

NEW ZEALAND
WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN
TEMPERANCE UNION.
(Incorporated).

Organised 1885.

"For God, and Home, and Humanity."

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The White Ribbon.

"For God, and Home, and Humanity."

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ADVANCE ALL ALONG THE LINE

AT THE RED SEA PLACE.

Pharaoh, King of Egypt, stricken by the loss of the firstborn in every family, had decided to free His Israelite slaves and hastened them away at once. Now they stand on the shores of the Red Sea, its waters barring progress, and behind thunders the Egyptian host, their king regretting his action in freeing his slaves, and determined to recapture them.

Words are powerful things, and on that shore, three words were spoken. The first, the word of FEAR, came from the company of slaves. They turned upon Moses, their deliverer, and said, "Why have you brought us thither to die." The second word, the word of FAITH, came from that leader: "Stand still and see the salvation of the Lord."

The third word, the word of COMMAND, came from God himself: "Speak unto the children of Israel that they go Forward."

FORWARD.

Again the word of command comes to the White Ribbon Army. There is no other way but forward. Behind us stands the mighty army of those who are making money from the vices of the people, and on either side of us are the hosts of those who give licenses to men and women to batten on the weaknesses and vices of their fellow-men.

THE CHALLENGE.

Let us take up the challenge and go forward as did Israel of old and in the strength of the Lord we shall win.

Our aims are lofty, our platform solidly founded upon God's Word, and our inspiration the knowledge that we are co-workers together with God.

EDUCATION.

Our most vital need is education. For World Peace and for Purity we must teach the facts and the truth.

DIRECT VOTE.

But one evil exists in this land by the direct vote of the people, i.e., the licensed liquor trade. A speaker was

asked at a meeting, "Do you really think that any Christian votes for the liquor trade?" and the reply was, "There are many who vote for the liquor trade who would be very insulted if you told them they were not Christians."

The evils of the liquor trade are visible everywhere—courts kept busy trying drunken drivers and other law-breakers; hospitals filled with the victims of these accidents; mothers and children going short of necessaries while father spends their share of sustenance money in the hotel bar or the gambling den; dances degenerating into drunken orgies; young manhood and womanhood debased and degraded; and our mental hospitals and gaols filled with the victims of strong drink.

General Booth said many children in East London were not born into the world, they were damned into it, and the cause—strong drink.

THE REMEDY.

What is the remedy for these tragic ills? The W.C.T.U. unhesitatingly says all other methods have failed to reduce these evils and that the eradication of the trade is the only solution. The Liquor Trade consistently breaks all laws. Some say give licenses in the King Country to lessen illicit sale. But licenses don't lessen illicit sale. A Minister of the Crown told a deputation that there was more illicit sale in Wellington than in Taumarunui. And this in spite of licenses.

MENDED OR ENDED?

This trade cannot be mended, so let us end it. And remember that it can be done by a vote of the people.

OUR WEAPONS.

Faith, Prayer, Education. The Jews have a tradition that God held the tablets of the law for a thousand years until He could find a man fit to receive them. Is not our God even now seeking for consecrated workers whom He can use? Is not Christ even now agonising in Gethsemane while His disciples are sleeping? Can we not hear His voice plainly saying, "Canst thou not watch with me one hour?"

PLAN OF CAMPAIGN.

Convention has called upon all White Ribboners for a year of service and sacrifice. Let us concentrate upon this thing and say as the great apostle of old, "This one thing I do, forgetting the things that are behind; let us press forward." Get out of Doubting Castle; believe that it can be done, and listen not to those who say "It can't be done."

IMPOSSIBLE.

"Impossible," you say; Nay, nay, my friend;

That is a word for weaklings, not for men,

E'en now let prayer unto your God ascend

For overcoming faith, and grace—and then,

Lift up your eyes, lift up your heart, and go

In God's Almightyness to attempt the task.

Believing this: Yea, this thing surely know.

Your strength is measured by the things ye ask!

No thing's impossible that "ought to be!"

Though, if you say so, you'll be reckoned odd

By worldlings, who but worldly factors see,

And, oft as not, forget to count in—God!

WHITE RIBBON DAY.

Convention decided to ask Unions to undertake a campaign for new members and to increase our membership to 10,000 in honour of our 1940 Centennial year. Also to increase the number of subscribers to our official organ. These campaigns go hand in hand. Many women object to take our pledge because it is so drastic. In that case, ask them to take our paper and study the question for themselves. And after careful study ask if they can suggest any means to EFFECTUALLY control the licensed liquor trade. If they cannot do this (and so far no one has been able to do so), then ask them to join up with us to end a trade which cannot be mended.

SUGGESTIONS FOR W.R. DAY.

1.—If possible have a special meeting, and where desirable an evening meeting.

2.—If special meeting cannot be arranged, then make our paper the principal feature of the June meeting.

3.—Invite your Church guilds to be present, and other women's societies.

4.—A paper will be posted to the Secretary of each Union to reach her by June 1st, and can be read at the meeting.

5.—If you have no W.R. Agent, appoint one, and also a committee of two or three to be ever on the watch for new subscribers.