

vention. The business of the Convention, vast in extent and variety, was conducted with order and decorum, spirit and ability, deserving all praise. While there was diversity of opinions, and strong feeling apparent, especially on the "political" question, yet there was no breach of parliamentary rules or exhibition of evil temper. This Convention settled the question that women are as capable as men of understanding and discussing the grave questions which agitate and interest the social and public weal of the nation. It was a grand, inspiring sight, to look upon such an assemblage of Christian women, intent on noble work, and consecrating their gifts and organized efforts to its promotion.

We have not space to note the proceedings. The President's address was very able, evincing a rare mastery of the situation, as well as tact, discretion, and charm of manner that won all hearts. We have but one regret, and that is that the Convention entered the arena of "Politics" and committed itself to the "Third Party." Personally I am a "Prohibitionist," and have been for more than forty years. Yet I regard this step as unwise in policy and deplorable in effect.

The organization now represents a membership of over 200,000 women, pledged to promote by all possible proper means the purity of home, the abolition of the saloon and the advancement of the cause of temperance. It is unsectarian, and its membership is limited to those who are in sympathy with the cause of temperance.

The Corresponding Secretary's report contains the following statistics of the National Union: Number of Unions, 7,371; membership, 164,243; Young Women's Unions, 958; membership, 21,278; Loyal Temperance Legions, 3,427; membership, 163,743; Coffee Houses and Friendly Inns, 453; money raised by Local Unions, \$227,948.07; received by State, \$52,926.46; convention organizers, 753; county and district conventions held, 694; States having Scientific Temperance laws (besides all the Territories and the District of Columbia), 21.

We give space in this connection, by request, to the following petition of the World's W. C. T. U., of which Miss Willard is also the President:

"PETITION OF THE WORLD'S W. C. T. U. FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE HOME. ADDRESSED TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE WORLD.

*Honored Rulers, Representatives and Brothers:*

We, your petitioners, although belonging to the physically weaker sex, are strong of heart to love our homes, our native land, and the world's family of nations.

We know that clear brains and pure hearts make honest lives and happy homes, and that by these the nations prosper, and the time is brought nearer when the world shall be at peace.

We know that indulgence in alcohol and opium, and in other vices which disgrace our social life, make misery for all the world, and most of all for us and for our children.

We know that stimulants and opiates are sold under legal guarantees which make the governments partners in the traffic, by accepting as revenue a portion of the profits, and we know with shame that they are often forced by treaty upon populations, either ignorant or unwilling.

We know that the law might do much, now left undone, to raise the moral tone of society, and render vice difficult.

We have no power to prevent these great iniquities beneath which the whole world groans, but you have power to redeem the honor of the nations from an indefensible complicity.

We therefore come to you with the united voices of representative women of every land, beseeching you to raise the standard of the law to that of Christian morals, to strip away the safeguards and sanctions of the state from the drink traffic and the opium trade, and to protect our homes by the total prohibition of these curses of civilization throughout all the territory over which your government extends.

On the back of each petition slip is found provision for the indorsement of men and of gatherings of any and all kinds that by vote will join their plea with ours. This petition has been in circulation wherever the voice of our organization is heard, but the measure of effort in our own land bears unfavorable comparison with that elsewhere put forth. Mrs. Deitch, President of the Ceylon W. C. T. U., has forwarded signatures to the number of 33,797, and these from Tamil, Singhalese, English, Bengali, Marathi, Gujarati, Santali, and Hindustani men and women of the Island of Ceylon, while we of the United States have not largely exceeded that number. Mrs. Leavitt writes of it in sorrow, and have we not reason to fear that our Lord will say, 'I have somewhat against