

"Here's another Auckland clipping, my Chief, about what happens to these young people after they leave the dance."

"You read it to me while I clean this typewriter ready for action."

"It says that a young woman of 22 tried to throw herself over Grafton Bridge at 3 o'clock in the morning. She was rescued by a taxi driver, who, after a struggle with her, took her to the Auckland hospital."

"Was she very badly hurt?"

"No, she was up at Court the next morning, charged with attempting to commit suicide. She told the Judge she had been to a ball in the city with an escort. She had had some liquor, but was perfectly sober, but her escort became intoxicated, and so she decided to go home alone."

"Poor girl! Evidently she does not know that no one is perfectly sober after taking alcohol."

"Is that a fact, Chief, or are you stretching a point?"

"Not much! A leading nerve expert says: 'If a person takes a tablespoonful of alcohol, he is drunk to the extent of a tablespoonful, until his body has expelled the poison.' But get along with your story."

"The Magistrate told her that he could send her to prison for 12 months for her offence. She promised him she would not do anything like that again. The Magistrate said he did not wish to enter a conviction, but she really should give up taking intoxicating liquor. She said everybody else seemed to drink at dances, and the Magistrate said that might be so, but 'you don't want to be like a lot of sheep and do what everyone else does.'"

"You've hit the mark! They want to be like other people, my Imp. So few young folk dare to be Daniels and to stand alone."

"Here's another one from Lower Hutt. Don't you belong to the Horticultural Society there?"

"No, I don't, but my hubby does. Why?"

"Well, there have been so many complaints about disgraceful conduct outside the hall that the Borough Council were considering it. You read it yourself."

"I see here that complaints were lodged before, and the Committee undertook to issue no passes for people to go out."

"How does that help matters?"

"Because the drink is generally in motor cars outside the hall, and they go out and drink, and then go back to the dance. While the Committee enforced this rule and refused to allow them to return, there were no complaints, and the dances were quiet and well conducted."

"Then why did they not stick to the rule?"

"The dances became unpopular, and so once again passes were issued, and complaints of conduct were made."

"What do you think is the remedy, my lady?"

"I'll tell you what the brewers in U.S.A. think about young people drinking."

"What do they think about it?"

"U.S.A. had Prohibition for 15 years, and in that time young people learnt to love soft drinks, and now they don't want beer."

"Don't brewers think Prohibition was a failure?"

"Evidently it was from their point of view, because it educated young people to do without beer."

"I read lately in a book that all the planets had their universities except the earth, and the planet Earth is the 'lunatic asylum of the universe.'"

"Go on! You don't believe that, surely. Do you?"

"Certainly I was indignant at first, and then I began to reflect."

"What was the result?"

"Don't you think a people who speak of drinking alcohol as a menace to our rising population; who allow the Coroner at an inquest to return a verdict of 'died from alcoholic poisoning'; who take his driving license away from a motorist who drives after drinking liquor, and then for a fee of £40 a year allows a man to sell this poison, isn't this certainly a form of insanity?"

"It is undoubtedly not sane thinking."

"We must get to work, but here's hoping that the many societies who regret that young people are drinking will suddenly awake to the fact that they have the power in their vote to abolish the sale of this poison."

"In which hope I heartily join. I'm off to collect more news. Good-bye!"

SUPERINTENDENTS' LETTERS.

BACK BLOCKS DEPARTMENT.

Dear Fellow-Workers,—

The time is passing quickly. Have you started to work in connection with the distribution of literature? I have received notice that two more Unions have appointed Superintendents in this department; hope many more will do likewise this year. The most effective way to educate people is by the distribution of literature. In this way we will win votes for the abolition of the liquor traffic.

Yours in White Ribbon bonds,

A. MOYES.

Dominion Supt. Backblocks.

METHODS DEPARTMENT.

Dear White Ribbon Sisters,—

This is the season when a number of Winter Exhibitions will be held throughout the Dominion. What a great opportunity there will be for Unions to do some real work with regard to the fifth fold in our plan of work, "Enlightening the Public." In past years the old sciences were ranged on the side of temperance reform from a physiological and

economic standpoint; to-day, the youngest science, the science of psychology, adds its weight of knowledge, gained by research and experiment, to the knowledge already at the disposal of mankind. Yet in this enlightened age the ignorance of the general public concerning the results of alcoholic indulgence, mentally, physically, and morally, is truly appalling.

Deeply rooted in the mind of the man in the street is the idea that alcohol is the cure for all the ills of life. Now, we meet this type of men and women at the Shows, therefore we can do some really effective personal work by explaining the meaning of the posters exhibited, by distributing literature, and by pledge-signing.

I know some Unions have done some very valuable work in this way, but much hard work remains to be done along these lines.

Yours in White Ribbon bonds,

AMY KASPER,
Supt. Methods Department.

EVANGELISTIC DEPARTMENT.

Dear Comrades,—

The following prayer for Peace has been adopted for use at all meetings of the League of Mothers in the Auckland Province, also by the Auckland Branch of the National Council of Women:—

"Almighty God, from Whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed, kindle, we pray Thee, in the hearts of all men the true love of peace, and guide with Thy pure and peaceable wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth, that in tranquility Thy Kingdom may go forward till the earth be filled with the knowledge of Thy love. For Jesus' sake. Amen."

One that surely might be adopted by our Branches and by every Women's Society.

Prayer is our great power in the interests of Peace. If you will read "Lest We Forget," Arthur Mercer's booklet, you will see there that when the Prime Minister of England called for a day of prayer there was an immediate change on the Western Front during the Great War.

If the thousands of members also prayed in our W.C.T.U. meetings, and daily, that God would by His Spirit free all those who are addicted to liquor, we should soon see a change in the lives of those "bound by the cruel chains of drunkenness."

This has been so much on my mind and heart recently that I am writing as Evangelistic Superintendent asking each member to unite daily in prayer, and thus liberate those who suffer from the evils of strong drink. "All ye asking, believing, ye shall receive." We so far have not been able to close liquor bars. In this way we can have the desire for drink entirely removed. God is able.

MARGARET C. COOK,
Dominion Evangelistic Supt.