

## W. C. T. U. DEPARTMENT

PRESIDENT—Mrs. May R. Thornley, 843 Dundas street.  
 TREASURER—Mrs. Jane Darch, Talbot street.  
 CORRESPONDING SECRETARY—Mrs. Flora Carson, Prospect avenue.  
 RECORDING SECRETARY—Miss Ella Cosford, 23 Cathcart street.  
 ASSISTANT RECORDING SECRETARY—Miss Ada Henderson, Dundas street east.

HONORARY PRESIDENT—Mrs. Greg sten, Colborne street.  
 VICE-PRESIDENTS—Mrs. John Cameron, Dufferin avenue; Mrs. Evans, Princess avenue; Mrs. (Rev.) Ira Smith, Talbot street; Mrs. (Rev.) Claris; Mrs. (Rev.) Fowler, Adelaide street.  
 MEETINGS—Every second and fourth Tuesday in the month, in Somerset Hall, 240 Dundas street.

## Why Christian Women Should Join Our W. C. T. U.

(By Mrs. John Evans, vice-president London W. C. T. U.)

This is emphatically an age of clubs and associations; on the ground that union is strength, the world is full of banded societies for the promotion of varied interests. Special, individual effort is something, but in these days the best talents, energies and efforts must be closely united into one body in order to achieve any lasting good. Our W. C. T. U. is an admirable illustration of such a combination. Women who have learned to realize their responsibility in work for God and home and native land are using their varied talents in this glorious struggle for the right, and the many departments of philanthropic work in the union afford ample scope for the particular bent or talent of each member.

The history of the W. C. T. U. given a short time ago in this paper shows how wonderful has been its growth during the past few years in number, in power and in efficient usefulness. There are now over 350 members and others are added from time to time. But now comes the question, With so many opportunities as the W. C. T. U. affords, why should there not be 1,000 members in a city like London? The usual cry of those who are strangers to the union is, "I have no talent," or "I am too busy." In answer to the first, God never sent anyone into the world without at least one talent. People with many talents are rare, but we find that most of the great things in the world are accomplished by the diligent persevering and united efforts of the many people of one talent, and it was the man with the one talent that was reproved by the Lord for not using it. So let us find out our one talent and use it for his glory. Our individual strength is nothing; we are so many ciphers, but with God at our hand, the Almighty One, we shall be a conquering host.

The other excuse, "I am too busy," need not prevent any from giving their prayers and sympathy. They might enroll themselves as members and thus help on the cause, and as time and opportunity present themselves, help of another kind could be given as well. The members of the W. C. T. U. are some of the busiest women of the city, and it is only at some personal sacrifice and by habits of forethought and diligence that they are enabled to set apart a few hours in the month for the good of our fair city, and for the cause of temperance generally.

Besides these reasons we would appeal to every Christian woman, for her own sake, to come and join our union; by neglecting to do so she is missing the benefits of one of the best institutions of our Province. No one could fail to be refreshed and invigorated by such gatherings as are held in Somerset Hall on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month.

The quiet, devotional exercises are restful; there is a charm in the animated and able manner in which these meetings are conducted; the programme of work is brimful of interest; there is a free and pleasant interchange of thought, and all combined have a tendency to educate, to lift up and to stir up aspirations after a better and holier life.

Come then, dear sisters, and visit our meetings; you will have a cordial welcome; and we earnestly hope that you will see your responsibility in this matter and unite with us in our temperance work. We need your co-operation; you cannot afford to lose such a golden opportunity for usefulness. Our country needs your help in educating the people up to the standard of total abstinence, and in helping to deliver them from the worst of all slavery—the bondage to the drink habit, and the Lord whose good pleasure it is to work through human instrumentality, will not hold us guiltless if we hold aloof from this all-important branch of home mission work.

## The Week of Prayer.

The "Call for Prayer," issued two weeks ago by the Provincial superintendent of evangelistic work, has doubtless reached, through some channel, every union in the Province. It appeared in the columns of this paper, our own Woman's Journal, and most of the denominational organs—followed in some cases by favorable editorial comment. The appeal was directed towards the Christian ministry, yet it urged that young people's Christian societies and temperance organizations should unite to make the designated week (the one beginning April 29) a never-to-be-forgotten one. A special call to every union to hold a mid-week prayer service was appended, and the subject upon which all hearts should concentrate, was set as follows: "That in the present temperance crisis in our Province and Dominion, both temperance leaders

and Christian voters might be guided by God."

Has every union decided to meet for prayer as requested? Has the appeal been brought to the attention of the local church pastors, the leaders of the young people's meetings, and the presiding officers of other temperance societies? If not, why not? Do not allow this golden opportunity for united supplication to pass unimproved.

## Dominion Convention Notes.

Under this heading I purpose from week to week making such announcements as shall be of interest to the workers who are eagerly anticipating our national gathering.

Some time ago we learned from our Dominion president that the World's W. C. T. U. president, Miss Frances Willard and Lady Henry Somerset, of England, were expected to be present and take part in the convention. Scarcely had the echoes of the applause, provoked by the good news, died away before it was contradicted. Other engagements had forced our English and American friend to ask to be released from that entered into with us, and so we were again adrift as to convention speakers. But a recent letter from Mrs. Williams gives us an item for publication that, while it may not arouse the enthusiasm of our first hopes, will gladden every heart that realizes its significance. Among American W. C. T. U. workers not one claims a more heartfelt admiration and confidence than Mrs. J. K. Barney, of Rhode Island, national and international superintendent of prison and jail work. "Everybody believes in her, and loves her," said a White Ribboner, and she but voiced the opinion of all who have had the pleasure of Mrs. Barney's acquaintance.

As a Sunday holds the post of honor as the middle day of our convention week, Mrs. Barney will give the gospel temperance address—subject, "Watch" at the afternoon meeting, to be convened in some large church after the close of the Sunday schools. On Monday evening she will give her lecture entitled "Clean Hands." A Bible reading at a morning session is a possibility.

Because we want you to know and love this devoted servant of the Lord, we will publish in the next issue an incident, given in Mrs. Barney's own words, that greatly influenced her in entering upon the life of full consecration she now so beautifully exemplifies.

Further information re convention doings may be expected in our next issue.

MAY R. THORNLEY.

## Elgin County W. C. T. U.

The Women's Christian Temperance Union of Elgin county held their county convention on Thursday afternoon, April 12, in the Methodist Church, Aylmer. It was a decided success. A large delegation of St. Thomas ladies were present.

The afternoon session was opened by the local president, Mrs. Dredge, with scriptural readings, followed by prayer. Mrs. Dredge then gave the address of welcome, in which she reviewed the work of the past, and gave a hopeful outlook into the future. Mrs. Thornley took the chair during the election of officers. The result was as follows: County president, Mrs. (Rev.) McCutcheon, Vienna; vice-president, Mrs. Dredge, Aylmer; corresponding secretary, Miss B. Murray, Aylmer; recording secretary, Mrs. J. Farley, St. Thomas; treasurer, Mrs. D. M. Tail, St. Thomas; press department, Mrs. J. Farley; juvenile work, Miss B. Murray and Mrs. Crothers; Sunday school, Mrs. J. Risdon; scientific instruction, Mrs. W. E. Murray and Mrs. W. E. Youmans; franchise, Mrs. A. Burns; unfettered wine, Mrs. J. B. Hambridge. The first five officers were elected in a constitutional manner in 25 minutes, which was certainly making good time. Mrs. Dredge then took the chair and conducted the programme. Mrs. Livingston, of Tilsonburg, gave an excellent paper on the work and influence of the press; it was thoroughly practicable and full of suggestions. Mrs. Farley followed on "Our Mission Work," showing how far-reaching is the influence of the W. C. T. U. Her account of the work done by these noble women who sacrifice so much to carry the gospel of temperance round the world was an inspiration to work with greater zeal. Mrs. Crothers gave a paper on "Work Amongst Children and Young People," the most important of our departments. To effectively grapple with drunkenness, crime and vice, thought and effort must be concentrated on the children. Mrs. Thornley spoke on the importance of the work, and the necessity of making our meetings attractive and instructive, to hold as well as to get new members. Mesdames Risdon and Tail gave reports of work in St. Thomas; and Miss Murray for Aylmer, in which she stated that only one

woman voted against the plebiscite in their town, and that almost the entire vote was cast. The evening session opened with a very large attendance, Mayor Leeson in the chair. Mrs. Thornley's address was an appeal to conscience and principle, and was soul-stirring. This brave little woman, having put on the whole armor of God, stands fearlessly for principle and right, regardless of the opinion of either sex. She took up the present outlook bearing on church and state, and in a most comprehensive manner urged the law-makers to read and think over this question before taking a stand. The Rev. J. A. McDonald, of St. Thomas, took as his subject, "The role of the agitator in the reign of the people." He reasoned out the question of right in such a masterly way that the people could not deny their responsibility, and brought home with great force the undeniable fact that the people must bear the blame for existing evils. Two resolutions were passed at these meetings—one to be sent to Mayor Kennedy, expressing the thanks of the County W. C. T. U. for the stand he took toward the Liquor Trade Association convention recently held in Toronto; the other to be forwarded to Sir John Thompson, praying that he might grant the petition to be presented to the House on the enfranchisement of women.

BELLE MURRAY, Aylmer, County Corresponding Secretary W. C. T. U.

## Middlesex School of Methods.

The Middlesex county W. C. T. U. held a school of methods in the Presbyterian Church, Parkhill, on Tuesday, April 17. Although the number of delegates was not as large as was expected, those who attended met together feeling that the Holy Spirit was with them aiding in everything that was said and done. We were pleased to welcome the county president and several co-workers from Lambton, who had come to attend our meetings. The morning devotional exercises were conducted by Mrs. (Rev.) Holmes, Parkhill, after which our county president, Mrs. Dunlop, Napier, opened the session by a few well-chosen remarks. Miss D. Peel, London "Y's", gave the first paper. She dealt with practical scientific temperance, and we must say Miss Peel's paper, as well as all of that followed, that it indicated a thorough understanding of her subject. The papers throughout the day were, without one exception, first-class and showed careful preparation. Evangelistic work was led by Mrs. Winter, county superintendent of that department. Fair work, by Mrs. Heard, Strathroy, county superintendent. The W. C. T. U. cooking school, by Mrs. Jones, London. The local presidents present gave short reports of the work done by their unions, and Mrs. Thornley took charge of the question box. After noontide prayer by Mrs. Burns, of Forest, the session adjourned until 1:30 p.m.

Mrs. Carson, London, led devotional exercises at opening of the afternoon session. Mrs. Harrison, president Melbourne Union, gave a paper on "Franchise," followed, after discussion, by Mrs. Humphries, Parkhill, on "Our Juvenile Department." "What a Narcotic Superintendent Can Do," was the theme of a paper by Mrs. Saunders, London. A parliamentary drill was conducted by Mrs. Thornley, and was much enjoyed by all present. The appointment of delegates to Dominion Convention, June 1 to 5, was next in order. Sixteen nominations were made by informal ballot, and on motion the four highest were appointed. These were: Mrs. Dunlop, Napier, county president; Mrs. Harrison, Melbourne; Mrs. Magdalen, Parkhill; and Miss Gordon, Strathroy, county corresponding secretary. After the questions in the box had been answered by Mrs. Thornley, the doxology was sung and the school adjourned. In the evening a well attended meeting was held in the church. A choice programme was given, consisting of vocal selections, readings short addresses by resident clergyman and a splendid address by our provincial president, Mrs. Thornley. During the evening the following resolution was adopted unanimously by standing vote. "Whereas, one of the live burning questions of the day is that of woman's franchise, and

"Whereas, we feel and know that the right of woman to have a voice in the laws of the country is a just one, based on the same principles and reasoning as are held conclusive in the case of man; and

"Whereas, we are convinced that many vexed questions will not be rightly adjusted until woman's suffrage is granted; therefore

"Resolved, that we, as a convention of W. C. T. U. workers, do strongly petition the Dominion Government to support and make effective the bill on woman's franchise, which is, we hope, soon to come before the House."

The resolution carried without a dissenting vote—men and women alike signifying their agreement with the position taken by the W. C. T. U. ADA E. GORDON, Strathroy, County Corresponding Secretary, W. C. T. U.

## W. C. T. U. Items.

Friend, have you been receiving this paper for some time free of charge? Then, it is not time that you subscribed for it, and got your friends to do likewise? We want this western peninsula flooded with temperance news and facts; and in no way can this more successfully be accomplished than by

the circulation of the HOME GUARD. For club rates write Mrs. Douglas, 167 Wharnclyffe avenue, West London.

## What Do You Think of It?

Will W. C. T. U. workers who receive this paper please take note of the published opinions of sister workers as given in another column, and if they too feel that the HOME GUARD is an inspiration to them in this sore battle against the powers of darkness, will they not encourage the hearts of the brave editors by saying so? A post card dropped to the press superintendent, Mrs. Douglas, 167 Wharnclyffe avenue, West London, will be gladly received. If the W. C. T. U. department is found helpful no one will be hurt if the fact is made known.

## Question Box.

Question.—Kindly inform me if we have to pay affiliation fees for honorary members. We fail to find anything about it in the constitution. EVA E.

Answer.—No. The full fees of an honorary member belong to the local union.

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Question.—Will you kindly tell me whose place it is to attend to union advertising, such as entertainments, regular meetings, etc.? Our press superintendent thinks that it is the recording secretary's work. The recording secretary thinks that all printing belongs to the press superintendent; and that only pulpit announcements, and the notifying of individuals appointed to special work falls to her share.

## INQUIRER.

Answer.—The press superintendent, unless especially requested by the union to attend to the advertising, is not expected to do such work. She has the duty of keeping her column, or half column, filled with telling facts and convincing arguments in favor of the many-sided reforms the society she represents is advocating. If she be a tactful woman she will keep the local work, with its past doings, present plans, and future hopes, well to the front; and thus acquaint the public with what has been and is to come. But for the regular paid-for advertising, that each union should feel in duty bound to do, as a small return for privileges accorded, the press superintendent is not responsible.

All announcements and notifications, whether made for love or money, should be prepared by the recording secretary, except under the following conditions: In some unions there is a lecture or entertainment committee, whose duty it is to manage the public meetings of the society. They are usually expected to attend to all the details of such meetings, advertising included. Also in certain of our organizations the president prefers to oversee the advertising herself. Being in the best position to understand the points of interest to be emphasized there is usually no objection to her doing so.

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Question.—What do you think of a president who is usually late in attending the meetings? A VICTIM.

Answer.—I don't think much of her. She must have missed her vocation and needs to be "labored with" by somebody.

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Question.—Kindly inform me through the Question Box what the local constitution means by stating (section V. bylaws) that each local treasurer shall forward regularly the half-yearly fees for the provincial and county unions to the county treasurer. Is she to send, in the early part of the year, 12½ cents for each paid-up member, and later on the remaining 12½ cents? COUNTY PRESIDENT.

Answer.—No. When the local treasurer receives the 60 cent fee from any member she should at once place 30 cents of the amount to the credit of the union, and (if in an organized county) lay aside the other 30 cents in a separate purse, box or account, as money that does not belong to the local treasury at all. In making her monthly report to the union she should refer to this second account as "affiliation fee money on hand." Just as soon as a sufficient sum has been gathered to make a money order worth while, the local treasurer forwards all the affiliation fee money in her possession to the county treasurer, or if in any unorganized county, to the provincial treasurer. As new members join, or old ones pay up, she again accumulates an affiliation account which is finally sent on to the county treasurer just before the provincial treasurer's books close for the year.

This is what is intended by the "half yearly payments"—the two installments of fees, one in the early part of the year, and the other towards its close.

MAY R. THORNLEY.

God keeps a niche in heaven to hold our idols;  
 We shall behold them raised, complete,  
 The dust swept from their beauty, glorified  
 New Memmons singing in the great God light.  
 —MRS. BROWNING.

A Dinner Pill.—Many persons suffer excruciating agony after partaking of a hearty dinner. The food partaken of is like a ball of lead upon the stomach, and instead of being a healthy nutriment it becomes a poison to the system. Dr. Parmelee's Vegetable Pills are wonderful correctives of such troubles. They correct acidity, open the secretions and convert the food partaken of into healthy nutriment. They are just the medicine to take if troubled with Indigestion or Dyspepsia.

## Words of Encouragement.

What W. C. T. U. Workers Are Saying of the "Home Guard."

The following very favorable opinions of this paper have been sent to Mrs. M. V. Douglas, press superintendent of London Union, and other workers here:

CORNWALL.—Miss Jennie MacArthur, president Stormont County W. C. T. U.: "I receive the HOME GUARD regularly. No W. C. T. U. woman can afford to do without it. If such papers were to take the place of the numerous fashion and trashy story papers, that we find in so many homes, the temperance and other reforms would receive such an impetus as they have never yet had. What is needed is an arrest of thought. Yours, for better home papers."

WIARTON.—Mrs. Belle C. Ashcroft, superintendent of legislation, franchise and petitions for Bruce county: "Am a subscriber for HOME GUARD—a most excellent paper."

PRESCOTT.—Mrs. Mary E. Hammond, evangelistic superintendent for the county of Lanark: "I receive the CITIZEN and HOME GUARD every week and am delighted with its reports of progress toward prohibition. Have been a worker in the cause it advocates for more than 50 years."

CALEDONIA.—C. Mackinnon, corresponding secretary, W. C. T. U.: "I think the HOME GUARD is without doubt the best temperance paper in Canada."

STOUFFVILLE.—E. Percy, superintendent evangelistic work and vice-president of the W. C. T. U.: "The CITIZEN and HOME GUARD comes regularly to my address. After reading it I give it to my friends and neighbors, hoping thereby to increase its circulation and advance the sentiments of political and home purity it so nobly advocates."

OTTERVILLE.—Mrs. (Dr.) Anderson: "I receive the HOME GUARD and am delighted with its contents. It is destined to do a grand work."

WALLACEBURG.—Mrs. (Rev.) Middleton, president of W. C. T. U.: "I receive the HOME GUARD regularly. I think it is an excellent paper and just what is needed. We give it to some of our ladies to read, and ask them to put it in our wall pockets at the railway station."

OWEN SOUND.—Mrs. Jessie Read, superintendent of fair work for Grey county: "I find the HOME GUARD very helpful to me in my work. Place it in paper racks, at the station, etc. I do most of the railroad work here also, and appreciate such a paper."

HESPELER.—Mrs. W. Van Atter, corresponding secretary: "I receive the HOME GUARD and like it very much. I wish it may be successful, as it should be."

WOLFVILLE, N. S.—Mrs. Martha Riddy: "As superintendent of literature department, I find the HOME GUARD just what we need. Why cannot we have more such papers? I consider the HOME GUARD just what we have long been wishing for as a temperance paper."

BROWNSVILLE.—Mrs. Annie Brown, president of W. C. T. U.: "Am receiving the HOME GUARD and find it helpful in our work and truly inspiring."

WYOMING.—Miss E. Duncan: "I am one of the shut-in ones. I do enjoy reading the HOME GUARD. Trust it may do a grand work."

LONDON.—Mrs. Holmes, superintendent of petitions: "I read the HOME GUARD every week, look for it anxiously and find it very profitable. I then send it to a friend who also enjoys it very much. The HOME GUARD keeps us well posted on the most popular subjects of the day."

AMHERSTBURG.—Mrs. Geo. Boyle: "Am receiving the HOME GUARD, and like it so much. I am a private member of W. C. T. U."

VANCOUVER.—Mrs. W. McCraney, recording secretary and press reporter, British Columbia W. C. T. U.: "Our union here is taking ten copies of the HOME GUARD to help fill their nineteen brackets. The old Canada Citizen was for many years a much-prized visitor in the old Ontario homes; but for general reading I much prefer the present combination."

ONTARIO, CALIFORNIA.—Mrs. H. E. Freeman: "The HOME GUARD is received regularly and read with much interest. There is no liquor sold here. May it soon be so in our own Canada."

The above extracts taken from recent communications abundantly show the appreciation of our W. C. T. U. readers. Many further testimonials might be given did space permit.

M. V. DOUGLAS,  
 Press Superintendent, London W. C. T. U.

## The Crossed Hands.

"The crossed hands of blessing," as Spurgeon phrased it, it often seems to us would be better uncrossed. But the placing of the hands that alone can truly bless is never misguided. If your beloved child is a sufferer, do not think that the hands have been crossed without a purpose. It may be that the purpose is to bring upon his head the right hand of spiritual blessing instead of the left hand of youthful joy and buoyancy. Blessings from either hand of God are blessing indeed. The choice as to the kind of blessing is his, and the purpose in giving is known to him. The purpose of Israel when he guided his hands wittingly, is but a

faint portrayal of God's purpose in sending the greater blessing instead of the less. We, like Joseph, sometimes strive to hold up the hand of blessing and remove it from the head which it has so unerringly chosen, and the reiteration of the patriarch, "I know it, I know it," when remonstrated with for his discriminating action, is the foreshadowing to us of the knowledge and discriminating choice that guide God's providences towards us.—[M. C. G.]

I give eternal life. They shall never perish; neither shall any man pluck them from my hand.—Jesus the Christ.

## Tying the Camel.

Darkness was coming down upon the desert. There were no trees to cast lengthening shadows, no hilltops to hold the lingering rays of sunlight, but suddenly, all over the wide extent of level sand, darkness fell like a black robe.

Mahomet and his attendants halted on their journey, and a tent was pitched.

"Allah's care is over his children," said one of the band. "I will even loose my camel, and trust in Allah that I shall find him again in the morning at sunrise."

"Friend," said the prophet, with grave, uplifted finger, "tie thy camel, and then trust in Allah."

There is one point of our daily living at which we see men and women continually losing their camels, with loud protests of trust in Allah, and showing presently pious resignation at their loss; I mean the care of their health. Of course this earthly house of our tabernacle must decay, and we must bear its infirmities cheerily and patiently; but there is neither sense nor piety in committing our lives to God and then breaking all the laws of hygiene.

"This is a strange dispensation of Providence," I said mournfully to my neighbor, as we attended together the third funeral which we had followed from Col. B.'s house within two years.

"Providence, indeed!" answered my neighbor with a gruff disrespect which I hope was intended for me, not for Providence. "Humph! the colonel keeps rotten potatoes in his cellar!"

"I am asking God to give me dying grace, that I may be willing to go," said a girl in the last stages of consumption.

"Ah," said her doctor in a confidential whisper, "if she had only asked a year ago for common sense to keep her from putting off her flannel shirt in mid-winter, to go to a party!"

Friends, eat plain wholesome food, wear sensible clothes, ventilate your houses, be temperate, be prudent; in short, tie your camel and then trust in God, and take cheerfully the dispensations of his providence.—[Christian at Work.]

## From Foreign Lands.

In Greenock, Scotland, according to the official report, there are 100 fewer licensed premises now than there were 30 years ago.

Patrick Mallay, a spirit merchant in Greenock, Scotland, was recently fined \$150, or three months' imprisonment, for having an illicit still in his possession.

The British Government have given notice of their intention to introduce a bill regarding habitual offenders and inebriates in England and Scotland. Its provisions are not made public yet. Several of the temperance organizations have been urging this matter for years.

A temperance society has been organized in St. Petersburg, Russia, which includes a brother of the reigning Czar, a high dignitary of the Greek Church, and the Ministers of all the departments of Government. The leading Russian newspaper, in commenting on this new alliance of Government with temperance, says: "Only the co-operation of the government departments with the efforts of the society can deliver the people from the thralldom of drunkenness. To abolish such is the province and the power of the Government."

The N. Y. Sun says: "We have ascertained that Germany is the destination of that load of California brandy which was shipped from San Francisco a few days ago. The German military authorities have been for some years testing the brandy made on the Pacific coast, and it has won their favor so far that they have authorized its use in the army. If German consumers get a liking for the article, there will be a certainty of a large and profitable trade in it. We should suppose that Germany would take nearly all that California could supply, and we have no doubt that the California product could be kept up to the German demand."

The Norwegian temperance people are agitating for temperance in a most vigorous manner, through the written as well as the spoken word. In some public places they are posting temperance pictures which illustrate the bad effects of drink as well as the benefit to total abstinence. This is an excellent idea; such pictures posted in public places will undoubtedly do a great deal of good. The Norwegian Government has appropriated 7,000 crowns to aid the society in temperance work. The good cause is making sure progress in Norway. Under the competent leadership, with which it has been blessed from the beginning, it is gaining ground year by year.