

In Memoriam

MRS. JANE BRIDGMAN (Oamaru Union)

The members of the Oamaru W.C.T.U. desire to place on record their sincere appreciation of the work of the late Mrs. Jane Bridgman.

As the wife of a Methodist minister she saw much of the evil effects of strong drink, and for over fifty years worked loyally to uphold our motto.

She held various offices, including that of President; when, under her good leadership, good progress was made in our work in all branches; but probably as Devotional Superintendent she most excelled, for she loved her Bible and its message, never missing an opportunity as a preacher, or in any way she could, of speaking of the Master she loved to serve.

Her willingness to serve in the Temperance cause in every way, her energy, her enthusiasm for every good work, and her love of her fellow-men will always be remembered.

MRS. McWILLIAM (Winton Union)

On June 22nd, at her residence "Farringford," Mrs. McWilliam, widow of the late Mr. T. A. McWilliam, Winton, passed to her rest.

Both Mr. and Mrs. McWilliam were loyal members of the Presbyterian Church, Mr. McWilliam being an Elder for many years. Before her marriage Mrs. McWilliam was a teacher, and all her life, while she was able, she loved to teach in Sunday School and Bible Class the great truths of the Bible and the Christian life. She had an eager interest in young people, and her hospitable home was the scene of many happy gatherings; for, though a devout and earnest Christian, she had a spirit full of sympathy with all young life. Mrs. McWilliam was a stalwart in the Temperance cause, being a foundation member of the W.C.T.U. in Winton, and as an able and fluent speaker was at all times an advocate of the virtues of Temperance.

For the P.W.M.U. in Winton she was a tower of strength. Her wise counsel and clear vision, with her love of missions, made her an inspiration to the women of the Church.

Mrs. McWilliam was a lover of poetry and all good literature, so that her mind was stored with wise and beautiful truths. She was an admirer of Tennyson, and especially of his last great poem; but those who loved her and recalled her quiet, consistent Christian witness felt, when she passed away, that for her there was:—

"No moaning of the bar; but down
the tide,
The worn sails filling free,
The stately spirit barque in fearless
pride
Stands out to sea.

No "sadness of farewell," but from
the skies,
Like music faint and far,
One gathering shout of triumph
swells and dies
Beyond the morning star."

MRS. W. BISH AND MRS. D. HALLAM (Aramoho Union)

During the past months Aramoho Union has lost by death two of its members. Mrs. W. Bish was a member for quite a number of years, and at the time of her death was Secretary of our Union. She gave loyal service and is missed from the meetings. The branch attended the funeral service at her Church, the President conducting the "White Ribbon" Service. To her husband and son loving sympathy was expressed.

One of our foundation members, Mrs. D. Hallam, passed to her reward recently. She was a great worker many years ago in the Wanganui Central Union, and helped to form the Aramoho Union, being its President at one time. Her kindly advice was always helpful, and her attendance so regular that she was greatly missed when declining health made it impossible for her to attend. Sorrow came to her home in the sudden death of her blind son, followed four weeks later by the passing of her husband; and just four weeks later she passed away peacefully. Members attended her funeral, when the President took part in the funeral service. Our prayers go forth for the members of the family who have been thrice bereaved. Mrs. Hallam has left very saintly memories with those who were privileged to know her.

FACTORS IN DETERIORATION OF PERSONALITY

If you must drink, do not stand so close to persons with whom you converse; your breath stinks.

If you must drink, pick a safe and inconspicuous place to do your vomiting; not the sidewalk.

If you must drink, don't boast of it; people pity the victim of a drug; you're not a hero, you're a boor.

If you must drink, don't take a swig from your bottle in public; babies feed from bottles in public.

If you must drink, arrange so that you will not march through trains, buses, street cars, insulting citizens who will have to pay for your arrest.

If you must drink, don't chase your pink elephants around in public places where you intrude on the rights of others.

—Condensed from "Spotlight," Minneapolis, Minn.

"OVER AND ABOVE" REPORTS

"HOME MEETING"—ONEHUNGA UNION

On July 25th, at the residence of Mrs. Mountjoy, Onehunga, a "Home Meeting" was held. There was a good attendance. After Devotions, musical items were presented. An address on Missionary work was given by Mrs. C. Leadley, who with her husband spent eight years among the natives in the Solomon Islands. She gave much interesting information, telling of her work among the women and children, of their many hardships and diseases, and then of the remedies; and the unselfish care of missionaries and nurses. Native women now receive maternity care unknown before. Much of the speaker's time was spent visiting in the villages, always taking with her necessary remedies and her "First Aid" kit. Native women work very hard growing the food for their families, the war years being especially hard on them, as their homes being destroyed by Japanese they had to live in the bush. The very bright, interesting address was much appreciated.

—E. A. Musket.

MARLBOROUGH DISTRICT "DAY OF PRAYER"

The monthly "Women's Day of Prayer" was held in Blenheim on July 26th. The attendance was good; and the following ladies were in charge of the hourly session, which began at 10 a.m.: Mesdames N. Forbes, Kears, and Underhill, the organist being Mrs. E. Leslie.

Special prayers were offered on behalf of the Lionel Fletcher Mission to be held in Blenheim next month. One cannot attend these prayer meetings without being conscious of the presence of the Holy Spirit in the midst; and those who can remain all day feel at its close that they have indeed received a spiritual uplift.

—G. A. Leslie.

EXTRACT—"FIFTY YEARS OF NATIONAL EDUCATION IN N.Z., 1878-1928"

(From "Examination Day Answers," by T. R. Fleming, M.A., LL.B., ex-Senior Inspector of Schools, Otago.)

In a scholarship paper set just after the women obtained the franchise, the following answer was received to the question, "What People are Entitled to Vote in New Zealand?":—

"The women of New Zealand have now got the right to vote. It is thought that there will be better men in Parliament as the ladies will vote for those men who carry out their wishes, and their wishes will most likely be for doing away of the drink traffic, gambling and larrikinism, and they will want the Bible read in schools."

I wonder whether the lady retained the optimism of her youth.