

any books for lending to members, or others, would let me know.

To members of Unions which have done nothing in this department, I would appeal to bring the matter up at their next meeting. Please don't leave it to your Secretary, who often has more than she can do justice to.

I am sure we all realise the importance of this branch of our work. It is impossible at the present time to be able to give a right decision on many matters that come before us without studying the subject.

I hope all Unions have been well prepared for the discussion on the League of Nations. Convention this year recommended that each year a special day be set apart for the consideration of matters in connection with the Peace and Arbitration Department. These are two matters in which each Union should have some literature to circulate.

I would ask that each Union, except the two mentioned, would at the next meeting appoint some one to communicate with this department.

(Mrs) JESSIE FIELD

Supt. of Libraries.

CRADLE ROLL DEPT.

Dear Sisters,—We claim that our work begins with the child, and we urge every Union to appoint a Cradle Roll Superintendent.

When this appointment is made, each member should undertake the responsibility of assisting the Superintendent.

The Superintendent will write to the Dominion Superintendent and obtain cards and all information regarding the best way to set to work. She, too, will send out all pledge and birthday cards, but unless the members will help her to secure new babies for the Cradle Roll her Roll will not fill very rapidly.

Members who are acquainted with the mothers of young children should ask them if they are willing that the baby's (or any child up to seven years of age) name should be placed on the Cradle Roll of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, explaining that the mother is required to sign the following pledge:

"I promise not to give, or allow my child to take, any intoxicating drinks, and accept this card as a pledge of membership of the White Ribbon Cradle Roll."

If the mother consents, the member will ask the child's full name, the date

of its birth, and the mother's name and postal address.

These particulars should be handed to the Superintendent. If she cannot call on the mother, the pledge card may be sent through the post, and another name be added to the Cradle Roll.

The aims of the department are:—

- (1) To bring before nursing mothers the fact that when taking alcoholic beverages themselves they transmit the alcohol into the child's system.
- (2) To break down the custom of treating childish ailments with alcohol.
- (3) To guard children until they are eight years of age and can sign a pledge for themselves, and join the Loyal Temperance Legion or Band of Hope.
- (4) To circulate literature and teaching on temperance, health and hygiene among mothers.
- (5) To win fathers and mothers over to the side of total abstinence.
- (6) To train up a race who will not know the taste of alcohol.

As one of the principal aims of the Department is to educate fathers and mothers regarding the harmful effects of alcohol on the human body whether taken in sickness or health, by children or adults, the Union should purchase for the Superintendent the literature of the Medical Temperance Department. These leaflets may be sent with the birthday card or at any other time, so that they are circulated.

On hoardings and in newspapers we daily see advertisements advocating the use of alcoholic liquors in health and as curative agents in sickness. Let us see to it that the parents of our Cradle Roll babies receive literature giving the most up-to-date scientific information on this subject.

The Superintendent, with the assistance of members, should arrange at least one meeting annually for mothers and babies. This may take the form of an indoor meeting, with music and refreshments, or a picnic, and always an instructive temperance address should be given.

Where a speaker cannot be obtained, a paper may be read. Many of the Medical Temperance leaflets are suitable for reading at meetings of this kind.

Yours in White Ribbon bonds,

CLARA M. NEAL,

Dominion Supt.

3 Maunsell Road, Parnell, Auckland.

SCIENTIFIC TEMPERANCE INSTRUCTION.

Dear Sisters,—I have received some literature in connection with this Department, and shall be pleased to send to any Union that desires to have some. The supply is limited, as there is only one copy of each leaflet or booklet, but should Unions be anxious to obtain other copies, I shall be able to order more. I would draw special attention to "Alcohol in Experience and Experiment," as it appears to be eminently suitable for Young People's Branches. "The Compendium of Scientific Temperance Teaching" is a fairly large book, and I shall be able to lend this to any Union that applies and sends postage (about 9d), for one month, and any Union that cares to give an order for it shall receive a copy as soon as it can be procured from America.

Hoping to be able to give further suggestions in a later letter.—I am, yours in W.R. bonds,

KATE M. EVANS, Supt. S.T.I.

PEACE AND ARBITRATION DEPT.

Dear Sisters,—I wish to commend to your notice the following short article, which is taken from the special Christmas number of the No-More-War magazine, and is well worthy of our earnest consideration. The importance of the training of children on right lines is now a generally acknowledged fact. The W.C.T.U. has at various times given expression to its conviction of the truth of this, in resolutions dealing with the need of introducing into the schools teaching more definitely based upon the highest moral and religious principles. But important as the school life is, the home influence is a still more potent factor in the formation of a child's character, and the moulding of the general trend of his life; and the home influence is at work long before the school life begins. We do not, I think, always sufficiently realise the part which children's games play in their training for life. The nursery games are in fact, the first education which the child receives; at that early age he learns mainly by observation, and his impressions are drawn far more from his surroundings and the activities which are initiated for him by his elders, than from any rules or oral instructions. These early impressions are the strongest and most permanent, and their influence is felt, though perhaps