

MRS. MACKIE TELLS WHAT SHE HAS SEEN, JULY, 1947

Dear Mrs. Christian,

Here we are at this very beautiful place, in a very lovely home with Mrs. Lee-Cowie, her two nieces and one nephew. We had a very interesting time at "Rest Cottage," the home of our much-beloved sister in the work, Frances Elizabeth Willard. Really, it has been a great privilege to see her collection of china, books, pictures, and beautiful photographs of famous people with whom she became acquainted in her short lifetime. I have been much inspired by her enthusiasm and her determination in all things. We were able to see so much of everything while at Evanston. One thing I felt proud of was her beautiful picture in the college when a young girl. It is a glorious painting of her as a college girl, and it is hung in the vestibule, where every young girl attending the college can see it, and, in fact, they stand and ponder over her marvellous face. She looks very beautiful. I could write pages of what I have seen in Evanston, but I mustn't, as when I return I want to tell you all about it. But this I must tell you. I spent hours with the Polyglot Petition. It was a real joy to see names I knew. When we left "Rest Cottage" Mrs. Lawrence, the hostess, asked that we both take the Gavel which was used by our Founder in our right hands, and with our left, place them on Frances Willard's Bible, and then she prayed that God would give us "Journeying Mercies," fill us with the fire that Frances had, and use us mightily for our work. It was a most thrilling experience. I am so proud to have had this honour.

Dr. and Mrs. Leigh Colvin met us at Chicago station and drove us to where we were to be the guests of the National Headquarters. We were housed at Miss Ida Lascelles', a few doors away, as "Rest Cottage" beds were being used by the young teachers who had come for alcohol education. We attended two of the classes, and met many young teachers.

It is great to be acquainted with all who work at Headquarters. Dr. Colvin drove us everywhere, and we feel we have made life-long friends. When we left them at Chicago station their last words were: "We shall meet in London at next World Convention."

Mrs. Forrester-Paton, our new World President, is so charming. She also said: "See you in London, dear." Oh, really, we have made many, many friends all over the world.

You will see the photo of our new president's home in the "Union Signal." It is like a castle. They are extremely wealthy. When you see Paton and Baldwin on the next skein of wool you knit up, think of our charming president.

Well, now, just a few lines about Salt Lake City. It was another grand experience. We took one of the sight-seeing buses, and it was a thrill. When we arrived the temperature was 101

degrees, but I am getting used to that heat now. (Yesterday I had to change my entire clothing twice.) The whole city was bedecked with flags. It was the centennial of Brigham Young's arrival at Salt Lake. After our famous drive, we landed at the great Tabernacle and heard the world-famed organ. The programme was glorious.

Now we are here, and it was good to see Mrs. Lee-Cowie at Los Angeles Station to welcome the weary and hot travellers. We are having such a marvellous time, being driven everywhere. I am writing this in bed, 5.30 a.m. It is the coolest part of the day. I have had breakfast and am going with "Miss Tilly." It is only a few yards away.

This avenue is beautiful, with tall palms on either side of the avenue, with other lovely trees and little humming birds delving among the flowering shrubs. The gardens are a thing of beauty and a joy for ever. The fruit, as you know, is very plentiful. Every possible kind of fruit, some I have never seen before. We are being driven through the orange groves one of these days.

Mrs. Hess is entertaining us. Mrs. Wheeler Randall is entertaining us at her house shortly. She is the National President. You may remember her as Miss Wheeler. She lately married Mr. Randall. He is a good worker, too.

Please give our fond love to all friends in New Zealand. May God richly bless you all "down under." While you are cold we are overheated.

The trip has benefited me spiritually, physically and mentally. I am so glad I came. Really travel is good for one and all.

I trust all are well in spite of the cold. We had a smallpox scare this week. Fortunately, we had been vaccinated. Mrs. Kasper is putting on weight in spite of the heat, and her foot is almost well.

Ever your friend,
ETHEL MACKIE.

ALCOHOL AND THE DRIVER

That a drunken driver is a menace is obvious to anyone. It should be borne in mind, however, that smaller quantities of alcohol which leave a man totally sober as a pedestrian may, in certain circumstances, render him quite unfit to drive a car. It is impossible to state in general terms the amount of alcohol a man may take before being considered unfit to drive. The amount depends on a multitude of factors—the concentration of the alcohol, whether or not it is taken with food, and, most of all, the man's skill as a driver and his resistance as a drinker. For instance, the effect of alcohol is twice as great if taken on an empty stomach as when taken with food. The onus is on the individual to decide whether or not he may safely drive his car at any moment.

Contrary to common belief, alcohol does not speed up bodily reactions, it slows them down. There are individual variations in this respect, but the average man, after one large whiskey, will take

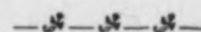
about 15% longer than usual to depress his brake or swing his wheel in an emergency. His hand and arm movements will also be correspondingly less steady and accurate.

This decrease of speed and accuracy of muscular movements would not in itself be so dangerous if, at the same time, the man did not tend to think that he was driving better than ever, whereas all the time his actual efficiency is well below normal. This deceptive sense of efficiency and well-being is doubtless responsible for many accidents to apparently perfectly sober drivers.

SHOULD ONE DRINK AT ALL BEFORE DRIVING?

Most authorities would hesitate to lay down an absolute rule on the point for private drivers. It is the individual's responsibility. The average driver should at least be warned that even a little alcohol will have the double effect of making him drive worse and think he is driving better.

—From "The Road Code," issued by the Transport Department, New Zealand, April, 1946.



SUGGESTIONS TO UNIONS HOW TO SEND A RESOLUTION FORWARD

It sometimes happens that a new secretary is faced with the necessity of sending to its destination a Resolution passed at a Union meeting. Much perturbation of spirit is experienced, and sometimes not only by the secretary, but by those who know that she does not quite realise all that is involved.

It is really very simple, but one must *know how*. A model letter to a local M.P. is given here-with, and notice should be taken of the smallest detail. If official notepaper is not used, the heading should be written.

Women's Christian Temperance Union,
.....Branch

Date, day, month and year.

To Esq., M.P.

Parliament Buildings,
WELLINGTON.

Dear Sir,—

My Union desires me to forward to you the following resolution:

"That etc."

Believe me,

Yours faithfully,

Hon. Secretary.

Address.

RESOLUTIONS SUITABLE FOR PRESENT PARLIAMENTARY SESSION.

1.—The W.C.T.U. strongly objects to the introduction of the sale of liquor in restaurants or tearooms.

2.—The W.C.T.U. draws attention to the appalling danger of empowering any Trust, Board, or Committee, to issue an unlimited number of Liquor Licenses or Permits.

3.—The W.C.T.U. urges that there should not be a number of different standards, but that all Trusts, Committees or Boards should operate within the framework of the main licensing laws.