

W. C. T. U. Department.

All contributions to this department should be sent addressed to HOME GUARD Office, London, Ont. Postcard items are desired from every Union throughout the Dominion.

Evangelistic Temperance Work.

(Miss Julia Colman, New York.)

"Do the work of an Evangelist."

The modern temperance movement is the legitimate outgrowth of the Christian religion in this land of freedom. It was started by Christian physicians, continued by Christian ministers and people, and developed in these later days by Christian women. We also recognize it in Peter's directions for building up the structure of a Christian character. "Add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge temperance," etc. Faith comes first and the other Christian graces follow. It was by faith in God, and prayer to Him that the woman's crusade was started in 1873; and though the aspects of the work have changed in many ways, faith and prayer continue indispensable.

REGULAR TEMPERANCE MEETINGS, even when they are business meetings, are usually opened with Scripture lesson and prayer. A very common rule is to have a half hour given to these devotional exercises at the opening of each meeting. The president should come with a lesson selected and prayed over, even when others are expected to lead. Then if leaders fail, the lack can be supplied without delay or embarrassment.

SPECIAL SUBJECTS OF PRAYER.

It is often desirable to have, selected and announced beforehand, some topic for special consideration at the meeting, as is frequently done for the weekly church prayer-meeting. The leader should, in the opening prayer and remarks, give the keynote to the meeting by dwelling upon the topic suitably.

At some time later be sure to ask, "Has any one a case for which prayer is desired?" This may be some drinking or destitute man, woman, child, or family; some one who is in danger through temptation or struggling with difficulties or trials, or it may be some need or difficulty connected with the organization. Do not wander from temperance work. If we, who understand and love temperance work, do not keep to it, how can we expect others to do so?

Suitable facts may be given by those who present the cases. If the case be not stated with clearness, a few words from the leader may improve it. When not more than four or five cases have been presented, the leader should pray, mentioning each case with appropriate petitions. If another is invited to pray, the cases may be recapitulated. A lady was once asked how she could remember all the cases so well. She replied that she found it a great help to pray over each case, mentally, when it was presented. Some also make a brief note of the case when mentioned. If other cases are given afterward they can be included in another prayer, perhaps at the close.

Such presentation of cases in prayer often results in valuable, practical work, suggested by the circumstances. This is one of the best ways of securing the "INTERESTING MEETINGS," which are so often the subject of inquiry. The true source of the interest in all our meetings should be the real good for the Master—planned, prayed over, carried out, or reported. Without this the interest, the attendance, and the organization itself, will often die out. "Faith without works is dead, being alone." When the Brooklyn Union prayed down the notorious "Mozart Garden," there was also a vast amount of careful work brought to bear. If we wish to realize the value of "works," let us note the frequency with which they are referred to in the messages sent through John to the churches (Rev. ii, 3), "I know Thy works," etc.; "My Father worketh hitherto, and I work," is the grand pattern and inspiration to all intelligent Christians.

When the difficulties of this work are considered it will be seen that we have a special need of prayer. The evil we fight is hoary with age, and entrenched not only in the appetites of many individuals and in the greed of others, but it ramifies in our home, social, political, business and church life. Without divine aid we can do nothing as we ought to do.

In many Unions it is customary to preface every new or difficult undertaking by stated seasons of prayer; and committees make a special point of seeking Divine wisdom and guidance in whatever work is consigned to them for consideration or execution.

It is quite in accordance with these hints that the Evangelistic Department should be considered one of the most important in the work of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. While it cannot be expected to supervise all these devotional acts which are entwined with the work of the organization, the superintendent of this department may devise, suggest, and often carry out

SPECIAL EVANGELISTIC WORK, besides promoting the items already mentioned. We give the most successful methods more or less in vogue in local Unions, with the hope that they may be widely useful, especially to beginners. The cordial co-operation of the members of the society is essential to success. The public meetings should be under the control of the Ex-

ecutive Committee, of which the President is chairman, even when a leader has been appointed to take charge of one or more of the meetings.

1. Observe the noontide hour of prayer for the success of Gospel temperance work in all its phases.

2. Have "all-day meetings" for devotional work, from two to four times a year. Some Unions commence every winter's work by such a day of prayer.

(a) Have the meetings well advertised throughout the community, and notices sent, if practicable, two weeks beforehand to neighboring Unions.

(b) The hours may be from 10:30 a. m. to 12:30 p. m. Then have lunch, or a basket lunch, or a notification where refreshments can be had. Meet again at 1:30 or 2 p. m., and hold till 5 p. m. Such meetings do not usually include the evening, and not always the morning hours.

(c) Have a separate leader and topic for each hour, and see that one or more of these is a temperance Bible reading.

(d) Be sure to bring out, definitely, the practical work in view; and pray about it as if guidance were sincerely desired, not merely telling the Lord that certain things are going to be done.

(e) Have distributed some one tract, bearing on the work, to every person present, with attention so called to something in it as to secure its reading.

3. Observe the public days of prayer and thanksgiving appointed by the proper authorities.

4. A very general practice is to have a Gospel temperance meeting every Sunday afternoon. The leadership of this is often given, rotation, to several members, and should be arranged for beforehand. Advertise it well, and get in the unconverted and intemperate by the best means in your power.

(a) Have Scripture readings and Gospel temperance hymns, the room being supplied with good singing-books and a musical instrument when practicable. It is a good plan to preface the meeting by a service of song, using hymns that are familiar.

(b) In all the exercises keep in view the awakening and salvation of souls, and their establishment in righteousness and temperance. Call for testimonies, Scripture texts, or prayers.

5. In the winter a church, hall, or theater may be secured for Sunday evening evangelistic meetings, and a suitable person secured to conduct the services. This will require the oversight of a well-organized special committee.

6. Tracts should be distributed at all such meetings. When they are wisely selected and given out (generally at the door), one kind at a time and that kind not repeated, they are almost invariably taken away and read carefully.

7. In villages and towns an occasional temperance revival or temperance mission can be made very helpful. The help of some evangelist is secured, the excellence of whose work is well attested. Funds are collected, a church or hall secured, and the whole thing carefully worked up and well advertised. Ministers are consulted, and their co-operation secured. Meetings are held, afternoon and evening, and the series continued one, two or three weeks, according to circumstances. This often results in forming a flourishing society with a large number of members, or in adding members to a society already organized, in starting the juvenile work, etc. No pains should be spared to reap the good results to the utmost. Many a despondent organization has been thus revived, and has gone on doing good work for years afterward.

8. When these large enterprises are not practicable, the churches may be induced to give a prayer meeting to temperance once a month.

9. Gospel visitation may be practiced from house to house in almost any community, the visitors being supplied with some well-selected tract showing the relation of temperance to religion. Personal appeals may be used at the visitor's discretion and as the spirit moves.

10. Suitable tracts, carefully selected and prayed over, may be distributed in the church pews with consent of proper authorities, or at the church door, or given to the children of the Sunday school.

11. Excellent work can be done in crowded populations by opening reading rooms. For a model and hints read that most excellent work, "The Pledge and the Cross," by Mrs. S. M. I. Henry; and some hints may be found in "Our Coffee House," by Miss Cotton, now Lady Hope.

12. With all the rest, we must have "patient continuance in well doing." Patience is the crowning grace, and we should always do what we can, even when we cannot do all we would. "And let us not be weary in well doing, for in due season we shall reap if we fail not."

"Thine eyes shall surely see
No distant hope, nor dim
This temperance work made plain for thee—
Wait patiently for Him."

The World's W. C. T. U.

President: Miss Frances Willard.
Vice-President: Lady Henry Somerset.
A WORLD WIDE MOVEMENT.

London, Eng., April 20.

It is an interesting fact that the World's Woman's Christian Temperance Union which will hold its third biennial meeting in Queen's hall, London, next June, and which has already affiliated societies in almost every civilized nation, is only ten years old. Miss Frances Willard conceived the idea of uniting the women of all nations in a world wide organization against intemperance and impurity when on one of her organizing trips for the National W. C. T. U. of America. This idea was speedily carried out, and the first pioneer woman missionary, wearing the bow of White Ribbon (now the established badge of Temperance women everywhere) started on a journey round the world, with a courage and faith in her cause which inspired many women of different nationalities to start a Woman's Christian Temperance Union in their country. Four women missionaries have since done splendid work in building up and organizing fresh Unions, so that now the White Ribbon movement may be said to belt the world in the sacred and patriotic cause for "God and Home and Every Land."

THE POLYGLOT PETITION.

The polyglot petition which has traveled with the five White Ribbon missionaries in all their journeyings, has been signed by women in 50 different languages and representing as many nationalities. This petition, which is to be presented to the British Government in June next by the representatives of the World's W. C. T. U., now numbers 7,500,000 names, including the endorsements by men, and the attestations of great societies, such as the Peace Congress held last year at Antwerp, where the President signed the polyglot petition on behalf of the Congress, at which there were delegates from fourteen leading nations, and 40 different Peace Societies were represented. The petition is addressed to rulers and representatives of the nations to which it will be taken, and asks for the prohibition of the sale of alcohol and opium in the territory over which the government extends.

The petition has taken two years to prepare, and the lady who has made this her special work has spent on an average eight hours a day on her task. She has already mounted 1,928 yards, or over one mile of canvas. The petition will come to England and be on view in June at the great International meetings. There is still time to get more signatures before the petition is presented, and forms for this purpose can be obtained of Miss Morgan, Buckingham Place, Brecon.

The National British Women's Temperance Association federated to the World's W. C. T. U., will hold its National Council meetings the same week. Many women are expected to attend as delegates, and the foreign representatives, which will this year be present, will make the occasion one of great interest and significance in the progress of temperance reform.

A special vessel has been chartered by Dr. Lunn to bring American delegates.

Mrs. Barney in Caledonia.

Last week Caledonia people had an opportunity of listening to one of the most eloquent women in the ranks of the White Ribboners—Mrs. Barney, of Providence, R. I. Tuesday afternoon in the Presbyterian Church, she gave a delightful Bible reading, and then in the evening, in the Methodist Church, her far-famed lecture "From Jerusalem to Jericho." The old parable of the "Good Samaritan" had a new unthought-of significance to her hearers as they listened to her vivid word-pictures of the man leaving home and his Christian influences, falling among "thieves" who are licensed by a Christian community to wound and kill the unwary; of the busy, indifferent churchworkers, philanthropists who pass by on the other side; and the true, consecrated follower of Jesus who comes to the rescue of the unfortunate man lying by the wayside. She referred to the helplessness of suffering woman as she spoke half-sarcastically of their privilege to circulate petitions for the erection of "Homes" for the orphans of drunkards.

Wednesday afternoon she gave an exquisite, practical Bible reading to busy housekeepers, urging them to do everything as unto the Lord, even such homely duties as washing, scrubbing, ironing. Her words had all the greater influence coming as they did from a woman accustomed to the work in which she begged her hearers to excel. Then in the evening she spoke of the "Modern Macedonian Cry" which comes from our jails and prisons and is none the less imperative because unuttered by a class who evidently do not wish to be helped, either because they do not realize their guilt or because they think there is no power to cleanse them.

As Mrs. Barney repeated touching stories told her by the inhabitants of prison cells who confessed that they came from homes of wealth and refinement and owed their degradation to liquor, we were forced to face the dreadful consequences of using wine on our tables, either as a drink or as a flavoring in our food. There is nothing monotonous in Mrs. Barney's addresses. They are sometimes humorous, sometimes pathetic, but always convincing, always practical. As a result of her visit our union has several new mem-

bers, while the old ones are encouraged and stimulated to greater efforts.

JESSIE WILSON, Secretary.

Jottings.

For the twenty-sixth time, Councilor Malinas has been elected Grand Chief Templar of England.

Five distinguished physiologists of Germany, Drs. Bunge, Gaule, Hoffman, Eral and Fick are total abstainers.

Dr. Jallinger, who examined 2,000 persons in the hospital at Munich, says he found that 8 per cent died of excessive beer-drinking.

It was Oliver Wendell Holmes who remarked that though women tempted man to eat, Eve had nothing to do with his drinking. He took to that on his own account.

Khama, the South African chief, insists that fire water shall not be brought into his country by the white man, and Queen Victoria has sent him assurance of her support.

A White Ribbon choir of 500 voices composed of members and associate members of the British Woman's Temperance Association will be one of the features of the World's W. C. T. U. Convention.

The sale of drink is the sale of disease; the sale of drink is the sale of poverty; the sale of drink is the sale of insanity; the sale of drink is the sale of crime; the sale of drink is the sale of death.—(Sir Benjamin Ward Richardson, M.D.)

In a recent address Judge Kimball of the Washington, D. C., Police Court, stated that for the fiscal year 1895 the United States Government issued 128,000 liquor licenses, or one for each 298 people. Besides these is an unknown number unlicensed.

The increasing interest in temperance legislation is shown by the fact that Mrs. Hunt, within two weeks recently, received letters from Denmark, Spain, Portugal, the Bahamas, Egypt and India inquiring about the system in use in the United States public schools.

Twenty great meetings in the largest halls of the principal cities have been held in the anti-opium campaign just closed in England. Dr. Kate Bushnell and Mrs. Elizabeth Wheeler Andrew have taken a leading part in these meetings, their investigations in China being valuable testimony against the traffic.

Oban, Dunbar, and North Berwick have the notoriety of being the only burghs in Scotland which do not close their licensed houses at ten o'clock all the year round. These have adopted ten o'clock eight months of the year, and eleven o'clock during June, July, August and September, and North Berwick ten p. m. on Saturdays.

At a congress of the French Public Morality League, held lately in Lyons, M. H. de Kerohaut said of the "fairly with the green eye," as abstinence is called: "There is but one remedy against the evil; to forbid the entry into France, the manufacture, trade in and consumption of abstinence. The only means of getting rid of the green fairly is to kill it, and we must kill it that it shall not kill our race."

Rev. John McNeil, who has just returned to Glasgow from an extensive tour of fourteen months, is looking remarkably well, considering the heavy work he has undertaken during his visit, when he addressed meetings almost continuously in Australia, New Zealand, India and Africa. When he arrived in the latter place the season for evangelistic work was almost over, and the friends there are very desirous that he should return and take up the work during the cool season. Everything as to his future, however, is meantime uncertain. He intends, to use his own words, "to lie fallow for some time," and with a view to get a complete rest he left this week for Ireland. He is not quite certain whether he will continue his evangelistic tours or settle down to a stated charge—his chief desire being to take up the special work in which he can do best service for his Master.

The report of the British Departmental Committee on Prisons has been issued as a parliamentary paper. With regard to habitual criminals, it is recommended that that class of prisoners should be kept as a class apart from others. While it is recognized that habitual drunkards are not criminals in the ordinary sense, and should stand by themselves in a special category, the physical craving for drink is a disease which requires medical treatment not provided by the present prison system, and persons committed for this offense should be collected in separate prisons or wards. They should be dealt with as patients rather than criminals, and special medical treatment applied to them. The committee endorses the recommendation of the departmental committee on inebriates, that magistrates should have power to commit for lengthened periods habitual drunkards coming before them.

Archdeacon Farrar says there are certain things which all men desire, and which all men would gladly, if they could lawfully and innocently, obtain. These things are health, wealth, ease, comfort, influence, honor, freedom from opposition and from pain; and yet if you were to place all these blessings on one side, and on the other side to place poverty, disease, anguish, trouble and contempt—yet, if on this side, also, you were to place truth and justice, and a sense that however

densely the clouds may gather about our life the light of God will be visible beyond them, all the noblest men would choose, as without hesitation they always have chosen, the latter destiny. It is not that they like failure, but they prefer failure to falsity; it is not that they love persecution, but they prefer persecution to meanness; it is not that they relish opposition, but they welcome opposition rather than guilty acquiescence; it is not that they shrink from agony, but they would not escape from agony by conniving at crime.

In a recent address on "Adulterations in Liquors," before the Society of Medical Jurisprudence, Albert R. Ledoux said, speaking from the standpoint of an analytical chemist, rather than that of either a temperance reformer or advocate of license: "The medical profession, as well as all temperance reformers, should never cease to make it plain that the evil lies in the alcohol in the liquors, and not in the adulterations; that the unfortunate votary should not be allowed to receive himself with the idea that if he drinks some particular brand, or abstains from another, he can derive benefit, or at least escape injury. If he is injured at all, he is injured by the alcohol, if he is benefited at all, he is benefited by the alcohol. I trust that the society does not conclude that I am asserting that there are never harmful substances in our alcoholic liquors. I simply take the ground that as compared with the alcohol their injurious effect is absolutely insignificant."

The Journal of Health has a most timely article by Dr. C. H. Shepard, of Brooklyn, who says that the primary cause of the gripe is the susceptibility of the system, and shows the foolishness of taking alcoholic stimulants. He adds: "Among the more prominent causes of susceptibility may be classed the almost universal habit of drug-taking, from the milder tonics to patent medicines. Whenever one is out of order in any way apparently the first thing to be done is to swallow something, instead of trying to find out the cause of the trouble and seeking to obviate it by regulating the habits of life. This drug habit tends continually to lower the tone of the system, and the more it is indulged in the more apparent becomes the necessity of continuing the down-hill course. A large amount of the deterioration of our people is due to the use of alcoholic tonics, or stimulants, as they are sometimes called. The majority of persons do not look beyond the fact that they seem to feel better after the use of stimulants, but this comes from the benumbing action of the alcohol itself and never from any building-up action of the drug because it has no such action."

It was stated at a late meeting of the St. Petersburg Hygienic Society that two of the oldest tribes in the Russian Empire, the Ostjaken and the Samojeden, the original inhabitants of Siberia, are fast dying out, and will before long have to be numbered among the extinct races of human history. The districts which have been inhabited by these tribes are already becoming desolate wastes. Two direct causes and one indirect cause were given by different speakers for this melancholy phenomenon. The direct causes are want of sufficient nourishment and the increasing use of spirituous drinks. The indirect cause and the original blame is attributed to that old and world-wide offender against aboriginal races, the greedy mercantile adventurer. Merchants, with their heartless middlemen, have been in the habit of visiting these tribes every year, and have managed to expropriate them of nearly everything by an iniquitous system of barter. It has been the recognized "custom of the trade" to make the poor Samojeden drunk before beginning to do "business," as this made it easy for the "merchant" to get his wares at a price ridiculously below their real value.

A Chance for Litterateurs.
The Dr. Williams Medicine Company, of Brockville, which does nothing by halves, is out with a scheme which is not only praiseworthy in its inception, but which is liberal in its terms. In order to develop the literary ability of Canada, and at the same time afford ample encouragement to those who may successfully participate in the competition, the proprietors of the celebrated Pink Pills have decided to offer \$300, divided into five prizes, for the best five original stories, of not more than 3,000 words. The amount is a liberal one, and will be divided into sums of \$100, \$75, \$50, \$40 and \$25, according to the merit of the story. The competition will be open to all who have never won a prize in a competition of the kind, and the results will no doubt prove the recklessness of those who assert that Canada has no literature of the higher type.

Sir Henry Thompson, the most noted physician of England, says that more than half of all diseases come from errors in diet. Garfield Tea, overcame results of bad eating, cures Sick Headache, restores the complexion, cures Constipation. Get a free sample from Garfield Tea Co., 271 Queen St., E. Toronto.

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True Sympathy.

The railway world witnesses daily so many piteous partings that weeping travelers seldom attract official notice, but Mr. G. A. Sala records an exceptional instance. It was at the time of our Civil War, and he was about departing for America, as correspondent of a great London daily.

My wife was bitterly opposed to my going to America at all, and the idea of traveling in a country convulsed by war so preyed upon her mind that she became positively ill. Still she insisted on coming to the railway terminus with me, and a party of friends were on the platform to give us a parting cheer.

It was a desperate moment; I had parted with all that was dear to me, and had flung myself in a very limp and boneless manner in a corner of the carriage of the mail. I glared feebly at the burly, bearded guard who thrust his head into the window. He leaned toward me, and in a voice hoarse with sympathy whispered:

"Excuse me, sir, but you have another three-quarters of a minute before the train starts, and you can get out and give the lady another hug!"

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