

Dominion President's Message

Dear Fellow Members,

Since writing to you last, I have been journeying far and near. My first call was to attend the N.Z. Alliance annual meeting in Wellington. It was inspiring to see so many men whose sincere desire was to bring about a saner, safer state of affairs and whose goal is the cessation of an evil that is wrecking our homes, our country and its people. A bulletin regarding major matters relating to our deliberations, will be sent to Unions later.

A visit to South Canterbury District and Unions was a joy. It was good to find on the whole that our work was progressing, despite trials and setbacks and to see our White Ribbon sisters tackling problems with sincerity and courage. A wide vision and a going forth is often God's answer to our prayers. God cannot answer many of our prayers, unless we **arise** from our knees. There is such unspeakable joy in serving our fellow-men and this joy can be infectious, drawing others into our ranks by the very warmth of our affection and zeal. The early Christians surely set forth thus in the crusade for Christ.

In Christchurch the Unions combined in a social afternoon meeting. Again, I had the pleasure of addressing a most enthusiastic gathering, and pray that the remembrance of it will continue to stir our hearts to fight as never before the serious inroads of, not only the liquor evil, but also the gambling evil, which will yet bring about an unhappy harvest to all caught in their meshes.

May God richly bless our South Island sisters. I do thank those who opened their homes and gave me the comfort of a warm fireside and a comfortable bed. A traveller can do better work when the body is cared for—the spirit may be ever so willing but the body, alas, can falter.

A hurried visit to Wellington, to join forces with the N.Z. Alliance on a deputation to Parliament regarding a proposal to again have a vote taken in the King Country concerning liquor claimed my attention. We waited upon the Hon. T. C. Webb, Attorney General, and the Hon. R. M. Algie, W. Sullivan, W. A. Bodkin, and J. R. Marshall. Our plea, sponsored by Mr. Milner, was that the Government would adhere to its promise, especially in view of the fact that less than eighteen months ago the Maori people in that area made their decision for No Licence. To have another vote combining pakeha with Maori, especially when the former greatly outnumber the latter, would not only be reprehensible, but morally wrong. We know only too well the serious effects of beverage alcohol among the Maori people and pakeha also, but as Christian men and women we cannot stand idly by when we know a race of fine people are being slaughtered by the Liquor Trade. War is a deadly, devastating thing, maiming and destroying homes and bodies, but beverage alcohol is a greater and more insidious killer. It breaks homes, maims bodies and destroys souls.

We do pray that God will use this Government to promote the health, wealth and welfare of the Maori people.

May God bless and keep you. Hold high the Temperance Cause; it is a sacred duty, given into our hands, so let us not waver.

Yours in joyous service,

CONSTANCE TOOMER.

The Devotional Period

"MY SAVIOUR AND MY GOD"

Reading: 1 Timothy, 1:5-17. Hymn 116.

The God who made everything, who controls all things and who is above all, is our Father in Heaven. To Him we would ascribe honour, majesty and awe. He is loving, merciful and just. And He gave His Son to be our Saviour. Paul speaks of Jesus Christ as the Saviour of sinners, "Of whom I am chief." How many others have felt as Paul felt. I heard a sailor quote the verse and say: "Paul was not the chief of sinners, I am." Don't we, each one, realise this fact when repentant of sin and needing a Saviour?

The wonder of it is that such a Redeemer belongs to us each one. **My** Saviour! There is no fear of anyone greater or grander pushing us from Him, because they have a greater claim. No! He died for all, yet for each. The woman at the well, the woman with the haemorrhage and the Syrophenician woman each claimed His personal interest. How much more so today when He is not hindered by a physical body but is Omnipresent and Omniscent, can we each one claim Him as our own.

A little boy said his prayers in a southern city before going to sleep there for the last time. Next morning, he was leaving for the north. "Good-bye, Jesus, I'm going to Auckland tomorrow, he had prayed, but his mother explained to him that Christ would be there too. "Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today and forever."

"As I was from everlasting,
God, eternal, faithful, true;
Keeping Covenant with thousands,
So I will be unto you.

As I was, in love unfailling,
To a faithless fallen race;
As I was with faithful Moses
Whom I spake with face to face.
As I was, in grace increasing,
Wisdom, patience, love and power.
So I have been to My people
Through the ages to this hour.

God in Christ who changeth never
Speaketh still to you, to me:
Yesterday, today for ever
As I was, so I will be."

Prayer:

Dear Lord, we bow in reverence before Thee. We are mindful of Thy greatness and our own weakness. Leave us not. Make us to know Thee better. Teach us to shun evil and to cultivate the good. May we help those in need and always be obedient to Thee. For Jesus' sake. Amen.

R. C. GREEN,

(Dominion Evangelistic Supt.)