

In Memoriam

MR. H. R. FRENCH.

The late Mr. H. R. French was a stalwart supporter of every cause for God, Home and Humanity and never grudged any personal service in any cause that lacked assistance, or any wrong that needed resistance.

The work and leadership of the Temperance forces of Hawke's Bay naturally fell to him because of his ardent sympathy and his devotion to the ideal of a land freed from the blighting influence of the liquor traffic. Respected in life and honoured in death his nature and leadership was such that he did not gain popularity, the last thing he would have sought. To his family and those who knew him best his passing is an irreparable loss and one which the Temperance cause in New Zealand can ill afford.

The whole town mourned with us and not only were all shops closed, but the hotels closed their doors as the funeral cortege passed down the main street.

MERCY NEEL.

A vote of sympathy was passed in silence with the relatives of our late member, Sister Mercy Neel, who passed away after several weeks' suffering in hospital. Our sister was a faithful and loyal member, always in her place, and never failing to have the room and everything in order ready for our meeting. At the close also, her pleasure was to clear up and leave the room in good order. Tributes to her memory were paid by several members, one of whom said that on every frock was found a White Ribbon bow. Her seat was vacant this afternoon, and Mercy will be much missed by the members of Central, who took part in the service around the graveside last Thursday morning.

MRS. HUTCHINSON

Mrs. Hutchinson, who recently passed away in Melbourne, was at one time Vice-President of the Auckland Union and also Superintendent of the Social Hygiene Department.

She was at one time President of the Whangarei Union and did very efficient service and brought new life and interest into the work.

Before coming to N.Z. she was among the foremost women in the W.C.T.U. work in Australia holding at one time the office of Commonwealth Vice-President and was interested in all branches of women's work. After her husband's death she returned to Melbourne, but she paid a visit to N.Z. later and was present at the Jubilee Convention in Wellington where she was honoured and presented with a long service badge. She took a deep

interest in all Christian and missionary work. Our sympathy is extended to the bereaved relatives.

MRS DOWLING.

The Auckland Union has to record the death of one of our faithful members, Mrs. Dowling, who was called away on June 7th after passing through great suffering.

She held the office of Treasurer for many years and did outstanding service for the Union. She also was our White Ribbon agent, for a time, and her work in that department was very efficient.

It was with deep sorrow and regret that we had to accept her resignation which ill-health compelled her to tender. The Home call was a happy release from her suffering. Her life was full of devoted service to God and those around her and she has left a fragrant memory.

She passed peacefully away into the presence of the Lord with a happy smile on her face. Our sympathy goes out to her devoted and sorrowing husband.

According to present scientific knowledge we must assume that alcohol is a germ poison. Not only does it injure, therefore, those who drink, but it weakens their descendants physically and mentally. — Dr. Phila-
lethes Kuhn, Professor of Hygiene, Dresden.

AUCKLAND SCHOOL OF METHODS.

A "School of Methods" was held in the Temperance room in July 4th; there was a good attendance, six leaders of the L.T.L. were present. At the morning session L.T.L. work and "plans of work for the poll" were studied. Mr. L. Faulkner and Mrs. Hugh Kasper were the speakers.

At the afternoon session a discussion on plans of work was held. Miss L. Read was the speaker. The Evangelistic Department was also studied and a prayer meeting followed.

The following resolution was carried:—"In view of the fact that alcohol is a narcotic, a deterrent of important bodily functions, a habit-forming drug and a protoplasmic poison, we urge our members to inform themselves and to redouble their efforts to secure systematic temperance instruction in schools and colleges so that young people especially may realise the effects on the physical, social and economic life of the community."

BIBLE IN SCHOOLS.

Dear Sisters,—

It is with real gratitude of heart that I write to thank all of you who have made the Bible in Schools question your special care at this important juncture. In doing so you have done an incomparable service for the children of our land.

It will be common knowledge by now that the purpose and intention to end the daily observance has been deferred by the Minister of Education until the whole question has been considered by a conference of Churches and other organisations. Meanwhile the status quo is retained, thus giving opportunity to have both daily exercises and the weekly religious instruction where committees consent.

This applies to the most of New Zealand, but with certain exceptions where local School Boards have not granted the full provisions.

We are happy to think that the assistance of Unions has contributed to the gaining of this victory, and is much appreciated by the Bible in Schools League. It would be wise, however, not to take it for granted that the matter is now settled. Vigilance is still necessary in order to retain the rights that have been granted to school committees in this respect since 1877. These rights were threatened, and the retention of those rights, though for the present all is well, will require watchful safeguarding against the aim of those bodies that have sought, and may still seek, to take them away.

In the words of our White Ribbon Editor: "Be watchful, be vigilant, and keep the right for children to read the Bible in our schools."

Yours in the fellowship of His cause.

MARY PATERSON,

Supt., Bible in Schools Department.

AUCKLAND DISTRICT EXECUTIVE.

July 4th.—Miss Read presided. Good attendance. Mrs. Christopher, devotions. Reported that the sum of £8 17s 5d. had been collected at the W.C.T.U. stall for the Y.M.C.A. street appeal. Decided to take a stall for the Combined Orphans' Street Appeal at the end of July.

Arrangements were made to hold the Annual District Convention sometime in September. The report of the N.C.W. was given by Miss Read. Mrs. H. Kasper reported on her recent trip to North Auckland where she visited the Unions at Te Kopuru, Whangarei, Dargaville and Maungakarama.

Letters of sympathy were sent to the relatives of the late Mr. H. F. French, of Hastings, and the late Mrs. Hutchinson, of Auckland.