

## FROM THE WORLD'S CONVENTION.

From the Report of the World's Convention, published in the English "White Ribbon," we cull the following:

### NEW ZEALAND'S CAMPAIGN.

Mrs Don, the President of the New Zealand W.C.T.U., spoke at length on this campaign, explaining the drawbacks in connection with this prolonged campaign, which some expressed surprise had not been won ere this. She referred to the handicap of the three-fifths majority required. In 1911 they had a splendid majority, and really did win Prohibition, but could not enjoy it because the three-fifths majority was not quite reached. In 1914, another three years having elapsed, the war broke out, and in 1915, when a poll was expected, the Parliament, by prolonging its own life, took away the further chance. A large majority of their young manhood who came to fight left the Dominion as total abstainers; they returned home, not only mutilated by shot and shell, but because of having been in wet camps and taken alcohol as a stimulant in the trenches, had acquired a taste for it. The women of New Zealand were sorrier to see them returned in that condition or worse than seeing them mutilated by war, and they rose up all over the Dominion and marched to Parliament asking for a war measure. They had begun by "snowballing" the House and the Ministers with every White Ribboner throughout the Dominion posting a letter or message to their respective Members, many messages being specially carried to the House. When the commercial men saw how alcohol was paralysing the life of the Dominion, they lined up with the Temperance people. Then Parliament arranged to have a vote on the compensation question, the argument being that life was priceless, and that if they could not get Prohibition without, then they would have it with compensation. Though they went to the poll thus heavily handicapped, those who were in the Dominion won Prohibition by a large majority, but misrepresentations were made in the campaign at the battle-front amongst their soldiers, and as the votes came in it was found they had let them down. Then came the next campaign, and when they went to the poll it was the triennial vote, with three issues to face—(1) Continuance, (2) State Pur-

chase, (3) Prohibition. Mrs Cowie had told them of the Campaign of Prayer that was organised throughout the Dominion. Amongst the tremendous issues they had to face was a surprise on the eve of the vote—a brief message came from opponents in the Motherland, "unlimited means at your disposal." In spite of that handicap, again they carried Prohibition by a 5000 majority. But again the votes from the men overseas and on the ships bringing men back after the Armistice was signed, showed they had lost by a small majority of 3262 votes. How keen was our disappointment! The vote for Continuance was 241,251; for State Control, 32,261—total 273,512, as against 270,250 for Prohibition. So near and yet so far away. Their great joy today was that the vote for State Purchase was so small. They were now confident that that issue would be wiped off the Statute Book for ever. Six o'clock closing had been made permanent, with many restrictions on "the trade," and at the next poll they would have, as the Americans had, two issues—wet or dry, license or no-license—the strong feeling being that they would turn out the liquor traffic from the Dominion once for all. (Applause.)

Mrs Lee Cowie also spoke on the position from the point of view of the individual worker, and her divine opportunities and duties.

### COMRADES.

"I met a chap the other day, roostin' in a trench,  
'E didn't know a word of ours, nor me a word of French,  
And 'ow it was we managed, well, I cannot understand,  
But I never used the phrase book, though I 'ad it in my 'and.

"I winked at 'im to start with, 'e grinned from ear to ear;  
And 'e says, 'Tipperary,' and I says, 'Sooveneer.'  
'E 'ad my only Woodbine, I 'ad 'is thin cigar,  
Which set the ball a-rollin', and so—well, there you are!

"I showed 'im next my wife an' kids, 'e up an' showed me 'is,  
The funny little Frenchy kids, with 'air all in a frizz.  
'Annette,' 'e says, 'Louise,' 'e says, an' 'is tears begun to fall;  
We was comrades when we parted, but we'd 'ardly spoke at all."

—"The Trench Magazine."

### PASS IT ON.

Whenever we hear of a good forward move, we like to pass it on. The Napier District Convention decided to urge its auxiliaries to go in for a membership campaign, each member striving to gain at least one extra. A Roll of Honour is to be prepared, and to be displayed at their next Convention. Upon this Roll is to appear the name of every Branch which has increased its membership by 100 per cent. We hope other District Conventions will take this up, and endeavour to increase their membership. May we suggest that if a lady refuses to join the Union, she be asked to subscribe to our paper, so that she may learn about our work, and be won as a member later.

### NEED FOR RACIAL PURITY.

(By Dr. Davenport.)

The science of heredity showed how racial characteristics as such did not pass from one generation to another, but germ cells known as "determiners," were inherited. Children did not inherit their traits from their parents, but from the race. Scientists now agreed that for every characteristic the body developed there was a "determiner," and these were inherited independently of each other. Not all people possessed these determiners in the same degree, and in many cases there were inactive characteristics.

"Be not afraid to pray—to pray is right.  
Pray if thou canst with hope, but ever pray,  
Though hope be weak, or sick with long delay;  
Pray in the darkness, if there be no light.  
Far is the time, remote from human sight,  
When war and discord on the earth shall cease,  
Yet every prayer for universal peace  
Avails the blessed time to expedite.  
Whate'er is good to wish, ask that of Heaven,  
Though it be what thou canst not hope to see;  
Pray to be perfect, though the material leaven  
Forbid the spirit so on earth to be;  
But if for any wish thou dar'st not pray,  
Then pray to God to take that wish away."