesday, Y W C A Rooms, Moray Place, 3 p.m.; Pres —; Sec, Miss Nicol, Williamst; Cor Sec, Mrs Peter Dick, York Place; Treas, Mrs W Evans, Queen-st; **WHITE RIBBON** Supt, Mrs J Jarvie, 108 Dundas-st; Agent Writing Pads, Mrs J McLaren, 802 Cumberland-st; Supt Sailors' Rest, Mrs Pearson, Castle-st

FEILDING, 1st Thursday 2.30 p.m., St Paul's Hall; Pres Mrs Armstrong; Rec Sec Miss Bell; Cor Sec Miss Jones, Kimbolton Rd; Treas Mrs Neal; **WHITE RIBBON** Supt Mrs Burnley; Railway Box Mrs Shearer; Cradle Roll, Mrs Snellgrove

GISBORNE District, last Tuesday 2.45 p.m., Presbyterian Schoolroom; Pres Mrs A. Graham, Kaiti; Sec Mrs N F Walker, Fox-st; Treas, Mrs Goffe, Ormond rd; **WHITE RIBBON** Supt, Mrs J Stewart

GREYMOOUTH District, 1st Wednesday 3 p.m., Vestry Methodist Church; Pres Mrs Gaskin; Sec Mrs Hansen; Treas Mrs Sweetman

HAMILTON DISTRICT, First Thursday, Wesley Class Rooms, 2.30 p.m.; Pres, Mrs Auld, Victoria-st, Hamilton; Sec, Mrs J. M. Jones, Claudelands; Assistant-Sec, Mrs Carter, O'Neil-st, Claudelands; Treasurer, Mrs Dempster, Selkirk-st, Hamilton.

HASTINGS, 2nd Wednesday St Andrew's Hall 3 p.m.; Pres Mrs Boyle, Lyndon Road; Vice-Pres Mesdames Ramsay, Wallis, & Miss Rumball; Sec Mrs Walker, Boundary-rd; Treas Miss Nicholls, Riverslea road; **WHITE RIBBON** Supt Mrs Griffiths

HUNTLY, Third Wednesday, Presbyterian & Methodist Churches alternately, 2 p.m.; Pres Mrs Butler, Vice-Pres Mesdames Sheeran & Edmunds, Sec Mrs Gleeson, Treas Mrs Leather

INVERCARGILL District, 1st Tuesday 3 p.m. and 7.30 alternately, Allen's Hall; Pres, Mrs Laycock; Vice-Pres, Mesdames Baird, Gregg and McKay; Sec, Mrs J McKenzie, Northland; Treas, Mrs J Hunter, Don-st. **WHITE RIBBON** Supt, Mrs Farrant, Roma-rd

KAIAPOI W C T U COFFEE ROOMS, open Daily. Union meets second & last Wednesday 3 p.m. Pres, Mrs F. Harrison; Sec, Miss Blackwell, "The Willows"; Treas, Mrs T G Blackwell; **WHITE RIBBON**, Mrs Souby

LEVIN, 1st Wednesday 3 p.m., Pres Mrs Remington, Bath street; Sec, Mrs Gibson, Winchester-st; Treas, Mrs Meller, Tiro Tiro-rd

LOWER HUTT, last Tuesday 3 p.m., W C T U Hall, Queen's Road; Pres Mrs McCaw; Vice-Pres, Mesdames Strand (sen) & Jansen; Sec & Treas Mrs Jansen, 70 Victoria-st, Petone; **WHITE RIBBON** Supt Miss Knight

LYTTELTON, 1st, 3rd, and 5th Wednesdays, Methodist Schoolroom; Pres, Mrs Whitby; Sec, Mrs Bromley; Treas, Mrs Clark

MASTERTON, 1st Tuesday Knox Hall 3 p.m.; Pres Mrs Devonport; Sec, Mrs D'Ews, South road; Treas, Mrs Millar; **WHITE RIBBON** Supt, Mrs Rigg

NAPIER DISTRICT, 1st Wednesday and 3rd Thursday, St Paul's Schoolroom, 3 p.m. Pres, Mrs Oldham, France-rd; Rec Sec, Mrs Clatworthy; Cor Sec, Miss Hunter, Milton road; Treas, Mrs Theakstone, Roslyn-rd; Legal and Parliamentary, Mrs Dodds; Home Meetings, Mrs Kerr & Miss Shepherd; Literature Mrs Laurie; Purity, Mrs Oldham; **WHITE RIBBON** Supt, Mrs Freeman, Latham-st

NELSON District, 2nd Tuesday, Methodist Schoolroom 3 p.m.; Pres Miss Atkinson, Fairfield; Sec, Mrs Knapp, Alfred-st; Treas, Mrs Grove

NEW PLYMOUTH District, last Wednesday, 3 p.m., Baptist Church, Pres, Mrs Allan Douglas, Courtenay-st; Cor Sec, Miss Ambury, Gover st; Treas and **WHITE RIBBON** Supt, Miss Taunt, Victoria Road

NGARUAWAHIA, First Thursday 2.30 p.m., Presbyterian Church; Pres Mrs Bycroft; Vice-Pres, Mesdames Moris, McBurney, Hutt; Sec, Mrs Patterson; Treas, Mrs Nicol

OXFORD, Last Wednesday, 3 p.m., Coronation Hall; Pres Mrs Gainsford sen. Sec Mrs Comyns, Treas Miss Caverhill, **WHITE RIBBON** Supt Mrs G A Ryde

PALMERSTON NORTH DISTRICT, First Friday, St Andrew's schoolroom, 3 p.m. Pres, Mrs Mowles, 65 Church-st East; Cor Sec Mrs Kitchie 53A Ferguson st West; Rec Sec, Mrs McDonald, 8 Princess-st; Treas Mrs Laybourn, 44 Ferguson-st East; **WHITE RIBBON** Supt, Mrs Holbrook

PETONE, 1st Tuesday, Church of Christ, Sydney-st, 3 p.m.; Pres Mrs G Rowse, Bay-st; Vice-Pres Miss L Kirk; Sec Mrs Corner, Nelson-st; Treas Mrs Donaghue; Flower Mission Mrs Holland; **WHITE RIBBON** Supt Mrs Miller

PONSONBY, Second Thursday, 2.30 p.m., Queen's Hall, Paget street; Pres, Mrs Harris, "Burnage," Wynyard-rd, Mt Eden; Vice-Pres, Mrs Vickers & Dr Keller; Sec and **WHITE RIBBON** Agent, Mrs S A Plummer, Coronation-Rd, Epsom; Treas, Mrs Hindman, Collingwood-st, Ponsonby

PUKEKOHE, First Thursday, Comrie's Hall, 3 p.m.; Pres Mrs Blamires, Vice-Pres Mesdames Bell, Thornley & Stevenson; Sec Mrs Cowan; Treas Mrs Comrie; Rec Sec & Supt **WHITE RIBBON** Miss Goldsworthy

RANGIORA last Friday, ante-room of Institute Hall 2.45 p.m.; Pres Mrs Metherell; Sec Miss Newton; Treas, Mrs Hadecke

REEFTON, 2nd Wednesday Wesleyan Parsonage, Shiel -st; Pres Mrs McClymont, Black's Point; Vice-Pres Mrs Watson; Sec Mrs R Wills; Assist Sec Mrs Jas. Lawn; Treas and **WHITE RIBBON** Reporter Mrs Humphries

SHEFFIELD, 1st and 3rd Wednesday 2.30 p.m., Road Board Office. Pres, Mrs Neutze, Annat; Sec, Mrs McIlraith, Annat; Treas, Miss R Lee, Sheffield

TARIKI, 3rd Wednesday, Wesleyan School-room; Pres Mrs Douglas; Sec Mrs Eason; Treas Miss Jemison

TAURANGA, First Thurs, Good Templars' Hall, 3 p.m.; Pres, Mrs Munro; Cor Sec, Mrs f Allely; Rec Sec, Mrs Allely; Treas, Mrs A Hammond; **WHITE RIBBON** Supt, Mrs A J McKenzie

TIMARU District, last Tuesday 7.30 p.m., Arcade; Pres Mrs Rule; Sec Miss Aveson; Treas Mrs Cave; Evangelistic & Press Mrs Lamb; Cradle Roll Mrs Brooker; Maori Work Mrs Norrish

TUAKAU, monthly, Wesleyan Church 7.30 p.m.; Pres Mrs Hunter; Vice-Pres Mesdames Bridge and Scanlen; Sec Mrs C. Bycroft; Treas Mrs Oldham; Supt Band of Hope, Miss Madill; Supt Cradle Roll, Miss Burds; **WHITE RIBBON** Supt, Miss Dwen.

UPPER HUTT, Second Thursday, Presbyterian Church 2.30 p.m.; Pres, Mrs Whitemann; Vice-Pres, Mrs Routley; Sec Mrs Clear, Silverstream; Treas, Mrs Lewis

WAITARA, 1st Wednesday, 3 p.m., Methodist Schoolroom; Pres, Mrs Cleave; Sec, Miss Lena Bayly; Treas, Mrs Isaac Elliott; **WHITE RIBBON** Supt, Mrs Andrew

WAIPAWA 4th Tuesday 3 p.m.; Pres Mrs Jas Bibby; Vice-Pres Mesdames Wilson & James; Sec Mrs H. McLean; Treas and **WHITE RIBBON** Supt Miss Barnett

WANGANUI District, 1st Friday, 2.30 p.m., St Paul's Classroom; Pres, Mrs J Smith; Sec, Miss Tucker, 73 Campbell street; Treas, Mrs Siddells; **WHITE RIBBON** Supt, Mrs Upton

WINCHMORE, First Wednesday, 2.30 p.m.; Pres, Mrs Hanson; Sec, Miss Muirhead, Winter's Road, Ashburton; Treas, Mrs Moore; **WHITE RIBBON** Supt, Miss Ida Capon

WELLINGTON District, First Thursday 3 p.m., Rooms, Constable st; Pres, Mrs Boxall; Cor Sec, Mrs Low, M.A. Manly Terrace; Rec Sec, Mrs Johnson, 26 Coromandel-st; Treas—Mrs Houlder, 108 Wallace-st; **WHITE RIBBON** Supt, Mrs Amos, Colombo Street
Girls' Association Rooms, Constable Street, Newtown. Evening classes and socials. All girls invited

WELLINGTON CENTRAL, Third Friday, 3 p.m., Y M C A Rooms; Pres, Mrs A R Atkinson, Wadestown; Vice-Pres, Mrs Macalister, Kelburne; Cor Sec, Miss Hustwick, Woolcombe-st; Rec Sec, Miss Kelly, Nairn-st; Treas, Mrs Helyer, Oriental Bay