

The White Ribbon

FOR GOD AND HOME AND HUMANITY

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DISABILITIES OF WOMEN IN ENGLAND.

Before the Physical and Moral Health Society in Wellington, Lady Stout delivered a most interesting lecture on the above subject.

The speaker said that for four years she had been living in a country where women are classed with criminals, lunatics, and children, and now she was pleased to be back in a Dominion which recognised them as citizens of the Empire. It was almost impossible for women born and brought up in New Zealand to understand the position of their sisters in the Old Country. Women barristers are not allowed to practise there. Miss Christobel Pankhurst holds a better degree than Mr Asquith, but her sex debars her from practising. Women were not allowed degrees in colleges unless they took the honours course. Even in the County Council Cookery School boys were given preference by being allowed a year's free course, while girls had to be content with a three months' course.

In New Zealand a child could only be adopted with the consent of the Magistrate, and no premium was allowed. In England unwanted children were taken for the sake of the premium, and then died for want of proper care and attention.

In New Zealand, if a man leaves his property away from his wife and family, the Court steps in and rights the wrong, but English law does not allow the Court to interfere.

In England, before a wife can sue her husband for maintenance, she

must enter the workhouse and be absolutely destitute.

The colonies provide St. Helen's homes and maternity bonuses for mothers, but Mr Lloyd George's Act pays the maternity bonus to the father.

In regard to white slave traffic, which was such a fearful scandal in England, the women had worked hard to secure the passing of the Criminal Law Amendment Act. A similar Bill had been turned down 100 times. Only 20 members out of 600 would promise to support it. The Women's Liberal Federation saw that if women were to deal effectively with this evil they must have the vote. They therefore urged the Liberal Government to bring in a Woman's Suffrage Bill, and the reply was that they had no time to do so. This was on Friday. On Monday the Women's Federation met, and expressed great anger against the Government, which only just escaped an adverse vote. On Thursday the Liberal Government brought down the White Slave Bill, which was passed on Monday, but it was inoperative, because only sergeants of police could arrest procurers. The women expressed great indignation, and a large protest meeting was held. The Duchess of Bedford (only Liberal Duchess) was in the chair. The Government got frightened, and as a sop to Liberal women brought in a further amendment in the Bill.

The White Slave Traffic is not exaggerated. Twenty-five years ago it was considered indecorous to speak of this matter; now kings and queens meet with other workers to

discuss plans for helping the National Vigilance Association.

Two young girls, 14 and 15, were sent from a Kentish town to London. Their aunt met the train, as arranged, but no girls were there. There has never been any trace of them found since, and the mother is now in an asylum. This kind of thing is happening every day. 1500 girls disappeared in a few months. Women dressed in nurses' uniforms are used to decoy girls to ruin. A New York syndicate made £40,000 a year by buying and selling young girls.

In England there is no protection for women and children. A Magistrate may order a flogging or six months in prison for stealing a purse, but often only a fortnight's imprisonment to the man who ruins his own child under 13 years of age. A suffragette gets six months for breaking windows (injuring property); a man gets a week in gaol for brutally assaulting and nearly killing his wife (injuring person). An unfaithful husband becomes fascinated with another woman, and takes her to his home. The wife seeks a Magistrate, and all the help he can give her is this advice, "Go home and make the best of it; I can do nothing for you."

In many instances girls were so poorly paid that they were driven to evil lives to earn a living.

England's real peril was the slums. Within a stone's throw of the House of Commons were some of the worst slums in London. In England were three million people living on the verge of starvation.

England's safety lay in the woman's vote. Four years ago there were

four suffrage societies; now there are 40.

In England the State wants a spring cleaning, and there was nobody like a woman for that work.

CAMPAIGN NOTES.

(By M. S. Powell.)

I arrived in Seddon—eighteen miles from Blenheim—on Thursday, May 9th, Mrs Holgate, district nurse, kindly extending to me the hospitality of her quiet little home. The district is a very scattered one, and I soon discovered that the only persons suitable for leaders lived too far out to be available, so devoted all my attention to planting copies of the "White Ribbon," by way of preparing the ground for organisation in the future, as when a good leader appears in the township she will, I think, get a good following. I was fairly successful, securing fifteen subscribers, and at a nice little meeting on 15th two members were taken for the Blenheim Union, there being already one or two on the ground. Of the original members of the Seddon Branch of long ago, only two now remain. On the 16th a meeting was held with a view to inaugurating a Band of Hope, when, in spite of drawbacks in the way of other functions, this was accomplished with an initial membership of sixteen. This will be carried on, with the assistance of other friends, by Mr Adams, Presbyterian Home Missionary, to whom I wish to express my indebtedness, as he assisted me in every possible way. When I state that he is the brother of Mr A. S. Adams, of Dunedin, it will be seen that enthusiasm for the Temperance cause is a family trait. The settlers of Seddon are highly enterprising in one respect at least. Everybody outside the township is on the telephone. One day I was driven ten miles out to lunch, and upon the return trip we found we had been heralded at almost every house along the line, while at one the ladies were waiting afternoon tea for us! I left the Band of Hope meeting before its close to take train for Ward, in readiness for the coach to Kaikoura at 7.30 a.m. the following day.

The sixty-seven miles to that township was safely accomplished, but it was a cold trip. What river-

beds we crossed! what streams we forded! While for about a mile we crawled along the beach, bumping over boulders as large as my head. But wasn't it just delightful to drive hour after hour beside that wonderful, never-resting, enchanting sea! How the Pacific rollers came tumbling in, breaking in foam over the rocks, and tossing the spray high into the air, while now and again we ran so close that the roar was audible above the rattle of the coach. Those rugged rocks, over which the sea so kindly pours, filling up every nook and crevice, always remind me of Mrs Browning's lines:

"And I smiled to think God's greatness

Flows around our incompleteness,
Round our restlessness—His rest."

Not a single township did we pass, but several post offices, and upon one occasion His Majesty's mails were discovered hanging upon a telephone post, from whence they were rescued and other bags dropped at its foot. Primitive, decidedly! Flourishing, lonely homesteads dotted the coach route, and about 5 p.m. I was not sorry to receive a kindly welcome at the manse at Kaikoura, for the exercise involved in being flung into the air while bumping over river-beds may be good for the liver, but is not pleasant for a limb recovering from a serious fracture, even though the shock was minimised by alighting upon a thick feather cushion, kindly provided by the Blenheim President.

Kaikoura is in a most romantic situation, at the foot of the snow-clad mountain range, and almost on the shore. My visit was ill-timed, as almost the whole of the following week was occupied with a bazaar for the band, and meetings were out of the question, I therefore spent about ten days in calling, and on 27th organised a branch, with eighteen members, under the leadership of Mrs McAra, of the manse. I have no doubt it will do well, and it is greatly needed. Both Anglican and Presbyterian ministers gave me all possible assistance.

On 28th the 61 miles to Waiau was accomplished by coach, eleven rivers being forded en route; indeed, in one case the river-bed had to be traversed for about two miles, but the day was warm and pleasant. Upon arrival at Waiau I learned, with deep thankfulness, that our beloved President had entered into rest on the previous

Sabbath. I had cherished the hope of seeing her once more, and I was even too late to attend the funeral.

I had previously worked Waiau thoroughly, so only remained a couple of days, visiting a few women and working up a meeting, which resulted in an attendance of three! Here I was the guest of Mrs Derrett.

On the Saturday I travelled to Christchurch, where I was hospitably entertained by Mrs McCombs, and the following night attended the memorial service at the Sydenham Methodist Church, when Miss Roberts and Rev. J. Dawson spoke of our late leader. Often upon these occasions one has the feeling that the departed is eulogised after death out of all proportion to his virtues during life, but in this case we all felt that every word of loving appreciation was absolutely true—indeed, that a great deal more might have been added had time permitted. Loving hands had been at work in the church, the pulpit being festooned with white ribbon veiled in black chiffon, while a cross of white chrysanthemums adorned one side of the balusters, and an anchor the other. Seats were reserved in the front of the church for the White Ribboners.

Next morning, at 8.30, I was on the road once more, en route for Cheviot. Cheviot, June 2nd, 1913.

Miss Powell's address: C/o Mrs C. W. Brown, Invercargill.

ORUARIKI.

June 7th, 1913. Kanoho te Roopu wahine Karaitiana Oturei and Oruariki. Kawhaka whetai tia ete Tumuaki e Mihi Werihī kamutu kapure te whare monga take korero. Katu Ema P. Mohi take tuatahi kitahu mohio me panui ake te nui oatatou hereni kei te peeke menga mea kua pau hei awhina io tatou turorotanga. Whakaaetiana. Tuarua kei te mohio katoa tatou kaui nga marama inaianei ingaro atu ai to tatou whanaunga karanga mahi a Ira Waitai itona mate kotoku hiahia me whai aroha noki tatou kia ia. Whakaaetia ana ete Roopu katoa. Te moni aroha mate Roopu kia Ira Waitai, 10s. Kawhamutua Ema P. Mohi. Amene. Nate Heheretai Hinerangi T. Haimona.

"Understand this first, last, always: The world wants the best thing; it wants your best."

THE GIRLS' HOSTEL.

(By M. Colborne Veel.)

"The coping stone of our domestic instruction scheme," so one of its promoters described the Training Hostel opened at Opawa last week as the first college of the home arts in New Zealand. Dunedin has a professor of housewifery, seated in her "Chair of Domestic Science" at the Otago University. So far, things have advanced from the days when "women picked up housecraft furtively," their only training being that imparted from mother to daughter, with the drawback that where the mother was a bad teacher the child was left at a disadvantage for life. But even Dunedin has not arrived at possessing a hostel, and Otago students are still in the sad case of learning housewifery by book, with out a chance of practising it, under supervision, in a model house.

It is to the credit of Christchurch that before technical training was taken in hand by the State, some provision for it had been made by the citizens themselves. The technical training of girls began in March, 1895, when the "School of Domestic Instruction" opened in the upper storey of a warehouse in Lichfield Street, recalled as "a gaunt, unattractive place, with unlined walls and open rafter roof, very few conveniences, and very meagre equipment." The school soon outgrew the warehouse, with its primitive conditions, but for some time carried on a remarkable amount of work in very inadequate quarters. In a short history of the School of Domestic Instruction, compiled by Mrs Hurst-Seager, we read that it had migrations here and there, sometimes with sad shortness of funds—though never of pupils—and occasionally much trouble with rats. When all the funds available came from private subscriptions, fees, and a miserably small capitation grant, building could not be thought of, and the town rats, more or less in possession of any rooms available, were ready to attack vegetables and household stores in broad daylight. It is even said that two fine whiskered specimens once sat out a cookery demonstration, occupying a place on the raised platform, listening attentively to the lesson and appreciatively eyeing the results. At last, when the old Technical Education Act was amended, the

financial troubles ceased, and for the first time the school acquired a home of its own in Manchester Street, where at one time more than a thousand pupils attended the classes.

The Technical College, beginning its wider work in 1906, found this domestic branch very well established already. The Managing Committee of the School of Domestic Instruction, feeling that there was no reason to maintain it as a rival institution, naturally handed their classes and their authority to the College director. One connection, however, between past and present remained in an "Advisory Committee," consisting of those ladies who had served as managers, now retained to give counsel on domestic matters under the Technical College Board. To this conjunction of Board and Advisory Committee is due the establishment of a truly up-to-date scheme in training.

The ladies carried over with them this idea of a "coping-stone," in the form of a training hostel. It was at their request that Sir Ernest Shackleton, on his return from the Nimrod Expedition to the Antarctic, devoted half the proceeds of his lecture to form the nucleus of a hostel building fund. Mr John Studholme followed with a contribution of £100; Mr and Mrs Heaton Rhodes and Mr A. E. G. Rhodes were also generous givers. A great Technical Exhibition and Fancy Fair, held in 1910, did much for the scheme, and finally a liberal grant from the present Government has made possible the opening of this artistic and pleasant adjunct to technical training.

To the indispensable class-work, the instruction in principles and methods, there will now be added the equally indispensable practice of housekeeping in the right surroundings, not of a technical school, but of a house. Classes in domestic science, taken at the Hostel, may observe the results of well-directed effort. Girls in residence at the Hostel will learn not merely domestic hygiene and the art of cooking, but the whole routine of a well-ordered home, from getting-up time to the end of the working day. Then they are to be housekeepers as well as hand-workers. Part of the equipment of the Hostel is a self-contained flat, where candidates for any full degree of housewifery will have to live for some fixed time, buying their stores from the general store-room, keeping

accounts, showing their capacity for providing a varied diet at economical rates, and having their rooms in such order that surprise visits from a teacher at any hour need not disturb the young housewife's calm.

Object lessons at the Hostel will give reality to the domestic training of all girl students at the Technical College. Besides, there will be girls in residence, taking a full course in household management, and practising upon one another by turns their achievements in making things ship-shape and comfortable. Other students may take a short course, preparatory to marriage or to taking some domestic position. Whether she carries her degree of Housewifery into her own home, or gains it for the benefit of others, the trained worker should tell enormously in raising the status of Housecraft. To quote again from a promoter, "The Hostel stands for a new era when women will glory again in home-keeping, and when women's work will be praised in the gates."

WATCH YOUR WORDS.

Keep a watch on your words, my sisters,

For words are wonderful things;
They are sweet like the bees' fresh honey—

Like the bees they have terrible stings;

They can bless like the warm, glad sunshine,

And brighten a lonely life;
They can cut, in the strife of anger,
Like an open two-edged knife.

Let them pass through your lips unchallenged,

If their errand is true and kind—
If they come to support the weary,

To comfort and help the blind;
If a bitter, revengeful spirit

Prompt the words, let them be unsaid;

They may flash through a brain like lightning,

Or may fall on a heart like lead.

Keep them back if they're cold and cruel,

Under bar, and lock, and seal;
The wounds they make, my sisters,
Are always slow to heal;

May peace guard your lives, and ever,
From the time of your early youth,

May the words that you daily utter
Be the words of beautiful truth.

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.)

GISBORNE.

April 10. Special meeting called to consider Bible in Schools resolution passed at Convention, as some members were dissatisfied with it. After a long discussion, it was decided that further discussion on the resolution of regret at the attitude of Convention on this subject, which had been brought forward, be postponed until next ordinary monthly meeting.

April 28. Usual monthly meeting. After ordinary routine business, discussion on Bible in State Schools League resumed. Mrs McLeod's resolution expressing disapproval of Convention's resolution was put aside, and the following amendment proposed by Mrs Chatterton was taken:—"That since the W.C.T.U. has always advocated Bible teaching in the State schools, this Branch regrets that it cannot agree with the decision of the recent Convention to support the Nelson system as against the New South Wales system, seeing that the latter system has secured a measure of support and success far beyond what the former is likely to secure, and that to have two different schemes to submit to electors for a referendum would mean to court defeat." It was pointed out by the delegate (Mrs Walker) that Convention had simply supported what the Union had always stood for, undenominational teaching of the Bible in the schools. A long discussion followed, and the resolution was carried, eleven voting for, five against, and a number of members abstaining from voting at all.

NAPIER.

At Willard Institute on April 23rd we celebrated Willard Day, President in the chair, and attendance good. A brief address on Frances Willard by Mrs H. L. Blamires. Mrs Johnstone, from Waihi, spoke of the work of W.C.T.U. and Temperance outlook in that district. Afternoon tea was served. The usual meeting was also held in Willard Institute. Circular regarding Bible in Schools discussed, and meeting approved of Bible reading in State schools, but not Bible teaching.

AUCKLAND CENTRAL.

Convention's circular letter re Bible in Schools discussed, and it was decided that we re-affirm our former resolution supporting Bible in Schools

League. Address given by Rev. Millar. At a subsequent meeting a letter on Bible in Schools from Christchurch was discussed. Resolved to protest against the offering of hospitality in form of intoxicants to the men of the "New Zealand" whilst in Auckland. President and Recording Secretary joined deputation of temperance bodies to wait upon the Mayor to request that intoxicants be not included in the civic entertainments offered to men. Mayor replied that it had been decided to allow each man one glass of ale at luncheon. Dr. Florence Keller, a member, was elected to Hospital Board, and Miss E. Melville to City Council.

May 14. Mrs Pudney presided. Resolved: "That the Union, as well as private members, write to the Premier and to their respective members, urging that legislation be made at this coming session for the abolition of the three-fifths handicap." Resolved: "This meeting of the Auckland Union desires to draw the attention of the Minister for Justice to the fact that young people brought before the Magistrates for minor offences, under 21 years of age, are frequently present in the Courts of this Dominion during the hearing in detail of criminal cases and the gravest offences against morality. We recognise with anxiety the injurious effect of this upon the characters of many of these lads, and, as members of the above Society, we would earnestly request you to direct that some change in procedure may be made without loss of time, to allow of cases in which young people under twenty-one are concerned being taken before those of a criminal character. Such change would involve no extra expense, only slight rearrangement." Mr J. Bissett gave an address. Delegates were appointed to represent the Union on the Auckland City Electorate Body, and at the Auckland Provincial Council Convention.

May 28. A vote of sympathy to our late N.Z. President's husband and family was passed, the members standing. Resolved: "We express our satisfaction at a statement by Sub-Inspector McGrath during the hearing of a licensing prosecution in the Police Court that sufficient precautions are not taken to prevent the serving of already inebriated individuals with more liquor, and that he intended to make every endeavour to bring all such offenders to book." Miss Evans (Organiser) then gave an address on her work. Three new members were initiated. Afternoon tea was served.

TIMARU.

Meeting held in Arcade Room on May 27th, President in the chair. Deep grief was expressed at death of our N.Z. President, and words of appreciation spoken. Resolution of sympathy with bereaved husband and daughters was carried, all standing silently. Correspondence was dealt

with, and Mr Stead's report read. Decided to hold White Ribbon Day on June 15. Two members appointed to visit Hospital.

WAIMATE.

Usual meeting held on May 14th in Knox Hall, President in the chair. Mrs J. Roberts conducted opening exercise. Mrs Bardsley gave an address on work of Nelson Convention, and Mrs Rule spoke on temperance work. Letters of sympathy to be sent to Mrs Cole and two local members. Afternoon tea provided.

INVERCARGILL.

Met on May 6th. Satisfaction was expressed at Miss Melville's election to Auckland Council, also at election of four ladies to H. and C.A. Boards in Auckland, Wellington and Dunedin. Miss Alcock appointed Superintendent of Cradle Roll. Letter received from Mr Baxter urging concerted endeavour for reduction of three-fifths majority. It was suggested that members individually petition Premier to remove or reduce this handicap. Proclamation by Chinese Republic against opium was read, and prayer offered for the abolition of opium traffic. Two new members initiated.

MASTERTON.

Monthly meeting on Tuesday, June 3rd, in Knox Hall, Mrs Devonport (President) presiding over a fair attendance. Mrs Devonport made feeling reference to the death of our beloved President, Mrs Cole. A vote of sympathy to the relatives was carried in silence, all members standing; also a vote of sympathy to Mrs James Miller in her sad bereavement. Correspondence from N.Z. Superintendent of Sabbath Observance, also N.Z. Superintendent of Good Citizenship and Miss Johnson (Waipawa) was read. Next meeting to be a drawing-room meeting.

PICTON.

At May meeting the chair was taken by Mrs Dickson, a goodly number of members being present. It was agreed not to advertise the meetings in "White Ribbon" until the Union was stronger. The subject of "Thrift" was to be treated in the forthcoming Band of Hope meetings. The Secretary was deputed to write to the School Committee and ascertain whether there were temperance wall sheets in the school, and if such were placed in suitable places on the walls of the rooms. The need of starting a Band of Hope was next discussed by the members, and it was decided that one should be started at once. It was also decided that a letter of sympathy be sent to Mrs Cole, President of the W.C.T.U. of N.Z., who is just now passing through a very severe and critical illness. The meeting was closed with prayer. Band of Hope was successfully organised in Methodist Church,

Rev. J. Dickson being elected President. Decided to hold monthly meetings.

NORTH-EAST VALLEY.

May 22nd, in the Young Men's Institute. Mrs Elliot presided. An address was given by Ensign Nixen, of the Salvation Army. The President referred to the serious illness of Mrs Cole. A motion of sympathy was passed, all members standing. A letter was read and discussed from the Superintendent of Sabbath Observance. It was decided to help in this branch of the work.

WELLINGTON.

The usual monthly meeting of the Wellington District W.C.T.U. was held on June 5th. There was a large attendance of members, Mrs Boxall presiding. A motion of condolence and sympathy was passed to Mr Cole and family in their recent bereavement, all members standing. Circulars were read in connection with the Nelson system and the Bible in Schools League, but as it was pointed out that a unanimous vote would not be secured for either, after considerable discussion it was resolved: "That this Union heartily approves of Bible reading in schools."

BLENHEIM.

At a meeting recently held by the W.C.T.U. the following resolutions were passed:—"That the Blenheim Branch of the W.C.T.U., while gratefully acknowledging the good work done by the recent Convention in the various branches of social reform, feel that they must dissent from the resolutions carried by the Convention on Bible teaching in State schools, and that we strongly uphold the Bible in State Schools League."

RICHMOND.

On April 28th Miss Powell, organiser of the W.C.T.U., called a meeting of girls and young women in the Methodist Schoolroom, with the intention of forming a branch of the W.C.T.U. After explaining several branches of work carried on by the Union, Miss Powell asked all intending members to sign the pledge, to which invitation twelve responded. The initiatory service followed, after which the necessary officers were appointed.

May 5. The Richmond Y's held their first meeting, three more members being added to their number. After Scripture reading and prayer, the President fully explained to the members the work carried on by the Y's, and the meeting decided which branches of the work they would take up.

NGAIO.

On the afternoon of the 9th of May a meeting of the W.C.T.U. was held at the residence of Mrs Lynneberg, and although the attendance was

small, the discussion, which was upon "Bare Majority," was fairly good, and a profitable time was spent. A vote of sincere sympathy for Mrs Cole in her serious illness was passed at that meeting.

WOODVILLE.

The monthly meeting was held in Ormond Street Hall on April 29th, President in the chair. We are holding monthly sewing meetings during the winter to repair clothes for the poor, to be sent to Sir John Kirk's Ragged School Union, London. Our next meeting to be held at the residence of Mrs Davie (Treasurer). It was proposed that we advertise time of meeting and place in "White Ribbon." A Corresponding Secretary was appointed.

Met in Ormond Street Hall on May 27th. The weather was bad and attendance small. The President read interesting pieces dealing with evils of the drink traffic. Regret was expressed at the decease of Mrs Cole, and a letter of sympathy directed to be sent.

WAIPIKURAU.

This Branch celebrated their fifth anniversary in April. Members from Waipawa were present. The President was in the chair, and gave an account of late Convention. Afternoon tea was provided by Mrs Harding.

Monthly meetings held May 8th. President was in the chair. Mrs Logan tendered her resignation as President, as she is leaving the district. It was accepted with much regret, and several members expressed appreciation of her work.

NELSON.

Monthly meeting was held on May 13th, President in the chair. Miss Powell reported formation of a Y. branch at Richmond. A resolution of sympathy was passed with Mrs Cole in her serious illness. Mesdames Pitt and McKay placed in charge of Cradle Roll. Congratulations to Mrs Watson (returned unopposed on Charitable Aid Board) and Mrs Field (elected to School Committee). Members took a keen interest in municipal elections. Papers in reference to formation of a Woman Suffrage Union of Dominions Overseas were read and discussed, and the following resolution unanimously carried:—"This Nelson Branch of W.C.T.U. expresses its willingness to join the Woman's Suffrage Union of Dominions Overseas."

Special meeting held on May 27th. Great regret was expressed at our N.Z. President's death, words of heartfelt appreciation were spoken, and a vote of sympathy with the sorrowing relatives passed. An invitation has been sent by this Union to the sailors of H.M.S. New Zealand to be present at a Sunday tea, and has been accepted for 200. Mrs Rowlands, a returned missionary from

Japan, gave a talk on "The Women of Japan." A hearty vote of thanks was accorded her.

ASHBURTON.

Meeting held May 20th. Mrs W. T. Lill stated that owing to ill-health she was compelled to resign her position as President of the Union. Much regret was expressed, and the following resolution unanimously carried:—"That this meeting accepts with much regret the resignation of their beloved President on account of ill-health, and desires to place on record its deep and heartfelt appreciation of her untiring energy and loyal devotion to the best interests of our Union." Mrs Watson was unanimously elected President, and Mrs Dent Vice-President. Greetings were received from Petone Union. One new member initiated.

On May 14th our Union had full charge of the luncheon and afternoon tea provided in Theatre Royal for 250 officers and bluejackets from H.M.S. New Zealand. The arrangements were all that could be desired, and the tables were beautifully decorated. No-License Ashburton nobly demonstrated the fact that it can entertain as well as any part of the Dominion.

This daring Union actually tendered to feed 400 bluejackets from H.M.S. New Zealand on their visit to the town. Moreover, they did it well, as the local papers and the men themselves bear witness. The tender was for dinner and afternoon tea, but so abundant a provision was made that a sit down tea was given. The tender was accepted with this condition attached: "That no alcoholic liquor be given to the men while in Ashburton." The officer in charge presented our President with the ship's badge, and said that the White Ribbon women had relieved him from all anxiety about the men. The men will not be likely to forget how royally they were treated in "dry Ashburton."

Nelson also entertained 200 of the bluejackets to tea on Sunday evening last.

NORSEWOOD.

The monthly meeting of the local branch of the W.C.T.U. was held at Mrs McCaw's on May 15th. Miss Campbell presided. There was a fair attendance. A big correspondence was read and discussed. Miss A. Olsen read a paper on "The Legal Disabilities of Women." Our Union dealt at some length with this paper. There was a great deal our Union could not agree with, especially as to women being members of Parliament.

MANAIA.

This energetic Union just missed gaining the N.Z. banner for greatest increase of members last year. However, a kind friend presented them with a lovely banner, which your Editor had the pleasure of unfurling on her visit there last month. We hope to greet Manaia's banner at next Convention.

HAMILTON.

May 29. The monthly meeting was held in Wesley Class-room. The President referred to the sad news of the death of our beloved President, Mrs Cole, and spoke in eulogistic terms of the noble work accomplished by her as Dominion President during the last seven years. A motion of deepest sympathy with the family was passed, the members all standing whilst it was read. The President gave some interesting facts concerning residents in the back blocks, and spoke of the great hardships experienced by them, and urged the members to do all they can to help in this branch of the work. A mothers' meeting is to be held at the residence of Mrs Primrose, Claudelands, this month, to celebrate White Ribbon Day.

KIHIKIHI.

On May 23rd, at the Town Hall, Kihikihi, the first Band of Hope of the season (under the auspices of the W.C.T.U.) was held, when a good audience was present. Dr. Reekie, of Te Awamutu, delivered an address on the effects of alcohol upon the human system. He explained in an effective yet simple manner how alcohol degenerates all the vital organs. Especially is its use very severe upon the kidneys, which is sure to end in the incurable Bright's disease. At the conclusion of the instructive address the Doctor was accorded a very hearty vote of thanks for giving us so much of the little spare time at his disposal. The remainder of the programme was filled by the usual songs, recitations, etc., by the children, while a song each from Mrs Vincent McCardle and Mr O. Price Owen was much appreciated. We hope to have a similar gathering the end of this month.

(Owing to pressure on space, all reports received after 8th are crowded out, and others have been condensed.—Ed. "W.R.")

**SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED TO
JUNE 8.**

Paid up to—

May, 1911: Mrs Green (Hakataramea), 12s 6d.
 May, 1912: Mrs Wright (N.E. Valley), 2s 6d.
 Aug., 1912: Mrs Arthur (N.E. Valley), 2s 6d.
 Jan., 1913: Miss Butts (Hawera), 6s 3d.
 March, 1913: Mesdames Warren (Lyttelton), Wright (Wellington), 2s 6d each.
 June, 1913: Mesdames McLean (Waipawa), 2s 6d; Gray (N.E. Valley), 5s; Fell, Misses Ledger and Hunter (Nelson), Spence (Palmerston North), Anderson (Rongotea), Hopkirk (Waipukurau), Wallis (Christchurch), 2s 6d each; Hayes (Waimate), Austin (New Ply-

mouth), Gillespie (Kamo), 5s each.

July, 1913: Mesdames McGibbon (Hawera), 7s 6d; Wilson (Palmerston North), 5s; Mills and Lambert (Nelson), 2s 6d each.

Nov., 1913: Mrs Langford (Lower Hutt), £1; Fraser (Springfield), 3s 9d; Emmett (Nelson), 2s 6d.

Dec., 1913: Mrs Wickham (Avondale), Mrs Ritchie (Palmerston North), 2s 6d each.

Feb., 1914: Miss McLeod (Martinborough), 7s 6d; Mesdames Jones, Bishop, and Patten (Hawera), 2s 6d each.

March 14: Mesdames Smith (Lyttelton), Begg (N.E. Valley), Strand, senr. (Lower Hutt), 2s 6d each.

April 14: Misses Hart and Thompson, Mesdames Gunn, Hunter, Hunt, and Field (Richmond), Moss (Kaikoura), Belworthy, Dr. Platts-Mills (Wellington), Duxfield, Tait (Hawera), Pedlar (Christchurch), Public Reading Room (Pahiatua), 2s 6d each.

May, 1914: Miss Ivey, Mesdames McLauchlin, Alison, Stubbersfield (Kaikoura), Remington, Castle (Wellington), Simpson, Holland (Christchurch), Henry (Annat), McGinnity (Nelson), 2s 6d each.

June, 1914: Miss Plummer (Nelson), Mesdames Colthart (Sheffield), Alf. Butterick (Willowby), G. Wells, Josling, Williams, Stewart (Christchurch), Dash (Waimate), Billing (Oamaru), Duncan (Whakatane), Smith (Waipukurau), Torry, Shore, Bone, Best, Boase, Miss Maunder (Hawera), 2s 6d each; Mrs Gill (Christchurch), 5s.

July, 1914: Mrs Adkin (Levin), 7s 6d; Judson (Woodend), 5s.

Nov., 1914: Mrs Lewis (Pongakawa), 5s; Mrs B. Hurcomb, 12s 6d. Business manager will be grateful to any reader who will forward Mrs Hurcomb's present address. Her old address was Kyburn, Central Otago.

All moneys, unless paid to local Superintendents, should be sent to

MRS PERYMAN,
 Business Manager,
 Johnsonville, Wellington.

ORGANISING FUND.

Amounts received for the Organising Fund during May, 1913:—

May 1st: Matakana Union, 10s.

May 5th (per Miss Powell): C. Fell, Esq (Nelson), £1 1s; Mrs Blair (Richmond, Nelson), £1; Mrs Brownlee (Havelock, Marlborough), £1 1s; Miss Brownlee (Havelock, Marlborough), 5s; Miss Shand (Dunedin), £1 1s; A Friend, 2s 6d.

ALICE R. C. TAYLOR,
 Treasurer Organising Fund.

Money orders please make payable to Alice Taylor. Address: Mrs H. R. S. Taylor, "Coveney," Balgownie, Wanganui.

Correspondence.

BIBLE IN SCHOOLS.

(To the Editor.)

Dear Sister,—It has been for some time past on my mind to write you congratulating the N.Z. Union on the resolution passed at the recent Convention against the platform of Bible in Schools League. It certainly was a step in the right direction. Though with all due deference to our leaders, I regard the Nelson system as almost a compromise between the two issues, "Shall we, or shall we not?" and a useless innovation, as one of your correspondents, and even the ministers themselves admit that the very children for whom it was adopted are not reached thereby. Hence the cry of the Bible in Schools League. Would it not have been better to have gone even further, and passed some such resolution as this: "That while we, as Christian women, believe the Bible to be our infallible guide, we do not consider it comes within the province of the State to teach it." This, I think, would have been in keeping with the original plan of work covered by the W.C.T.U. This religious aspect, this which applies to the individual conscience, was left as it should be, with the individual and his God, and should not be interfered with by even the W.C.T.U., which unconsciously we are doing when joining hands in this movement. I am amazed at the attitude that many of our local Unions have taken in repudiating the action of the Convention and passing counter-resolutions before hearing the whys and wherefores of this decision of Convention. When we appoint our N.Z. officers to those important positions, and send our delegates, giving them seats in Convention, we recognise these women as leaders of thought, capable of acting intelligently, and with a knowledge of things politic. When we meet in solemn assembly do we not trust many important facts to them to discuss? It is true none are infallible, but if things do not appear right to us at first, surely the least we can do is to await an explanation. In this case it was not so done. What is the consequence? Instead of the solid front that the W.C.T.U. has been able to present to the world, it is a house divided against itself. Surely this is answer sufficient in itself for the question which is now agitating the public. One cannot discern the spirit of the Master, the lowly Nazarene, whose "weapons are not carnal," in this outburst of indignity. The spirit of the Master and the principles of the Bible are not in this movement. Each of us may believe that the Bible is the best book in the world, that it is God's plan of revealing His will to us, that the child's education is incomplete without a knowledge of its precepts; but our next door neighbour does not believe this. Has she no rights?

Certainly, and here let us apply the golden rule. How shall we reach these homes and children who have "no chance," or these parents who care not? If the same amount of energy were put into the work of placing a Bible in each child's home and coming into contact with every child by those proper agencies, instead of shifting the responsibility on to the State and its employees, the case would be met. There is undoubtedly great need of Bible instruction, but who shall teach it? God has appointed teachers. Hear what the Bible says to parents: "These words which I command thee shall be in thine heart, and thou shalt teach them diligently to thy children," etc. (Deut. 6:7). It would be far more consistent for ministers to teach what the Bible says on this point than to encourage parents in shirking untransferable responsibilities. But if the family refuses to do it, and the Church confesses itself a failure, and the church school says it is unequal to the task of instructing the young in religion, then the case is hopeless. There is no remedy. The State need not try. God has forever separated Church and State. Here and there all down the ages questions have cropped up on like points. It has been said, "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty." Let us not forget past history. Nothing seems finer or better than to have the Bible taught in the State schools, and we have been accused of heresy and infidelity when we say it is inimical to the best interest of the community, and the Bible itself if it be included in the school curriculum. Truly we agree that this is the Book of books, but what we have to do with is principles, and the very Book itself is against this connection in matters of conscience—religion or Bible, call it what you will. When the arm of the law or the State has taken hold of the work of the Church in the past it has ever proved itself to be a persecuting power. This, then, belongs not to these enlightened days, but to the dark ages. It would be truly a retrogression in our educational system to adopt the Bible in Schools League platform.

ALICE L. MOWLEM.

(Owing to great pressure on our space this letter has been much condensed.—Ed. "W.R.")

THE BIBLE IN SCHOOLS FROM A TEACHER'S POINT OF VIEW.

(To the Editor.)

Dear Madam,—May I be permitted a little space in order to give my views on this important subject.

In my opinion there are great drawbacks to both the Nelson and the N.S.W. systems. With the Nelson system, the children of small country schools are not reached at all; and these are the very children who need the instruction most. Miles away from any church or Sunday school,

they grow up in complete ignorance. In Marlborough, 497 children are divided among 65 schools, the highest attendance in any one school not being greater than 20. It would be quite impossible for a religious instructor to visit these schools, even once a month.

The N.S.W. system appears to me still less feasible. The children read set books during school hours, but the teacher is not supposed to give any dogmatic teaching. We all know how beneficial it is for a child to ask questions. It is now recognised as such a help to the reasoning faculties that children are trained to question the teacher. Now, when a child asks a question from its religious text-book, the teacher is bound to give an answer according to his convictions. If she is a Unitarian, what is to prevent her from sowing the seeds of Unitarianism. Teachers are beginning to be looked upon as machines. With the N.S.W. system of Bible teaching, they would be hampered with rules and regulations, and be asked to smother all individuality. The duties of the parents are being more and more foisted upon the teachers. During a week, 24 hours, the teacher is obliged to cram in a multiplicity of subjects. She must give instruction in health, with the consolation of seeing little or no result.

We are all agreed that children should have religious instruction. But why give it through the medium of the teacher? Because that is the only way in which we can reach the children, many say. I suggest the solution of the problem thus: The majority of children nowadays are given far too much home work. There is no limit. A teacher can give as much as she pleases. This is a bad system. While a little does no harm, a great deal is very injurious. A child who has been working during school hours should not be expected to learn spelling and meanings, and work sums in the evening. The reading of interesting books, on subjects apart from the ordinary school work, would be a different matter.

There are certain subjects, i.e., religion and health, that many parents need instruction in as much as the children. These subjects should constitute the only home work. The children would then go to the proper source for light on the subject of religion—its parents. And while the parents listened to the health readings, they too, in many cases, would gain knowledge in this important subject, and would not be so likely to regard health truths as "the teacher's fads." The text-books could contain short chapters, with questions. These questions, answered in special exercise books, could be brought to the teacher once a week. The teacher would not correct or criticise the religious work, but would simply mark it, as a proof that the work had been done. The exercise books could be shown to the Inspector, and,

if necessary, an examination on these subjects given, and special certificates awarded for good work.

The children of those parents whose faith was antagonistic to such religious instruction could not, of course, be forced to take it. But in order that parents could not absolve their children through mere indifference, these children would have to be compelled to take another subject of study, which would entail more work than the religious subject.

In my opinion, this plan would confer double benefits. It would limit the amount of home work, a much-needed reform; and would bring the important subjects of religion and health to the parents as well as to the children.—Yours sincerely,

MARGUERITE.

(Owing to lack of space, several letters are crowded out.—Ed. "W.R.")

MEMBERSHIP BANNER CONTEST

Dear Sisters,—As the conditions under which the "Membership Banner" is offered for competition amongst Branch Unions do not appear to be fully understood, I should like to explain them briefly. The banner is given by the New Zealand Union, to be held each year by the Branch which has, during the previous year, secured the greatest number of new members on a percentage basis, that is, in proportion to previous membership. Thus, if a Union which had a membership of 50 last year, should succeed in enrolling 75 new members during the year, it would be credited with an increase of 150 per cent. for the Banner contest. The banner does not become the property of the Branch (unless a Branch succeeds in winning it two years in succession or three times at intervals), but it is held for a year until the next Convention, when it has to be handed over, so that it may be awarded to the next winning Branch. The names of the Branches that hold it year by year are inscribed on the banner. Last year it was held by Nelson, which had increased its membership during 1911 by 164 per cent. This year it is held by Oxford, which scored an increase of 155 per cent. in membership during 1912.

I hope that all Unions will enter this competition of friendly rivalry,

IN MEMORIAM.

About 8 o'clock on Sunday evening, May 25th, our beloved President, Mrs Cole, having served her generation, fell quietly asleep, to wake to a higher life and service.

She was the daughter of the late Mr Charles Holder, and was born at St. George's, Shropshire. She came to New Zealand in 1880, and occupied the position of school mistress at Brookside and East Oxford prior to her marriage in 1884. Besides her husband and her two daughters, she leaves three sisters and their families in New Zealand, two brothers in England, and two more in South Africa.

She joined the ranks of the Women's Christian Temperance Union in Christchurch when Mrs Leavitt formed the Union in 1885, and her ability and good judgment were recognised from the first, though for some years her increasing family ties and cares prevented her taking any leading part, but as these lessened she came more and more to the front, until her election to the New Zealand Presidency in 1906 placed her in the position where her fine organising powers and qualifications for leadership were quickly recognised and appreciated. Every year since then she has been enthusiastically re-elected, and under her wise and capable guidance the Women's Christian Temperance Union has greatly increased in numbers, in influence, and in usefulness. Combined with firmness and tactfulness, she possessed, in large measure, the wonderful gift of creating personal love for herself among her comrades, and to-day she is mourned and missed not only as the earnest, far-seeing, untiring President, but also as the sympathetic, loving, genial, intellectual comrade and friend. Not alone in our ranks will her loss be felt—her voice and pen were ever at the call of any reform tending to the uplift of humanity. Her deep religious convictions were translated into a life of active work for the weak, the oppressed, the sinning, and the suffering.

She had a profound and enthusiastic belief in the mission of women. She believed that God made man and woman to help each other in every department of life, and she held that even-handed justice would never be

secured until the woman was joined with the man in making and administering the laws of their country; that as a well-guided and governed home needs the influence of a good man and a good woman, so the same combined influence is needed for the good guidance and government of a country.

While fully alive to the evils of our day, our beloved President had an assured conviction of the ultimate triumph of right over wrong. She knew that it was not in vain that Christ came to proclaim liberty to the captive and the opening of prisons to them that are bound. She loved her work; she put her heart and strength into it, and here and now she tasted the joy of her Lord in the doing of it. We who have been near her during the last two years marvel at the amount she has accomplished, in spite of steadily ebbing strength, and increasing ill-health. We wonder at the way she kept in touch with great movements in all parts of the world, and how fully informed she was with legislative enactments and current events in New Zealand.

No tribute to Mrs Cole would be complete without reference to her husband. Theirs was one of the holy unions and happy firesides which bless this world, and she could never have been what she was had Mr Cole been other than he is. His devotion to her, his loving appreciation of her many fine gifts, the sacrifice of his own convenience to set her free for public work and service, his sympathetic help in any time of stress or perplexity, have been demonstrated again and again; and while our hearts go out to him and his daughters in sympathy and sorrow for their bereavement, we also acknowledge, with deep gratitude, our indebtedness to him.

The beautiful life has ended on earth. Sustained by complete assurance of God's love and care, calmly and peacefully our loved President waited the hour when her brave, loving spirit would pass through the gates of death to eternal life.

"God calls our loved ones, but we lose not wholly

What He hath given;

They live on earth, in thought and deed, as truly,

As in His heaven,"

and at the close of her last Presidential address comes her message to us:

"We are not here to play, to dream, to drift;

We have hard work to do, and loads to lift.

Shun not the struggle—face it—

'Tis God's gift."

And so we say "Good Night" until the time comes for a glad "Good Morning" in the land where we shall "renew our strength like eagles, we shall walk and not be weary, we shall run and not faint."

THE FUNERAL.

All that was mortal of Mrs Cole, our beloved President, was laid to rest in Linwood Cemetery on Wednesday afternoon, May 28th. The funeral was very largely attended. The acting-President (Mrs Don, of Dunedin), Rev. J. Dawson (Secretary of the New Zealand Alliance), Mrs Mitchell and Miss Henderson (Recording and Corresponding Secretaries of the National Union, and representing the National Executive), with the members of the Christchurch Union, and representatives of various Unions in the surrounding districts, were present, with a great number of relatives, friends, members of different temperance organisations, and sympathisers. A beautiful wreath from the National Union, bearing our motto, the national banner, a wreath from Christchurch Union, with their banner, lay on the coffin, while it was surrounded and hidden by the numerous floral tributes from friends and other Unions.

The service at the home was conducted by the Rev. A. N. Scotter, and a favourite hymn of Mrs Cole's was sung, taken from Whittier's beautiful poem, "The Eternal Goodness." At a certain distance from the cemetery the members of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, distinguished by a white ribbon tied in a bow round the left arm, preceded the coffin to the cemetery, where a solemn service was conducted by Rev. C. H. Laws, concluding with an address from Mr L. M. Isitt, and the hymn "Oh, God, our help in ages past," and though hearts ached with the keen pang of personal loss, and many tears fell round that open grave, yet the sorrow was mingled with joy and thankfulness for the beautiful life, so full of good works, lived here on earth, and for the hope of reunion in the bright hereafter, when we, too, have entered into life eternal,

THE MEMORIAL SERVICE.

Mrs Cole was a member of the Sydenham Methodist Church, and on Sunday evening, June 1st, a memorial service was held there. The church was beautifully decorated. In front of the pulpit hung the banners of the New Zealand and Christchurch Unions, Mrs Cole having been President of both Unions for several years. Broad white ribbon, lightly veiled with black, was draped in many graceful folds round the banners and pulpit, finishing in a large bow just underneath the black draped cushion, while large bunches of white flowers were placed in different parts of the church. The front seats, outlined with white ribbon, were reserved for members of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, who, wearing the white ribbon and large white bow on the left arm, attended in large numbers. The church was crowded. The minister of the church, Rev. A. N. Scotter, conducted the service, and three anthems, "Lead, Kindly Light," "Forgive Blest Shade," and "Who Are These?" were finely rendered by the choir at intervals. Miss Roberts and Rev. J. Dawson each gave an address appreciative of the character and work of our beloved President, with an earnest appeal to others to follow in her footsteps and take up active work for God, Home, and Humanity. The dominant note throughout the service was of glad assurance that for the good and faithful follower of Christ death hath no sting and the grave no victory, for "eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither hath it entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him."

THE LAST FAREWELL.

A day of sunshine—as if in answer to the wish that she should rest in the sun—was Wednesday, May 28th, when the loved President was carried to her resting place. From her home on the sunny hills she was brought by those who loved her most to meet white ribbon women who had gathered from every part to pay their last tribute of love and honour. Solemnly on either side of the way they stood while the nearest and dearest ones passed along. Then, following after, they gathered round the place chosen for their dear one.

The beautiful words of the service for those who have stepped into the sunlight before us was read by Rev. Murray. Mr Isitt, as one of the very oldest friends in public and private life, followed, and spoke of the beauty and sweetness of the spirit which permeated every action in the life just laid down, and then Rev. Laws offered a prayer of comfort to those that mourned and of thankfulness for the influence of the brave spirit that had passed away. "Oh, God, our help in ages past," was the hymn chosen by the members of the Union, and bravely it was sung, the service ending thus.

Beneath a blue and cloud-flecked sky, in the warm soft rays of a sun that surely thought it was summer again, covered with glorious flowers, the tributes of homage to their friend and leader, they left her, to take up again the various threads of their lives, sorrowing, but strengthened mightily, for had not they the abiding memory of the gracious Christ-like spirit which had been as an all-pervading fragrance of her who had gone before, and a deepened desire to follow in her footsteps in the fight for God and Home and Humanity.

A TRIBUTE TO OUR LATE PRESIDENT.

The Nelson Convention of 1913 will hold a special place in the annals of the New Zealand Women's Christian Temperance Union, as the last public appearance of our lamented President, Mrs Cole. For some time previously it had been feared that her delicate health would not allow her to be present, but as she feelingly told the Convention, she was given strength from above, and was wonderfully supported throughout the session, in answer, she felt, to the constant prayers of the members.

It was a great privilege to see and know this gifted woman, specially fitted as she was to occupy the position of President. Those who had the pleasure of hearing her opening address could not fail to be struck by its comprehensive character and by the broad catholic spirit that breathed through it. Mrs Cole was one who could look at every side of a question, then form her opinion, and hold it with persistency.

In the management of business she was pre-eminently fair and tactful. It is no light thing for a woman to control the seven days' deliberations of a Convention numbering over 60 members in such a way that its harmony should never once be seriously disturbed. Differences of opinion there necessarily were, sometimes widely divergent, lively discussions took place on burning questions of the day, but the tactfulness of the President, now calmly summing up arguments on both sides, now emphasising the common ideals and objects on which is based the deeper unity beneath the differences, now wisely postponing debate when the occasion was such as might possibly cause dissension, prevented anything occurring that could detract from the dignity and decorum that marked the proceedings of Convention from beginning to end. It was an education that would have more than compensated for any trouble or inconvenience incurred by attending the meetings. Not one or two merely, but all of those who were present for the first time felt that it had been good for them to be there and come under the direct influence of Mrs Cole. For she seemed to possess a strong personal magnetism that evoked the admiration and love of all who came in contact with her. Add to this the quiet, dignified manner that always characterised her actions and her words, and the strong self-control and calm endurance that enabled her, in spite of weakness and pain, to support the continuous strain of hard work, and always, except for one or two brief periods, to be found at her post, and one can understand the unanimity with which, towards the close of the Convention, she was nominated once again as President, and the fervent hopes that restored health would allow her to continue the great work to which she had given herself.

Not the least gratefully cherished among the memories of this Nelson Convention will be the return trip to Wellington, when a calm sea and a mild atmosphere allowed her fellow-passengers to come on closer terms of intimacy with her, and find in her not merely their President, but their friend. It was a fitting close to a Convention that will ever live in the minds and hearts of its members, and will make them glad to have known

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and loved, if only for a few short weeks, the brave, true woman whose loss they now mourn, but whose work and influence will for many years be an inspiration to the White Ribboners of New Zealand.

A WORD FROM OUR "JOSHUA."

Dear "White Ribbon" Sisters,—

Our late beloved President has gone to Higher Service, and we are mourning the loss of one who was in every sense of the word our sister, as well as our leader.

What this irreparable loss means to us we cannot now think. Her work has changed to worship, her many activities turned to songs of praise, her much weariness has ended in life eternal.

When we think of her characteristics, her womanliness, her gentleness, her sweet and gracious influence, her unswerving principles, her strong faith, and her abilities as a leader, we wonder what shall we, and how can we do without her. When the late Mrs General Booth was buried, her family, the officers of the Salvation Army, and thousands of soldiers and visitors knelt round the open grave and covenanted together, to renew their service to Christ, to each do his or her share in the war against sin, and in all circumstances to "go forward." May grace be given us to do likewise.

The very last official act done by Mrs Cole was the drawing up and signing the circular letter issued by direction of Convention on the Bible in Schools, and as tremblingly and in deep sorrow I step into the breach caused by her death, my first act will be to appeal in her sacred memory to the Unions throughout the Dominion to cease all strife over the Bible in Schools question.

Some ministers and members of the Presbyterian Church are strongly opposed to the Bible in Schools League, but no one dreams of advising them to leave their church on that account, and though the Convention voted against the League, the vote

does not prevent any member from working for any scheme she likes. The Union stands, as it has always stood, for the Bible in schools, only we differ as to the method of teaching it. In memory of the departed one, let us agree to differ, and instead of wasting time in argument, let us be loyal to our Union, and as it was prayed by the Rev. Mr Laws at Mrs Cole's open grave, "Let us wear ourselves out for the service of Christ and of humanity, and then, after all, consider ourselves unprofitable servants."—With loving greetings to all.

—I am, yours in deep sorrow,
RACHEL DON,
Acting-President.

LAST MESSAGES.

To the Members of the Women's Christian Temperance Unions throughout New Zealand.

Dear Comrades,—

It was my privilege to spend most of an afternoon with Mrs Cole soon after she knew that she had laid down all work for ever on earth, and that God had called her hence. I wish I could find words to describe her perfect peace, her calm submission to God's will, and her sweet and firm reliance upon His love and care.

She desired me to give two messages to her comrades. She wished all to know that "her death had in no way been caused or hastened by her work"; and she most earnestly desired that every one should be assured that "whatever good she had been enabled to do for the Unions through her work, she had received much more than she ever gave." She sent her loving remembrances to all.

We have lost a gracious, loving, able leader, and those who knew her best and came closest to her mourn her loss most, and will reverence and love her memory while life lasts.

Our best tribute will be increased interest in, and work for, our organisation and all it stands for.—Yours

in White Ribbon Bonds,
J. ROBERTS.
Linwood, June 2nd, 1913.

139, Castlereagh St., Sydney,
May 29th, 1913.

To the Executive W.C.T.U.,
Christchurch.

Dear Comrades,—It was with hearts bowed down we received the sad news yesterday of the death of your beloved President and our loved comrade, Mrs Cole. When shadows such as this darken our sky, we can do nothing but through the cloud try to catch a glimpse of the shining face beyond, and say, "Not my will, but Thine be done." At our Executive meeting yesterday there were many loving and tender references made to the beautiful life of your beloved President. Her sojourn with us in this State, some little while back, has left behind very many fragrant and tender memories. I have been asked to convey to you the loving and heartfelt sympathy of your comrades in New South Wales.—Believe me, your comrade in sorrow,

EVA G. BOWES, Cor. Sec.

CHRISTCHURCH.

A special meeting of the W.C.T.U. was held on Tuesday, May 27th, owing to the death of the New Zealand President, Mrs F. Cole. There was a large attendance of members and friends, Mrs McCombs presiding. It was decided that the members attend the funeral the following day, and that the casket be draped with the banners of the New Zealand and the Christchurch Unions.

AN APPRECIATION.

(By "A Comrade.")
(*"Lyttelton Times."*)

From end to end of New Zealand to-day the members of the Women's Christian Temperance Union mourn the loss of their able and beloved President.

The death of Mrs Cole will be deplored by all who are interested in the reforms which make for the highest well-being of humanity, but the loss to the organisation over which she presided for the last eight years with such rare ability and marked

success, is unutterable. Wise, firm, tactful, genial, practical, far-seeing and large-souled, endowed with fine organising powers, combining gentle womanliness with fine intellectual gifts, welltrained and cultivated, and possessing deep religious convictions, and unswerving assurance in the ultimate triumph of the great moral reforms for which she laboured so strenuously, Mrs Cole made an ideal leader—no one who came into close contact with her gracious personality would wonder at the great love entertained for her by her comrades throughout the Dominion, or the deep sense of personal loss which so many of them are feeling to-day.

Burdened with frail and variable health for a long time past, she yet was a source of inspiration and enthusiasm to others, and under her guidance, as New Zealand President, the Women's Christian Temperance Union has greatly strengthened and multiplied, while her annual presidential addresses showed her wide outlook, and the close touch she maintained with the great movements, in different parts of the world, that are making for the advancement of truth and righteousness. Her voice and her pen have ever been used for the same lofty and noble purpose.

And now her beautiful life here is ended, and her passing has been in fitting accord—surrounded by and ministered to with unceasing devotion by those for whom she cared most on earth, cheered by messages of loving remembrance and loyalty from sorrowing comrades in all parts of the country. Knowing recovery hopeless, she waited her passage through the portals of death with deep peacefulness and calm, confident in the love and care of God, Whom she had humbly served here on earth, and through Whose Holy Spirit she had been guided and strengthened to be a power for good to others and a blessing to many. "Death is not death to such as her, but just a lifting of the latch and a step into the open air," for, to use her own words in connection with the death of a great comrade, "Such a soul passes through the portals to life eternal and to a world of greater possibilities."

Numbered by years, her life has been a short one, but has been filled by high ideals and large activities, and surely to the great souls who

are touched by the passion of pity which dwelt in the heart of Christ for the sinning and sorrowing to whom they seek to bring succour and comfort, life possesses a value, a dignity, a joy never realised by those whose aims are mainly confined to the acquisition of material wealth and the enjoyment of worldly pleasure. No human being can gauge the value and far reaching influence of such a life as that just closed.

Linked to the heroic men and women of the past whose labours and sacrifices for truth and justice made possible the work of to-day, and linked to the coming "brave light-bringers" of the future who will carry on to ultimate victory the work now laid down, the workers for God and humanity enter now and here into the joy of their Lord, and for them, in spite of its disappointments and sorrows, life is a glad psalm of praise.

The bright, strong, and beautiful spirit has passed from among us, and we who remain are looking forward to the time when for us, too, "the dawn shall break and the shadows flee away."

THE REV. A. N. SCOTTER'S
TRIBUTE.

On behalf of the Methodist Church the Rev. A. N. Scotter has contributed the following appreciation of the deceased lady:—

"Mrs Herbert Cole was born of Methodist parents, and throughout her life manifested a strong affection for the church of her fathers. Although she found her sphere of social activity in the temperance movement, she ever regarded it as at basis a religious work—as a branch of the work of the Christian Church. The Methodist Church has felt honoured by her and by her successful efforts in temperance organisation, and has recognised that in the course of her life she has acted in the spirit of the great social and religious reformer of the eighteenth century, for John Wesley hated the traffic in alcoholic liquors. During her residence on Cashmere Hills Mrs Cole continued to find time in her busy public life to take a sympathetic interest in the work and aims and progress of Methodism around her, and her minister could always rely on her advice and her help for the work of the church. Sydenham Methodism mourns the loss

of a worthy member of the church and of one who was a strong spiritual force in the community."

IN MEMORIAM.

(Sacred to the memory of the late Mrs Fanny B. Cole, Dominion Superintendent W.C.T.U.)

Hushed be the strife of tongues, the din of words,
And let our thoughts, our sympathies, our hearts,
Concentrate in the chamber of the dead,
Where lies our loved and honoured—loved and lost.

Ho! the sad havoc of the ruthless foe
That snatches from our midst our best beloved;
Breaking our hearts, our homes, our holiest bonds;
Slaying our leaders ere the goal is reached;
Stealing the salt from this corrupting world;
Robbing humanity, the church and God;
Rending the fabric of the work of years;
Mocking our mourning for love's labour lost.

"Lost," did we say? Nay, mourners, surely not!
Deem not our comrade's labours void and waste.
A noble life is never truly lost;
And was not hers as noble as the best—
A life-long sacrifice for others' good?

We lay her in the tomb, and lose from view
Her queenly bearing and her cheering smile.
We see no more her calm-souled fearlessness,
Her dauntless courage fighting for the right,
Her swerveless faith in God's vouchsafed support,
Her hope triumphant in the darkest hour,
Her love out-reaching to the direst need,
With strong compassion for the weak and wronged.
We list no more the pean of her praise,
The fervour of her importuning prayers,

The pathos of her heart's well-voiced
appeals,
The wisdom of her counsels and
commands
In things momentous for the common
weal,
Her love-charged hand-shake, and
compelling powers,
Are rudely shattered, like the wind-
swept flowers
In summer solstice, and the heyday
hours.

But these are memory's treasures,
with us still,
Like the aroma from the rose-leaf
press,
Predestined to survive material
wrecks,
And outlive beauties of the baser
mould.
By these our comrade lives, and still
shall live
While memory holds to those who
knew her best.
By these, though dead, she lives and
speaks and works
Through living comrades, minded as
herself.
These are the savour of her life laid
down,
Passing the fragrance of the grass
new-mown.

Then let us rise, as one, our ranks
to close;
To heal the breach, and face again
our foes;
To tread the heavenward path our
comrade trod,
And work "for Home, Humanity,
and God."

—Thomas Payne.

Sydenham.

THE SPIRIT OF CITIZENSHIP.

(By Laurence Housman.)

Here is a true story which has
come within my personal knowledge,
drawn from the life of that curiously
named section of our much sub-
divided community, "the lower
middle-class." I give it as an ex-
ample of the faithful spirit of citizen-
ship which underlies the hard drud-
gery and devotion of so many
women's lives, and which in our
modern state goes so little recognised
and so ill rewarded.

This family I am about to tell of
consisted thirty years ago of a man

and wife with two small children—a
boy and a girl. The father was in
easy circumstances—that is to say, in
well-paid employment; but he had
saved nothing. At that time he was
the wage-earner of the family; being
a full citizen, of course he had the
vote.

Shortly after his children were born
he fell ill, became permanently in-
capacitated for work; and lost his
employment. His family had then
only a small handful of ready money,
the household furniture, and the
wage-earning capacity of the wife to
depend upon.

She determined to let lodgings; her
house was roomy, and had good fur-
niture; by living with her family in
the basement, and letting the rest of
the house furnished, she reckoned to
be able to make a living. But her
husband's illness had been an ex-
pense, bills were owing, time press-
ed; it was all-important that she
should let her rooms without delay.
One day two gentlemen came and
took both sets of apartments as per-
manent lodgers; they were to come in
the next day; they ordered supper to
be ready at a certain hour. Every-
thing was prepared for their arrival.
They never came. No doubt they
had found something that suited them
better. About the expectations they
had raised and the debt incurred they
did not trouble themselves.

That was the finish so far as that
particular home was concerned. They
had no means to await the arrival of
fresh lodgers. The house was given
up; the good furniture was sold to
pay debts and current expenses.
With a small remainder the family
moved into a cheaper district, where
the wife started once more to let
lodgings.

From that time on the whole house
was run by her exertions; her crip-
pled husband was only able to clean
boots and knives and do a few other
odd jobs in the basement. She was
the wage-earner, and the house still
kept its stamp of citizenship, its
claim to representation—for the in-
valid husband had the vote.

It was while affairs stood thus that
I first came to know them. The
children had then just begun to go to
school, and I had under my eyes that
subtle difference in the training of
boy and girl, and in their respective
claims to the means of self-devel-
opment which persist through life.

When the boy's school hours were
over he was free to go and play with
his companions. In the girl's case
the home claimed her. Her play-time
hours were spent in lightening her
mother's labours. What school
work she had to prepare was done in
the intervals of domestic service; the
boy came to his fresh from play and
recreation; home-work to anything
like the same extent was not demand-
ed of him. There then was already
the male getting the better chances
for health and mental and physical
development; the girl was labouring
under a physical handicap, placed
upon her not by nature, but by cus-
tom and tradition. Under the cir-
cumstances it may have been inevit-
able; but why was not the boy
called upon to share it? The plain
answer is, custom and tradition did
not require it of him; the need was
there, but the girl, not the boy, was
called upon to meet the extra de-
mand. Custom and tradition secur-
ed for him the use and enjoyment of
his free hours; custom and tradition
called on the girl to give up hers to
the home.

In spite of that handicap the girl
succeeded, by her greater industry,
in keeping pace educationally with
her brother. In course of time they
both became pupil-teachers in the
Board School where they studied.
They had the same qualifications,
they did the same work, each alike
was training for a self-supporting
career. But for his work the boy
got a decisively higher rate of pay
than the girl—not because his work
was of more value to the State—he
had not more pupils under him than
she had, he did not show greater ef-
ficiency in training them; but he was
training to become a self-supporting
man, and she only to become a self-
supporting woman; and so to every
two shillings which the girl earned
he got three. As a consequence, he
had pocket-money left over after his
necessary expenses were paid, while
the girl had none. And not only had
she to make and mend her own
clothes—she mended her brother's as
well. By force of custom and tradi-
tion, the inequality was extended,
and the growing man was given a
prescriptive right to the unpaid la-
bour of the growing woman. Edu-
cational, was it not?

And then, while matters were at
this stage, the invalid father, who

had been economically rather an encumbrance than a help, died, and the household lost its vote! The duties and obligations of that household to the State remained precisely as before, the mother's faithful citizen service went on; but that house, with its unchanged interests, no longer figured on the Parliamentary register.

When they were about twenty years of age, son and daughter, thanks to their mother's unremitting toil, were able to complete their education and enter the same profession as school teachers. The same inequality of payment went on; for the same work, the same value given to the State, the man got more. And now the two contributed to the upkeep of the home; the mother's labours were lightened, she could afford at last to keep a servant. The son became his mother's lodger; party agents came and looked him up. She was a Conservative in politics, he was a Liberal; he got the vote. And once again the household had representation—this time in opposition to the householder's views!

Presently the son married; his contribution to the house was then transferred to the upkeep of his own establishment; his vote went with him. Mother and daughter lived on together, the daughter contributing her share as before. The family with a man at its head had a vote; the women, deprived of the man's assisting contribution, remained without. After the son had been married for some years, the mother died; and then, not long after, only about a year, the son died also, leaving a wife and four children practically unprovided for.

And now mark what followed. The sister, with her smaller pay and her more limited prospects of future advancement, took up the parental duties of her brother, and is now bread-winner to the family. But though she has undertaken that task willingly, cheerfully—giving up for it all practical chance of ever having a home and children of her own—her work, merely because she is a woman, is paid for at a lower rate; and because she is a woman, that household which contains so shining an example of the true spirit of citizenship, is without a vote. To the upbringing of that one man and the fitting of him for an independent career, two women gave themselves in service and unpaid labour. To

the upbringing of his four sons, two women are now devoting their lives, and one of them, to do so, has given up her prospects of marriage.

That example—that voluntary assumption of parental care and of the celibacy which it involves—is one which women are more prone to give than men. It comes to them to do such things—if I say "more naturally" I do not mean less meritoriously; it comes because the parental instinct (which is so largely the citizen instinct) has a deeper hold upon their nature than it has upon men. In all that makes for the fostering and the preserving of life the unmated woman is far in advance of the unmated man. She is, in fact, nearer to the citizen spirit, and answers more quickly and strongly to its appeal where it presents the claim of young life to be safeguarded and trained.

This example that I have given is no exceptional one. I claim that it is typical. From thousands upon thousands of women in like circumstances this would be the normal response—normal because they were women, because of their latent motherhood, their latent sense of citizenship.

And it is to this spirit of citizenship so closely knit up with woman's nature, that our politicians are seeking to deny the vote. How great a folly, how great a crime against the State that denial will appear when, in a little while, accomplished facts shall have opened the eyes of men!

(From the "Christian Commonwealth.")

"When I think of the terrible effects of the abuse of alcohol, I am disposed to give up my profession, to give up everything, and go forth upon a holy crusade, preaching to all men—Beware this enemy of the race."—Sir Andrew Clark.

AUCKLAND District, 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 3 p.m., Central Mission Hall, Albert St.; Executive meets 2.30; Pres., Mrs Pudney, Wallace St., Auckland; Cor. Sec., Miss L. N. Dewar, Pom-palier Terr., Ponsonby; Rec. Sec., Miss Evans, c/o Mrs Harris, 13 Newton St., off Newton Rd.; Treas., Mrs Hughes, Mount Eden; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs Gouk, Wallace St., Ponsonby.

ASHBURTON, 2nd Tuesday, Baring Square Schoolroom; Pres., Mrs W. T. Lill, Willowby; Sec., Miss C. Thomas, 32 Havelock St. W.; Treas., Miss A. C. Watson, 84 Cameron St.; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Miss Butterick, Wakanui.

BLLENHEIM 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 and Rest Rooms.

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

President: Mrs McCombs, Fendalton. Cor. Sec.: Mrs Day, Milford St., St. Albans.

Rec. Sec.: Mrs I. Wilson, Barbour St., Linwood.

Treas.: Mrs Seed, 300 Hereford St., Christchurch.

WHITE RIBBON Supt.: Mrs Williams 25 Philip St., Linwood.

DANNEVIRKE, 2nd Wednesday, Wesleyan Schoolroom, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs W. F. Knight, Tahoraiti; Sec., Mrs Stokoe, Allardice St.; Treas., Miss Burdett, the Manse.

DEVONPORT, Last Wednesday, Wesleyan Schoolroom, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Veats, Lake Rd.; Sec., Mrs A. Little, 31 Church St.; Treas., Miss Le Roy, Water-view Rd., Stanley Bay.

DUNEDIN District, 1st Tuesday, Y.W.C.A. Rooms, Moray Place, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Peter Dick, Roslyn; Sec. & Cor. Sec., Miss Nicol, 16 William St.; Treas., Miss L. Neal, 9 Queen St.; Agent Writing Pads & WHITE RIBBON, Mrs J. Anderson, 32 Duke St.; Supt. Sailors' Rest, Mrs D. T. Pearson, corner Castle & Union Sts.; Press Supt., Mrs Don, Cannongate.

FEILDING, 1st Thursday, 2.30 p.m., St. Paul's Hall; Pres., Mrs Frost, Denbigh St.; 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.

CISBORNE 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.

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

HUNTLY, 3rd Wednesday, Presbyterian and Methodist Churches alternately, 2 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Butler; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Sheeran and Edmunds; Sec., Mrs Gleeson; Treas., Mrs Leather.

HAMILTON District, First Thursday, Wesley Class Rooms, 2.30 p.m.; Pres., Mrs J. M. Jones, Clandelands, Hamilton; Sec., Miss Henderson, "Brangan," Frankton Junction; Treas., Mrs Gaulton, Rostrever St. Hamilton.

HASTINGS, 2nd Wednesday, St. Andrew's Hall, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Boyle, Lyndon Rd.; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Ramsay, Wallis, Clapham, Barbour, and Martindale; Sec., Miss Ford 206 Lyndon Rd.; Treas., Miss Ethel Nicholls, Riverslea Rd.; Supt. Maori Work, Miss McKeown; Purity and Evangelistic, Mesdames Clapham and Stewart; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs Griffiths.

INVERCARGILL District, 1st Tuesday, 3 p.m. and 7.30 alternately, Allen's Hall; Pres., Mrs C. H. McAlister, Hollywood Ter., Gladstone, Invercargill; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Baird, Gregg, and McKay; Sec., Mrs McKenzie, Northend, Invercargill; Treas., Mrs Hunter, 110, Don St., Invercargill; WHITE RIBBON Agent, Mrs H. Farrant, Pomona Rd., South Invercargill.

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

LOWER HUTT, last Tuesday, 3 p.m., W.C.T.U. Hall, Queen's Rd.; Pres., Mrs McCaw; Vice-Pres., Mrs Strand, senr.; Sec., Mrs T. Collins, Gracefield Rd.; Treas., Mrs Jenness; W.R. Agent, Miss Knight.

LYTTELTON, 1st, 3rd, and 5th Wednesdays, Methodist Schoolroom; Pres., Mrs Whitby; Sec., Mrs Bromley; Treas., Mrs Clark; WHITE RIBBON Agent, Miss Elsie Clark, "Waratah," W. Lyttelton.

MANAIA, 2nd Friday, alternate six months, Presbyterian and Methodist Churches; Pres., Mrs J. J. Patterson; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Allison and Berry; Treas., Mrs Ballantine; Sec., Mrs Hunt; Cradle Roll, Mrs Ricketts; Press Reports Miss Patterson; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs Hansen.

MASTERTON, 1st Tuesday, Knox Hall, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Devonport; Sec., Mrs M. Flanagan, 4 Cole St.; Treas., Mrs Sutherland; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs Russell.

MATAKANA, 3rd Wednesday, 2.30 p.m., Presbyterian Church; Pres., Mrs Richards; Vice-Pres., Mesdames W. Smith and Eyton; Sec., Mrs E. Roke; Treas., Mrs A. Roke.

NAPIER District, 1st Wednesday and 3rd Thursday, Willard Institute, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Oldham, France Rd.; Rec. Sec., Mrs Clatworthy; Cor. Sec., Mrs Gibson, Colenso Hill; Treas., Mrs Dearlove, Lincoln Rd.; Legal and Parliamentary, Mrs Dodds; Home Meetings, Mrs Ball; Purity, Mrs Oldham; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs Freeman, Latham St.

NORSEWOOD, 3rd Thursday, 2.30 p.m.; Pres., Miss M. Campbell; Vice-Pres., Mrs McCaw; Sec., Miss M. Olsen; Treas., Mrs P. G. Grant; WHITE RIBBON Agent, Miss M. Allison.

NEW PLYMOUTH District, last Wednesday, 3 p.m., Good Templar Lodge-room; Pres., Mrs Allan Douglas, Pendarves St.; Sec., Miss Ambury, Gover St.; Treas. and WHITE RIBBON Agent, Miss Taunt, Victoria Rd.

NCARUAWAHIA, 1st Thursday, 2.30 p.m., Presbyterian Church; Pres., Mrs Bycroft; Vice-Pres., Mrs Morris; Sec., Mrs W. Paterson; Treas., Miss Morris.

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

OXFORD, last Wednesday, 3 p.m., Coronation Hall; Pres., Mrs Gainsford (senr.); Sec., Mrs Comyns; Treas., Miss Caverhill; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs G. A. Ryde; Cradle Roll Supt., Mrs Fawcett, Pres. Manse, W. Oxford.

PALMERSTON N. DISTRICT, 1st Friday, St. Andrew's Schoolroom, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs A. E. Whitehead, Botanical Rd.; Cor. Sec., Mrs Hills, Cuba St.; 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. Rouse, Britannia St.; Vice-Pres., Miss L. Kirk, Britannia St.; Sec., Mrs Ashby, Britannia St.; Treas., Mrs Donaghue, Richmond St.; Cradle Roll, Miss Peach; Afternoon Teas, Mrs Burd; WHITE RIBBON agent, Mrs Corner; Flower Mission, Mrs Wilson; Visitor, Mrs Battersby.

PONSONBY, 2nd Thursday, 2.30 p.m., Queen's Hall, Paget St.; Pres., Mrs Vickers, Millias St., Grey Lynn; Vice-Pres., Mrs C. I. Harris and Dr. Keller; Sec. and WHITE RIBBON Agent, Mrs S. A. Plummer, Coronation Rd., Epsom; Treas., Mrs Smythe, No. 2 Selwyn St., Ponsonby.

PUKEKOHE, 1st Thursday, Salvation Army Hall, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Nixon; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Bell, Cowan, Stevenson and Wilson; Sec., Mrs Blamires; Treas., Mrs Comrie; Supt. Cradle Roll and WHITE RIBBON, Miss Goldsworthy; Supt. Visitation, Mrs Wilson.

RAETIHI, last Thursday, Salvation Army Hall, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Gibbs; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Underwood and Fletcher; Sec., Mrs Stanley; Treas., Miss Ashwell.

RANGIORA, last Friday, ante-room of Institute Hall, 2.45 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Cobden Cox; Sec., Miss Wadey; Treas., Mrs Shankland.

REEFTON, 2nd Wednesday, Wesleyan Parsonage, Shield 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, Annaf; Sec., Mrs J. Henry, Annaf; Treas., Mrs W. Kennedy, Annaf.

TIMARU District, last Tuesday, 7.30 p.m., Arcade; Pres., Mrs Rule, North St.; Sec., Miss M. Avison, Victoria St.; Treas., Mrs Rapsey; Evangelistic and Press, Mrs Lamb; Cradle Roll, Mrs Valentine; Maori Work, Mrs Bardeslev, Wai-iti Rd.; WHITE RIBBON Agent, Mrs Stead, Sailors' Rest.

TAURANCA, 1st Thursday, Good Templars' Hall, 3 p.m.; Pres., Miss Sorley, 5th Avenue; Cor. Sec., Mrs P. Munro, Cameron Rd.; Rec. Sec., Mrs F. Allely, Devonport Rd.; Treas., Mrs A. E. Hammond, 2nd Avenue; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs A. J. McKenzie.

TUAKAU, monthly, Wesleyan Church, 7.30 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Hunter; Vice-Pres., Mesdames Br.dge, Roberts, and Deeble; Sec., Mrs C. Bycroft; Treas., Mrs Oldham; Supt. Band of Hope, Miss Madill; Supt. Cradle Roll, Miss Burns; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Miss Dwen.

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 McLean, Bott, and Maslin; Sec., Mrs H. McLean; Treas., Miss Joanson; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs S. Bott.

WANGANUI District, 1st Friday, 2.30 p.m., Trinity Church Parlour; Pres., Mrs J. Smith; Cor. Sec., Mrs Upton, Victoria Avenue; Rec. Sec., Miss Macaniny; Treas., Mrs Siddells; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs Upton.

WARKWORTH, last Thursday, 2.30 p.m., Schoolroom, Methodist Church; Pres., Mrs E. Morrison, "Red Bluff"; Sec., Mrs W. Hamilton, "The Grange"; Treas., Mrs T. H. Wilson; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Miss Morrison; Supt. Cradle Roll, Mrs Miller.

WINCHMORE, 1st Wednesday, 2.30 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Hanson; Sec., Miss Muirhead, Winter's Road, Ashburton; Treas., Mrs Moore; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs Glassey.

WELLINGTON District, 1st Thursday, 3 p.m., Rooms, Constable St.; Pres., Mrs Boxall, 40 Pirie St.; Cor. Sec., Mrs McDonald, 80 Pirie St.; Rec. Sec., Miss C. E. Kirk, 60 Pirie St.; Treas., Mrs Houlder, 108 Wallace St.; WHITE RIBBON Supt., Mrs Webb, Hall St.

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

WELLINGTON CENTRAL, 3rd Friday, 3 p.m., Y.M.C.A. Rooms; Pres., Mrs A. R. Atkinson, Wadestown; Cor. Sec., Mrs McGowan, 221 The Terrace; Rec. Sec., Miss Pees, 263 Willis St.; Treas., Mrs Helyer, Oriental Bay.

WAIPIKURAU, 2nd Thursday, St. Andrew's Hall, 3 p.m.; Pres., Mrs Logan; Vice-Pres., Mrs Hopkirk; Sec., Mrs Sowry; Treas., Mrs Schmidt; Band of Hope, Mrs Nicholson.

WOODVILLE, meets 4th Tuesday, 3 p.m., in Ormond St. Hall; Pres., Mrs Perkins, Ross St.; Vice-Pres., Mrs T. Jackson; Sec., Mrs Forrest, Woodland Rd.; Cor. Sec., Mrs T. Cole, Woodlands Rd.; Treas., Mrs Davie, Station St.

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