

WCTU New Zealand

Volume 63, No 3  
Spring 2008

# WHITE RIBBON DIGEST

*"Promoting a Lifestyle Free of Alcohol  
and other Drugs"*



*Why white camellias for Suffrage? See page four.*

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**  
**19th September, Suffrage day**  
**9th September, Bells ring, FAS**

**Plus more**

**WHITE RIBBON DIGEST**

**New Zealand Women's Christian Temperance Union (Inc)**  
**Organised 1885**

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Organised 1885**

*"For God Home and Humanity"*

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**Choice Words**

"Sometimes we're so concerned about giving our children what we never had growing up, we neglect to give them what we did have growing up."

*Dr James Dobson*

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**FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PEN**

Samuel Plimsoll was involved in the coal trade in the 19th century. He was very concerned with the deaths of hundreds of seamen who lost their lives because of greedy ship owners overloading the ships causing many to founder. Most of the ships were covered by insurance and the owners were not concerned with the seamen's deaths.



Samuel Plimsoll came up with a simple but effective idea, that every ship needed a load-line indicating when it was overloaded.

He started a campaign to lobby parliamentarians. He then ran for the British Parliament in 1868 and was elected. For the next 14 years he fought on until the Bill was passed in 1876 which led him to be called the 'sailor's friend'.

The Plimsoll line remains today as a measure of safety in the marine trade.

How we need a Plimsoll line in dealing with our liquor laws to bring in a level of safety when dealing with a very unpredictable drug, alcohol.

Liquor licenses are granted too liberally into areas where there is already a surplus and in unsuitable areas, with liquor available from restaurants, bars, taverns, hotels, night-clubs, supermarkets, dairies, and sports clubs. Our organisation, for many years, lobbied Members of Parliament not to allow alcohol to be sold in premises outside of hotels but the pressure from the brewers who didn't care where it was sold was too strong for those who opposed it.

Today's headlines read 'NZ is drowning in alcohol' and 'NZ Awash in Liquor' and many others but it seems to be a case of whistling into the wind. We need dedicated men like Plimsoll who worked tirelessly to save the lives of hundreds of seamen, a group not very high up the social order of the day. Where are our Christian leaders who will speak out? We need God to raise up another Billy Sunday and William Booth to wake up the Churches.

Now we have a proliferation of drinking venues and we wonder why we see so many young people, and not so young, binge-drinking. Unfortunately, many of our young people are from Christian homes where their parents excuse their own drinking habits by saying they drink in moderation or that the Bible condones it! Shame on them to make their own children and weaker brothers and sisters stumble.

Where are our Christian men and women who will wake up, look around them and see alcohol for what it is, an unpredictable, dangerous drug and join others who want to help those caught in this trap.

*Molly Aitchison*

## SUFFRAGE REMEMBRANCE ~ 19th September 2008

This is a very important year with our general election to be held later.

It is sad today to see so many young women not interested in voting. If they knew the struggle and determination of the women back in the 1880s to gain the vote with the aim to improve their lot and gain equal rights for future generations, today's women would realise how important it is not to throw away their opportunity when it does not cost them anything. We salute our pioneer women who 115 years ago obtained the vote for women in New Zealand the first country in the world to do so and we proudly celebrate 19th September 1893 as we remember the sacrifices they made to do so.

New Zealand has developed a recent habit of attempting to rewrite history or blur the facts. By doing this much of our early history of our pioneers and in this case many women's sacrificial work has been forgotten or side-lined.

The NZ Women's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) was formed in 1885 after a visit from world-wide WCTU organiser Mrs Mary Clement Leavitt from Boston, USA.

Many women were ready to welcome the aims of this organisation to help protect their homes. Many were downtrodden with large families and little money to support them as their husbands spent large amounts on alcohol, creating poverty at home.

In the early years of WCTU the women knew that the only way to improve their lot was to obtain the crucial right to vote.

By this time Kate Sheppard, a devoted Christian had joined the ranks of the WCTU and because of her organisational skills was elected Franchise and Legislative Department Superintendent. Throughout the country she organised the WCTU members to collect signatures on a petition. Many rode horses inland to isolated settlements, others pushed prams over rough unsealed roads and footpaths. No cars, computers or email to help. They continued collecting for six years often with strong opposition from most men. At last they had gathered 31,872 signatures. Then on September 19, 1893 Parliament passed the Franchise Bill.

The white camellia was presented by WCTU members to every member of Parliament who supported the Franchise Bill and to this day is the symbol of this occasion.

WCTU went on to introduce early social welfare into NZ with crèches, the first maternity hospital in Southland, kindergartens, Maori Girls and other hostels,

restrooms, tearooms and sailors' rests. Much of this work was later taken on by Churches and Government.

Kate Sheppard continued in the work of WCTU and became their Editor of The White Ribbon Digest as well as Legal Director. At the same time she commenced the National Council of Women (NCW) in 1896, three years after the Franchise as many groups did not see their way clear to adopt the complete WCTU policies. Kate Sheppard first NCW President. Her picture is on the NZ \$10 note and on the cover of the digest.



### WHAT NOW?

Did NCW ever write and publish the White Ribbon? No, but this is on the website on [http: www.nzedge.com/heroes/sheppard.html](http://www.nzedge.com/heroes/sheppard.html)

“Kate Sheppard was elected president of the National Council of Women in 1896 and served in that role for the next three years. The NCW published its own newspaper, **The White Ribbon**, which was entirely written and run by women, then the only New Zealand paper to do so. It also held an annual conference debating political issues and issues of relevance to women's equality, which was widely reported in newspapers and so high in prominence that it was often referred to as the Women's Parliament.”

*(I hope that whoever put this on the website will correct it.)*

## RESPONSE TO HORROR

A spate of violent offences in South Auckland, including three homicides in just over a week, has understandably spread fear into the community. Indeed, it's caught the attention of the whole country.

As police and politicians begin to try to make sense of a series of senseless events, the focus has fallen – as it does in regard to so many social problems in this country – on liquor. Specifically, Prime Minister Helen Clark has signalled her Government's intention to look for ways to restrict the number of liquor licenses and widen the grounds on which the public can object to licenses being granted.

There's an element about this whole sorry situation of reaping what we, as a society, have sown. For the last 19 years, since the Sale of Liquor Act was passed by Parliament, it has been that much easier for businesses to obtain liquor licenses. But the effect of that appears to have been largely lost on us. Now, in the wake of two weeks of carnage, it seems we've woken up with a start to a problem that has actually been building for nearly two decades. Like death by a thousand pinpricks.

Figures released a couple of days ago indicated the number of licensed premises had more than doubled, from 6295 to 14,970 since 1989, so Helen Clark is not wrong when she says that what many "would have considered a dairy has been turned into a grog shop in a number of cases."

But a growth in the number of liquor outlets isn't the whole answer to what lies at the heart of the problem now confronting us. The lowering of the drinking age has certainly made a contribution by making it possible for people to have legal access to the booze in all extra outlets at an earlier age. Again, it's a situation those who voted for it walked into with their eyes open.

And then there's a younger generation out there, which appears to be largely lacking in guidance from parents or other responsible adults, which is increasingly choosing to drink to excess, to the point where whatever happened on the night in question becomes a 'blur'. The Alcohol Advisory Council has, for several years, been hammering the message, "It's not the drinking, it's how we're drinking," but it doesn't seem to be hitting home.

Parliament should not hold back from the signalled intent to limit liquor licenses, and even to develop so-called local alcohol strategies to deal with particular problem areas, but it needs to go further from a legislative point of view and return the drinking age to 20.

At the same time, however, parents and caregivers need to be more conscious of the boundaries that are put in place for their kids when it comes to alcohol use, as well as the example they present to those kids through the way they use it themselves.

## CHILD ABUSE LINKED WITH ABORTION?

"Child abuse numbers have increased alongside abortion figures," said Mrs Carmel Armstrong who is 'Voice for Life' South Canterbury President. Mrs Armstrong, continued, "Violence within the womb does not solve violence outside of it."

Campaigners for legal abortions in the 1970s claimed that it would reduce child abuse as every child would be a wanted child but this has not been the case. Child abuse figures have grown instead. There were nearly 18,380 abortions last year in New Zealand. The reason referring doctors gave for 99 per cent of women seeking abortions was that their mental health could be severely affected.

Canadian and American studies which followed the progress of women, who had abortions, were found in many cases less likely to bond with subsequent children and therefore these offspring were more likely to be abused or neglected. Not all mothers who had an abortion were bad mothers. Studies are continuing on this issue. Some of the reasons suggested for this link between child abuse and abortion may be that the woman was pressurised into an unwanted abortion which has caused grieving from the loss, or anger problems as a result.

## NZ ABORTION RATE RISES

New Zealand abortion figures continue to spiral and latest figures show that New Zealand with over 18,380 abortions performed last year has the highest abortion rate amongst the OECD countries. Mrs Armstrong said that it was a shock to her that about a third were repeat abortions. With some women coming back seven or eight times her concern is that the women's mental and physical health is being compromised. She said, "No one asks what happens to the woman post abortion, we know what happens to the baby."



Mrs Carmel Armstrong

Mrs Armstrong said that she would like to see a New Zealand study on the future impact for post-abortion women, which covered premature birth, miscarriage, health and family. Professor David Fergusson for the Christchurch Health and Development Study research, carried out a study which suggested a strong link between abortion and subsequent mental illness but this has not been followed up on by the authorities.

The average age for women having abortions is 25 years of age.

Mrs Armstrong concluded, "I can't think of any problem that abortion has solved."

## MENTAL HEALTH OUTCOMES

Voice for Life have submitted the following remit to National Council of Women (NCW) for their September National Conference 2008 in Masterton.

That NCWNZ ask Government to implement the call of Professor David Fergusson of the Christchurch School of Medicine, for further research into the mental health outcomes for women experiencing unplanned pregnancy, by requesting the Health Research Council to initiate further research into this area.

Notes: Professor Fergusson's longitudinal study of a cohort of children born in 1977 is the most detailed long-term study to date. It showed that approximately a doubling of the rate of depression among women who had had abortions.

Professor Fergusson himself, is internationally recognised and is ranked by his peers as being among the top 100 researchers in the world.

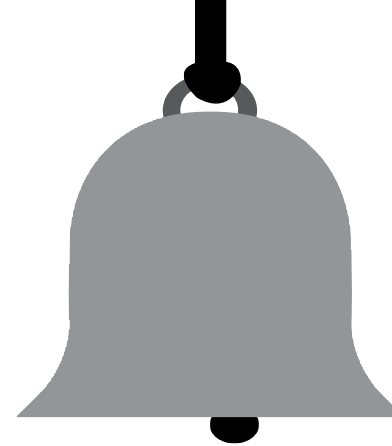
In line with Professor Fergusson's study are the results of a survey run by the mainstream women's magazine, 'Next'. While not necessarily strictly scientific, that survey indicates that one in eight respondents had undergone abortion, and of those, the great majority ~ 83% had suffered depression as a result.

Since the NCW Conference in 2006 other overseas surveys have shown concern about mental health outcomes. For example, in a statement on March 14 this year, one of the most prestigious psychiatric bodies in the world has issued warnings that women are not sufficiently warned of abortion's potentially devastating psychological effects. In a complete reversal of their former position, the United Kingdom's Royal College of Psychiatrists said that women should not be given an abortion until they are counselled on the possible risk to their mental health. This new position highlights Professor Fergusson's statement that the research needs to be done to sort this out on behalf of women, and that if we were providing a drug, we certainly wouldn't be operating in this climate of ignorance. Ironically, the latest figures for abortion in New Zealand in 2006 showed that virtually 99% of the 18,000 abortions were approved on the grounds that continuing with the pregnancy would be a risk to the women's mental health.

CEDAW Article 12 (2) says, "... States Parties shall ensure to women appropriate services in connection with pregnancy, confinement and the post-natal period..."

(NCW Circular No. 513)

*A man was sitting on an outside seat on a railway station platform puffing on a pipe, when a woman came and sat beside him. She remarked, "If you were a gentleman you wouldn't smoke here." "Mum", he replied, "If you were a lady you would sit further away." After a silence the angry woman burst out again, "If you were my husband I'd give you poison!" "Well", he replied as he puffed on his pipe, "If you were my wife, I'd take it."*



## Sobering Thoughts

### CHURCH BELLS TO WARN OF FAS RISKS

**~ FAS Day ~  
9.09am 9th day of the 9th month  
(September)**

In some countries in the world and some towns and cities in NZ church bells will ring out their warning of the dangers of drinking alcohol during pregnancy. The bells will ring for one minute at 9.09 am on 9th September. The emphases on the number nine is that a pregnancy takes nine months.

The message to those planning pregnancy or already pregnant is that "when you drink, so does your baby".

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum (FAS) is a 100% preventable condition and can be avoided by abstaining from alcohol during this time.

There is no known safe amount that can be taken.

FAS is the leading cause of mental retardation and associated social and behavioural problems. These can range from mild up to extremely severe.

With this serious nature of the present day phenomenon of binge-drinking amongst the young and not so young women, who boast that they drink to get drunk to have a good time, is it not a recipe for future more brain-damaged babies?

Our health authorities must become more pro-active and take drastic steps to get out this message. The secondary schools are a good place to start and there would be women who have had FAS children who would be prepared to take this message into the schools if they were given an opportunity.

There was a time when this condition was not known or understood and women were ignorant of what alcohol could do to their unborn child. Now this is not the case as the health authorities do have the facts and need to act more than they are doing now.

It is very important that families with FAS babies and children get the help and support they need and not have a guilt trip put on them. There is a need for more doctors, nurses and teachers trained to recognise and diagnose and start early treatment. Although there is no cure, early treatment can help these victims improve their quality of life. In some areas there are support groups which keep their members in touch with the latest treatments and support each other.

Help us to get this message out to every woman in NZ.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### CHINA:

As well as attempting to clear up the smog and other pollutants, Chinese authorities are encouraging their citizens to give up smoking to impress visitors and competitors to the Olympic Games (Hopefully they will be concerned for the people's health as well.)

### G.A.L.A. GROUP AGAINST LIQUOR ADVERTISING:

At a recent AGM of Gala, Dr Viola Palmer resigned as National President after many years of devoted service, but she will remain an active member in the Wellington area. Thank you Viola for your commitment. Mrs Judy McAnulty of Auckland is the new National President.

### HANDWIPE FLUID:

Attention has been drawn to the notice of staff at hospitals, rest homes and clinics, of the misuse of alcohol based infection control hand wash. Deaths and severe reactions can occur if this is ingested. It can be taken accidentally by young children and confused elderly or intentionally by those with alcohol addiction in residential care.

### GAMBLING GRANTS:

Christchurch Cathedral has accepted \$380,000 of gaming profits to help pay for restoration of its buildings. Its authorities have been accused by the Problem Gambling Foundation of selling out when the profits from pokie machines are in part a dividend of the misery and suffering caused by gambling addiction. Other churches are also applying for these grants. How can the churches speak out against this social harm if they reap the benefit from it. If they do, there is a word for that.

### U.S. STUDY:

Has revealed that nearly 40% of primary school aged children have consumed alcohol, some without their parents knowledge.

Pre-mix cocktails in colourful 750ml bottles are now available as an alternative to wine or expensive cocktails in bars and again aimed at young women.

### WHITE ROSE DAY:

Aimed at getting repeat drinking drivers off NZ roads was officially launched on Boxing Day. [www.safe-nz.org.nz](http://www.safe-nz.org.nz) About 29,000 drink-drivers were prosecuted in 2006. A third caught were repeat offenders and more than 3,000 had at least three drink driving convictions.

Another drink recently launched in Britain and aimed at the young female drinkers is 'Pink Port' It is said to smell like a rose but the taste of fruit and alcohol come through. A critic describes it as, "tasting rather cheap and is worryingly close to the alcopop market".

### CONGRATULATIONS TO CENTENARIAN:

Addington, Christchurch Centenarian Mrs Caroline McArthur has lived a very eventful life and recently turned 100. She contributes her long life to following her parents' advice. Her father said that was no such thing as can't and her politically-minded mother who was involved with the Women's Christian Temperance Union, which contributed to Mrs McArthur's long-life, anti-alcohol views and Christian beliefs.

## TRASHED

In a recent Australian documentary various disturbing scenes were shown of out of control binge-drinking young people who were drinking for the sole purpose of getting drunk and the same scenario is played out in many towns and cities of NZ. There has always been a competitive sporting rivalry between Australia and New Zealand with each having their share of being number one.

As to who would win the liquor stakes in regards to youth binge-drinking it looks like a draw. This is something which the M.P.'s of both countries are starting to express concern about. It would be good to see both local and central governments come to real grips with this and start positive measures such as lowering the drinking age and penalising those adults who supply liquor to underage youth, including parents and guardians. There will be reviews and more reviews held as they tinker around the edges that make no difference to the problem. As this goes on and on more young people are being admitted comatose and injured into emergency departments. This clogs the system and holds up the hospital staff and time and those wanting urgent attention for serious medical attention have to wait, and wait....

"While women weep, as they do now, I'll fight; while children go hungry, as they do now, I'll fight.

While men go to prison, in and out, in and out, as they do now, I'll fight.

While there is a drunkard left, while there is a poor lost girl upon the street, while there remains one dark soul without the light of God, I'll fight, I'll fight to the end!"

*General William Booth (Founder of the Salvation Army)*

**EDITORIAL ~ The Aucklander 26-6-08**

**By Ewan McDonald, Editor in Chief**

So the Governments 'going to act' on liquor stores. Where were they a year ago when ... WE TOLD YOU SO, HELEN!

There is a familiar ring to an announcement from the Prime Minister this week, "It seems to me inevitable," Helen Clark noted airily, "that Parliament will have to review some of the consequences of the 1989 liquor legislation".

"This is a matter I am personally taking extremely seriously."

We are not at all abashed to say; "Helen, we told you so."

Last August, 'The Aucklander', extensively reported how the 1989 Liquor licensing law took away the public's right to object to who could open a booze shop or bar in their neighbourhood, how many could open, and where they could be situated.

We told how that led to 1250 per cent boom in alcohol outlets. The PM finally noticed this figure last week ~ almost a year after we started shouting about it. We followed our reports with a petition seeking to restore your rights to object to the proliferation of booze vendors in our communities. Within weeks we had several thousands of signatures from everyday Aucklanders, families, community boards and alcohol campaigners.

We told the PM (an Auckland MP, remember) about your concerns. Her office passed the buck to Justice Minister Mark Burton. He didn't take any notice. And he didn't reply to our questions this week about why he sat on his hands.

Finally we approached Jim Anderton, a cabinet minister known for campaigning on liquor and drug issues. His response was about as strong as your nana's shandy. We got the impression that politicians in Wellington ~ as opposed to your community board's police and licensing officials ~ didn't see this as an issue.

At last it seems, we have been heard. But why did it take so long? The PM is refusing to say. Our questions were fended of by press secretary Gordon John Thompson. "Have you seen or read the Prime Minister's post-Cabinet press statement from Monday night? The Prime Minister very clearly set out her concerns about what the Government was going to do about this issue."

Yes, we did see. But now, we challenge our Government to go beyond the words we waited so long for.

Here are some more words for action, Helen.

- Audit all existing licensed premises. Set a maximum number of licenses for each area and close excess premises down.
- No replacements for licensed premises in residential areas where there has been alcohol-related problems. Once the license ends on a premise, that's it.
- Tax ready to drink (RTDs) concoctions heavily. They have no merit beyond making hard spirits easy to drink, and for attracting fashion-conscious teenagers.
- Harsher penalties and stricter enforcement of existing laws for anyone supplying alcohol to minors.
- Commission studies on why New Zealanders are drinking so heavily.

Restore the rights of everyday people to object to booze shops opening in their neighbourhoods.

(WRD. ED. I can't possibly make any comment except to say that on top of this list I would add the urgent need to have a legal purchase and drink age of at least 20 years.)

FOR SALE

Auckland Union has for sale copies of

Wine in the Bible \$12.00 each

Challenge Not A Truce

\$10.00 each

Plus \$5.00 postage and packaging.

A talented but conceited actor once waxed on about his performance in his latest play to his dinner host, a prominent screen director. The actor said, of his previous nights role, "I had the audience glued to their seats." To which the writer replied, "How clever of you to think of that!"

## WHO IS WATCHING YOU?

Several years ago, a preacher from out-of-state accepted a call to a church in Houston, Texas. Some weeks after he arrived, he had an occasion to ride a bus from his home to the downtown area. When he sat down, he discovered that the driver had accidentally given him a quarter too much in change. As he considered what to do, he thought to himself, 'You'd better give the change back. It would be wrong to keep it.' Then he thought, 'Oh, forget it, it's only a quarter. Who would worry about this little amount. Anyway, the bus company gets too much fare; they will never miss it. Accept it as a 'gift from God' and keep quiet'.

When his stop came, he paused momentarily at the door, and then handed the quarter to the driver and said "Here, you gave me too much change."

The driver, with a smile, replied "Aren't you the new preacher in town?" "Yes" he replied. "Well, I've been thinking a lot lately about going somewhere to worship. I just wanted to see what you would do if I gave you too much change. I'll see you in church on Sunday."

When the preacher stepped off the bus, he literally grabbed the nearest light pole, held on and said "Oh God. I almost sold your Son for a quarter."

Our lives are the only Bible some people will ever read. This is a really scary example of how much people watch us as Christians, and will put us to the test. Always be on guard – and remember – you carry the name of Christ on your shoulders when you call yourself 'Christian'.

*Watch your thoughts; they become words.*

*Watch your words; they become actions.*

*Watch your actions; they become habits.*

*Watch your habits; they become character.*

*Watch your character; it becomes your destiny.*

The **Will of God** will never take you where the **Grace of God** will not protect you. Stay **Faithful** and be **Grateful**.

*(emailed in by a WCTU member)*

## SUPERMARKET GETS THE THUMBS DOWN

Progressive Enterprises supermarket owners have made a bold bid to put full liquor licensed stores within their supermarkets.

It has been known for some time supermarket bosses have been planning on how to present a good case to the Liquor Licensing Authority. Rather poor timing when the public are concerned on the invasion of numerous liquor outlets and premises into the communities.

Already supermarkets and dairies are licensed to sell beer and wine at discount prices, which is a contributing factor to our escalating liquor problems.

In what has been seen as a test case, the Liquor Licensing Authority has refused their application for a full liquor license by Countdown's new Christchurch store in Moorhouse Avenue.

Sergeant Al Lawn of the Christchurch Police liquor licensing department welcomed the decision but condemned the Australian owned supermarket chain owners. He said that the supermarket bosses were in it for the money and were not interested in what happened to the community in which it would be placed. He believed that the supermarket wanted to sell alco-pops, the pre-mixed spirit drinks, ready-to-drink (RTDs) that is geared towards young people, especially young girls and women. No doubt this case was just testing the waters and it should not be too long before another application is made, in another areas. Watch this space.

Be vigilant in your area and if necessary ready to prepare submissions to local City or District Council's Liquor Licensing Authority to object for any increase in full licenses that are applied for by any supermarket or dairy. Check the daily newspaper's Public Notices for these.

*A disorganised editor sorted out her desk with two trays marked "Urgent" and "Extremely Urgent" and the waste paper basket labelled "Too Late."*



**OBITUARIES**

**Mrs Zeta Hayward**

Died 6 February 2008 at Taranaki, aged 94 years.

Zeta was a long-time WCTU member of New Plymouth Union.

She held the position of National Treasurer during the 1960s.

Our condolences to family and friends.



**Mrs Iris Margaret Reid**

7 August 1920 - 3 April 2008

Iris had been a member of the Auckland Union for about seven years but ill health of her husband kept her unable to attend meetings for the past two years.

Her happy disposition and ready smile is sadly missed.

Our sympathy to her husband and family.

**Mrs Mavis Ethel Snodgrass**

26 June 1915 - 26 April 2008

The funeral service for Mavis was held at St. Stephen's Methodist Church, Brookfield, Tauranga where her family and friends gathered to celebrate her life.

Mavis has had a busy life with family and Church activities. She was a member of the Methodist Church all her life and a WCTU member for many years. She was involved with the Bible Society and she loved learning from the Scriptures.

She will be sadly missed by family and friends and our sympathy goes out to them.



**Marie Esson Herbert**

8.9.1929 - 29.3.2008

An arm to aid the weak, A friendly hand to the friendless;

Kind words so quick to speak, But whose echo is endless;

The world is wide, These things are small:

They may be nothing – but they are all.

Esson was this kind of person. She helped packing and delivering food parcels to those in need. Her car was always available to take people to and from hospital and doctors appointments and she visited the sick.

She was a trained nurse and later she and her husband raised a family of six daughters on a dairy farm.

She represented her Blenheim Seventh Day Adventist Church and the WCTU very well and was a true friend to all.

*Hamilton/Cambridge Union*

**Mrs Margaret Jones**

6.09.17 - 30.03.08 90 years young

Margaret was a devoted Christian. During the second world war she was man powered to Wellington to help in the war effort.

After the war she returned to Hamilton and married Alfred, a widower with six children. They then had a son and daughter.

Margaret was always interested in living a drug free life style and loved making much of their food as well as baking, jams, jellies and grape juice. She continued doing this until she went into a rest home last year.

She had a delightful sense of humour and was a wonderful encourager and friend to many. She was a faithful WCTU worker for her Union, turning her hand to all tasks to help the local Union in many aspects of the work and is sadly missed.



**Mrs Dora Louisa Smith**

29.11.1920 - 2.05.2008

Dora was a much loved member of WCTU in the Auckland area for over 40 years, was a part of a foundational family in the suffrage movement in NZ. Her mother Mrs M Melvin, grandmother, Mrs D Melvin, sister Clarice Smith and daughter Mrs Averil Groom making four generations of members.

She was a quiet and friendly person who inspired others in the work of WCTU. Her husband, Austin was also a great supporter of WCTU.

She loved the Lord, working tirelessly for the good of others and spent much time in prayer, a true prayer warrior, and who loved Bible study to the end. She now awaits His return.



***A Challenge Not a Truce***

*Have you a spare copy of  
A Challenge Not A Truce  
which you could gift to Headquarters Library?*

*If so could you please send it to  
Mrs Ruth Gray, 3 Piko Street, Nelson.*

*Thank you.*

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*"To reduce health and social problems by promoting a lifestyle free of alcohol and other drugs."*

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*You can assist the NZWCTU by becoming a member and/or subscriber to the WHITE RIBBON DIGEST.*

By signing the following pledge you may become a member of this organisation. "I affirm my life-long pledge of total abstinence from all intoxicating liquor as a beverage, and my willingness to pursue all proper means to discourage and prevent its use in society. I pledge myself to work and pray to this end by endeavouring to promote a personal purity of life, free from the menace of narcotic poisons and drugs, claiming always the promised guidance and help of God.

Signed .....

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