

Many young Maori people, men and women, are publicly and in a spirit of bravado, making the most of their new liberty, not realising often, that the first effect of liquor is to lower their sense of self-respect and the fitness of things, with the result that they go far beyond what they realise is happening. This is, of course, a common pattern. However, the tragedy is causing a growing sense of concern among the best of the Maori leaders and their voices are being heard more frequently in an appeal to their people to remember their race and its dignity.

Sporting interests are not assisting to the extent that is needed. Too frequently, football teams of both Maori and European members will rush from the match to the nearest hotel, and leave a trail of empty broken bottles on the roads as their buses return homewards. The Maori youth is not always helped by the example of the Pakeha youth. There are many opportunities found for "celebrations," and the cheap habit of week-end beer parties that is only too often the only form of entertainment that some people seem capable of, is easily followed by the Maori.

One of the greatest needs today is the example and encouragement of Christian Europeans. Patronising will not do the job. It will need very sympathetic and patient personal work, done in an unassuming way. Those who are making the grade should get every encouragement and congratulation on setting a good standard. Helpful activities which fill the interests of the people, old and young, are necessary. It is a well recognised fact that excesses in drink are usually the result of boredom or insecurity. A balanced and satisfactory life will not be cheapened by such temptations as liquor and gambling.

There is a great call to the Church to assist Christian workers to provide rallying points where Maori people can join in good fellowship under bright and satisfying conditions. Many workers are struggling along with insufficient gear and equipment, and unattractive premises in which to meet. Each town of any size with a Maori community, should have a centre in which the people could rally for fellowship, and committees established in which the Maori people themselves would be able to express their leadership in helpful activities.

From our position of greater advantage and experience, the Pakeha could provide assistance in the background, not assuming leadership that might be resented, but providing the opportunities in which those Maori people who have the best interests of their people at heart could gather others in an atmosphere that would be a natural corrective to the debasing influences that at present claim so many of them.

These days are difficult days of readjustment for the Maori people, and patience is needed and encouragement given while the best of the race gain their feet and set a new standard.

## A Survey of MAORI WORK IN AUCKLAND

Readers of the "White Ribbon" may be interested to know what development has been taking place in Maori life, especially in the life of the young people these days.

Compulsory education, compulsory learning of English in the primary schools, and the inevitable daily contact of Maori with Pakeha in school life, all has helped to break down the barrier between the two races.

But it was the War that gave the Maori the opportunity of adventure, so that he might prove his worth in courage and leadership.

The Maori Battalion in both wars made history, and placed the races on an equal footing, so that, today, we do not speak of the Maori and Pakeha of New Zealand, but of both races as "New Zealanders," with the same chances of education and development.

Then again, today, we see both races working happily together in office—workshop—in the training schools for teachers and nurses. Yes, and in the Universities, seeking higher education.

Twelve years ago, there were few Maoris in the cities, and the girls then were mostly in domestic service.

But the War called for volunteers for Military Camps and for essential work in factories making uniforms for soldiers.

Industries of many kinds came into being during this period and the advertisements in the daily newspapers reached the most back-block homes, and brought Maori youth to work in the towns and cities.

The United Maori Mission, came into being twelve years ago, and it soon saw the great need of caring for the welfare of the Maori youth coming to Auckland City.

In 1940, this Mission secured a house in Union Street, and soon had 12 girls in residence and that little home became the real centre of training.

It is good to know that from this home, there are now three trained missionaries on the field, working amongst their own people. Also two fully trained nurses, and some have been on the Hostel Staffs.

As the War developed, and Maori youth continued to crowd to the City, the Native Department, led by the Minister of Native Affairs, showed great interest and sympathy, and, in a very practical way, helped to establish **five hostels** in Auckland.

In 1943, the Women's Christian Temperance Union Hostel was officially opened at 9 Cleveland Road, Parnell, with 20 girls, and this work has continued most successfully.

In 1944, another Hostel was opened in Hepburn Street, Ponsonby, and that too, has been filled with working girls and later with secondary school girls.

By Sister Jessie Alexander

(Formerly of the Presbyterian Maori Mission.)

In 1945, the Presbyterian Maori Girls' Hostel in Portland Avenue, Mt. Eden, for workers, school trainees, and schoolgirls, was opened and has been a very busy centre for over 30 girls.

Then the needs of the Maori boys became pressing, and the Native Department gave possession of a house in Gillies Avenue, to the United Maori Mission, with the responsibility of caring for 38 boys.

Last but not least, in 1947, the Shelly Beach Hostel was opened with 25 girls.

These Hostels all became Christian homes, where our Maori young people are being cared for physically, mentally and spiritually.

The Hostel life encourages every art, towards the making of Christian homes.

It is good to see the girls knitting and dressmaking in the evenings and taking part in Christian services and speaking often in public.

This Race has wonderful gifts and needs only the sympathy and help of the Pakeha, to display rare talents.

The Sunday evening service in the Y.M.C.A., under the leadership of the United Maori Mission has an **average attendance of 150 young people listening to teaching** that will help them to the Christian way of life.

Many Maori Christians take a prominent part in this service.

**Temperance education** is not neglected in the Hostels—many of the young people are members of the Maori "Y" Branch.

**Pray for the Maori Work—everywhere!**

### COURAGE

By Grenville Kleiser

Press on! Though nists obscure  
The steep and rugged way,  
And dark'ning doubt besets—  
Soon dawns the brighter day.

Keep on! Though hours be long,  
And days deep-fraught with woe,  
Let patience do her perfect work,  
And vanquish every foe.

Hope on! Though all seems lost,  
And threat'ning storms beat high,  
Have faith! Be still and know  
That God is ever nigh.

Fight on! Though fear assails,  
And panic grips the heart,  
The battle you will surely win,  
If you play well your part.