

WOMEN'S
Christian Temperance Union
Of New Zealand.

—
Organised 1885.
—

"For God and Home and Humanity."

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The White Ribbon.

For God and Home and Humanity.

MONDAY, AUGUST 18, 1913.

DEMOCRATIC VOTE.

A LARGE and influential deputation of Temperance workers waited upon the Premier re licensing legislation. A courteous hearing was granted them, but nothing very definite promised. The Premier said there was the revenue question, as well as several others, to be considered. It is time all White Ribboners were on the alert, educating and organising for the next election. At the T. E. Taylor memorial meeting, held in Wellington by the combined forces of the No-License League and W.C.T.U., Mr A. R. Atkinson said: "Several years ago Mr Taylor expressed the opinion that it would pay the No-License party to slacken efforts and lose one No-License poll while they devoted their energies to the Political

Election and securing candidates pledged to remove or substantially reduce the three-fifths handicap."

The party has now recognised the wisdom of this saying, and has commenced an energetic campaign for the Democratic Vote.

We feel sure that all our members will give every assistance to this campaign. Our motto is "For God, Home, and Humanity." What is the greatest hindrance to the progress of God's work on this planet? We unhesitatingly answer **Alcohol**. What is the deadliest enemy to the Home? **Alcohol**. What is the heaviest curse to humanity, the greatest cause of national degeneracy, and of race suicide? Medical congresses and students of social science answer **Alcohol**.

Is any labour too exhausting, is any campaign too long or strenuous, is any battle too severe, is any sacrifice too great to make that we may free our Dominion from this deadly foe?

What can the W.C.T.U. do to help? Firstly, we can educate the public, and much may be done by literature distributed and by personal effort, each White Ribboner speaking to all she comes in contact with. We can remember the time when the Temperance party itself only attacked the immoderate use of alcohol as being harmful. Now fuller study by medical men and scientists has revealed the fact that alcohol is ever a poison, is never a benefit even in the smallest quantity, and has been pronounced by high authority "unnecessary in health, and positively harmful in disease." In France, where the grave is running a close race with the cradle, with every prospect of winning, a scientific commission was appointed to investigate the cause of racial decline. The Commission replied, "Alcohol is a racial poison, and the greatest cause of race suicide." The President of the French Republic, on receiving this report, turned to the press reporters and said, "Gentlemen, I hope you will see to it that this fact is made widely known."

Now we, as earnest Temperance advocates, must see to it that these and kindred facts are made known. Can we not use our Union funds to send lecturers and literature, either or both, in every direction? When Maine was fighting her last great battle with Liquordom, the White Ribboners sent motor cars and motor

boats distributing literature broadcast. Neal Dow said: "We did not win Prohibition in Maine till we had sown the State knee-deep in literature," and Maine has kept what she won by following the same plan of campaign. Agitate, Educate, Organise from now till the next poll. Never slacken in our efforts, and ever remember that "a question is never settled till it is settled right."

Lastly, we can all obey the injunction of the good old Puritan: "When you have a work to do for God and Humanity, go in and pray as earnestly as if God was going to do it all, and then go out and work as though you had to do it all."

We can all

Pray devoutly,

Hammer away stoutly.

BIBLE IN SCHOOLS.

On Saturday, August 2nd, a deputation, consisting of National Schools Defence League and a number of teachers and leading citizens, waited upon the Premier to ask that a Referendum be not taken on the question of Bible in Schools. Mr Massey said it was not the intention of the Government to introduce any legislation re Bible in Schools this session. Asked as to the Government's intention for next session, the Premier declined to pledge the Government, but stated that personally he was a staunch upholder of the present system, and entirely opposed to sectarian teaching in the State schools.

The New Zealand W.C.T.U. was not officially represented on this deputation.

HONOUR TO WHOM HONOUR IS DUE.

As the question of the Referendum is to be delayed, one cannot but feel glad to know that a number of schools are giving what Scripture instruction they can. Whatever may be thought of the Nelson system for the future, we think most are agreed that it is the best system that could be devised under the present Act. We cannot forbear to give a word of praise to the