

OUR WANDERERS BY SEA AND LAND.

Chattanooga,
U. S. America,
Sept. 2nd, 1924.

Dear Mrs Peryman,—

We have been moving about so much, that I had no real opportunity last month to write for the "White Ribbon," and now I do not know what time I shall have. I thought that this morning would be free, but we have already put through two lengthy interviews with newspaper reporters.

On August 30th we said farewell to Mrs Armor and her family and left for Newman, a town 150 miles away, where we were to take part in a "Jubilee" Celebration. You know that during this year the Unions are celebrating their golden "Jubilee." The aim set by the National President was fifty Jubilee meetings in each State. From Newman we went to Bainesville to attend an all-day District Rally. Right throughout the States instead of holiday meetings of the District Executives, District Rallies are organised. These are sometimes called Institutes, because they are made the occasion for instructing W.C.T.U. members on the various departments of work. At the Bainesville meeting Mrs Don spoke both in the morning and in the afternoon, and I was also given an opportunity to speak on New Zealand.

In all, during the month of August we have visited 17 towns and have taken part in all sorts of meetings and functions,—District Rallies, Public Meetings, Banquets, Luncheons, and Reception have crowded the days. It has frequently happened that in the one day we have been given a luncheon, and a reception, and in the evening have spoken at a public meeting. Mrs Don has usually spoken three times a day, for, whatever the nature of the gathering may be, people are anxious to hear her speak. In one City she preached twice at morning and evening services on the Sunday, and in the afternoon, by special request she spoke to the soldiers at Fort Benning, the largest Infantry Training School in the United States. On several occasions we have been entertained at luncheon by the Kiwanis Clubs—The Kiwanis are business men, and their

aims and objects are similar to those of the Rotary Club. It is not at all usual for them to entertain women, but in our case they were keen to honor the "distinguished" guests from New Zealand.

There was one feature of the Jubilee meetings that interested and pleased me, and that was the pageant showing how Prohibition was established, or "put over," as the enemies say. For this pageant 48 young girls are required. They should be dressed in white and each wear cross-wise a white sash bearing the name of a State in gold, and on her head a coronet of white with gold stars, both sash and coronet are made very effectively of white crepe paper. These girls remain in the background until the leader has explained that she is going to demonstrate how Prohibition was "put over." Then she calls the States in the order in which they carried prohibition. Maine first of course, and then the others until 32 were standing in line. I wonder how many people realise that 32 of the States were "dry" by their own vote in 1918. Then in 1919 came war-time prohibition bringing the other States into line. On January 16th, 1920, the 18th Amendment was passed. This required to be ratified by two-thirds of the States, and seven years was the time allowed for ratification and only 13 months was required. Some of the States called a special session of the Legislature in order to ratify. Not 36, the necessary two-thirds, but 46 States ratified.

You will have realised that visiting 17 towns scattered over the State of Georgia, we have met people of all classes and callings, and the opinions very freely expressed all indicate that Prohibition is an undoubted blessing to the State of Georgia. In spite of depression due to a succession of failures of the cotton crop, the country has an air of prosperity, people have money to spend and everywhere new houses are being built in great numbers. This activity in the building line is quite remarkable and certainly indicates that people are able to make homes. The legitimate hotel business has gone ahead by leaps and bounds, and it is remarkable to find excellent hotels in small country towns, while in the cities the size and number of hotels fills us with amazement.

We are managing to get in some sight-seeing, for everywhere we go some W.C.T.U. member devotes her time and her car to our use. Yesterday we were motored over one of the great battle-fields of the Civil War. The country where the main battle was fought has been reserved for a National Park, and every detail of the battle is preserved by means of monuments, inscribed stones, and tablets. The very guns used have been placed as nearly as possible in the positions they occupied during the battle. The surroundings of Chattanooga are very beautiful, the city being surrounded by hills. This morning we are to be taken out to the most famous of these, so that we may get a view of seven States.

I think it will interest my readers to know that in one of the towns we visited there is still to be seen the old slave pen, where slaves used to be sold. The building is in an open space right in the centre of the town, and is said to be just as it was in the days of slavery. The chains are still attached to the walls, and the great bell which was used to announce the sales still hangs from the roof. The "pen" is now in the care of the Women's Club, and is preserved as a historic monument.

One other matter of interest before I close. I am on the watch for anything that shows the progress made by women, and learned that the new Governor of Texas is a woman—the first to hold such a position. A woman also holds the important position of State Commissioner of Roads in Alabama, and still another woman is Chief of Police in New York.

Mrs Don joins me in sending loving greetings to all White Ribboners.

Yours sincerely,
CHRISTINA HENDERSON.

Dear Editor,—

It was quite a surprise when I opened the beloved "White Ribbon" messenger to see myself there "as others see me." The photo was taken in Ilfracombe, Devonshire by a photographer who makes a speciality of showing folk all ways at once by means of a mirror. Thank you cordially for allowing me to show my "Shadowy" self to our folk. In 1925 I hope the "substance" will be in N.Z. to war against "the vilest fiend of all."