

CORRESPONDENCE. —

(The Editor is not responsible for the opinions expressed in this column).

(To the Editor).

Madam,—At our meeting to-day, which was largely attended, several ladies spoke on Dr. Wilson's report on "Nurses' Duties," reported in the "Dominion of June 20th.

I wish to ask our paper to take up this subject, and let the nurses know that they have our W.C.T.U. behind them in this matter, as Dr. Wilson says the "Ideal Nurse is one who entered the profession because she has had a call to restore the broken mind and body to health." He then adds, "there are many things in a hospital which young girls of refinement should not be asked to perform, and for that reason one or two experienced male orderlies should be employed on the staff of every hospital."

Our Union is sending a resolution to the Minister of Health re this matter.

I think all mothers will agree with us that we ought to do something to protect our nurses and shield them from the revolting work of attending to V.D. and D.T. male cases.

Trusting that you will find space in your valuable paper for this.—I am etc

MARY LEASK.

Napier,

July 1st, 1925.

(To the Editor).

Madam,—I did not see anything in the "White Ribbon" last month, though I sent my report on the 1st of August after our meeting.

I sent resolution re "Nurses' Duties," passed at our meeting August 1st, 1925, to Minister of Health, and to Mothers' Union Council.

Mrs Sedgwick, the Bishop's wife, President of Waipu M.U., wrote: "We are entirely in accord with your resolution, and look to have it endorsed at M. U. Council meeting next week."

The District Secretary of M.U., Waipu, wrote: "Your resolution was placed before M.U. Council meeting, and was sympathetically endorsed. It was thought that in order to bring about stronger co-operation, the Secretary of each Diocesan Council should be written to asking them to put same resolution before their members and so give them a chance of co-ordination."

The District Secretary has written to

other M.U. Councils and the Minister of Health.

At meeting yesterday I read answer of Minister of Health, in which he says: "In the majority of our hospitals such cases (V.D.) are put under male attendants, and I do not think nurses in training are called upon to attend patients suffering from venereal diseases."

"In D.T. cases, which are quite often women, it is necessary that nurses should be in charge of their treatment, though it is usual, in the case of male patients, for male orderlies to be at hand in case of necessity."

At the meeting yesterday it was decided that Mrs Speight (President) and Mrs Leask (Vice-President) form a deputation to wait upon the Chairman of the Napier Hospital Board, the Medical Superintendent, and Matron, to ascertain their attitude in this matter. Also to send the resolution to all societies of women, such as Guilds, prayer meetings, and women's clubs.—Yours sincerely, in W.C.T.U. work,

MARY LEASK,

V.P. Napier W.C.T.U.

(A report sent on August 1st could not appear in July issue.—Ed. W.R.)

SUPERINTENDENTS' LETTERS.

NOTABLE DAYS.

Dear Sisters,—I wish to remind you that September 15th is Franchise Day. In this our election year I cannot think that the day could be more fittingly kept than by some effort to impress upon women the importance of using the vote, which was given to them as the result of long effort by men and women of earlier days, upon the day we now commemorate.

The lack of interest shown by good women in this matter is a great factor in our failure to carry Prohibition in this country, and I suggest that Franchise Day this year should be kept by planning how to ensure a better use of our privileges, rather than by recalling the past history of how they were obtained.—Yours sincerely,

ALICE F. WEBB,

Superintendent.

17 Elder Street, Dunedin,

August 3, 1925.

MAORI DEPARTMENT.

Mrs Elliott, from Te Kuiti, reported some time ago that though there is no Union there, good social work is car-

ried on. They are endeavouring to keep drink under control in the King Country, and protest repeatedly against the attempts to get licenses there. Owing to the most of this report being Methodist Church work only, this encouraging little bit of our own Union work at Te Kuiti was overlooked when our annual report was drawn up.

The Taheke Secretary reports: "That in spite of rain and mud, and swollen creeks, a Union meeting was held there on May 25th. Seven Maori ladies present joined, and expressed themselves decidedly against drink, also their keen appreciation of the work of the W.C.T.U. They have no vote, but know well the evils of the trade, and welcome any means of fighting against it. The initiation service was read by Sister Eleanor, and most reverently listened to by all. Membership now stands at eleven, and they are hopeful that more will join later."

For the Maori Department,

N. F. WALKER,

Superintendent.

DISTRICT CONVENTION.

The Otago District Convention will be held in Balclutha, September 8th.

On September 7th, at 8 p.m., Mrs Leech will give a public address in the interests of peace. Collection for district funds.

An interesting programme is being arranged, and delegates are assured of having a very profitable time.

Nominations for officers received to date are:—Dist. Pres., Mrs Hiett (Dunedin); Dist. Sec., Mrs David Leslie (Dunedin); Dist. Treas., Mrs Macartney (Dunedin).

Yours in the work,

JEANIE C. SMYTH,

Otago District Sec.

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