



Dear friends

We are half way through another year. What have you accomplished for God, for WCTU? Have you spoken up for truth, for purity, for an alcohol, drugs and tobacco free life? Have you spoken to a child or a young person and shown that you care about and love them? I urge you to do so before it is too late. I am shocked at various reports and studies from around the world that indicate that our task is serious. But I'm also encouraged to see the progress and obvious signs of God's blessing in many places in the Pacific area and Africa.

News from Africa

- Elsie Masuku is growing WCTU's influence in **Zimbabwe** and now into **Zambia**, Africa. She has been invited to help start something in Zambia and that is thrilling news. Please pray for Elsie as she finds a way to go there and spread the WCTU message.
- The Turning Point and WCTU Rehabilitation centre in Ongata Rongai, Nairobi, **Kenya** is having success and young men are turning from drugs and becoming new men in Christ. Pastor John Macharia and Florence Onsando are speaking to 100s of young people all the time with 100s signing the pledge.

News from the Pacific

- Marica Tokelau in **Fiji**, Pacific Ocean area, is finding ways to enter schools and teach the WCTU message.
- Beatrice Kemo in Port Moresby, **PNG** is planning a convention for October 16-19, 2017. For those of you in PNG who wish to attend - start saving and planning to be there.

New Research

New research and studies on the use of the DAT (drugs, alcohol, tobacco) are being documented and circulated all the time. It is imperative that we know some of the facts. This can help us in our work and make us credible reporters. Here is one report that is important to know about - <http://www.bbc.com> 'Smoking causes one in 10 deaths, a new study shows, half of them in just four countries - China, India, the US and Russia. Despite decades of tobacco control policies, population growth has seen an increase number of smokers, it warned. Researchers said mortality could rise further as tobacco companies aggressively targeted new markets, especially in the developing world....it found that nearly one billion people smoked daily in 2015.....some countries had succeeded in efforts to help people quit, mostly through a combination of higher taxes, warnings on packages and education programmes...Russia saw smoking among



Pastor John Macharia sharing the temperance pledge with some of his family in Kenya.

women rise by 4% and similar trends were emerging in parts of Africa, the authors warned.”

Herewith is an attachment with more research that could be helpful to you and which teaches - ABSTINENCE is best. www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/even-moderate-drinking-causes-atrophy-in-brain-area-related-to-memory-learning/2017/06/23/7e07debc-576c-11e7-ba90-f5875b7d1876_story.html?utm_term=.c899c5b8ef46

A report I heard on BBC World Radio recently reported the success of a woman in **Rwanda**, Africa, selling home-made beer. This had brought her out of poverty. How sad that this has to be so. We must teach, preach and proclaim the message of Jesus and pure living.

I urge you to speak up, preach up, write up - use every opportunity and find ways to share the WCTU message.

Prayers Pointers

- Election time in Kenya and Papua New Guinea now
- Noontime prayer for WCTU - every day
- World Convention in 2019 to be in Helsinki, Finland

Dates to Remember during 2017

- September 9 International FASD Awareness Day
- September 28 WCTU World Day of Prayer
- October 2 No Alcohol Day

Mitroy and I met together today to pray for you and the world WCTU. We prayed that we might all have courage, find ways and means to spread the message and to work in harmony.

and *Mitroy*

Joy Butler

2nd Vice President - World WCTU

Field Officer for Africa

Websites: www.wwctu.org www.drug-freeyouth.com

Facebook: WOW Unlimited; I'm Worth It - WCTU Teens

KATE SHEPPARD

New Zealand WCTU Leader - Suffrage Campaign



The temperance cause was intertwined with the campaign for votes for women in New Zealand in the 1880s and early 1890s. At the time all women were denied the vote, along with ‘juveniles, aliens, lunatics and criminals’. **Kate Sheppard, the WCTU’s national franchise and legislative WCTU department’s superintendent** was a woman of courage and persuasion, filled with energy, passion and commitment to the aims of WCTU - For God and Home and Every Land. The WCTU had been established in 1885. They believed, along with some others, that if women had the right to vote, governments would be more likely to pass laws to reduce or ban alcohol consumption. Therefore Kate mobilised, encouraged and coordinated women across the country to sign the suffrage petitions in 1891, 1892 and 1893. Nearly 32,000 signatures were obtained which represented nearly 30% of the women in

New Zealand at the time. This resulted in New Zealand becoming the first country in the world in which women were granted the vote in general elections.

Those original signatures, on a long glued-together parchment roll, are now safely stored in a new depository and display cabinet in the National Library of New Zealand. The official opening of this new exhibition took place in Wellington, New Zealand on 19 May, 2017. Kate Sheppard, along with other early NZ history makers, was honoured.

In 1895 the WCTU began publishing its own newspaper, the White Ribbon. Kate Sheppard was the papers's first editor.



Kate had come to New Zealand with her mother and siblings in 1869 at 22 years of age, after the father had died. She and her sister soon became concerned about justice for women and children. She was an early cyclist, just like Frances Willard was, and helped modernise clothing for women. She travelled to and campaigned for women's suffrage in England and America. She married Walter Sheppard, a wealthy merchant and they had one son. She outlived both of them and her one granddaughter. Kate helped set up the National Council of Women in New Zealand and she became the first president in 1896.

Memorials, streets, bank notes, houses in schools, a play - have all been named in honour of this excellent lady. A number of green pedestrian lights in Wellington show her walking. She died in 1934, aged 87 years and is buried in Christchurch, New Zealand. She will long be remembered and is honoured on Women's Suffrage Day or White Camellia Day on 19 September each year.