

It is true that there are many doctors who still actually describe alcohol as a "stimulant," apparently ignorant of the great volume of experimental and authoritative evidence to the contrary. Even the "Times," in a leading article, was recently moved to say: "According to all recent developments of scientific opinion it is not improbable that a belief in the stimulating and supporting qualities of alcohol will eventually become as obsolete as a belief in witchcraft."

How is it then that some medical men (and certain distinguished men at that) still recommend intoxicating beverages as a form of treatment?

Frankly, I regard a doctor who prescribes alcohol as a remedy for ill-health either (1) as a man who is completely out-of-date and out of touch with modern knowledge and research, or (2) as a man whose methods and practice are based on tradition, or (3) as a weakling who does not care or dare to offend his patients (these are mostly "fashionable" doctors), or (4) as one who consciously or unconsciously allows his personal preference and habits to influence his professional judgment, i.e., one who orders intoxicants because he likes them himself.

In 1799 William Sandford, surgeon to the Worcester Infirmary, wrote in this connection: "Some persons do not wish to be undeceived in their old opinions. So wedded are many doctors to the pleasurable sensations produced by wine that their understanding becomes subservient to their inclination." He relates a reply of a doctor of his day: "I like my health very well—but I like wine better."

Alcohol as a drug may be useful in a small and very restricted field under strict medical observation, but as a regular medicament it is now obsolete. The doctor who recommends it stamps himself as antediluvian.—"The Labour Abstainer."

#### THE BRAVEST BATTLE.

The bravest battle that ever was fought,

Shall I tell you where and when?  
On the maps of the world you will find it not.

'Twas fought by the mothers of men,  
Nay, not with cannon or battle shot.

Not with sword or noble pen;  
Nay, not with eloquent words or thought

From mouths of wonderful men!  
O, ye with banners and battle shot,

And soldiers to shout and praise!  
I tell you the kingliest victories fought

Were fought in those silent ways,  
O spotless woman in a world of shame,

With splendid and silent scorn,  
Go back to God as white as you came—

The kingliest warrior born!  
But deep in a walled-up woman's heart—

Of a woman that would not yield,  
But bravely! silently, bore her part—

So there is that battlefield!  
No marshalling troops, no bivouac song,

No banner to gleam and wave—  
But, O! these battles they last so long—

From babyhood to the grave.



#### WORLD'S OFFICERS:

Left to Right:—Mrs. Munns, Treasurer; Mrs. Ella A. Boole, President; Miss Agnes E. Slack, Secretary.

#### WORLD'S W.C.T.U. CONVENTION.

The Fifteenth Convention of the W.W.C.T.U. held in Stockholm, Sweden, 20th-25th July, is now a memory, but it is an occasion that will live long in the memory of one who, for the first time, was privileged to be associated closely with our World Officers, and many "W.R." sisters from other parts of the world.

Our Swedish "W.R." sisters entertained us royally; we had a Royal visitor, H.R.H. the Crown Prince of Sweden, who addressed the huge gathering at the inaugural reception in the magnificent Concert Hall of Stockholm.

The opening session of Convention was a very inspiring one. A service of prayer and praise, followed by a service of remembrance, occupied the whole of the afternoon. Four short devotional addresses were given by Miss Agnes Slack (England), Miss Solomon (South Africa), Miss von Herten (Finland), and your representative from New Zealand had the great honour to give the fourth one, so that far away New Zealand was on the programme right away!

The service of remembrance was led by our President, Mrs. Ella A. Boole, and a beautiful tribute to Miss Anna A. Gordon was paid by Miss Dagmar Prior of Denmark. As the names of officers and world leaders, who had passed on since last World's Convention were read, a white flower was placed in a large jardiniere.

About 200 delegates attended, representing 30 countries, but there was a very large attendance of visitors, especially from the Northern European countries. This necessitated the translation of almost every address, report and an-

nouncement, from English to Swedish or Swedish to English, French and German. In order to facilitate the work language groups were held in the mornings and addressed by World Superintendents of various departments.

The main business of Convention was conducted by the Executive Committee and confirmed by the Convention.

Some minor alterations were made in the Constitution and Bye-Laws of the W.W.C.T.U.

Already in India, more than 300 Prohibition organisations have been formed, nearly all non-Christian in character, but our own Christian missionaries have had an important part in the formation of nearly every one of them. Every newspaper in India, owned or controlled by an Indian, is clamouring for Prohibition of Strong Drink.

There are approximately 1000 Moslem newspapers in the world, every one of which is a dry paper. There is not a wet Moslem newspaper on earth. There is not a wet Hindu newspaper on earth. There is not a wet Buddhist newspaper on earth.

When one stops to consider the vast power behind these newspapers and activities, one gets a glimpse into the influence of these forces. Behind these 1000 Moslem newspapers are 250,000,000 Moslems; behind these hundreds of Hindu newspapers are 212,000,000 Hindus; behind long strings of Buddhist newspapers are 100,000,000 Buddhists, all of these hundreds of millions of people for 1000 years have been taught that the drink habit is wrong, and all of these great forces are now coming to the support of our Christian proposal for world-wide Prohibition.