

A TRIBUTE TO MRS. PERYMAN

By J. HIETT

I met Mrs. Peryman first when her husband was Methodist minister at Port Chalmers, in 1914. Mrs. Peryman came up from the Port every month to attend the Dunedin Central Branch.

She had become the Editor of the "White Ribbon" in 1913, and held that office for thirty-two years, only retiring when failing health impelled her, very reluctantly, to do so.

How she loved the "White Ribbon" work. Sleep seemed unnecessary to her. When the house was quiet, she gave herself to the "White Ribbon," working until 1 and 2 a.m. She was a storehouse of knowledge in reference to W.C.T.U. activities, and was an eloquent and forceful speaker.

Before her marriage, she taught in the Petone school. I believe she was both a Greek and a Latin scholar, and even after her marriage she found time to coach many young ministers, her own many duties as a minister's wife being also carried out.

As a social worker, she was fearless in attacking wrongs. The Liquor Traffic and Gambling, she attacked with vigour. She never spared herself to render service. She was an acceptable Lay Preacher, and frequently took services for her husband, and in other churches.

At one time, during Annual Conventions, our prominent women were asked to preach in city churches. Mesdames Peryman, Don and Atkinson were always chosen as earnest Christian speakers.

Mrs. Peryman always wore the white ribbon bow, saying that "no higher ornament was necessary."

She was most careful in gathering facts before she spoke, and insisted on W.C.T.U. speakers being sure of their facts. Because of this, M.P.'s said that deputations from the W.C.T.U. were welcome for they never made extravagant statements. On some occasions, M.P.'s who were concerned about social evils sought her help. When the W.C.T.U. marched to Parliament to present the petition for 6 o'clock closing, Mrs. Peryman was the speaker.

She gave herself unreservedly to fight wrong, to rescue the perishing, and to promote the welfare both of adults and children.

It was she who commenced the "Y.P. Supplement" for children, and "The Beacon" for the young people.

She was one who keenly supported the establishment of Headquarters, and was Chairman of Headquarters Committee until within a year of her passing. She believed that Headquarters would increase the usefulness of the W.C.T.U. and would enable overseas visitors to come in contact with our leaders.

Her correspondence was huge, as Unions all over New Zealand wrote to her for facts and figures, and she

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DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

ORGANISING DEPARTMENT

Having heard that the Maungaturoto Union was possibly going into recess, I paid a visit there. The members were feeling somewhat discouraged, but it seemed a pity to have to go into recess.

From the minute book I traced the history of the Union for a period of over twelve years. It is a noble record. Beginning, I am told, with four members, I read of 19, 16, and 14 being present at meetings, and this well-kept minute book records very creditable work in C.R., L.T.L., "Y's" and "W.R." subscribers, numbering just now 17 members, with as many as 23 at one time on the books. The President's personal papers and notebooks reveal methodical care and interest in the work. What a tragedy to lose a Union, however small, with such a record behind it!

We held a meeting, five members being present and two visitors, and talked the matter over. We tried to get a wider outlook of the work throughout the Dominion, and the work in other lands; and our responsibility as a link in the chain encircling the Globe. We spoke of the witness of the W.C.T.U. wherever it exists, and the necessity to keep the flag flying. The brewers have accomplished the task they set for themselves several years ago, of creating drinkers amongst the youth of the nations. Surely there are sufficient Christian women in every community who are willing to try to save the youth of the nation from this soul and body-destroying traffic.

"Can we whose souls are lighted

With wisdom from on high,

Can we to men benighted,

The Lamp of Life deny?"

It was decided that each member try to win one new member to help build up our Union. Mrs. Cook, a former president, consented to take office again, and carry on! So, instead of going into recess, a Union has taken a new lease of life, and we hope it will go forward.

A. McLAY,

Dominion Organiser.

METHODS DEPARTMENT

"School of Methods" conducted by Miss Appleby

On Monday morning, September 8th, a small number of ladies attended the School, over which Miss Appleby, in Mrs. Kasper's absence, presided. In the Devotional period all present gave favourite texts, this being followed by prayer. Mrs. Williams gave an interesting address on "Public Speaking."

Suggested Programme for Meetings

Book Review: Fifteen-minute talk giving most outstanding incidents culled from a good book.

Round the World News.

First Aid.

Miss Appleby read the duties of officers — President, Secretary and Treasurer; also Superintendents. In the knowledge that only half of the work done is reported, the suggestion was made that an "Active Service Reporter" be found and a note taken by her of work done during the month. This would, perhaps, make reporting easier at the end of the year.

Californian papers were handed round, showing photographs of Mrs. Lee Cowie and her helpers—a Band of Crusaders. At one session, whilst conducting a service in a cocktail bar, photographers for the movies were present, and it was estimated that this film would be seen by 90,000,000 people.

Noontide Hour was remembered by Hymn and Prayer. Brief talks on the work of two departments were given, these being Evangelistic and Work Among Seamen.

Prayer and Benediction brought a very helpful meeting to a close.

EDUCATIONAL BUREAU AND NOTABLE DAYS

It often happens that a Union secretary or president is at a loss for suitable material for a meeting. It is not so well known as it should be that our "Educational Bureau" is there to supply just such a need as this. A letter to Mrs. A. L. Lewis, 64 Clare Street, Cambridge, will bring you what you require. All the subjects suggested as fitting for the various "Notable Days" we observe are covered by the papers, pamphlets, etc., contained in the Bureau. Frequent additions are made so that information is kept up-to-date. An addition shortly to be made, for instance, is the article appearing in this issue under Mrs. Hiett's name, "A Tribute to Mrs. Peryman," which will probably be in request for "Memorial Day." A list of the contents of the Bureau is appended.

1947

Frances Willard.

Home Meetings.

Maori Day.

A Romance of Missionary Enterprise (C. McLay).

Dialogue for "W.R." Day (Miss Edmed and Mrs. Jolly).

Mrs. McCombs.

Mr. T. E. Taylor.

Mrs. T. E. Taylor

Memorial Day.

Pioneer Women.

Franchise Day.

Rev. F. Isitt.

Progress.

Medicated Wines.

A New Year's Message to Women (Florence Barclay, 1913).

Etc.