



MISS MILDRED C. EDMED,
President, N.Z.W.T.A., 1926.



MISS HELEN L. BIRSS,
First Woman Member Elected to Executive,
N.Z.E.I., 1915.

Other centres followed, and in December 1914, a Dominion Conference of Women Teachers was held in Wellington, and the New Zealand Women Teacher's Association was the outcome of that Conference with Miss Phoebe Myers as its first President.

It was resolved that the aims of the Association be:—

(a) To advance the cause of Education generally, and that of girls and infants particularly.

(b) To uphold the just claims of women teachers.

This Dominion Association continued the Campaign for equality of payment, also for equality of opportunity, i.e., women to be eligible to compete in a fair field and no favour with men for the higher positions in the service.

Miss Chaplin, of Canterbury, one of the pioneers of the Movement, who

has held at different times the offices of President, Secretary, and Treasurer of the N.Z.W.T.A., was the first woman elected on the General Council of Education. She was elected unopposed to represent the Certified women teachers of the South Island, was re-elected in 1918, 1921, and 1924, and is now in her twelfth year of service on that Council.

Miss Chaplin is a member of our Christchurch W.C.T.U., was one of the first subscribers to our "White Ribbon," and still continues her subscription.

Of special interest to White Ribboners is the photo of Miss Birss, who has been nominated as Dominion Treasurer of W.C.T.U. Miss Birss was the first woman to be elected a member of the New Zealand Educational Institute. She was such a valued member of the N.Z.W.T.A.,

that on her retirement from the teaching profession, she was enthusiastically elected as an honorary member. Miss Birss is a member of the Southland Hospital and Charitable Aid Board, and has been one for about 10 years. She has done much valuable work on that Board, looking after the old folk at Lorne Farm, and visiting cases which apply to the Board for help.

Miss Birss is also a valued Officer of our Southland District Union.

Miss Edmed is now President of N.Z.W.T.A. She is also a White Ribboner, Secretary of our Pahiataua Union, and once when our Wellington District Convention was held during school holidays, she made a most efficient District Secretary.

Women teachers are slowly gaining their objective. Miss Hetherington has been appointed the first woman Inspector of Secondary