



FOR GOD, AND HOME, AND HUMANITY.

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TOWARDS WORLD PEACE.

The League of Nations Union has just held its Dominion Convention in Timaru.

What a thrill those words "League of Nations" would have given to the dear, early Victorians, whom we so often hear about! What a sensation such a Conference would have caused even a quarter of a century ago! Then, a League of Nations was but the dream of a few enthusiasts. Now, it is a commonplace of our every-day life. Then, to form a World-wide Union in favour of Peace, was Utopian in the extreme. Now, it is an accomplished fact, the seemingly impossible has come to pass, as it always does.

We, who wear the White Bow, to-day proudly cherish the knowledge that the founders of our Union were women of vision; that in the forefront of our Constitution, over 50 years ago, they did not hesitate to place as one of our objectives:—"The establishment of courts of national and international arbitration, which shall banish war from the world." World Peace seemed then more visionary, even than World Prohibition. Yet both are coming, it may be slowly, but none the less surely.

Our Founders heard the call: "Go Forward" and, though the rank and file feared it was a call to attempt the impossible, the leaders and see-

ers recognised that it was a call from God Himself.

They knew that the people, who attempted only the possible, never did anything; that the workers, who, at God's command, attempt the impossible, find it to be the gloriously possible. Says a modern writer: "There are plenty of people to do the possible; you can hire them at forty dollars a month. The prizes are for those who perform the impossible. If a thing can be done, experience and skill can do it; if a thing cannot be done, only faith can do it."

That faith was the inspiration of the founders of the W.C.T.U. These women declared the outlawry of war, their President, Woodrow Wilson, carried the flame of enthusiasm to Europe, and there proposed to its statesmen in Conference assembled the establishment of a League of Nations.

Europe, weary of a world war, whose horrors, whose savagery, whose privations they had not yet had time to forget, turned its face eagerly to catch this breath from the upper air, from the dawn of a new and purer day.

And a League of Nations came into the region of practical politics, its courts set up, committees appointed, machinery provided, and nations drawn into the sphere of its influence.

Lloyd George, addressing a gathering of Free Church Clergymen in Glasgow, shortly after the Great War, commended to them the League of Nations. He touched upon the horrors of war; (and who, better than he, knew the cost of war in blood and in gold?) and expressed his firm conviction that the League was the only power to save civilisation from utter extinction. He admitted that it was, as yet, imperfect, but it was capable of marvellous development. He told them that its success depended upon the creation of a public sentiment in its favour. And then, turning to the assembled clergy, he dramatically exclaimed: "And, gentlemen, it rests with you to create this sentiment." The man who led England in the darkest hour of her history, now urged upon them to support the League as the only hope of humanity.

To create this sentiment in favour of the League of Nations, the World-wide Union has been formed. In this Dominion it is extremely active, and many White Ribboners are numbered among its members. This we would expect from the heritage bequeathed to us by our founders.

The Union is broadcasting the knowledge of what the League has already accomplished; how it has prevented several wars; how it has gathered statesmen from all countries to discuss such international problems as World Disarmament; a