

MRS. F. J. T. GRIGG, M.A.

The splendid series of articles we have published from the pen of Mrs. F. J. T. Grigg, entitled "Great Evangelists and Temperance," have made their writer's name familiar to all readers of our pages. It is, therefore, a matter of interest that her approaching departure from Christchurch to Wellington, following on the appointment of Mr. Grigg to Dominion Laboratories, has been the occasion of several gatherings in her honour. A report will be found elsewhere of one given by the District Executive, North Canterbury, of which Mrs. Grigg has been vice-president for the last two years. The Society of University Women, and the committee of the World's Day of Prayer, have both held similar gatherings. We quote from the report of the Christchurch branch of the N.C.W.'s farewell party the words of Miss Mary McLean, president of the Christchurch branch: "Mrs. Grigg has given unstintingly of her time, energy and ability to build causeways of friendship and understanding between component organisations of the council." Other speakers thanked Mrs. Grigg for the good humour, patience and the spirit of friendship she had shown to all members of the council, and expressed admiration for her fairness and strong Christian principles. In replying, Mrs. Grigg said that she had learned much from the N.C.W. A presentation was made in token of the branch's deep appreciation of all Mrs. Grigg had done during the four years of her secretaryship.

Mrs. Grigg expects to leave for Wellington as soon as land sales decisions are finalised.

FLASHLIGHTS

Speaking of the National Day of Prayer on July 6th, Mrs. Hampton, at the May meeting of the Gisborne Union urged all to pray for forgiveness of individual and national sins, adding that if the British Nation is to lead the way in post-war reconstruction, Divine aid MUST be sought by its peoples.

At the same meeting, Mrs. Morris recalled the great efforts made to win the franchise for women, and showed how necessary it was for the apathy on the part of some women to be removed before it could become law. "We also must stir ourselves and work individually for our cause," she said. "Our motto should be: 'The line shall not break where I stand.'"

At the same meeting of Gisborne Union a discussion took place on the radio talk given by the president of the Invercargill Licensing Trust; in which he had told of the enormous profits made by the Trust and the allotment of money among different organisations, including the Boy Scouts Association. Regret was expressed that beer-drinking should be "glamourised" over the radio network and that the Youth of New Zealand should be exploited in this way.

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Building for World Peace

I am convinced that we, as Christian women, have a remarkable opportunity for building for World Peace through International Friendship by beginning with our own Native Race, and **working at our job.**

Maori Hostel Movement

This is proving a great success, and the venture of Faith which the Auckland District Executive made in 1943, in opening the first Maori Hostel for Girls in Auckland has been amply justified. A Christian home, friendship and loving care have been extended to hundreds of Maori girls—the future citizens and mothers of our Native Race. Many girls, now married, and building Christian homes of their own, others teaching in Native schools, or filling positions elsewhere, write affectionately to "My Auckland Mother," or return "Home" at intervals for a happy holiday. The other five hostels in Auckland—three of which are run by the United Maori Mission, one each by Methodist and Presbyterian Churches—are also doing a splendid work for God and Maori Youth.

"Y" Work

The largest "Y" Branch in New Zealand is the "Rangimarie" one (which means "Peace"), and is carried on among the Hostel young people and their friends. The membership is over 70, the average attendance 50. (On special occasions, over 100 will attend.) The teaching given is evangelistic, scientific, and intensely practical. Young people are trained in leadership. Singing is a feature of all meetings.

Work Among Women

The organisation of Maori Unions has begun. The first one was started in Te Kuiti, in June. The prayer work of our Union and its crusade for total abstinence and the outlawing of the alcohol traffic made a great appeal to our Maori sisters. Twenty-one signed the Pledge at the inaugural meeting, and at the first Union meeting, two days later, eight more signed. Within a fortnight there were about 37 members. Their willingness to accept office was a real thrill to the heart of the organiser, and there are many fine workers in the Union. A Cradle Roll was started, two bright young mothers assuming responsibility for this splendid work. Other departments of work were initiated, officers were instructed, and we look forward to welcoming representatives to our next Dominion Convention.

A few days later at Otorohanga, a joint Union of Pakeha and Maori was organised. Several Maori women signed the Pledge. A Maori Cradle Roll was started, and oversight of the Maori work in the district was kindly undertaken by Sister Nicholls. We commend to your prayers our Maori sisters as we remember that they, with us, are—

"Joined in God's cause, heart to heart, hand to hand,
We all belong, we all belong."

A number of visits were paid to far-

out settlements, and good meetings of women addressed. Several pledges were signed. In some places, men attended too; and much interest was shown in the scientific talks on the Effect of Alcohol on the Brain. One man said: "That's one on me. I thought beer went to a man's legs and made him wobble. I didn't know it affected his brain!" Another man asked to sign the Pledge, and said: "I wish you had come here 30 years ago."

I had the pleasure of addressing a Tribal Committee, recently formed under the new Maori Act for the advancement of the Maori Race, in one centre. One of the leaders told the audience that he had signed the Pledge 40 years ago when Miss Hera Stirling addressed the boys at his college. He had never broken that Pledge, and now desired his wife and daughter to join the W.C.T.U.

In several other places, officials of Tribal Committees were contacted, and every one told me he was determined to keep beer out of his pa.

A Boys' Club, of about 70 Maori and Pakeha members, was addressed, and 15 signed the Pledge. Several had already signed.

Cottage meetings were held with small groups of neighbours, Devotional and Temperance talks given, Pledges signed, and members added to Te Kuiti Union.

A very interesting day was spent at Mokau, 50 miles distant, on the Tasman Sea coast. There was a very interested group; two women signed the Pledge and were linked to New Plymouth as associate members. One fine young man of 19 also signed. School children were addressed.

Clothes Sales

I attended quite a few of these, assisting as saleswoman or cashier. It was most interesting. The clothing is a real benefit to many mothers, and others as well. Children's clothes are in great demand, also men's for work. If any of you are pressed for room and desire to quit old clothes, household furnishings that are usable, etc., just parcel them up and address to Sister Nicholls, Matai Street, Te Kuiti. Support the Maori missionary of your own Church by all means, if you have any; but, if not, here is an open door. The proceeds help the funds of the mission.

What Union Members Could Do

Pray for the Maori people; for your Maori sisters in the Union; for the missionary and temperance work being done among them.

Prayer will lead to understanding and friendship. **Friendship** will open up avenues of service. **Service** will draw two great races together and unite Pakeha and Maori in a strong Christian citizenship, which is the sure foundation of national and international peace.

CATHERINE McLAY.