

MOTHERS' DAY, MAY 10, 1936.

MRS. LILLIAN M. MITCHELL.



My Dear White Ribboners,—

I would love to have been present to hear the reports which delegates gave at the various Unions, but as that was impossible, the next best thing is to know what effect the reports are having on the Unions.

Have you really decided to win every child within your reach? I shall look eagerly at the reports in the "White Ribbon" to know how our work is advancing. Let us show the critics (and there are plenty of them) that the White Ribbon Army is not marking time, but really going forward, and true to the mother nature, taking the children with us. I have heard of Unions who, having heard the delegate's report, roused up for a brief period, and then sank back into lethargy, no action taken. Ye are children of light, of movement. You heard the call. Will you answer? Have you heard the story of the Aberdeen quarryman? A blast had been prepared, the charge was laid, the fuse was lighted; the men concealed themselves in places of safety, when a little girl was seen toddling across the quarry towards the spot where the explosion was about to take place. She paid no heed to shouts to turn and run away, and her death seemed inevitable. Then the foreman rose. It seemed madness to attempt it, but he cried, "I maun save the bairn," rushed and caught her in his arms. He saved the child at the expense of his own life. Shall we take his words for our battle cry: "I maun save the bairn"?

There are other aspects of work which will claim our attention in future letters. In the meantime, He who bids us onward go will not fail the way to show.

Let us tackle the children's work with all our might, and those who are in the field reach out farther. It's well worth while.

Yours for Christ's cause,
JESSIE HIATT.

Many countries have officially named the second Sunday in May as Mothers' Day. The real purpose of the day is to honour mothers, and there is danger that commercialism will divert attention from this.

Let the W.C.T.U. in every country emphasise its real purpose. We shall honour mothers by showing our love for them. We shall recognise their loving sacrifice for us, and show our appreciation by kindly words and deeds. This may be by writing that long-deferred letter, by a special visit to mother, by a pleasant surprise, or even by a confidential chat as we used to have when young. Even little children can do mother special honour on Mothers' Day.

There is another side to it. Can mother do something special on Mothers' Day for her children, both at home and away? Twice it has been my privilege to speak at a Mothers' Day Breakfast at the Y.M.C.A. Both times there were letters and telegrams at every plate. Every young man had a letter from his mother if she was living, or a letter from some other mother to remind him of her. Why would this not be a good thing for mothers to do when their sons and daughters are away at school? With hearts tender with mother love, we can emphasise our interest in the temperance work and our desire that our sons and daughters should refrain from the use of any kind of alcoholic liquor. Use the day to help sons and daughters realise that mothers are delighted when they lead Christian lives and when their habits are such that will make them good citizens.

Let the W.C.T.U. catch the spirit of Mothers' Day in every country. Let every national official organ carry a Mothers' Day message which emphasises anew the gospel of mother love. The W.C.T.U. has been called organised Mother Love, so Mothers' Day is peculiarly our day, though it was founded by Miss Anna Jarvis, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Faithfully yours,
ELLA A. BOOLE,
President World's W.C.T.U.

OBITUARY.

In great sorrow we report the passing of Mrs Wordsworth, Senr., who has been our Cradle Roll Superintendent since the formation of the W.C.T.U. branch at Te Kopuru. She was a most valued friend, and a great worker, her purse being always open to the need of every good cause. Being a great gardener, her home was beautiful, and many delightful garden parties were held in the grounds. When her health was good she gave some enjoyable afternoons to mothers, friends, and children of the Cradle Roll. Passionately fond of children, she was herself so young in spirit, that though in her seventy-eighth year, I am sure we would have had her much longer had not a cruel malady stepped in. She was laid to rest at Mt. Wesley, beside



Our New Dominion Corresponding Secretary.

Mrs Mitchell joined the New Brighton Union in March, 1924. She was put to work at her first meeting, being appointed Press Reporter for the Branch, which office she held until December, 1935.

In 1926 she became Corresponding Secretary for her Union, and three years later became sole Secretary, which office she still holds in her local Union. From local she graduated to District work, one year as Assistant District Secretary, then for the past three years has been District Secretary for North Canterbury.

She has had experience in Superintendent's work, being for years Legal and Parliamentary Superintendent for her own Union, and was also "White Ribbon" Agent for some time. She graduated in Y work, being five years President of the local Y branch, and later for one year its Superintendent. And now she has passed on to Dominion office, and we feel sure she will bring to the wider work the same ability, exactness, earnestness and enthusiasm which she so markedly exhibited in local, district and Y work.

We give her a very hearty welcome to our board of officers.

SPECIAL TO TRAVELLERS.

If you are moving about you can have the address of your paper altered every month if necessary by sending a post-card to the Business Manager before 15th of the month.

her beloved life's partner, who by four years predeceased her. The Rev. Jamieson officiated at the graveside, while our District President, Mrs Roberts, so ably paid tribute to our departed sister, and read the beautiful burial service of the W.C.T.U.