

rust, and this is the powerful degeneracy of this gigantic liquor traffic, which is raging a continuous, unrighteous warfare among our boys and girls, whose bodies and souls have to pay the price of our indifference. The boys and girls cry out for protection, and we mothers clamor also for their protection, knowing that this protection will pay its own dividend, but how can this protected time arrive if our White Ribboners, who ought to be thoroughly alive, do not embark in this investment.

We have 220 Unions reported for 1895, and out of this number only about 60 report having invested. What can we do, sisters, to arouse you upon this vital subject? We cannot expect to glean unless we sow. This Department has sent out 450 communications and 250 booklets; received replies to annual questions from 18 Provincial Superintendents; returns show 69 bands and 5,355 children for year on roll; expended \$10. So many Unions send the discouraging report:—"As we do something in Sunday School Work we do not think it necessary to have a Band of Hope." Now, if these Unions would only consider that the Sunday School has the Temperance Lesson taught only quarterly, generally, and would try and reason out logically how much a child could learn and digest under this regime, I am sure this reply would not be repeated.

I suppose the idea is to pledge the children, but this is only the skeleton we must clothe with facts and reasons, with the why's and wherefore's, to transform this skeleton into a living, tangible truth.

The counties report as follows:

MIDDLESEX—6 bands, 563 members; Working Boys' Club; an Industrial School; a Band of Mercy; 1 band contributed \$5.00 to Armenian fund; \$2.00 to lumbermen; and also sent delegate to Convention last year.

CARLETON—5 bands, 338 members, and Newsboys' Club; nightly attendance 50.

WATERLOO—2 bands, 307 members; 2 sewing schools.

OXFORD—3 bands, 311 members; kitchen garden.

GLENGARRY—2 bands, 105 members; sent 4 scrap-books to hospital, Montreal, and \$2.85 to Children's Aid Society, Toronto.

TORONTO—3 kitchen gardens, 40 members.

RENFREW—3 bands, 204 members; 1 medal contest.

LEEDS—3 medal contests; 4 bands, 172 members.

LINCOLN—5 bands, 159 members.

BRANT—6 bands, 585 members, 3 organized this year; distributed 2,300 leaflets.

LAMBTON—4 bands, 179 members; sent \$5.00 to Armenian fund.