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"Our Dorcas" at Work



MRS. MARY E. CONGDON  
Organizer of the State Union and  
First Secretary

A History of the  
Woman's  
Christian Temperance  
Union

Of Northern and Central California



Written by Request of the State Convention  
of 1911, by

Mrs. Dorcas James Spencer



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OAKLAND, CAL.

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*DEDICATION*

*To the women of the rank and file,  
this labor of love, is tenderly in-  
scribed.*

*Dorcas J. Spencer*

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## PREFACE

To compile the history of a society, covering less than half a century, would seem a small matter, were it not that the very nature of the organization implies an individuality of character in its membership, that is rarely found elsewhere, a devotion to a fixed principle and purpose, and a personal altruism as the actuating motive of its existence.

Some one has said that history, telling of achievements, must of necessity leave out of the narrative the greater and most important portion of the people concerned, and the high lights be thrown only on the smaller number, who, however able and worthy, must have been powerless without their following. This is a matter of deep regret to the writer, whose personal recollection includes thousands of heroic women, whose very names are lost in the aggregation of time and effort, that has gone to make the body and soul of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of California.

The number of those who should be distinguished is bewildering. Two hundred and twenty-seven women have served as state superintendents, each developing a special line of study, many of them successively in several departments; what an educational force, working through local, county and state to national influence. Two hundred and thirty women have been county presidents, each directing her battalion in the greater army of the state. With organizers and other special workers there are fully five hundred who should have personal sketches in these pages, but all concede that the work is greater than the workers, so no biographical attempts have been made. All have wrought together, each standing in her place—

“The lofty vision of triumph, that sees afar the end.

Needs the true unselfish service of the nameless toiling  
friend”

and it may well be believed that this unity of purpose and action has cleared the way for greater victories near.

“For the roads cannot be broken except through the helping  
hands

Of the nameless unthanked toilers who do but their lord's commands."

The destruction by fire of all the archives of the state union, made it a tedious process to secure data, and only by prolonged efforts and much difficulty has the material been gathered for this work. Of the Annual Minutes, there are several of which it seemed hopeless to find a single copy, at last the file of these has been completed except the very first, a tiny affair that cannot be found. Of the Minutes of 1881, there was known to be but one copy in existence; this had been kept by Mrs. Mary E. Congdon, the first secretary, as an heirloom in her family. Her kindness in donating this is hereby gratefully acknowledged.

An especial debt of gratitude is due to the well beloved comrade of so many years and labors, Mrs. Beaumelle Sturtevant-Peet, whose systematic habit of preserving data, whose faithful memory, and invaluable scrap-books have been an unfailing resource.

The kind reader who does not find in this book all that she expected, is not less satisfied than the historian, who most cordially thanks the whole sisterhood for the patient loving kindness, thoughtful letters, and items of interest, that have made this long task a labor of love.

D. J. S.

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## INTRODUCTION.

It is a pleasant task to write an introduction to this book which tells the story of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Northern and Central California, our part of the great organization of which, Mary A. Livermore said, "So grand in its aims, so superb in its equipment, so phenomenal in its growth, and has done so much for woman as well as for temperance, that it challenges the attention of Christendom and excites the hope of all who are interested in the welfare of humanity." This organization has made history in the State of California, and it is the desire of the workers of this time, that the record of its earlier years shall be preserved. The heroic and efficient labors of the noble women of the past, who hold such a large part in the achievements of the present, should not be forgotten.

Foundations have been laid broad and deep, and because of this fact we are enabled to go on with the building of a great structure that shall stand through all the ages.

The object of the State Union in having this history written, is to give to the women of this time, with their added powers, a sense of the debt due to the past, and their responsibility for the future. The period covered by this record culminates in the enfranchisement of women, a definite epoch, and the forerunner of an era of yet more aggressive service, for which the long process of organization has furnished full preparation.

It was conceded by all, that no other woman was so thoroughly equipped by ability and experience to prepare this record as Mrs. Dorcas J. Spencer. She has been continuously engaged in the work from its incipiency, having filled various responsible positions, become a specialist in several lines and proficient in many. She lives in the great past to which she has given so much of herself; in the present; and projects herself with the work into the greater future; a woman who has a vision, and whose love for the work of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union has been sufficient to make a pleasure of the drudgery of details, if thereby it might be made a school to fit women for better service.

"We never know for what God is preparing us in His schools for what work on earth, for what work in the hereafter. Our business is to do our work well in the present place, whatever it may be."

SARA J. DORR, President,

California Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

July 30th, 1913.

*“Fear not, I am thy shield”*



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, GRASS VALLEY  
Where the first local union was organized, March 25th, 1874.



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, PETALUMA  
Where the state union was organized September 17th, 1879

PIONEERS ANTEDATING THE ORGANIZATION OF  
THE STATE UNION



MRS. MARGARET DYE ELLIS  
National Superintendent of Legislation



MRS. A. B. DIBBLE.  
President of Grass Valley  
local Union 1874



MRS. EDWARD COLEMAN  
Treasurer Grass Valley local  
union 1883



MRS. G. A. STODDARD  
Treasurer Sacramento union  
1875



MRS. C. M. BOALT  
An Ohio crusader, a Califor-  
nia veteran

STATE PRESIDENT



MRS. G. S. ABBOTT  
First President

## CHAPTER I.

In the Beginning. Local Option Elections. Local Organization Preceding That of the State.

1874.

Like narratives of individual lives, the story of the California Woman's Christian Temperance Union cannot be told without considering the prenatal conditions that led to its existence.

The temperance crusade in the Middle West marked the beginning of an era of great interest. The intensity and rapidity of the movement can never be realized by any but the generation that felt it. So marvelous were its direct results, so simple its methods, so lofty its aims, yet so profound the depths it sounded, that the thought of the whole country was at once arrested. The thrill and throb of its spiritual force was felt—sometimes unconsciously—but surely felt in every condition of life the land over. The purposes of the serious were intensified; the thoughtless reflected; public attention was secured, new ideals and new hopes took shape; courage and confidence grew, and a desire to do something was everywhere evident. Many states passed some form of liquor laws in that wonderful winter, the early months of 1874. The legislature of this State enacted its first local option law—which even its friends recognized to be sadly defective. It was not expected to meet the criticism of the Supreme Court and it did not, being very soon declared unconstitutional, but it served as many a better, but still imperfect enactment, has done, as a means to agitate the subject and educate the people. The value of that education has justified the passage of a law that was in itself too weak to stand.

Seeing its certain failure, there was hesitation in calling elections under its provisions. Many small towns tried it; besides the cities of Eureka, San Jose and Oakland. The latter, the largest of these, cast 309 votes, of which 201 were against license, and 108 for it, but legally it counted for nothing.

The new law was immediately submitted to the test of

the courts, and pending their decision, no attempt was made anywhere to carry it out, though majorities favored it.

### Alameda Election.

The election in Alameda, July 2nd, was the scene of a disgraceful riot. After the Oakland election the liquor men were desperate. There was in Alameda a well organized Temperance Association, conducting its campaign well and vigorously. On election day they had a spacious tent near the street, handsomely decorated with flags, evergreens and flowers, where an elegant collation was spread for their friends, who made it a rallying place. Both sides began early to distribute tickets and solicit votes. Soon a train load of rowdies from the "Barbary Coast" of San Francisco arrived, and literally took the town. As the villainous looking crowd poured out of the cars, a gentleman present exclaimed: "This is the vomit of hell." They filled the street with an irregular march back and forth, led by a brass band, and full of whiskey, howled and shouted in coarse ribaldry and gross insolence. Miss Sally Hart, an able and attractive young woman, whose activity had contributed largely to the success of the Oakland election, had been notified, by the leader of the mob, a prominent saloon-keeper of Oakland, that she would not be safe on the street. His words proved true. She was pulled about, spit upon, her bonnet pulled off, and her clothes outrageously torn, before she could be rescued by friends. Dr. W. P. Gibbons took her to his home. A gentle lady of sixty was surrounded by a howling mob and most grossly insulted by a German. She sprang upon a box and cried out: "I am an American," only to be answered in language unprintably vile. Mr. Joseph Knowland, pale and excited, took her away from the midst of the drunken men who were brandishing pistols around her. Other ladies, victims of similar outrages, were rescued by friends before the Oakland police, summoned by telegraph, could reach the scene. The hoodlums fled back to the city.

The Alameda police were in sympathy with the temperance workers but were helpless. When all was over the Chief of Police said: "We are defeated, but the best people are with us."



The day was not lost, for it served to consecrate to the cause a life than which none greater has been laid upon its altars—that of Margaret Dye Ellis, now, and for many years past, the National Superintendent of Legislation and Petitions,—the woman who more than any other has directed the course of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union in its efforts to secure better laws for the nation.

Mrs. Ellis writes: "I was one who worked at the polls that day. We had held prayer meetings several days; some of us visited saloons, and on that day the liquor men of San Francisco sent a train load of roughs to intimidate 'those women' but it only made us stronger, and from that day I have been in the work, and look back to it as one when I received my baptism for the service."

The other election of that day, at Grass Valley, was also a triumphant defeat. Only these two elections of that summer became historic,—the first in bringing Mrs. Ellis into permanent relations with the Cause, and the second with the organization of the first local union.

### **The First Local Union.**

At that time the Atlantic and Pacific shores seemed more distant from each other than now, with the present easier and more rapid communication; but remote as it was the echoes of the crusade in the East were heard, and the glow of its fires felt in California. To the minds of men it was wonderful; to women it was divinely miraculous. Eagerly they scanned the meager news brought by the daily press. In the mountain towns the mails arrived late at night; the men might see the papers then, but busy women could not until the next day. One of these, as soon as her children were off to school, used daily to cross the street to discuss the crusade news with her neighbor until as the winter drew near its close, their hearts so burned within them that expression forced itself, and they agreed to call a mass meeting of women. One of them wrote notices, the other took them to printers and preachers, and, because neither of them belonged to the Congregational church, the meeting was called there March 25th, 1874. It was well attended, a society was organized, and by prophetic inspiration it was called "The Woman's Temperance Union."

Mrs. A. B. Dibble and Mrs. Dorcas J. Spencer, the two who had called the meeting, were elected respectively president and secretary. There was nothing remarkable about this Union but its pledge—in its allusion to their homes,—and that did not seem so then.

Pledge: "We hereby solemnly promise to abstain from all intoxicating liquors, distilled or fermented, including wine, beer and cider, as a beverage, and we will not have them in our homes if it is in our power to prevent it."

That pledge involved a heroism no less than that which had led their eastern sisters to pray in saloons or on the streets; for in many of their houses stood well-stocked sideboards, or the less pretentious corner cup-board with its staples, whiskey and wine. It is worthy of record that the carrying out of that pledge in no case caused any domestic friction.

The Union adopted the general methods which have since prevailed, and soon entered upon a Local Option Campaign, and instead of a weekly meeting held a prayer meeting in a church every night, Sundays excepted, for twelve weeks, culminating with the election of July second.

The Local Option Campaign of 1874 had no precedent. The women took their own initiative. Canvassing for signers to the necessary petition was done entirely by women, but they did not always escape the attentions that the men no doubt apprehended. The secretary of the union was one day followed into a quiet street, by a leading saloon-keeper, who demanded to see her petition. Looking it carefully over to see who had signed it, he said in a very angry tone, "Madam, this is a game two can play at. You are trying to break up my business, I shall return the compliment and break up your husband's. You'll see." Of course she told her husband. His reply was, "Let him try it." The boycott began but whatever effect it had, was in the nature of a boomerang.

### **Campaigning.**

Those daily prayer-meetings were a source of power in many ways. The women were building better than they knew. Not only their religious zeal was sustained, but latent ability was developed, their acquaintance widened, and a publicity was given to their movements that created a general

interest in each day's proceedings, and a growing importance. Each evening a leader was appointed to conduct the next meeting. Not all had been accustomed to duties of this kind, but no one flinched. Yet it was felt that something special must be done to focus attention. Rev. George Newton was a new man in the community, in full sympathy, but nearly a stranger. He made the wild suggestion that "You must have a public speech by one of your own women." He was told that possibly Mrs. Spencer might be able to find a woman to venture it. She tried in vain, but found a lady willing to read a paper if it was prepared for her. Accordingly she wrote the desired paper. Her husband, coming in before she had finished, asked: "What are you doing?" She replied: "Don't bother me, just read it while I finish, and I'll tell you." On hearing that she was writing an address for another woman to read, he said: "You are a little goose, go do it yourself."

She was amazed, for even the attendance and participation in the regular meetings had seemed to her so bold a thing, that she had half expected him at any time to say, "I think this has gone about far enough, you'd better drop out." However, she dared not refuse what she recognized as a call higher than his, to go forward, and the next morning when Mr. Newton called to know what her success had been, she timidly told him, under the seal of absolute confidence, for they must depend on the curiosity of the people,—to see who the woman was who would thus face public criticism,—to secure an audience. Mr. Newton advertised well, through pulpits and press, that "a lady of this town would address a mass-meeting at the Methodist Church on Wednesday evening, May 28th." Mr. Spencer came home daily in the quiet hour when the youngest was asleep, and the other children at school, and patiently drilled his wife, from his post at the front door, to her's in the kitchen, to say her little piece audibly at that distance. On the appointed evening it was delivered before an audience of 800. It was well received, and published in full in the Sunday morning papers. Whether it served its intended purpose or not, this deponent cannot say, but it was not fruitless. It was in the course of Mr. Spencer's duties to call at the stage office on the arrival of every stage from "above or below" on the mountain roads. The stage office was also the bar-room of the principal

hotel, and a general resort of men who desired to meet each other. As a customary social observance there was much treating with very little thought, in the place. When Mr. Spencer next entered the office conversation stopped, and he was conscious that his wife was its subject. There were forty-five other saloons in the town no doubt similarly engaged. That experience caused an arrest of thought, on his part which made him a total abstainer. To his wife, that came so distinctly as a reward for her response to that special call so shrinkingly done, as to place her under perpetual obligation to answer every call for service, even to the preparation of this history.

### **Public Meetings.**

To women of those days, it was a deed of daring, even to sit on a platform, and to undertake a mass meeting without ever a man in it, was the wildest scheme yet concocted. Mrs. Abigail Scott Duniway had once been there, but had all the ministers in town on the platform behind her. These women having organized since then, felt that they must live up to the requirements of the occasion. Mrs. Duniway had scandalized some by appearing without a bonnet. It was gravely settled that bonnets should be worn, so with their broad ribbon strings tied under their chins, five women took their places. The president, Mrs. A. B. Dibble, being a Methodist, was used to hear a woman's voice in prayer meeting and probably suffered less than the others from the strangeness of the position. Mrs. Norton, a Mother in Israel, from the Congregational church, read the Scripture lesson. Mrs. Taylor, a sweet young woman from the Christian church, heroically led in prayer; she had memorized her petition, but forgot her lines and went bravely on; the speaker was an Episcopalian. Mrs. Wesley Peck, the wife of the presiding elder, whose presence was felt to dignify the occasion, offered the closing prayer. The audience that had largely come to see "who would do this thing," gave breathless attention, and showed its sympathy by the heartiness of the congregational singing, but nevertheless was amazed to find that these modest home-loving women could venture on a proceeding so bold, for a principle they wished to promote.

This incident is of interest only as it illustrates the conditions of the time and the ways by which women entered upon a work that meant so much. It is typical of many others in different localities.

### **Election Day.**

As the election day approached, the saloon men, presuming that blue ribbon would be required for badges, bought all there was in town. A friendly merchant informed the secretary of the enemy's move, and forthwith the women secured all the red ribbon, of which they made badges bearing the legend: "WOMAN'S TEMPERANCE UNION; In God We Trust." They had not thought of badges, but once suggested, that bright oriflamme blazed upon the streets from morning until night of that memorable day.

A most enthusiastic jubilee meeting was held in the evening, which

"RESOLVED: That whatever the result of the election to-day, we do reaffirm our intention, come what will of difficulty or obstacle; and are determined to continue the conflict against the great evil, the liquor traffic, until our God, in whom we trust, shall give us victory."

In gratitude for their aid during the campaign, the Union voted to admit men to membership; the plan did not work well, however. The meetings fell off in attendance and were at last suspended, subject to the call of the president.

This union was supposed by Miss Willard to be the very first organized and enjoyed that distinction until the State of New York proved to have one at Fredonia a trifle earlier, to which the honor has been conceded.

In 1878, after the National Union was well established, and its influence felt, a meeting was called, at which the word "Christian" was inserted in the old name, and regular work resumed.

1875.

### **Organization at Sacramento.**

The National Woman's Christian Temperance Union was organized at Cleveland, Ohio, in November, 1874. Mrs. G. A. Stoddard came to California the following year, and filled with enthusiasm, began talking of it in Sacramento, with the

result that a union was organized there in December with Mrs. M. C. Briggs, President; Mrs. Rice, mother of Rev. H. H. Rice, Vice President; Mrs. W. H. Mills, Secretary, and Mrs. G. A. Stoddard, Treasurer. Mrs. Stoddard, already familiar with the subject, wrote the constitution for the new society, which held its meetings in the Westminster Presbyterian Church.

In the "Sacramento Union" of December 24th, 1875, Rev. M. C. Briggs, D. D., writes: "Here comes the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union, the most potential temperance organization ever formed, of which California will soon have a state auxiliary, with subordinate unions in every Congressional district."

This was four years before there was a state union. After a while the local union lapsed. Of its officers, Mrs. Stoddard only remains and is now treasurer of the local union at Sacramento.

1877-1878

#### **Organization at Petaluma.**

The year 1878 was one of deep feeling on temperance. The Independent Order of Good Templars was very active and did excellent work throughout the State, particularly among young people, and in many places, other less permanent societies sprang up; some were "Reform Clubs," and some "Temperance Unions," with membership of men and women. Petaluma became a center of activity; Mr. G. W. Bain, of Kentucky, made an eloquent address there. Dr. Dio Lewis spoke there on November 29th, 1877, and, as he had done elsewhere, prepared the way for the women. About this time—probably due to his influence—a Temperance Union of men and women was formed and began the work of pledge signing. With monthly meetings they had three hundred signers to the pledge in February, and after that they held public meetings, with good programs, every Saturday night, in the Opera House. Women had not then reached the platform as speakers, but contributed the charm of music. Mrs. Mary E. Congdon, a teacher of music, was the first woman to speak at these meetings, and in December, 1878, the society invited Mrs. Emily Pitts Stevens to Petaluma. She had lectured with success for the Sons of Temperance and the Good Tem-

plars. On this occasion she addressed a mass meeting of children in the Methodist church on a Sunday afternoon, and on Monday organized a "Band of Hope;" on Monday and Tuesday evenings lectured in the Congregational church and on Tuesday afternoon organized a local "Woman's Christian Temperance Union," with Mrs. Congdon as president. That Union has a splendid record. Beginning with twenty members it soon had eighty, and in six months one hundred and ten. Its first work was petitioning for license to be raised to \$100 a quarter. They had the co-operation of all the best elements of the town, and as a result of their labors, forty-two of the eighty-four saloons of the town, and the bars of two hotels were closed. Petaluma thereby became the first town in California distinguished by temperance success. The newspapers made it famous. It was unique.

The association of liquor and tobacco had not been exploited then as it has in later years, but a testimony to its relationship was given by a traveling salesman in the tobacco trade, who said to the writer: "Do you know what those temperance people in Petaluma have done to my business? I went there on my quarterly rounds, collected as usual, and sold the usual supplies to the trade. On the next trip I made no collections worth while and sold no goods to speak of. The fact is, when they don't get one of these things, they care very little for the other."

The Union met weekly, raised money by chicken dinners and strawberry festivals to help the Reform Club, Band of Hope and Juvenile Reform Club. Hearing that the Reform Club of Carson City, Nevada, was to have a five days' fair, the Union expressed to them every day a large box of flowers, the first Flower Mission work.

A notable and successful effort was made to stop a lewd exhibition which prevented similar shows coming to Petaluma.

Mr. William O. Clark, Chief Patriarch of the Sons of Temperance, was one of their speakers, and gave a most interesting talk on the proposed Local Option Law;—at this writing he still lives and is devoted to the cause.

Department work was unknown, but the visiting committees seemed to include all phases of possible effort, and nothing was overlooked.

## CHAPTER II.

State Organization. School Essays. Visit of Miss Willard.

1879.

In the early summer of 1879 a Sunday School Convention was called in Oakland, with Bishop Vincent to preside. The Bishop went to Yosemite first, and failed to reach Oakland in time to open the Convention. The crowd must be held, so it was managed, with little effort, to turn the affair into a very effective Temperance Meeting, with good volunteer speakers and an enthusiastic audience. Mrs. Mary E. Congdon was one of the speakers, and deeply interested her hearers by her account of the recent temperance work at Petaluma. Rev. G. S. Abbott and wife were also present, and recognized the woman who was to organize the W. C. T. U. of California. Mr. and Mrs. Abbott, who had recently arrived from the East, had been charged by Miss Willard to see that California was organized. When they met Mrs. Congdon they at once decided, and so reported that she was the very woman to undertake that work. Very shortly after Mrs. Congdon received her official commission from Miss Frances E. Willard, then Corresponding Secretary of the National Organization.

### State Convention.

With this authority, she began at once to lay plans. Existing Unions were found in Grass Valley, Nevada City and Petaluma. A strong one was organized in April, at Oakland, another in Alameda, and by much canvassing one was secured in San Francisco. Mrs. Congdon then issued a call through the papers for a State convention to meet at Petaluma, Sept. 17th. Responding to this call, twenty women came from Alameda, Grass Valley, Nevada City, Oakland and Santa Rosa. Owing to illness of the delegate, San Francisco was not represented. The Convention began with a prayer service of half an hour, led by Mrs. S. B. Sadler, of Oakland. Mrs. G. S. Abbott took the chair, with Miss Belle Jenkins, of Santa Rosa, as Secretary. Committees were appointed, and the objects of the meeting solemnly discussed. The afternoon session also



opened by a half hour of prayer, led by Mrs. G. T. Allen, of Petaluma, Mrs. Abbott presiding.

The constitution as recommended by the committee was adopted.

#### PREAMBLE.

WHEREAS, Intemperance, with its fearful resulting evils, is on the increase in the State of California, and whereas, woman is and always has been the greatest sufferer from this vice, which invades her home and destroys her loved ones; and whereas, in our land God has signally blessed the efforts to reclaim the inebriate and suppress the infamous traffic in intoxicating liquors, therefore,

We, the undersigned, women of California, covenant with one another in a sacred and enduring compact against the wicked sale of alcoholic stimulants, under whatsoever name or form it may be conducted, and, although sanctioned by law, we pledge ourselves now to work for such a change in those laws as will give us power to reclaim the fallen, to prevent the young from contracting tastes and habits that will eventuate in drunkenness; and for the creation of a high moral and religious sentiment in favor of total abstinence from all that can intoxicate.

For this purpose, invoking the blessing and guidance of Almighty God, who would free our beloved land from a most potent cause of crime, pauperism, waste and general demoralization, we agree to govern ourselves by the following:

#### CONSTITUTION.

##### ARTICLE I.

This Association shall be called the WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION OF CALIFORNIA.

##### ARTICLE II.

The officers of this Union shall consist of a President, Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer and Auditor, who shall respectively perform the duties devolving upon such officers, and who, together with eleven others chosen annually, shall constitute an Executive Committee with full powers to carry forward the general work of the Union, and to fill all vacancies that may occur in their committee.

##### ARTICLE III.

One or more Vice-Presidents shall be chosen from each county, who shall supervise the work of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union within the bounds of the county for which they are appointed, and one of whom shall preside at all conventions held therein.

##### ARTICLE IV.

These Vice-Presidents may organize auxiliary societies, arrange for public meetings, devise plans of work and take measures for the

thorough canvass of the territory of said counties, submitting such plans and arrangements to the State Secretary for the approval of the Executive Committee.

#### ARTICLE V.

The Executive Committee, together with the Vice-Presidents of the several counties, shall constitute a Board of Management, who shall meet every three months for mutual counsel concerning the work of the State. The date of those quarterly meetings shall be fixed by the Executive Committee. Any Vice-President unable to attend the quarterly meeting shall submit a written report of work in her county; upon failure at two consecutive meetings to render such report her office shall be declared vacant, and said vacancy filled by appointment of the Executive Committee.

#### ARTICLE VI.

Regular meetings of the Executive Committee for the transaction of business shall be held quarterly. Special meetings of the Executive Committee shall be subject to the call of the Secretary. Special meetings of the State Union may be called by the Executive Committee, or on the written request of the Secretaries of five local Unions.

#### ARTICLE VII.

The Executive Committee shall appoint three persons from their own body to act as a Committee on Finance, upon whom shall devolve the responsibility of raising funds.

#### ARTICLE VIII.

The Treasurer shall receive all moneys, keeping proper books of account, and shall make such disposition of the funds as the Executive Committee shall direct, each order of the Committee being signed by the Chairman of the Committee on Finance.

#### ARTICLE IX .

Each auxiliary must adopt the local constitution provided by the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union; may make its own by-laws, regulate its meetings and those of its Executive Committee, and transact any other business which may be deemed necessary to the efficiency of the Union, not inconsistent with the constitution of the State Union. Any local Union may become auxiliary to the State Union by payment of 25 cents for each member (yearly).

#### ARTICLE X.

The annual meeting of the State Union shall be held on the Wednesday and Thursday of the first week in September, at the call of the Executive Committee. At that time the election of officers for the ensuing year shall take place,—the President and Secretary being chosen by ballot, and all officers as the State Convention may decide.

#### ARTICLE XI.

Five members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.

## ARTICLE XII.

This Constitution may be amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at any annual meeting of the Union, notice of the same having been given a year previous.

The following officers were elected: President, Mrs. G. S. Abbott; Vice President, Mrs. John A. McNear; Secretary, Mrs. Mary E. Congdon; Treasurer, Mrs. Wm. Elder; Auditor, Dr. Annette Buckel.

## Executive Committee.

The above officers and Mrs. H. M. Lewis, Mrs. Dr. Coxhead, Mrs. William Hill, Mrs. G. F. Allen, Mrs. P. D. Browne, Mrs. A. P. Whitney, Mrs. J. B. Hill, Mrs. Thomas Gilbert, Mrs. Van Slyke, Mrs. J. G. Wickersham, and Mrs. H. P. Brainard.

Of this Executive Committee Mrs. Mary E. Congdon, Mrs. William Hill, Mrs. John A. McNear, Mrs. A. P. Whitney, and Mrs. H. P. Brainard survive, and are still interested in, and contributing to the work.

## RESOLUTIONS.

RESOLVED: That the members of this Convention recognizing that their call to Temperance work is from God, desire to express the conviction of their utter dependence upon Him for all needed wisdom and strength.

RESOLVED: That since it is easier to prevent than to cure, that we urge upon our Union the importance of organizing and sustaining juvenile temperance societies, and by every available means commit the youth of our land, both by profession and practice, to the principles of total abstinence.

RESOLVED: That believing that no legislation can make that right which is wrong in itself, and asserting that whosoever is engaged in the sale of ardent spirits is guilty of crime against society, we do hereby protest against the legalizing of the liquor traffic, and call upon women to petition, pray, and work until the license law shall be repealed.

RESOLVED: That believing the use of tobacco an evil, and evil only in its effects, poisoning the system and corrupting both morals and manners, leading to and fostering an appetite for strong drink, we think it our duty to express our deprecation<sup>o</sup> of the growing tendency to use tobacco in any form, and to labor earnestly for a wider circulation of the Anti-Tobacco pledge.

RESOLVED: That the women of this Union consecrate not only their hearts, their hands and their money to the work of Temperance, but if need be their voices also.

The Secretary added to this report: "Thus closed our first State

Convention, and we intend to hold one yearly, until alcohol is banished from our land." There was an evening session, with speeches by the men and music by the women.

Greetings, as follows, were sent by the Woman's Christian Temperance Union to the Methodist Conference at San Jose, and the Congregational Association at San Francisco:

"Christian Greeting:—

"We would call your attention to the fact that the Lord, by his Holy Spirit, is leading many women to obey his call in doing whatsoever He leads them to do; to care for the degraded, to rescue the perishing, and to try to prevent our children from falling into the hands of the destroyer.

"We ask that you recognize our mission, and recommend that the churches under you, take an interest in the whole subject of Temperance, and especially in the introduction of its principles among children and youth."

1880.

The records of the first year are meager, but sufficient to prove that the new Union was well officered. Mrs. Abbott, though hampered with other work, proved a wise and able president. Early in the year another Convention was held at Alameda, and in February the Executive Committee appointed standing committees on Literature, Press, and Juvenile work.

### Second Convention.

The annual Convention met at the First Congregational Church, Oakland, Sept. 2nd, 1880, the President, Mrs. G. S. Abbott presiding, who, after the devotional opening, made a happy address. The Treasurer reported receipts and expenses for the year, \$35.00.

Thirteen delegates from six unions were present. Ten Unions were reported. The Secretary, Mrs. M. E. Congdon, was Chairman of the Press Committee, and at once secured space in six denominational papers, and during the year sent original articles more or less frequently to all of them, also to several secular papers. New Unions were organized at San Jose, Salinas, Sheep Ranch and Placerville. The Union at Santa Rosa lost its identity by combining with another society. Berkeley and Sonora were organized after the convention.

The admirable report of the Secretary closes with practical recommendations for the coming year: 1. As a State Society, hold Conventions often; 2. Appoint County Presidents; 3. Hold Executive meetings quarterly; 4. National dues should

be paid; 5. Appoint Press Committee for each religious paper; 6. Officers to preside at all meetings, public and private,—each meeting to be preceded by a prayer meeting; 7. All members should subscribe for "Our Union," the National Organ; 8. Build on a sound financial basis. Each Union should try to organize a new one in its vicinity, and soon, **if we pray for a fund, work for a fund, and believe we shall have a fund, it will be within our reach.**

Mrs. Abbott declined to serve another year, and the following officers were elected: President, Mrs. P. D. Browne, Oakland; Vice Presidents, Mrs. G. S. Abbott, Oakland; Mrs. John McNear, Petaluma; Mrs. M. A. Nash, Santa Rosa; Mrs. D. J. Spencer, Grass Valley; Miss Sarah P. Morrison, San Jose; Mrs. J. B. Hill, Alameda; Secretary, Mrs. M. E. Congdon, Petaluma; Assistant, Mrs. H. H. Havens, Oakland; Treasurer, Mrs. I. G. Wickersham, Petaluma.

The recommendations of the Secretary were adopted and two more committees added,—one for Sunday Schools and one for Presenting the Work to Influential Bodies.

### University.

It was resolved to appeal to the Regents and Faculty of the State University to enforce the law that no liquor shall be sold within two miles of that institution.

It is worthy of note that this appeal, the first that gave expression to the solicitude of women for the moral interests of the State University has in different forms been continuous ever since.

The resolution provoking most discussion, and which was finally adopted, was to the effect that all meetings should be presided over by their presidents,—some holding that it was unfeminine for a woman to preside at a public meeting. The new president would not pledge herself to do so, or consent to sit, at the day session, on the platform,—although said platform (which was that of the Sunday School room) was raised but one step above the floor! Rev. J. K. McLean, pastor of the church, presided at the evening session, to spare the president's feelings.

This incident is given to illustrate the ideas of that time. Mrs. Browne's views changed, however, and she afterwards

became a most successful presiding officer and a fine platform speaker, distinguished for her fluency and readiness of speech.

1881.

### **Second Convention.**

The second Annual Convention met at the Young Men's Christian Association Hall, 232 Sutter Street, San Francisco, September first, 1881. Increase for the year was shown by the presence of two officers and fourteen delegates. Thirteen unions reported. Advance steps in organization were taken in expectation of greater needs. Presidents of local unions were made Vice Presidents of the State. Life membership was adopted, and at the May Executive, Mrs. L. P. Williams of San Francisco and Mrs. Thomas Varney of Oakland each paid \$25.00 to become life members.

Dr. R. H. McDonald and his mother, Martha Sheppard McDonald became honorary members by payment of \$100 each.

This was a year of great activity, San Francisco carrying on a Coffee House, at an expense of \$1,000 a month,—demonstrating, for the first time, that a temperance eating house would pay. This establishment so thoroughly accomplished that object, that it was driven from the field later, by its numerous and more successful rivals.

The special work of the year was in the schools. Miss Anna R. Congdon, a teacher of Sonoma County, suggested the idea of prize essays in the schools, presenting the subject in an article published in "The Rescue," the official organ of the Good Templars.

Nevada county first adopted and carried out the plan; Alameda, Santa Clara, and possibly some others followed, each raising the funds required for their respective counties; but the city of San Francisco, having a school population so large and difficult to reach, made its appeal to the State union. The Secretary brought the matter before an executive meeting at Oakland, but it seemed too big to handle, and it was agreed that it could not be done unless some one would give the money to finance the work.

### **Prize Essays in Schools.**

Dr. R. H. McDonald, President of the Pacific Bank of San

STATE PRESIDENT



MRS. P. D. BROWNE

STATE PRESIDENT



MRS. SOPHIA J. CHURCHILL



STATE PRESIDENT



MRS. ROSAMOND R. JOHNSTON

STATE PRESIDENT



MRS. BEAUMELLE STURTEVANT-PEET

Francisco, was struck with the idea and at once proceeded to work out a plan of his own. He made a donation to the Union of \$1,000 to be used for "Prize Essays" on the "Evil Effects of Tobacco and Intemperance," by the pupils of the Public Schools of San Francisco, and also \$500 for prize essays on the same subjects in the Normal School at San Jose, and the High Schools of the State. His plans were thorough, and required the personal supervision and constant efforts of the Secretary for five months. To make this possible, he paid her board and one-half of her salary for that time, besides providing desk and supplies for her office, printing circular letters and over 80,000 leaflets, as different ideas or occasions had to be met, until the sum of his donations for this special work amounted to more than \$3,000.

The city schools had then 32,000 pupils and 686 teachers. By arrangement with the Board of Education all except the two lowest grades were engaged in the contest, with prizes in varying amounts to all schools, of from \$2.00 to \$15.00, and two gold medals. Nearly 20,000 children competed for those prizes of which 200 were presented by the donor at a meeting of over 3,000 people at Union Hall.

With all this, there came a tremendous demand for temperance literature. Every source was ransacked for supplies, and the libraries put up notices "No more Temperance books to be had." This by no means ended the prize essay work. The effort inaugurated a study of the subject throughout the State that was far reaching in its influence.

Mrs. S. P. Taylor, the president of San Francisco, being about to go east, was elected the first delegate from California to a National Convention.

### 1882.

The third Annual Convention met in Oakland, and for the first time filled two days—the 6th and 7th of September, 1882. Two officers and fourteen delegates answered the roll call. The Secretary reported the same number of Unions, but greatly increased interest.

The first efforts to introduce unfermented wine at Communion resulted in its adoption by the First Presbyterian Church of Oakland.

The general work was aided by the courtesy of the Good Templars, who gave the use of one page of their official organ, "The Rescue."

#### High School Essays.

The prize essay work of the preceding year was in the graded schools, that for the Normal and High schools was carried out successfully this year; the High Schools of Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, Grass Valley, Alameda, San Diego and Gilroy competed for the prize of \$25.00. San Diego won it.

Mrs. E. H. Gray was elected President; Mrs. P. D. Browne, Vice-President; Mrs. Mary E. Congdon, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. H. H. Havens, Assistant; Mrs. L. P. Williams, Recording Secretary, and Mrs. S. G. Chamberlain, Treasurer.

Of these early officers, Mrs. Williams is still in the service, only one other woman having filled so many different positions.

Mrs. Chamberlain was one whose keen insight gave her an intuitive perception of the latent gifts of others and inspired them with the confidence that brought them into activity. A distinguished writer who had been her pupil in boyhood, refers tenderly to this influence in suggesting the hopes and future of her scholars.

#### 1883.

The Fourth Annual Convention met in the Y. M. C. A. Hall, San Francisco, Sept. 5, 1883. Two officers, sixteen delegates and a few visiting members made up the meeting. Twenty-two Unions were reported, many were too remote to send delegates.

Mrs. E. H. Gray, the president elected by the preceding convention having been unable to serve after the opening of the year, the vice-president, Mrs. Browne, resumed the position that she had so ably filled for two preceding years, and continued in that office until she had rounded out a remarkably successful term of five years.

#### Woman's Suffrage.

A memorable feature of this Convention was the reading of a paper by Mrs. Nellie B. Eyster, on the "Adaptation of Women to the Work of Temperance Reform," that incidentally and innocuously touched upon Woman Suffrage, a topic

tabooed by the president. The silent audience felt the thrill it produced, and yet remembers just how the speaker looked, as with unconscious movements her falling curls kept time to the rhythm of her voice, as she gave utterance to thought so radical. Mrs. S. J. Churchill rose promptly and with calm dignity followed bravely, in strong words of approbation. The Chair gently announced the next number on the program. The work was well done, and without a resolution or a vote, the convention stood committed to the cause of "Votes for Women."

### Miss Willard's Visit.

The event of the year was the visit of Frances E. Willard and her Secretary, Miss Anna Gordon. They came by way of Los Angeles, first organizing Unions there. From there the route was arranged by Mrs. M. E. Congdon, who, with the president, Mrs. E. H. Gray, met Miss Willard at that point. The itinerary covered 65 days, in which Miss Willard gave 75 addresses to 35,000 hearers, traveled 2,276 miles, organized 18 Unions, added approximately 1,000 members and received collections amounting to \$1,000, which was mostly returned to the local Union in each locality.

This was the first attempt to make dates for a speaker, and was most successfully managed by the Secretary, Mrs. Congdon. Not one engagement was missed and the whole plan was carried out with the accuracy of clock work. The effect of this visit cannot be measured. Miss Willard's magnetic eloquence attracted the people, her breadth of vision enlightened them, and her splendid, spiritual personality impressed them. The work assumed a position of importance and influence due to the public recognition of its lofty aims and character.

Plans of expansion were laid and Amendments to the Constitution proposed, to bring the work into line with the most advanced.

The proceeds of Miss Willard's lectures, in San Francisco, \$275.00, were, at her request, used to establish a kindergarten. Like that of the Coffee House, the success of this line of work was so well demonstrated that it was soon taken up by

others, and later on the Kindergarten Association absorbed this, with others subsequently established.

A Kindergarten was also successfully carried on by the San Jose union for some years until adopted by the Board of Education.

As an antidote to intemperance, the Unions generally, according to locality and ability, took up the special work of Coffee Houses and Reading Rooms. At that time it was recognized as the best thing to do, although many of them were wrecked on financial rocks, all did their temporary part in the creation of enduring sentiment. A Sewing and Temperance school was conducted during the summer in the lower part of San Francisco, but for lack of teachers was discontinued.

## CHAPTER III.

### Division of State. Movement for Constitutional Prohibition. County Organization.

1884.

On May 29th, 1884, a conference was held in Oakland between the state officers and Miss Hathaway, president of Southern California, at which it was deemed advisable on account of the inconvenience of attending conventions at such great distances, to sever the seven southern counties, San Luis Obispo, Kern, Ventura, Santa Barbara, Los Angeles, San Diego and San Bernardino, from the remainder of the State, as a separate Union, to be known as the Union of Southern California. In the evening a public meeting was held, at which Mrs. Foster of Iowa gave an able address on "Constitutional Prohibition." A midsummer conference was held at Pacific Grove—during the Chatauqua Assembly, an entire day being given to temperance work. The public meeting in the evening was addressed for the first time by the **President** and the **Superintendents of departments**. A **DISTINCT ADVANCE**.

The Fifth Annual Convention met in Oakland, Sept. 3rd and 4th. Forty-five unions were reported and twenty-four sent delegates. This told of great expansion. The number of unions had doubled, two at Oakland and Stockton were Young Women's, the first organized.

A distinguished clergyman present was invited to the platform, and made a ringing commendatory speech, in which he expressed himself as favorable to Woman Suffrage. The president could not then countenance such radical ideas, and very sharply called him to order, with the remark that "such views were not to be advanced on this platform." It is a pleasure to record that the lady expanded with her work, and later became an able exponent of those same views.

#### **Departments.**

At Miss Willard's recommendation Departments were adopted and Superintendents appointed, instead of the previous clumsier methods of committees. The Departments

were Evangelistic, Legislation and Petitions, Scientific Temperance Instruction, Hygiene, Heredity, Song, Prison, Press, Viticulture, Literary Bodies and School Conventions, County Fairs, Religious Bodies, Sunday Schools, Public Lectures, Coffee Houses, Soldiers and Sailors, Free Reading Room, Young Ladies' Unions, Object Lessons, Fruit and Flowers, German Work and Juvenile Work, each with an able Superintendent.

These departments generally duplicated those already established in the National Union, but two, the department of "Song" and "Viticulture" originated here. Accessions of members from the East were adding force and helping to shape the work. Mrs. Sturtevant-Peet, fresh from her laurels won in Vermont, had in her first year's residence made herself felt on the Committee of Legislation and Petitions, of which department she was the first Superintendent, and at this writing ably fills the same position. These Superintendents were appointed after the last preceding Convention, and brought in their first reports at this one. Mrs. Henrietta Skelton, National Supt. of German Work, came to California in this year and organized German Unions in San Francisco and San Jose.

The first department literature, was brought out in this year by Dr. C. Annette Buckel, Supt. of Hygiene. The course consisted of twelve lessons, one for each month, in leaflet form, on the subjects, "Air," "Water," "Food," "Animal," and "Vegetable," "The Digestive Organs and their Functions," "Clothing," and "Exercise." These lesson leaflets were largely used by the Unions, and had they been known outside of the State, would no doubt have had a permanent value in the national literature.

The juvenile work was at this time the greatest object of importance to all the Unions, although it was as yet imperfectly organized, the juvenile societies having various names and methods, though working to the same end.

#### **Making a Lecture Route.**

Miss Willard's vision of the Pacific and beyond, was the signal for workers from the East to appear. First came Mrs. Mary Clement Leavitt, commissioned as the first "Round the



World Missionary", to do all she could in California, while plans were maturing for foreign fields.

Lecture routes do not yet present themselves ready made, and at that time were matters of great difficulty. Railroads were few and far between, and beyond the towns near centers of population, it was not even known to whom to write for such purposes. The president knew an excellent family, of wealth and social position, in a northern county, and to them she wrote announcing that Mrs. Leavitt, a temperance lecturer, would be in their vicinity on a given date, and, "Will you kindly entertain her," she asked, "arrange for a place for her to speak, secure the co-operation of local clergy, the services of the choir, and above all see that the meetings are well advertised, etc." The letter was received by the lady of the manor, with dismay. Her home was famed for its gracious hospitality. It was like a ducal estate, its immense acreage of wheat, its great orchards and wide-spreading vineyards, were the sources of the owner's wealth, the commercial burden of the Sacramento river, and the symbols of social and political influence. She was equal to anything, but really knew as little of temperance meetings, as the proverbial kitten knows about Sunday school, and what was worse, on the very date given for Mrs. Leavitt's arrival her cards were out for a social function which would fill her spacious house. Friends from near and far, from the distant cities and nearer towns were invited for that very time. In her perplexity she thought of the Bidwells. The Bidwells lived in another county, but were known to have peculiar ideas about total abstinence, and General Bidwell had been so fanatical as to pull up every wine-grape on his place—the famous Rancho Chico—rather than allow them to produce fruit that would make wine. So she wrote to Mrs. Bidwell, and the General and his wife conferred together on the matter. Theirs was a home noted for its hospitality, and the prospect of a discussion on the subject of temperance was more than welcome—but a woman lecturer! They shuddered at the thought. True, they had met Miss Willard, but she was so altogether exceptional that it was a shock to think of any other woman on the platform. Finally the General said, "Well, there is nothing else to do", and bravely they did their part. They expected

an unattractive, masculine woman, but instead they met a charming, cultured and motherly lady who leveled every obstacle that Miss Willard had not swept away.

Mrs. Leavitt organized twelve Unions, but by midsummer was too ill to go on with her route, and it was finished by Mrs. H. A. Hobart, president of Minnesota, who had come to the coast seeking health, and in this emergency kindly carried on the work so well begun. She organized six Unions, and spoke in many other places.

Mrs. Bidwell was appointed a Superintendent of Organization in the northern counties, including Butte, Tehama and Shasta; and, with her noble husband, became a tower of strength to the Cause; they were untiring in their own efforts, and thoughtful to the last degree of other workers.

Mrs. J. Ellen Foster, of Iowa, a woman of rare ability and oratorical power, also gave a series of lectures in the larger towns of the State and like a magnet drew members involuntarily into the Unions.

### Legislation.

Mrs. Foster had been president of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Iowa, and under her leadership the state had achieved prohibition by Constitutional Amendment. This was then an entirely new method. Iowa and its president became famous. When Miss Willard learned that Mrs. Foster was about to visit California, she at once commissioned her to find Mrs. Sturtevant, late Corresponding Secretary and Organizer of Vermont, whose ability was well known in the East, and make her Superintendent of Legislation for California. Mrs. Sturtevant had in the meantime married Mr. E. W. Peet, come to this state, was already at work as a county president, and just then was revising the constitution of the state union and demonstrating her fitness for the work. The state was not yet well organized, in the north or south, and Mrs. Foster's plan of having one superintendent include the whole state in her jurisdiction was readily accepted by both. With characteristic energy Mrs. Sturtevant-Peet undertook her new duties, wrote and sent the following manifesto to all the unions for distribution and action. No sooner was this out, than politicians began to take notice, and a com-

STATE PRESIDENT



MRS. SARA J. DORR

## STATE OFFICERS



MRS. E. G. GREENE

MRS. ELIZABETH ROSS MILLER.

Vice-presidents-at-large



MRS. ADDIE GARWOOD ESTES  
Vice-president-at-large

MRS. ETHEL ESTES STEPHENSON  
Secretary Young People's Branch

STATE OFFICERS



MRS. H. H. HAVENS



MRS. DORCAS J. SPENCER



MRS. HENRIETTA E. BROWN



MRS. ANNA E. CHASE

Corresponding Secretaries



STATE HEADQUARTERS FROM 1885 TO 1904  
A juvenile demonstration on Decoration Day

mittee of gentlemen drove out from Oakland to her home at Hayward to remonstrate with her, reminding her that a presidential campaign was on, and this course might imperil the success of the republican party.

### Prohibition Manifesto.

Here is the text of the alarming document:

To the Woman's Christian Temperance Unions of California:

"Be thou for the people to God-ward, that thou mayest bring the causes unto God."

And thou shalt teach them ordinances and laws and shalt show them the way wherein they must walk and the work that they must do."—Exodus, 18, 19, 20.

Dear Women of the W. C. T. U.:

The Executive Boards of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of California and of Southern California, after mature deliberation, and in harmony with the work known as the Department of Legislation and Petitions have made me Superintendent of the same in northern California. They resolved further to begin a movement for Constitutional Prohibition, as set forth in the following resolutions:

RESOLVED: That realizing the increasing strength of the liquor traffic in our State, and the dreadful demoralization resulting therefrom, we are profoundly impressed that it is our duty to direct the attention of the people of the State to a study of Constitutional Prohibition as the legislative remedy for these evils, that through petition, agitation, education and legislation the organic law may be so amended as to favor the prohibition of the manufacture and sale of all alcoholic beverages.

RESOLVED: That in our opinion the prohibition of the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors in the State should include wine made from grapes grown in the State, for the reason that the same contains a large proportion of alcohol, and is intoxicating, and the experience that comes from other wine-growing countries confirms this fact, and demonstrates that intemperance increases as does this so-called industry, and on this we solicit facts.

Since the beginning of our women's temperance work in both State and Nation, we have sought Divine guidance as to lines of work to be pursued and methods to be adopted. I therefore ask that you will, in your local Union give careful and prayerful consideration to the following:

We believe Prohibition to be the only legislative remedy, right principle and effective in results. We believe Constitutional Prohibition to be the best form which prohibition can take. We believe this to be the easiest of attainment, the best adapted to woman's facilities of labor, and that it is, also, the most permanent and effective when obtained.

You will receive petitions to the Legislature convening January, 1885, asking it to adopt and submit a Prohibitory Amendment to the people. But notice, workers of the W. C. T. U., during the next few months the political parties will hold their Conventions for the nomination of members to the Legislature. These Conventions will also adopt what is known as a "platform of principles." We urge that you send a committee of women to the Convention and to present a memorial in signed writing, asking them to declare in the platform adopted that it is the duty of the Legislature to submit this great question to a popular vote by way of amendment to the Constitution, and pledging the nominees at the Convention that they will, if elected to the Legislature, thus submit.

We send a form of memorial which may be used. This memorial should be presented at the State and County Conventions of each and every political party. The object of the memorial is to arrest public thought, to provoke discussion, to bring party managers to feel the pressure of the unrepresented sentiment of the homes. While we know very well that the mere politician gives little service, save as it can be exchanged for votes, there are always in every gathering true, brave men who have not bent the knee to the Baal of Expediency—who will stand for "God and home and native land." If a clear issue is presented to them, wise and brave knights will come to our defense, and to the advocacy of our principles. We recommend that the petition be circulated as soon as September. It is well to open the petition campaign with a public meeting in which the whole plan of action shall be set forth. Remember to clearly state that the signer does not of necessity declare himself a prohibitionist, or to pledge himself to vote for prohibition. The petitioner merely says (in effect) "This is a great question; therefore I ask the Legislature to take the steps provided for in the Constitution, that the people may thus exercise their sovereignty."

We further recommend that each Woman's Christian Temperance Union duplicate this department of legislation, and that a clear-brained, consecrated woman be appointed Superintendent. We further recommend that on the day of the regular union local meeting following the advent of this message that there be read the Scripture found in Deut. 6, 16-25; also that time be given to prayer for Divine guidance in this new line of work.

During the circulating of the petition, distribute temperance literature, take note of all objections made to prohibition as a principle, or to this amendment movement by which we hope and expect to secure prohibition.

This movement, though inaugurated by the W. C. T. U., will not by any means be championed alone by our organization, as in other States. Ministers of Christian churches will give it their hearty indorsement. The Independent Order of Good Templars, around their lodge altars, sacred with obligations of total abstinence, will pledge



their support to this attempt to take the "drink away from the man" as well as the "man away from the drink." Other temperance organizations will see in this the best opportunity for a "long pull, a strong pull and a pull together," an united onset against the "powers of darkness" as they are entrenched in the liquor traffic, and Constitutional Prohibition shall soon be the shibboleth of battle all along the line.

Yours sincerely,

BEAUMELLE STURTEVANT-PEET,

Supt. Legislation.

Hayward, July 21, 1884.

Throughout the state the influence of politicians was greater than that of voteless women, no party endorsed the principle, and the effort was considered premature. However, the next legislature was memorialized by the W. C. T. U. to submit a Constitutional Amendment for Prohibition. The Memorial was introduced by Senator Steele of San Luis Obispo, and lost, thus ending the first direct effort toward the ultimate object of the W. C. T. U.

#### 1885.

The Sixth Convention at Petaluma held three days and was inspirational. Falling upon a day set apart by the National Union as a day of prayer a whole morning session was given to that. Even in the devotional hours there was in those days a striking variety and originality. A delegate reporting to her local Union, said: "That prayer service was wonderful." The president, Mrs. Browne, with the most amazingly rapid flow of thought and language, began it. Mrs. Sturtevant-Peet, a strikingly beautiful woman of charming personality, read the Scripture; after her came a modest rural member, slow of speech, but most appealing in prayer; then an elegant French woman, unused to pray in public, spoke earnestly in tender words of mixed English and French; then another timid saint poured out her soul in praise and petition; a very old black woman, once a slave, offered a typical traditional plantation prayer, that seemed to raise the very roof in its ascent, and Henrietta Skelton, in her never-to-be-forgotten German accents gave her tribute of grateful praise, calling down all the blessings of heaven, but only this one petition is now recalled: "Bless de dear hoosbands who have shpared

dere coompanions to coome up here; may day be better vimmen ven dey coome to dem back."

The return to the place of its origin brought out conspicuously the rapid growth of the Union. Eighty local Unions had been organized in the year, 57 reported, 21 departments had State Superintendents.

### County Organization.

County organization began in May with Contra Costa. The president, Mrs. Schott writes: "I do not know why I accepted the presidency, except that I could not resist the earnest, appealing face of Mrs. Skelton." Sonoma and Fresno, also, were organized in May; Tulare in June; Alameda and Nevada in July; San Francisco in September; then Santa Clara, Butte and Napa.

Mrs. Sturtevant-Peet presented a form of constitution embodying all the amendments offered the previous year—which, after full deliberation, was accepted. Under its provisions, the election was the first held by the "Nominating and Elective Ballot," then known as the "Informal Ballot." The first provision was made for paying the expenses of the president in this year.

### The Bulletin.

The necessity of a State organ becoming imperative, the president, Mrs. Browne, early in the year issued a tiny sheet called "The Bulletin," which so well filled the long-felt want that it soon became a monthly, with larger pages. It was ably edited by Mrs. Browne, and a committee was charged with the care of its finances.

### State Headquarters.

The establishment of State Headquarters marked another step in advance. The double parlors of the house, 133 McAllister street, San Francisco, were rented in the spring, and during the summer well furnished, largely by gifts solicited by Mrs. Henrietta Skelton. On September first, they were formally dedicated by Bishop Fowler, and for more than twenty years—when removal became necessary—were the center of activities that reached the whole State and far beyond. A depository of literature was at once established, and

the Corresponding Secretary required to be in attendance two days in the week, with a salary of \$25 per month.

In the list of "Departments" there appeared one that has never been seen since, the "Industrial Ranch for Boys." A wealthy gentleman had a philanthropic design to found an Industrial Home, in which boys from the city streets might be gathered in, reared in a wholesome atmosphere and trained in temperance principles and right living. Desiring to place this institution in the care of a permanent and well-equipped organization, and struck with the fitness of the W. C. T. U. for such a charge, he proposed to give the Union a property valued at \$30,000, for the purpose, but objected to the word "Christian" in the title of the Union. The matter was discussed at an Executive Meeting, and the gift was declined, without bringing it before the Convention.

Miss Henrietta G. Moore, of Ohio, a national organizer, then a divinity student, and now a well-known minister, and Mrs. Henrietta Skelton rendered excellent services as organizers. Eight Unions in this year maintained local headquarters.

### **Berkeley Liquor Law.**

The persistent violation of the law prohibiting the sale of liquor within one mile of the State University caused the state union to raise a special fund to aid in the prosecution of several cases before a court and jury to test the validity of the law, but the jury in each case failed to agree. The evidence was absolute and certain, no attempt was made by defendants to disprove the facts, the court sustained the law, yet juries would not convict. Many women of the W. C. T. U. were present at these trials, helping by their presence to make better sentiment.

The growing demands of the state work, in this year of so many activities had taxed even the tireless energy of the president, and Mrs. Browne declined reelection, after an administration in which foundations broad and deep had been laid for the permanent structure arising. The recording secretary, Mrs. Mary H. Field, also retired from that office. She was a rarely gifted woman, whose presence adorned and dignified any position. Mrs. S. J. Churchill already well known,

was elected president, and Mrs. H. E. Brown recording secretary.

Mrs. Sturtevant-Peet led off in county work by holding the first Institute in the State. The success of one day at Chatauqua led to a Temperance Conference of three days at Pacific Grove, and was the beginning from which have grown the Summer Assemblies which the Union has held annually ever since, excepting the year of the San Francisco fire.

#### 1886.

This progressive Convention met at San Jose in October—the date being now fixed by the Constitution. One hundred and two delegates attended. Twenty-one new unions were organized this year, and twenty-seven departments reported. There was general activity in all, but work for the young led all the rest. There were fifteen Young Woman's unions, with nearly six hundred members. Grass Valley, the largest, had 139 members, having for its motto "Talitha Cumi" (in Scriptural terms which being interpreted is, "Damsel I say unto thee, 'Arise.'") Its flower "Echscholtia Californica," was adopted by the state union.

This meeting was marked by earnest debates. The department of Purity was adopted after some hesitation as a peculiarly difficult one, and given to Superintendent Mrs. Hannah Bean—a mark of great confidence. Franchise, at first considered so timidly, loomed up, big with importance, and after much discussion was adopted as a department by a vote of 54 to 40, and Sarah M. Severance appointed Superintendent.

Having done this, an earnest debate followed on a motion to ask the legislature to grant the ballot to women. This was conceded to be premature, and it was voted to concentrate all forces this year to secure the Temperance Education Law.

Another debate followed on the adoption of the famous St. Louis resolution, which resulted in declaring for the principle of prohibition, but leaving the Union non-partisan in its attitude.

Advance steps were made in Finance, and a Contingent Fund created by local pledges, to send the president to the National Convention. Systematic financial plans evolved but slowly. A special fund was made by voluntary offerings, called the "Love Fund," as a gift to the president. Lectur-

ers this year were Mrs. Skelton, Miss Narcissa White, of Pennsylvania; Mrs. Wittenmeyer, the first National President; Mrs. Youmans, President of the Dominion of Canada, and Mrs. E. G. Greene, late President of Vermont, well known by her book, "The Pathfinder," which had been a text book on organization. She originated in her State the W. C. T. U. Institute, since become a most useful factor in all States.

The one-mile law protecting the State University from the liquor traffic, having passed the test of the Supreme Court, became a definite object of defense and the battle for its enforcement was renewed by the State, led by the Berkeley Union and aided by President Reid, of the University, and his wife.

The Bulletin grew from four to eight pages, subscription 25 cents—ads. wanted.

#### **Scientific Temperance Instruction.**

A quiet, but important work was pushed in the department of Scientific Temperance Instruction in 1885 and 1886, as a preliminary to securing a law that should place it in the public schools of the State. The first text book meeting the new requirements, was "Steele's Hygienic Physiology." The Superintendent, Mrs. Spencer, at once made herself familiar with all the processes of its preparation, including the names and officers of all the committee of specialists engaged in it—information which proved invaluable, and then began writing about it to prominent teachers and Boards of Education. The influential Union at Oakland, and that of Grass Valley simultaneously secured its adoption. On the theory that the lesser would readily follow the larger towns, San Francisco became the next point of attack. Learning the names of the members of the Board of Education, letters setting forth facts and arguments favorable to the adoption of that book were sent to each one, and to many prominent women, asking their influence and personal attendance at the meeting of the Board of Education when the subject should be considered. The book was adopted, and as the ladies left the City Hall it was said "the letters did it."

This was, in its effects, a great achievement, and is here recorded to show the means by which it was brought about. It enabled the Superintendent to say in her next letters,

“Boards of Education representing thirty-three per cent of the school census of the State have adopted the ‘Temperance Physiology,’ and thereafter she carried with her a copy of the School Census, and whenever any Board of Education adopted the book, a little sum in percentage added force to her argument by showing how many more had done it.

This first text book reached only the higher grades. A “Health Primer” was soon brought out for the lower grades. By this time the Liquor Interest began to take notice, and opposition was more frequently met. In her home town a most valuable experience was had. A Board of Education of seven members was dominated by its chairman, a lawyer opposed to the measure. A committee of ladies preferred their request, which was at once granted, only to be reconsidered as soon as the ladies left the room. This was the signal for a siege of parliamentary tactics by which it was intended to defeat it, and continued at every meeting for five months, when the women triumphed. As this was only a city board, having no jurisdiction outside the municipality, the County Board of Education claimed attention next. The same gentleman, though not a member of the County Board, conducted the opposition there for three months, when, as before, the measure was carried by a full vote.

In that eight months the Superintendent received excellent training for duties that devolved upon her afterwards as a lobby member of the State Legislature. That lawyer’s suggestions were often helpful; one night he angrily said, in reluctantly conceding a point, “A lot of influential women will carry anything.”

Before the Superintendent retired that night, she was writing to distant clergymen to ask, “Who is the most influential woman in your town?” and before the convention of 1886 met, this thought had been worked so well that seven-eighths of all the schools had some sort of temperance physiology in use. By this time various publishers were striving to meet the growing demand. The books in use were of far from uniform merit, in itself a good reason for asking for a law to secure the best.

At the Post-executive meeting at the close of this convention, Mrs. Dorcas J. Spencer was elected the first State Organizer.

1887.

## CHAPTER IV.

### Incorporation. Passage of Temperance Law. The Pacific Ensign.

The Eighth Annual Convention met at Santa Rosa, and showed a great advance in business methods. It was ruled that none but members with dues paid, were entitled to representation. Local Unions were asked to give not less than three dollars a year for rent and expenses of State Headquarters. The State Union was incorporated under the provisions of the civil law, and nine directors elected.

### ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF THE WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION OF CALIFORNIA.

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that at the annual meeting of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of California, the representative legislative body of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union for said State held on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, the 12th, 13th and 14th days of October, A. D. 1887, at Santa Rosa, County of Sonoma, State of California, said representative legislative body elected to incorporate the "Woman's Christian Temperance Union of California."

#### I.

The name of this corporation is the "WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION OF CALIFORNIA."

#### II.

This incorporation is formed for the purpose of planning and executing, under the special guidance and direction of Almighty God, measures which will result in the promotion of the cause of temperance in the State of California, by the suppression of intemperance in, and the banishment of the liquor traffic from this State.

Pecuniary profit is not the object of this incorporation.

#### III.

The place where its principal business shall be transacted is the City and County of San Francisco.

#### IV.

The term for which said corporation shall exist is fifty (50) years.

## V.

The number of Directors of said corporation shall be nine. The names of those who were appointed and elected at the Ninth Annual Convention are as follows:

Mrs. R. R. Johnston, Mrs. H. H. Havens, Mrs. M. H. Field, Mrs. M. C. Hart, Mrs. S. J. Churchill, Mrs. S. G. Chamberlain, Mrs. M. J. Mayhew, Mrs. Sturtevant-Peet, Mrs. J. Knowland.

## VI.

There is no capital stock, and there are no shares of stock.

## VII.

That in furtherance of said incorporation the following resolution was regularly adopted by said representative legislative body:

RESOLVED: That this, the Eighth Annual Meeting of the representative legislative body of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of California, elect and proceed to incorporate said Union under and by virtue of section 604 of the Civil Code of California.

That thereupon another resolution was duly introduced and adopted, in words as follows:

RESOLVED: That the name of the proposed corporation shall be the "Woman's Christian Temperance Union of California;" that it is formed for the purpose of planning and executing, under the special blessing, guidance and direction of Almighty God, measures which will result in the promotion of the cause of temperance in the State of California, by the suppression of intemperance in, and the banishment of liquor traffic from this State. That the place where its principal business shall be transacted is the City and County of San Francisco, State of California; that the term for which said corporation shall exist is fifty years; and that the number of its Directors shall be nine.

That a third resolution was adopted in reference to said corporation, viz.:

RESOLVED: That this meeting proceed to elect nine Directors of said corporation, to serve for the first year of its existence.

That the presiding officer thereupon appointed Mrs. F. S. Vaslit, of San Francisco, and Miss Alice Freeman, of Santa Clara, as tellers.

That the said representative legislative body proceeded to vote by ballot for said Directors, and the said tellers reported that Mrs. Sophia J. Churchill, Mrs. Laura P. Williams, Mrs. Elizabeth H. Havens, Mrs. Mary H. Field, Mrs. B. Sturtevant-Peet, Mrs. Lucy M. Hutton, Mrs. Nellie B. Eyster, Mrs. L. M. Carver and Mrs. Vestalia M. Gove had received a majority of all the votes cast, and the presiding officer therefore declared that Mrs. Sophia J. Churchill, Mrs. Laura P. Williams, Mrs. Elizabeth H. Havens, Mrs. Mary H. Field, Mrs. B. Sturtevant-Peet, Mrs. Lucy M. Hutton, Mrs. Nellie B. Eyster, Mrs. L. M. Carver and Mrs. Vestalia M. Gove had been duly elected as Directors of said corporation to serve for the first year, and until the election and qualification of their successors.



That the proceedings hereinbefore set forth were all duly had in accordance with the Constitution, rules and regulations governing the other proceedings of said representative body, and took place on Thursday, the thirteenth day of October, A. D. 1887, at Santa Rosa, in the County of Sonoma, State of California.

SOPHIA J. CHURCHILL,

Presiding Officer Woman's Christian Temperance Union of California.

NELLIE B. EYSTER,

Secretary Woman's Christian Temperance Union of California.

Note.—Duly acknowledged by President and Secretary before J. H. Shermier, Notary Public, San Francisco, October 15, 1887.

Filed in office of the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, October 20, 1887.

Certified copy of Articles of Incorporation filed in the office of the Secretary of State at Sacramento, October 21, 1887.

The certificate of the filing of Articles of Incorporation was issued by W. C. Hendricks, Secretary of State, over the Great Seal of the State, on the 21st day of October, 1887.

WILLIAM F. GIBSON, Attorney.

One of the first Board of Directors, Mrs. Sturtevant-Peet, has served continuously and is a member of the present board.

Plans for raising \$500 for a Contingent Fund were presented. One was "That ten lecturers be invited each to give one lecture five times, for which the Unions would pay ten dollars per lecture, and expenses." Another, that every organized county pledge a life membership yearly. Both were adopted, and the latter still obtains.

### Securing Temperance Instruction Law.

Securing the Scientific Temperance Instruction Law was the successful effort of the year. Foundations had been well laid during the two preceding years by the adoption of temperance physiologies of various grades and publishers, by Boards of Education representing seven-eighths of the school census of the state. It was a case of striking while the iron was hot, for every one of these Boards might change text books in the next year, if the desired law were not enacted, and the liquor people were aroused to oppose it.

The National Superintendent, Mrs. Mary H. Hunt, was expected to be here and conduct the campaign, but work before Congress detained her at Washington. The State Superintendent, Mrs. D. J. Spencer, having done the preliminary

work, entered upon this. The resources of the Union were entirely in the Bank of Faith, so the president borrowed twenty dollars for postage and obtained credit for printing. Classified petition heads were prepared with separate columns, for several professions, as well as for "Business men and other voters," and "Women." Never was better work done. One hundred and fifty petitions were sent to local Unions, and they all returned true as the carrier dove to the hand that sent them out, and richly laden. One hundred and fifty were sent to other friends, but generally they did not come back—proving the value of organization, and that there must always be some one whose specific duty it is to do the thing required to be done. This classification showed 400 ministers, 350 physicians, 300 lawyers, 225 school trustees, 1100 school teachers, including the entire faculty of the State University, and the officers of the State Normal School, with the longer columns of men and women.

Southern California sent Miss Emma Harriman to Sacramento to share the first legislative work undertaken by the W. C. T. U. Miss Harriman was able, experienced and very helpful, but was compelled by illness to return to her home before the session was over. Nine weary weeks they waited, watched and worked. The bill passed the Senate early and easily, but dragged slowly in the Assembly. Daily, when "Petitions" were in order, members rose and read petitions—over fifty members having to read them from their home towns, signed by their friends and neighbors. The enemy had no hope of killing the bill except by parliamentary tactics that made delays. In some mysterious manner a number of bills were set back on the file, of which this was one, but late on the last day of the session the psychological moment came, when the author of the bill was called to take the Speaker's chair. A friend called for the second reading of Bill 150. It was objected that 300 bills were still awaiting a third reading, but the chair ruled that nearly all counties had petitioned for this one, and it must be heard. The other 300 were not reached, and at 9 p. m. the provisions of the Constitution were suspended to allow its third reading, and it became a law by a vote of 57 members, 54 being necessary for its passage. No

one voted against it. It was the last bill of that session.

California has the honor of having passed this bill unanimously in both houses. It was signed by Governor Bartlett March 15th. It must not be supposed that all members favored the bill. Many had said in personal interviews, "I cannot vote for that, or, "My constituents will never send me here again if I vote for that," or "I would like to do it, but am pledged to do nothing that will reflect on the liquor traffic," or similar excuses, but invariably these men, within a few days, received letters from home, or were handed petitions from their home towns which they had to present personally. The friendly members were able and strong men, and earned the gratitude of all by their faithful care of "Assembly Bill 150."

After the session was over, a senator of many years experience remarked to Mrs. Spencer that "there had never been so many personal letters written to members in behalf of any bill as this one." She held out to him the directory of Local Unions, saying, "Every name there represents a woman with a pen in her hand."

#### **How the Bill Was Paid.**

Two weeks before the bill passed, the president, Mrs. Churchill, went to Sacramento to aid and cheer Mrs. Spencer. To others it was already a lost cause, but their unwavering faith that day prepared a program for a "Praise Meeting" to be held by all local Unions, when the bill should pass, at which collections should be taken to meet the expenses of the winter. The Unions responded promptly, and the little blue postal orders from everywhere, exactly covered all the bills. Everything requisite had been fully provided, and like heavenly manna, the money came to pay for it all.

After the adjournment of the legislature, the president and Mrs. Spencer gave their time to field work, lecturing, organizing, attending county conventions and visiting local unions. Mrs. Eyster, Supt. Juvenile Work, gave eighteen lectures and organized many Loyal Temperance Legions.

1888.

This Convention met at Woodland, and was in session four days. Mrs. Churchill, whose strong individuality, wise coun-

sels, and perfect serenity of manner had endeared her to all, retired from the presidency and was succeeded by Mrs. Rosamond R. Johnston.

The Secretary records 132 Unions, of which 36 are Y's with more than one thousand members, the various Juvenile societies, under many names, are not numbered, but give proof of the splendid work by and for the young. The advance in organization is striking.

A salary of \$50 a month was provided for the office of president.

### **The St. Louis Resolution.**

This being the year of a presidential election, the St. Louis resolution of 1884 by which the National Convention pledged its sympathy and prayers to the party making the liquor traffic a political issue, which had annually come up for discussion, assumed increased interest, and was endorsed by a vote of 105 to 24.

The distinguished Pundita Ramabai was a guest and speaker.

### **Alameda County.**

The decision of the Supreme Court in the Pasadena case, given last year, favorable to the California Local Option Law, gave a great impetus to that line of work, and many campaigns were conducted in this year, and as usual when campaigning, the Unions grew in numbers and strength. Fifteen organized counties reported. The report of Alameda county, given by the president, Mrs. Sturtevant-Peet, is an honor to the State. Indeed that county, in 1888, was the banner county in the United States, having 1350 active and 150 honorary members, twenty-two Unions, of which ten were Y's, and thirteen Loyal Legions, with 450 members. Used \$2,221.00 for local work, \$500 for the county, paid \$570.00 to State, and pledged \$500.00 to the Temple at Chicago. One speaker, Col. Woodford, was engaged for ten weeks at \$100.00 a week, Mrs. Skelton and Mrs. Stevens for shorter terms of time and less money, and every town in the county visited by each speaker—150 lectures being given, the county canvassed with seven different petitions, a local option campaign waged in

Berkeley, and all departments pushed. No wonder they gained 450 members.

The name of the State paper, "The Bulletin," being the same as that of a popular daily, confusion in the mails occurred frequently, so the name was changed to "The Pharos."

The Annual Conference at Pacific Grove became the "School of Methods."

Reports of local unions tell of conditions of which the later generations should know, for instance: Fall River Valley, in the eastern hills of Shasta, whose members live from two to sixteen miles apart; they meet semi-monthly and carry a Band of Hope; or the Columbia Y's, the only union in Tuolumne County, also meet semi-monthly, sustain a Band of Hope, a small Loan Library; a box in the Post Office for literature, and raised \$75.00 at a Fair of which they sent one third to the state union.

These are types of many valiant little unions whose heroic lives may have gone out with the changes and chances that come to all, but the results of their efforts are the rich inheritance of the present.

In one case a strong union was worked up by the persistency and patient efforts of one woman where neighbors and friends lived far apart. She used to drive over the hot plains, where roadside saloons afforded the only drinking place for man or beast. She drove very fast by these, and rewarded her horse by stopping at the next farm house well, until the faithful animal was so trained by habit that he would not stop near the water troughs of the roadhouses.

Temperance horses of this kind were by no means uncommon, and each gave evidence of some woman's rare devotion.

1889.

The Tenth Convention met at Napa with 114 Women's Unions and 30 Y's and marked a year of progress.

The legislative work of the year included splendid canvassing with petitions for a "Sunday Rest Bill," a bill to raise the age of protection for girls from ten to eighteen years, a "Municipal Suffrage Bill," a "Police Matron Bill" and an "Anti-Tobacco Bill."

The Sunday Rest Bill was favorably reported by the Com-

mittee on Public Morals, but did not pass. The Age of Protection was raised to fourteen years. A bill to provide police matrons for cities of over 30,000 inhabitants was secured.

Mrs. Mary M. Negus, Superintendent of Purity, stayed at Sacramento during the entire session, at her own expense, doing valiant work for these bills, aided by Mrs. M. J. Mayhew, Superintendent of Sabbath Observance. County reports are all fine—that of Alameda following last year's splendid work, says: "Better conditions on better foundations than ever before."

Mrs. Emma Colwell, president of Fresno county, drove over 700 miles in her own buggy, alone, and mostly at her own expense, over roads or no roads, doing all kinds of work successfully—pioneering that should not be forgotten.

### **Hoopa Indians.**

Humboldt also had a report of special interest. This county first raised the funds for expenses, and then invited Mrs. Spencer to do evangelistic work for four months, visiting not only all the towns, but the far off sheep ranges, tan bark, and lumber camps—in short, every place in that big county where a hearing could be had. Once a civilized Christian Indian sat in the audience, and caught a new idea of the influence of organized womanhood. He came to Mrs. Spencer the next day and told of the condition of his people, the Hoopa Indians—practically imprisoned in a reservation, under military guard, in an inaccessible mountain gorge, where, as he said, "Everything is done behind the door; no one sees, and no one can tell. I have tried to get some one to tell this to the government, but no one will. The banks and business men make too much money by it. I ask the member of Congress. He knows me; he say, 'It is all true, but I can't,' and I know why,—the men that nominate him, they make money too, out of military post. Now, you represent many Christian women; you have no money, no politics, and no reason to tell lies. The government will believe what you say. Will you go and see my people, and tell the government what you see?"

His anxious face was irresistible. She promised. At the end of her four months' engagement, accompanied by Mrs. John Walker, the wife of his employer, who would not per-

STATE OFFICERS



MRS. L. P. WILLIAMS



MRS. NELLIE BLESSING EYSTER



MRS. MARY H. FIELD



MRS. ANNIE LITTLE BARRY

Recording Secretaries

STATE OFFICERS



MRS. EMILIE M. SKOE  
Recording Secretary



MRS. S. G. CHAMBERLAIN  
Treasurer



MRS. EMILY HOPPIN



MRS. IOWA M. HOLSTON

Treasurers



STATE OFFICERS



DR. C. ANNETTE BUCKEL



MRS. JOSEPH KNOWLAND



MRS. SARAH C. SANDFORD



MRS. INA ORVIS

Auditors

STATE OFFICERS



MRS. ALICE M. BOWMAN  
Secretary L. T. L. Branch



MRS. MARY F. GILLEY  
Secretary L. T. L. Branch



MISS SARAH M. SEVERANCE



MRS. ELIZABETH LOWE WATSON  
Suffrage Leaders

boarding school in the barracks. We want the white man's law, the white man's school, and the white man's church."

She reported what she had seen to the Indian Office at Washington, also sending copies of her report to any societies or individuals likely to be interested, but not until one of her letters reached President Harrison was any action taken. He promptly ordered Fort Gaston, the military post, investigated, sending Dr. Daniel Dorchester there for the purpose. His report fully corroborated Mrs. Spencer's, and as soon as existing contracts could be completed and official red tape brought into requisition, the Post was abolished and the school established. "The white man's church" was planted later on, when the Indian Association sent a missionary there. Mrs. Spencer continued her plea for the mission before every accessible denominational body for ten years, when the Presbyterian Board of Missions undertook the work. Their missionary, Miss M. E. Chase, was a White Ribboner, formerly of Sonoma County, one who had been coveted for the first president of the state union, but was providentially ready for this field. She became the pastor, counsellor and loving friend of all the tribe, whom she faithfully served for many years.

Mrs. Spencer revisited Hoopa after fifteen years and was surprised to find herself remembered gratefully by the Indians as "the woman that sent the soldiers away." Thus the prayer of the Indians was abundantly answered, but the Indian whose devotion and sagacity brought about these changes did not live to see his vision realized, but died content in the faith that it was all coming, and in his last hours thought himself surrounded by women wearing the white ribbon—to his mind the symbol of his people's redemption.

This was the last field work of Mrs. Spencer as she was transferred to the headquarters as Corresponding Secretary. The demands of the state work now required the office to be kept open every day and the secretary in attendance. She became ex-officio superintendent of literature and took charge of the depository now established, with the same salary as the president.

1890.

The 11th annual convention at Stockton was full of wonderful reports of personal sacrifice and devotion, and conse-

quent development in all lines. The first County report—that of Alameda, reads: "The work has strengthened and deepened in intent, as we have set our stakes for the annihilation of the saloon, and for local prohibition." Other counties echo the strain.

A notable feature this year has been the steady growth of the "True Blue Cadets" from the small beginning in 1883 in Oakland, having now four fully equipped and well-drilled companies of young men and boys in Alameda County, and reaching out to other parts of the State. The State had now two organizers, Mrs. Henrietta Skelton and Mrs. Emma Pow Smith, than whom none could have been more devoted, tireless and efficient. Their labors were abundantly fruitful. The organization of counties now made it possible to arrange for lectures, and to call in from other States many accredited speakers who all helped to promote aggressive work.

#### **Incorporation of the Pacific Ensign.**

The president, Mrs. Johnston, felt strongly the inadequacy of a monthly paper, and the necessity of more frequent means of communication. She so clearly presented this idea, that the convention voted to undertake the publication of a weekly paper, and to incorporate a joint stock company for that purpose. Judge Elliott kindly explained the laws relating to such undertakings—the members being unfamiliar with stock companies or corporations, but anxious to learn. The plan presented, was to sell stock to members only, at ten dollars per share, payable at the rate of two dollars a year. As a preliminary, the names of prospective stockholders were taken and a stockholders' meeting called at the State Headquarters the next week. Seventy-one women gave in their names. The law required a Board of Directors of from five to eleven members, to be elected at the meeting, and it was decided that nothing less than the larger number would be sufficient to share the new responsibilities.

The day—December 3rd, 1890—and the stockholders' meeting came, but nearly every woman who had a husband had been informed by him that she had best keep out of that concern; that every man, being responsible for his wife's debts, had a right to withhold his consent to an enterprise that might

involve him. Some, who had no husbands, had sons equally free with good advice. The upshot of it was that there were but seven stockholders left to organize the company. Each one made the first payment of two dollars on one share of stock, and that \$14.00 was the capital on which the "Pacific Ensign" started.

The seven stockholders who constituted the first Board of Directors were: Mrs. Ada Van Pelt, President; Mrs. Adeline W. Weed, Vice President; Mrs. Laura P. Williams, Mrs. Rosamond R. Johnston, Mrs. Dorcas J. Spencer, Dr. Rebecca C. Hallowell and Miss Winnie Morris.

Miss Julia M. French, a non-stockholder, was elected Secretary, and rendered invaluable service. Mrs. R. R. Johnston was elected Editor and Mrs. D. J. Spencer, Business Manager.

The entire capital was used for fees of incorporation,—a kind legal friend donating his services. The women rose promptly to the occasion, and money came in so freely for stock and subscriptions that the little eight-page paper was ready to be launched January 1st, 1891.

On the morning that the first issue was to go to press the Business Manager awoke to find her husband lying dead beside her. Her duties were taken up by others, and kind hands mailed the initial number of the "Ensign." The day the next issue came out was also the day of the State Executive Meeting, and the President, Mrs. Johnston, who was also Editor of the "Ensign," resigned both positions, to accompany her husband to an eastern city to which his interests had called him. Mrs. Sturtevant-Peet, Vice President, succeeded to the presidency of the State, and Mrs. Ada Van Pelt was chosen to edit the "Ensign."

This would seem to be an unpromising beginning of a doubtful venture, but the "Ensign" became the pet child of the State Union—serving to bind together its distant members by its weekly visits, as nothing else could have done. It held together those who labored for it in bonds of friendship and union that are only welded by the "long pull, the strong pull and the pull altogether." Naturally, there were changes in the personnel of its staff, Mrs. Spencer being the only Director who served continuously from start to finish. Its editors, Mesdames Van Pelt, Eyster, Lord, Southard and Severance

were able and gracious. Miss Severance edited the portion devoted to Suffrage, called the "Overlook," which proved a great factor in the education of sentiment on that important issue.

The Ensign lived a useful life and paid its way, but did not die a natural death. Like the small boy who survived so many calamities that the neighbors said nothing but hanging could kill him, the weekly Ensign lived through trials and difficulties untold, until earthquake and fire wiped out its existence.

#### Lecture of Mrs. St. John.

A plan carried out that year was, at the same time, so helpful to the general objects of the local Union, and to the State finances, that it is worthy of record. The Rev. Eugenia St. John—an able speaker—was engaged for fifty lectures; these lectures were assigned to fifty localities, the local Unions in each place being required to pay ten dollars for the lecture, besides which, the collection taken at each lecture, was to be sent to the State Treasurer, to be divided between State and local Unions. The valuable point of this plan was that each Union, having that ten dollars to pay, had to build up an audience. They could not afford to trifle. In every case the ten dollars was ready, and a good audience furnished the inspiration for a good speech, and a good collection, while reaching a large number of people. The Unions were happy, for the plan was a complete success from every point of view.

1891.

## CHAPTER V.

**Success of the Ensign. Pacific Coast Conference. The First Dry County. Sanitary District Law.**

The Twelfth Convention, at Oakland, had the joy of success in the weekly paper. The women had risen to the occasion, stock was bought and a fair subscription list and advertising patronage secured. The Business Manager had estimated the cost of the paper at \$3,000, for the year, but had succeeded in maintaining it for \$2,006.00, remarking in her report "That it has been done for less than the estimate, is more creditable to those who have done the work, than to those who have allowed it to be done in such a restricted way." It paid cash down, current rates for all labor and supplies,—its only debt being the huge debt of love to the women whose gratuitous labor contributed so largely to its success.

That paragraph tells the story of the "Ensign" during its whole fifteen years. It was undoubtedly worth all it cost, in building up and cementing the fabric of the organization, and bridged a period when nothing else could have served its purposes.

The president spent much of the winter at Sacramento, in the legislature. Petitions were presented for a "Sunday Law;" for "Equal Suffrage" and to "Prohibit the Sale of Tobacco to Minors." Mrs. Purvis, Supt. of Anti-Narcotics, presented the latter, and it became a law. The Suffrage Bill passed the Senate, and was killed in the Assembly. The Sunday Rest Bill was defeated, though its discussion created great interest.

### **Pacific Coast Conference.**

The National Union, at the instance of the Oregon W. C. T. U., which was the hostess of the occasion, sent the National Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. C. B. Buel, and Treasurer Miss Esther Pugh to Portland, Oregon, to hold a conference with Pacific Coast leaders. Oregon, California—northern and

southern—Washington and Idaho were represented. California sent its President and Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. Stevens, of California, was there, having been organizing in the north for some time, and Mrs. Edholm, also of California, was present with ready pen, as the official Reporter.

The exigencies of this year called for a new department, as the special activity in County campaigns was not included in those existing, so that of the "No License Campaign" was created, and Mrs. Mary Bell Mallory, whose unflinching enthusiasm and unflinching courage, made her a natural leader, was appointed its Superintendent. The name of the department was afterwards changed to that of "Christian Citizenship." It is one more of the important departments now operating in all States, that had its origin in this state.

The success of a Tri-County Union,—Santa Cruz, San Benito and Monterey—having been so organized originally, when neither county could sustain its work alone, suggested Bi-County organization where a weak county might be united to its neighbor, until such time as it became strong enough for independence. Yuba and Sutter were the first counties to form such a Union, in 1891; in 1892, Colusa and Glenn; 1893, Tulare and Kings; in 1895, Sonoma and Marin; in 1898, San Joaquin and Calaveras; Fresno and Madera, Sacramento and El Dorado, Santa Clara and San Mateo, Stanislaus and Merced. In 1912 Fresno and Madera, and Tulare and Kings constitute the only Bi-County Unions. These latter have been once separated, but finding that action premature, resumed their old relations.

#### What the Ministers Thought.

Illustrative of conditions and sentiment at this time, is an extract from the minutes of a county convention in the spring of 1891. A feature in the program was a discussion by nine ministers on the question, "How can we unite the votes of the Christian men of the county against the Liquor Traffic?"

The first speaker "denied the statement often made that a man cannot be a Christian and vote for the political parties that perpetuate the traffic."



The second, opened and closed his remarks by saying "I do not know anything about it."

The third, said "We must extend sympathy and Christian charity to the saloon keeper and distiller."

The fourth said "I wouldn't vote whiskey out of the county if I could; and couldn't if I would."

The fifth, "urged the training of children in temperance, when they reach the years of manhood they will rise in their might and crush out the traffic."

The sixth, proposed that "the American saloons being a respectable legalized institution, the people should buy them out."

The seventh, "knew no way in which the votes of Christian men could be counted against the traffic."

The eighth said, "Present the saloon keeper with a better religious and political creed, and he will become followers of them."

The ninth, made a forceful argument in favor of temperance, "He believed in the platform of the prohibition party; there was hope of a final victory for the temperance cause."

There was just one in the nine trained men—not to say divinely appointed—instructors of the people who saw the star of future victory. Were not the blind leading the blind? This reflects the dim and uncertain views of that period, and goes to show that the W. C. T. U. had clearer vision in its policy of "doing everything" whereby to educate public opinion. That county and many others are "dry" now, and it is safe to say that no religious teachers are so bewildered now on any great moral issue.

### Sutter County "Dry."

The climax of the year's success was reached when Sutter County secured Prohibition by a county ordinance, and so had the distinction of being the first "dry" county in the State. The W. C. T. U., under Mrs. Ida Frances Lee, the county president, worked hard for votes, and raised \$2,000 for expenses.

(Copy of Ordinance.)

**AN ORDINANCE**

For the Purpose of Police Regulation, by Prohibiting Places and Things of Immoral Character, Fixing a Penalty for its Violation, and Providing for the Taking Effect and Publication Thereof.

The Board of Supervisors of the county of Sutter do ordain as follows:

Section 1. It shall be and is hereby made unlawful for any person or persons, either as owners, principals, agents, servants or employes, to establish, open, keep, maintain, carry on or assist in carrying on within the corporate limits of the county of Sutter, State of California, any tippling-house, dram-shop, cellar, saloon, bar, bar-room, sample-room or other place where spiritous, vinous, malt, mixed, or intoxicating liquors are sold or given away; or any gambling room or other place of immoral or indecent character; provided that the prohibition of this Ordinance shall not apply to the sale of liquors for medicinal or chemical purposes, by regularly licensed druggists, upon the prescription of a physician entitled to practice medicine under the laws of the State of California.

Section 2. Any act in violation of this Ordinance shall be construed a separate offense for each day of its continuance.

Section 3. Every person who violates any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof before any Court having jurisdiction thereof shall be punished by a fine not exceeding three hundred and sixty dollars or by imprisonment in the County Jail of the County of Sutter not exceeding six months, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Section 4. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section 5. This Ordinance shall take effect on the first day of October A. D. 1891, and before taking effect shall be published for one week in the "Sutter Independent," a newspaper of general circulation in Sutter county.

Passed and approved by the Board of Supervisors of Sutter county, California, this 8th day of September, A. D. 1891, by the following vote:

Ayes—W. T. Spilman, P. L. Bunce, L. Summy, L. P. Farmer, W. H. Smith.

Noes—None.

L. P. FARMER,  
Chairman Board of Supervisors of Sutter County.

(Attest)

A. H. HEWITT,  
Clerk of said Board

(Seal)

By W. D. Woodworth,  
Deputy.



MRS. ANNIE K. BIDWELL



GENERAL JOHN BIDWELL

Prohibition Leaders

COUNTY PRESIDENTS



MRS. SARAH C. BORLAND



DR. NINA J. CROAKE



MRS. SARAH McCLEES



MRS. HARRIET E. McMATH

Alameda

## COUNTY PRESIDENTS



MRS. PAULINE MATHEWS  
Supt. Sunday School Dept.



MRS. MARGARET B. PELTON



MRS. S. M. M. WOODMAN



DR. CARRIE F. YOUNG  
Pioneer Suffragist

COUNTY PRESIDENTS



MRS. C. M. COOPER



MRS. L. J. FASSETT.

Amador



MRS. ADELLA B. SCHOTT



MRS. CARRIE G. MERRALL

Contra Costa

1892.

The Thirteenth Convention met at San Jose and closed a year rich in aggressive efforts, with 183 Unions and 4,710 members.

Early in the year it became necessary either to take the other half of the building, 132 McAllister st., where Headquarters were located, or to move. It was decided to lease the house, hoping by sub-letting to produce revenue for State work. The result was that the receipts exceeded expenses, but the experiment was unsatisfactory, and it was given up without loss or substantial gain, and also without removal.

#### **Anti-Dive Agitation.**

The Anti-Dive agitation in San Francisco marked the work of this year. Beginning early in the year, with the co-operation of apparently all the best elements of the city, great mass meetings were addressed by the ablest speakers every Sunday afternoon at Metropolitan Temple, followed next day by a descent upon the meeting of the Supervisors, to present a demand for an ordinance to prohibit the employment of women in Dives and Saloons. Week after week, the crowd gathered every Monday afternoon, filling the broad corridors of the City Hall, while the Supervisors sat with closed doors, too busy to admit anyone. Business and professional men, or even busy housewives, could not go on indefinitely with this fruitless effort, and were at last worn out. When the Supervisors were ready to admit the petitioners, there were only the State Secretary and County President of the W. C. T. U. to prefer their request. The attorney of the German Saloon Keepers' Union managed that matter, and as his reward of merit received the nomination for Superior Judge from the ensuing Republican Convention. He was elected—of course—but the agitation and co-operation of the multitude had been an irresistible force, and the ordinance was secured.

#### **Mrs. Eyster's School Lectures.**

The Corresponding Secretary had been nursing a plan for years to send out a woman to visit schools, with the object of popularizing temperance instruction. Mrs. Nellie B. Eyster was eminently fitted for this work, equipped as she was with the grace that captivates children, and the ability

to aid teachers; so she was duly appointed. The work could not be done for less than \$75 a month, and to meet this expense the State Union assumed one-half of the salary—\$25—each county desiring her services paid \$25, and the local Unions paid traveling and incidental expenses, and provided entertainment. The State Union had no resources but the generosity of its friends, and Mr. Edward Coleman, of Grass Valley, was the friend in need who pledged \$25 a month for this special object. This contribution was promptly paid, not only for the three years that Mrs. Eyster continued this work, but the same sum was given with equal regularity for general purposes during the next two years. This gracious gift, which made it possible to carry on such invaluable instruction in so many schools throughout the State, was given anonymously, and just when it was most helpful. Teachers had not then arrived at the best and most effective methods of meeting the requirements of the new law, and this timely aid was of the greatest assistance to them in carrying on the work. Gratitude for past kindness will justify, at this late day, the publication of the donor's name, and it is but fair to say that the same kind hand has helped in many emergencies since.

Mrs. Eyster and her undertaking were each a brilliant success. Her charming lecture "The Man Wonderful in the House Beautiful" illustrated by anatomical charts was given to thousands of children in many counties. In response to an invitation by the Board of Education, this lecture was given by Mrs. Eyster in forty schools of San Francisco, in each one having as many classes massed in one assembly as the auditorium would contain. This plan was followed everywhere, thus reaching an immense number. It was splendid work, well done, and most permanent in its results. Throughout the State are hundreds of men and women, now active in reform work, who received their first impulses in this direction from Mrs. Eyster's school lectures.

### No-License Campaigns.

A "No License campaign in Placer County this year was only defeated by the concentrated forces of the Liquor Traffic—and money! Merced County, unable to secure a prohibition ordinance, raised the liquor license to \$1,000 a year, which



the courts declared to be unconstitutional, because its amount was prohibitory.

Siskiyou did splendid work in this year, under conditions calling for personal bravery. At Callahan's the saloons were lawless and defiant. The president of the local union procured copies of the law relating to saloons, and with hammer and tacks proceeded to post the law in saloons, demanding also to see the bonds of the saloonkeeper, and giving fair warning that any violation would be followed by prosecution. At Yreka the local union was successfully carrying on a Reading Room and Circulating Library on a principal street; a saloon and dance house of the worst type was started next door in such close proximity that the occupants of the Reading Room were often driven away by the orgies of their vicious neighbors. The women were obliged, in self defense, to prosecute, and the man's license was revoked. He was desperate and tried for a while to make further trouble. When the excitement had subsided, Mrs. Churchill, the county president, wrote a letter to him so full of Christian kindness, that the heart of the man was touched. He kept the letter like a sacred talisman, and changed his course of life to better ways.

### 1893.

The Convention at Stockton represented 193 Unions and 80 Loyal Temperance Legions,—the better system of organization since 1890 having brought all Juvenile Societies under that name, and with uniformity of method 3,000 children and youths were under the best system of training for future citizenship.

The legislative efforts of this year centered on a bill for School Suffrage. The President, Mrs. Sturtevant-Peet and Miss Severance, Supt. of Franchise, leading, and assisted by other workers. The Bill was felt by opponents to be an entering wedge, and was vigorously contested, but passed both houses only to be vetoed by Gov. Gage.

#### **An Extra Session of the Legislature.**

A product of this session was a dramatic presentation, written by Miss Severance, entitled, "An Extra Session of the Legislature," which simply reversed the situation,—repre-

senting a legislative body of women, to whom men were pleading for their own enfranchisement. The arguments of the women were entirely those that had been actually used against the enfranchisement of women, but when turned upon the other sex seemed the wildest absurdity and the keenest satire. The play made a highly instructive entertainment, and, after being staged for the benefit of the State work it was published, and presented in many towns and served the cause in many other states. It was a work of more than ordinary merit, so well prepared that its special points appeared in high relief and the large number of characters represented, presented all sides of the question with telling emphasis.

Lake County secured a "dry" ordinance, but by failure to elect officers to sustain it, it was lost. Humboldt County voted itself "dry" by a large majority, but the Supervisors refused to pass the ordinance demanded. The same fate befell the people of Kings County. Eight counties conducted "No License" campaigns this year.

Gifted women had frequently enlivened and adorned the public gatherings with original poems and songs, but to Mrs. Grace M. Kimball is due the honor of presenting a "Hymn" which was adopted, and still loved as the "State Hymn" dear for its association with all State Conventions and other important meetings, and in remembrance of its author.

#### 1894.

The Fifteenth Convention was at Sacramento, and reported the steady development of work and workers. Although this was a year of financial depression, there was a marked increase of money in the general work.

#### The Temperance Congress.

The event that most encouraged friends, aroused enemies and cost the greatest effort was the Temperance Congress, held in May. Fifteen Temperance organizations were asked to co-operate. Not all were able to do so, but the call had the effect of marshalling the hosts, focalizing the best thought and compelling attention. This was one of the Congresses held during the Midwinter Fair at San Francisco. The platform was occupied by representative men and women from

all over the State, and it was conclusively proved that temperance sentiment was more than local. Each day's program was under the auspices of one of the organizations, and conducted by its officers. The general officers of the Congress were Hon. J. E. McComas, of Pasadena, President; Col. O. E. Moore and Mrs. D. J. Spencer, Secretaries, with a Board of Managers, of which Mrs. Sturtevant-Peet was Chairman. The "Extra Session of the Legislature" was rendered on the last evening, as the grand finale of a highly educational week.

The highest compliment to the influence of this Congress was the immediate organization of the "Law and Order League," made up of the city's best, and, to combat all the forces arrayed for righteousness, "The California Protective Association" of liquor dealers sprang up, thus, for the first time, placing themselves on the defensive.

#### **A Strike on the Railroad.**

The School of Methods, in July, had peculiar features. The summer meetings of this and other organizations, at Pacific Grove, had been greatly facilitated by favors of transportation, the use of Assembly Hall and general accommodations, but this year there was a strike on the railroads that seemed to paralyze everything, and it appeared impossible to arrange a program or get people there; but it was evident that a failure to do so would cut off all future favors. As usual, a full and elaborate program was arranged by the president. When the time arrived, five hundred soldiers had been ordered to Sacramento, and at every important point military uniforms witnessed authority to quell a possible riot. The public were afraid, at first, to travel, but when the trains began to move, and the first one out from Oakland was seen to have a detachment of U. S. troops at each end of every car, confidence was somewhat restored, and the train passed, without apparent damage, over explosives which had been placed on the tracks. The noise and confusion was terrifying to the passengers, but no one was injured.

The women who had braved these conditions carried out the entire week's program,—not one number of which was missed. Therein was proven the training the women had been for some years receiving, for, like minute men, each one rose,

without previous notice, at the President's call, and took the place of the absentees on any topic whatever, without hesitation or apology. The usual attendance at a summer resort was not there—the town folk and the empty benches heard the eloquence of bright speeches that filled the days. The record of the Railroad ticket agent showed twenty-six arrivals during that week—most of whom were the women in that program. The same readiness for service had showed itself in recent years, when County Presidents and State Superintendents cheerfully undertook platform work whenever occasion called for it. Eastern speakers often lent their aid.

The fact that the Republican party had adopted a plank in its platform declaring for a uniform liquor license—a measure upon which the liquor dealers had been more than two years at work, with intent to destroy the local option law, stimulated the friends of that law to vigorously defend it, and every means was taken to enlighten the public in regard to the nature of the proposed legislation. The Liquor Dealers—or the “California Protective Association” perfected the organization and prepared for war to the knife.

## CHAPTER VI.

Uniform License Bill. Sanitary District Law. Suffrage Campaign. Death of Francis E. Willard.  
Gen. Bidwell and Mrs. Skelton.

1895.

This year opened with intense interest in legislation. The President, Mrs. Sturtevant-Peet, went as usual to Sacramento, where she had several efficient volunteer aids. Circular letters and the following protest were sent to all Unions, urging efforts against the "Uniform License Bill." The following protest to be signed and sent to the representatives in both houses at once. The time is short, and promptness is demanded:

### PROTEST.

To the Senate and Assembly of California:

We, the undersigned, earnestly protest against the Uniform License Bill now introduced in the Legislature, and most earnestly entreat you, as our representatives, to use every possible means to defeat the measure.

The principle of local choice is imbedded in our customs. It is just that people be free to choose good and not compelled to espouse evil. Sutter and Lake counties and fifty towns refuse license altogether, and we urge their right to do so, and we desire that that right be continued.

Mass meetings were held all over the State, and, as far as known, every one was called by the W. C. T. U., and able speakers everywhere enlightened the people.

The liquor men were equally active, and claimed when the Legislature convened, to have representatives in the lobby from every county in the State, from Siskiyou to San Diego. It was their policy to hold the bill back until too late for its foes to make a successful fight against it. This plan was surmised by Mrs. Sturtevant-Peet, who saw that it must be defeated by strategy—if at all. She decided to take the initiative, and storm the enemy's works. She telegraphed to Headquarters at San Francisco to have circular letters, each enclosing this petition sent out at once to all local unions and pastors, to be read and signed in the churches the next Sunday and forwarded immediately to her:

## PETITION.

To the Honorable Legislature of the State of California:

The undersigned, having learned with deep solicitude that it is proposed to ask your honorable body to enact a **Uniform Liquor License Law**, whereby our present Local Option right, as lodged with Counties and Municipalities would be repealed, do most earnestly request that no such change be made; but instead that all be done to strengthen and simplify our present right of local government of the liquor traffic, and your petitioners shall ever so pray.

There was barely time to reach the Unions before the Sunday services, no time to get printing done, but the two secretaries worked a mimeograph against time, and in response to that telegram (which reached them at one-thirty P. M.) the evening mail carried those letters over the length and breadth of the State. Promptly the petitions went on to the President who was holding other petitions in reserve, awaiting the enemy's action. On Thursday morning nearly every member of the Senate was provided with petitions—some with many. Under the rules, they all had to be read, and they were read,—to the exclusion of other business. Nearly every Senator was on his feet at once, holding petitions. The number and length of those documents created consternation; the rapidity with which they rained down on him confused the recording clerk. The general confusion attracted the saloon lobby element, who had been watching with deep interest the movements of their opponents; their indignation was fierce. Their remarks were not in praise of prohibition. The Uniform License bills then in committee were quietly withdrawn.

It is but just to say that others co-operated in achieving this victory. There were individual friends, good men and true, doing their utmost. A Roman Catholic priest from San Francisco did heroic work against the bill, but without the thorough organization and instantaneous action of the W. C. T. U. the day would have been lost.

**Sanitary District Law.**

During this conflict, silently and surely another bill of entirely different purport was passing through both houses, and as it became a law, it meant much to the friends of temperance. This was known as the Sanitary District Bill. When

COUNTY PRESIDENTS



MRS. DORCAS W. GRAY



MRS. LILIAN BIRMINGHAM GRAY  
Butte



MRS. MARY E. THORNTON  
Butte



MRS. W. W. KILGORE  
Colusa

COUNTY PRESIDENTS



MRS. S. G. BEACH



MRS. ANNA M. ARNOT

El Dorado



MRS. IDA TULLY JONES  
Madera



MRS. L. F. KING  
Fresno



COUNTY PRESIDENTS



MRS. HULDA HAZARD TYLER



MISS CLARA A. BOYER



REV. MARY J. BORDEN



MRS. ANNA MARDEN DeYO

Fresno

COUNTY PRESIDENTS



MRS. M. L. BROWN



MRS. ALICE M. PEEBLES

Humboldt



MRS. H. N. S. NEWTON  
Lake



MRS. E. V. SPENCER  
Lassen

the saloon-keepers, their attorneys and tools in and out of office had just given out that no town, or county, or city could regulate the traffic except by high license, here comes this law strengthening Local Option. Any city, village or town or portion thereof can declare itself a Sanitary District, and by a majority vote prohibit the sale of any and all kinds of intoxicants. The passage of the bill was considered a huge joke on the liquor men.

Mr. Henry French was identified with this measure, probably its author, and merits the honor of a strategic success in its passage.

This law was first enacted in 1891, but was so impaired by amendments that it had not heretofore been of much use. It was in fact, a bone of contention all its life, having been amended by friends or foes, no less than ten times, but when at last it could be disposed of in no other way, the courts declared that the constitution did not contemplate the authorization of power in these divisions.

The following outline of the law is from "The Pacific Ensign" of July 12, 1899. The law served its purpose while the courts permitted, and was vastly educational.

This law provides for the organization of local governments quite similar to the town meetings of New England, and the township governments of our Eastern and Southern States. And it gives their own local rulers, called a sanitary board, five in number, just as complete control over saloons and all other matters requiring police attention as is enjoyed by the city council of Pasadena, for instance. The expense of inaugurating and sustaining such a local government is small—not one-fourth as much as it is for a city of the sixth class. The mountainous character of California and the numerous unsurveyed old Spanish ranch claims made it impossible to subdivide the State into civil townships, six miles square, as is the case of all the prairie States of the Mississippi valley; hence the Sanitary District Law is made to provide local self-government for villages and rural districts which are not populous enough to undertake a city government even of the minimum class. Our Sanitary District Law was fully sustained by the State Supreme Court in a test case taken up from

Alameda county. See Woodward vs. Fruitvale sanitary district, 99 California, 554 to 563.

An Anti-Cigarette bill was also passed, but was vetoed by Gov. Budd. Another attempt was made to raise the age of Protection for girls from fourteen to eighteen years; the bill passed both houses and was vetoed by the Governor. This work was valiantly led by Mrs. M. E. Teats, Supt. of Purity. Mrs. Rose French, Supt. of Law Enforcement, did most efficient work in this and other lines, at the Legislature.

### Suffrage Amendment.

There was a lively contest in the Legislature over the Suffrage Bill, resulting in substituting a bill to submit the matter to the people as a Constitutional Amendment,—thus enabling members to dodge their responsibility by throwing it on the voters. The substitute was passed by just one vote. The submission of the Amendment was not until the general election of 1896—the long interval giving time for a grand campaign.

The saloon men of Sutter County made a desperate, but vain effort to rescind the Prohibition ordinance, but the benefit to the county under that law was so apparent that self-interest settled the question, and the ordinance was retained. Mrs. Rose French did splendid work this year in her department of Law Enforcement, directing efforts in many counties. Mrs. S. C. Sanford, County Supt. of Alameda, and Mrs. French each personally prosecuted and brought to conviction several cases of illegal liquor selling.

### 1896.

Suffrage filled the air and the hearts of the women this year. Feeling that nothing could so promote this movement as bringing to this State the fine speakers of the National W. C. T. U., that body was invited to hold its Annual Convention in California. The Suffrage Societies were dismayed at this action, and begged the National Union to call off its Convention, for fear of antagonizing the liquor powers. Letters were received by women prominent in the cause of Suffrage, warning them to keep clear of "White Ribboners," and not to be compromised by the Temperance element, but the ladies to

whom these appeals were sent were found to be nearly all official members of the W. C. T. U. However, to preserve harmony, the Convention was held in another State, and Miss Willard wrote her approval to the president of the State Union, saying: "A demonstration that our letting alone of that department does not help, will do good for all time." And so it proved; for after fifteen years, when another campaign was successfully pushed—all worked together. To prevent discords, the W. C. T. U. officially kept in the background, but individually all its members helped in every direction, as well as carrying forward activities in other departments, that added force and membership.

Miss Severance gave many lectures and her able pen was always busy. Mrs. E. G. Greene, state vice president, made a lecture tour in the northern counties, and Mrs. E. V. Spencer, president of Lassen County, used voice and pen, press and post office, to the utmost, as did many others.

After a splendid campaign 110,335 votes were cast for suffrage, and 137,099 against. Defeated by 2,700. San Francisco and Oakland gave a majority of 23,772 against the amendment, which the rural counties could not overcome.

The work for Law Enforcement in San Francisco, under Mrs. Rose M. French, begun mainly to secure convictions in cases of selling liquor to minors, and later including tobacco sales as well, led to the discovery of most revolting crimes against little girls. The womanhood of the city was aroused and the deepest interest was felt in the prosecution of these cases,—of which there were twenty-six. One man was sentenced to twenty years in the penitentiary, another fourteen, and five others to ten years each. Others were awaiting sentence in the County Jail when this report was made. The moral effect of this effort was most salutary.

These cases of outraged girlhood, and the inadequacy of the provision for the care of the victims, so appealed to Mrs. French that she found herself taking them to her own home, until she had five under her care. The knowledge that others were in the same peril, and provision must be made for them, was the direct impetus for the organizing of the "Girls' Training Home,"—another of the useful institutions which has

proceeded directly from the work of the W. C. T. U.—now become a successful philanthropy, with a commodious “Home” in Alameda, caring for about fifty girls.

With the co-operation of the Law and Order League an ordinance had been obtained closing the side entrance of the saloons in San Francisco. Eighty violators of this law were tried, convicted, and paid their fines.

Women as police officers had not been dreamed of in 1896, but Mrs. French so demonstrated her ability and usefulness in police duties, that she was equipped with a policeman’s star, as a special officer, by the Chief of Police of the City.

The natural barrier of a mountain range effectually cut off San Luis Obispo county from the Southern California Union, making it less accessible to the south than the remoter north. This inconvenience being very detrimental to its work, it was, by mutual agreement of both State organizations, admitted to the California W. C. T. U. of the northern jurisdiction.

#### 1897

For the third time the Uniform License bill was brought forward, clothed this time in the garb of a constitutional amendment, endorsed by the Governor and Code Commission. With this prestige its friends hoped to carry it, but found their previous victor on the field, alert and ready for action. As before, the president of the Woman’s Christian Temperance Union, Mrs. Sturtevant-Peet, led the battle. In fact the Bill was believed to have been utterly killed at the last session, so no other organization was represented in the fight against it. Her presence saved the day, and the defeat was accepted as final. The bill had served the purpose of arousing good men to united action.

A great effort was made to secure a law to take liquor selling out of grocery stores, and the strange fact developed that with petitions carrying 2,000 signatures—900 being from San Francisco—not a San Francisco man would introduce the Bill. Someone else introduced it, but the bill failed to pass, and the same fate befell the Sunday Rest Bill. The age of protection for girls was raised to sixteen years, after ten years of persistent labor.

So much of general work had been held in abeyance the

previous year, owing to the Suffrage campaign, that a depressing effect followed in this year. An outgrowth of the Temperance and Missionary Congresses held at San Francisco during the Midwinter Fair, was the organization of Unions in the city churches, bearing the same relation to the churches as the Missionary Society—a useful part of its machinery. By 1897 there were seven of these Unions in the Baptist, Congregational, Christian, Methodist and Presbyterian denominations. All did good work for several years.

### **Anti-Saloon League.**

A new ally appeared at this time, the Anti-Saloon League, already organized in several States and becoming national in its scope. Its leaders had secured the endorsement of the various evangelical bodies, through their State conferences, and now called on the W. C. T. U. as an unsectarian and non-partisan organization, to lend their aid. This appeal met a cordial response, and invitations were sent from the W. C. T. U. Headquarters to all clergymen in and around San Francisco to meet at the Young Men's Christian Association, to organize the Anti-Saloon League of the State. The men responded, and the League came into being equipped for service, and in April, 1898, its Superintendent, Dr. E. S. Chapman, began to direct its work from their Oakland office.

1898.

The Nineteenth Annual Convention, commemorating the 25th year since the Temperance Crusade, met in Berkeley.

### **Death of Francis E. Willard.**

The death of Frances E. Willard in February was a grievous shock to the whole world of reform, testing the cohesiveness of the organization she had built up, and binding its every part closer to the rest. The telegraph brought the sad news, and, by the difference in longitude, the flag at Headquarters hung at half-mast two hours before the hour reported as her last. An appropriate memorial service was held by the State Union. Miss Jessie Ackerman, "Round the World Missionary" delivering the eulogy; similar memorials were held by local Unions generally. Miss Ackerman's return was signaled by holding a Missionary Congress, in which the co-

operation of all Missionary Societies demonstrated their mutual objects and the correlation of all temperance and missionary effort.

Military and Naval operations in the Orient were bringing regiments of men from the East, on their way to the Philippines; long trains of cars filled with young men in uniforms, arrived day after day, weary with the long journey from the Atlantic States. At the Ferry Depot the Red Cross Society served them with coffee, sandwiches, fruit and a flower for the buttonhole of each and every man, wherewith to decorate himself as he marched through the streets to the Presidio. The faces of these thousands of young men—mother's boys—appealed to mother hearts, and the department of work for Soldiers and Sailors found much to do for them.

In the temporary camps, where regiments were detained and drilled, there was much need of the tender ministrations of women, and generous hospitality was the rule. There were invitations to homes and churches, attendance of the sick, gospel services and kindly courtesies freely extended to all, during the many months while the troops were passing through the city. Every transport carried great loads of reading matter for the men and in a thousand ways the influence of the W. C. T. U. reached many who had never before recognized the uplifting influence of our institutions, and its beneficent effect upon them was apparent to all.

The Anti-Canteen work began this year. The National W. C. T. U. Convention was held at Seattle, and was the first meeting of that body held on the Pacific Coast. This was, also, the first opportunity California had to send a full delegation to a National Convention, and it was proud to bring in five hundred new members. Six other States followed her example, so, of course, there was occasion for a Jubilee. Mrs. Sturtevant-Peet, by the choice of the other State Presidents, presided at this celebration, and the eloquence of those seven presidents told wonders of their respective states and the achievements of their loyal women, all adding to the enthusiasm of a great convention.

1899.

Legislation takes easy precedence every alternate year,



when the law-making body is in session, and is each year renewed with ever increasing vigor. A bill to give school suffrage to women was triumphantly passed, only to be lost in the pocket of Gov. Gage,—vetoed without a word of excuse. Another important bill met the same fate, a bill to grant to all cities of the fifth and sixth class (72 of them) the right to place on their ballots the words “for license to sell intoxicating liquors” or against the same. This was vetoed when it was too late to be passed over the veto! A bill to raise the age of protection for girls from sixteen to eighteen years passed both houses and—was vetoed by Gov. Gage.

However, this was not labor lost, for the women were thinking, and setting their wits to work! No less than fifteen women served as public speakers during this year, and again they brought in an increase of 500 members. With all the hindrances of the law (and the law-makers) two counties and forty towns were reported “dry,” generally under the Sanitary District Local Option law.

#### **Miller Memorial Building.**

A happy incident occurred at Stockton, which, while entirely local apparently, had influence State wide. Mrs. W. P. Miller, a deceased member of the local Union, had bequeathed some bank stock to the Union. This was sold and the money put at interest. Then Mr. Miller gave the Union a well located lot to be used for a building site, and by his will left a sum of money which enabled the Union to erect a substantial two story structure, of which the lower floor was rented for business purposes and the upper floor used for the work of the Union. It gives them a fine hall for public meetings, smaller parlors for lesser gatherings, a dining room and all other conveniences and accommodations necessary. It is appropriately named the “W. C. T. U. Miller Memorial Building.”

The Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Spencer, having organized the Stockton Union in 1887, was invited to lay the corner stone on January 2nd, 1889. The Chaplain of the day, Rev. R. H. Sink, and one of the Directors, Mrs. Georgiana Reynolds, had been associated with Mrs. Spencer in temperance work in 1874. On the 26th of May the building was dedi-

cated officially by the State President, Mrs. Sturtevant-Peet, with State, County and Local officers, members and visitors in attendance. The Memorial Hall has ever since been the means of centralizing the beneficent work for which it stands, radiating by means of its various activities an influence felt far and wide.

Dr. Mary Bell Mallory, Supt. of Christian Citizenship, and a fine exponent of its principles, passed away in 1899. The secretary writes: "In this twentieth year of our work, this is the first promotion from the ranks of the official members, recorded. Considering the number of the Executive Board, more than sixty, this is remarkable. Surely the Good Hand of God has been over us."

#### 1900.

The Twenty-first Convention Meeting at San Jose brought reports of activity in all lines, and everywhere.

Legislation by this time possessed the souls of the women, and successful elections under the Sanitary District Local Option Law stimulated work for local and county ordinances, while the matter of the Army Canteen brought home the feasibility of reaching Congress by petitions, and an immense work was done in this line from the Anti-Canteen, Anti-Polygamy, and Hawaiian petitions to Congress, to the local ordinances of small towns.

Literature in enormous quantities was provided for soldiers in camp on land or in ships on the sea. Several libraries were placed on transports and boxes of books were sent to Manila for the use of the Unions there. The study of Peace and Arbitration was forced upon the Unions by the proximity of the evils of War.

The department of Narcotics took the National Prize for the most and best work, and it would seem that all other departments rivalled its zeal.

With the beginning of the new century the work of the Union reached an era of development, when all of its various departments were steadily carrying forward, each in its own line, a vast educational movement, the general organization enabling every State Superintendent to work through the county Superintendents, and by means of the local Unions

reach a very large constituency. The co-ordination of forty departments, all bringing out their direct relations to the Temperance cause, and all so thoroughly organized, made up a tremendous force, reaching, as they have done into the domestic life of the people.

The insistent pursuit of such a course, marking time by the annual County Conventions, mostly in the spring months, and the State Convention always in October, presents an aggregate influence that has been second to none in its effect upon the higher life of the State.

The early years of the Twentieth Century have been less conspicuous for striking achievements, but rich in the discipline and training acquired.

### **Congress of Reforms.**

The Annual Summer School at Pacific Grove outgrew its old object as a School of Methods, this being left to the department of Institutes, and conducted by officially appointed, well equipped leaders, wherever desired, and feasible, under the plans and supervision of the State Superintendent, by arrangement with the respective County Presidents. The Congress of Reforms served as a State Institute, with ever broadening scope, to which the representatives of many reforms were asked, each to present his own. It was a gathering of brilliant men and women, freely reasoning together on the rising questions of the day. A striking feature of this new departure was, that every specialist was gratified, and often surprised, to find among the women present some one of them to rise promptly in intelligent discussion of his subject,—a fine, but sometimes unexpected testimony to the broad scope of the W. C. T. U. training.

The Congress of Reforms reaches beyond any attempt heretofore—striking hands with all correlated reforms, demonstrating to those outside the Unions what those within already know, that many of these interests have a direct relation to the work of the W. C. T. U.

The Congress of Reforms, and its name, originated in the thought of Mrs. Sturtevant-Peet, her idea being that the W. C. T. U. was now in a position to invite to its platform the representatives of any genuine reform, proving the correlation

of all reforms, and that the advance of any is helpful to all. The Congress is not a delegated body and consequently cannot adopt resolutions or transact business; it is entirely under the auspices of the W. C. T. U. whose guests its speakers are. The regular meeting of the state Executive Committee occurs during the Congress but does not impinge on its sessions.

This Congress closed with the first Diamond Medal Contest in California. Beginning with silver medals it had taken ten years to achieve this. The moral results of that ten years' work cannot be measured.

#### **Death of Gen. Bidwell.**

A great loss was sustained when Gen. John Bidwell passed away in 1900. A pioneer of pioneers, he had stood boldly for every righteous cause, a conspicuous figure in the early history of the State, but especially dear to the W. C. T. U. As a champion of Temperance his attitude was a support, his words and means always aided where help was needed, and the gracious hospitality of the Bidwell mansion made it a haven of repose to weary workers. Gen. Bidwell had been the standard bearer of prohibition, having once been a candidate of that party for Governor of California, and later for the presidency of the United States.

A few months later Mrs. Henrietta Skelton, whose burning zeal, unfailing enthusiasm and tireless energy, had been felt throughout the whole State, also passed to her reward. She was an organizer who saw the splendor of the future, and, following the gleam, asked for nothing less than absolute prohibition, and freely spent her life for it, nothing doubting and never daunted,—realizing that every effort made was bringing it nearer.

As a monument to her memory, the operating room of the Frances Willard Hospital, Chicago, was provided with a glass operating table and other necessary equipment.

Her interest in this hospital suggested to her co-workers the propriety of making a gift to that institution, which should be a loving tribute to her memory, while serving to mitigate the suffering of inmates. On the door of the room is a tablet with this inscription: "This room was equipped for the relief of the suffering, by the California Woman's Christian Temperance

Union, in memory of Henneritte Skelton, June First, Nineteen hundred and two."

The president, Mrs. Mary Inglehart, wrote: "It is the most valuable gift the hospital has ever received."

Her native German name is here employed, though its anglicized form "Henrietta" had long been in use, as endearing names are in a family circle.

1901.

This year's summer meeting was a "Moral, Social and Economic Conference"—having for topics: "Christianity and Socialism," "Race Improvement," "Co-operation of Men and Women," "Public Ownership," "Trusts and Public Welfare," "Labor Unions," "Evolution of Industrial Life," "Municipal Housekeeping," "Direct Legislation" and "Co-operative Living"—all set forth by experts, and the relation of all to the temperance movement freely discussed, besides several addresses, directly on the various phases of temperance effort.

The Twenty-second Convention in this year was the first ever entertained by a local Union in its own house. This was held in the Miller Memorial Hall, Stockton,—an enthusiastic meeting following a year full of activity in all lines so general that it would be invidious to mention any departments. Organizing has gone on apace.

1902.

The Congress of 1902 was in three general divisions, Civic, Social and Domestic, with various subdivisions, all planned by the skillful hand of Mrs. Sturtevant-Peet, the president. The best available specialists accepted her invitation to present their views, on which the discussion of the audience was invited. Able and distinguished men and women, representing advanced thought and the most progressive movements have taken part in the annual congresses, and up to this writing the fact remains that the highest talent, the richest experience, and all that goes to make men and women acknowledged as experts in their various specialties may always be expected on the programs of the Congress of Reforms.

The Convention at Santa Cruz showed thorough work and great development in all departments, unusually large quantities of literature having been used.

1903.

The same may be said of the following two years. 1903 was prolific in original material prepared by the several superintendents—the State having issued 200,000 pages, and large quantities of cards for Flower Mission, and other purposes, besides the standard literature of the National Union and other publishers. The Congress this year had for its general subjects Religion and Education, which with their various subdivisions called out many strong and able addresses, from “Religious Toleration” to the “Instruction of Defective Youth,” with music of a high order, which is especially arranged each year by the Supt. of Song, Mrs. Renowden-Bailey, herself a fine vocalist and proficient conductor.

The annual Convention at Vallejo kept step to the onward march. The annual dues of local Unions were raised from fifty cents to one dollar. By the retirement of Mrs. Spencer from the office of Corresponding Secretary, there came in a young woman rarely qualified for the position, Miss Anna E. Chase, who still most admirably discharges the duties of that responsible position.

## CHAPTER VII.

Jubilee Convention. Congresses. Earthquake, Fire and Desolation.

1904.

This, the Silver Jubilee, or twenty-fifth Annual Convention met at Chico,—the most Northern place of meeting. To meet at Chico was a veritable pilgrimage to a shrine of temperance—the place made historic by the most famous pioneer and statesman of the far West, Gen. John Bidwell, and sacred by his moral heroism. The beautiful home and grounds were open to all, and every delegate was an invited guest at a banquet at the mansion where Mrs. Bidwell was the gracious hostess. It was an ideal spot for the celebration of the anniversary, rich with its associations—from the fields from which every wine-grape had long since been uprooted, the great Normal School of the State on whose spacious grounds the finest cherry orchard in the world had been destroyed to make way for the education of teachers yet to be, the magnificent Forest Reserve with the young timber from all climes growing there,—all gifts from Gen. Bidwell to the State, to the still greater gift of his personal character and influence.

The charming personality of Mrs. Bidwell, the living exponent of all his life and hers had stood for, gave to delegates to whom these associations were new an added appreciation of this place, that like an oasis in a moral desert had been noted for its high ideals in actual life. In this place, only, in all the State, had the native Indians been undisturbed in their home, and the White Ribbon on Indian women gave testimony to the prevalent influence.

The Convention glowed with enthusiasm in such an atmosphere. The earlier Unions had been organized on a basis of fifty cents for annual dues. Mrs. Churchill had recommended \$1.00 dues in 1885, but not until this year was it adopted by local Unions. All departments evidenced great activity. Three organizers, Mrs. King, Mrs. Washburn, and Mrs. Tongier, as well as occasional national organizers had kept up the field work.

### Anti-Alcohol Congress.

The Congress of 1904 was the first "Anti-Alcohol Congress" held in America. It dealt with the Moral, Legal, Governmental, Commercial, Medical and Scientific aspects of Alcohol. The topic did not largely draw men into its discussion. A College professor and a few clergymen only appeared in the program. The political phase of the subject was not brought out, yet it undoubtedly kept men away. However, no other phase lacked most thoughtful presentation, the audiences were large, and enjoyed a week of important educational value.

1905.

The special topic of this Congress was "Peace"—a happy coincidence that the first Peace Congress held by the Woman's Christian Temperance Union anywhere should be at **Pacific Grove**. The names of many distinguished men and women appear in the program. Peace and Arbitration filled a week with splendid addresses and papers.

An important geographical point is touched in the fact that the State Convention at Chico was the most northern ever held. In compensation to those Unions that on account of distance could not be represented there, the next was fixed at Fresno, the most southern; but it will be noted that Fresno is at the exact center of California. The many Unions located far beyond either of these cities, demonstrates the difficulty of making both ends meet in Conventions, and the difficulty and expense of sending field workers to them, and the consequent necessity of devising means to keep them alive. This perplexing problem continually arises.

After having been domiciled at 132 McAllister street for twenty years, a change in ownership of the property necessitated removal of Headquarters to a business block at No. 22 on the same street, but soon after better terms for rent led to another removal to the Emporium Building on Market street.

There was a substantial gain in membership in this year, and the Jubilee Night at Chico was memorable. Each County having during the year made a net increase of thirty-five members had special honors; its president represented it by a suitable speech, and its members by singing their County song, in the Jubilee program prepared by themselves.



The Bi-County, Colusa and Glenn, San Francisco, Yolo, Solano, Alameda, San Joaquin and the tri-county, Santa Cruz, San Benito and Monterey shared these honors at Fresno.

Institutes took their place in 1905 as an important and permanent educational factor for special training for local members. Plans were well laid, special literature prepared, and practically the same program taken up simultaneously by accredited leaders in different counties. The results were excellent, the Unions were strengthened and the institutes, by adhering to plans made, paid their own expenses.

The meeting of the National Convention in Los Angeles gave the opportunity by its proximity, to have a full delegation in attendance, and in consequence gave renewed stimulus to the year's work.

#### 1906.

The work of the year beginning with the Convention of 1905 opened auspiciously, and was only interrupted by the awful calamity of which the president told graphically in her next address—giving the best record of the effect of the earthquake and fire at San Francisco on the State work as follows :

“The many years of our near relationship for the special purpose of battling evil with good and magnifying the sacredness of humanity's greatest need, has made us familiar with the duties and pleasures that come to us all in such meetings as the present.

“Much has come to pass since our last annual convention, associating our organization, its objects, motives and methods with the greatest national question of the period and made us a central figure in an object lesson that has focalized the thought of the civilized world upon one single branch of trade, proving a greater loss to humanity than quake, fire, flood, and famine combined.

“For six months and seventeen days of our fiscal year, we had scarcely paused in our work, or for a moment taken our eyes from the goal of a sacred ambition, which has been leading us through sunshine and storm, for nearly a third of a century.

“The institutes for the month of February had been splendidly accomplished. Plans for the annual congress were on. A full itinerary of the county conventions for two months lay upon my table when that awful morning of April 18th dawned with its impending doom. Shaken as by a demon of unlimited power, the inhabitants of scores of towns and cities were awakened and terrified by the rocking, whirling, falling and crashing of everything above and around them. In thirty seconds three-quarters of a million people had been robbed of the bliss of unconscious repose, and made to face the awful realities

of the greatest calamity of a century. Each succeeding moment added to the sickening certainty of doom for many localities, and lengthened the long list of dead and dying.

"In forty-eight hours beautiful San Francisco, the queen city of the Pacific, was in ashes, and two hundred thousand of her citizens homeless, hungry, and helpless. Almost before the earth had ceased to rock and tremble the Promethean torch had lighted a score of fires in different parts of the city, and then followed the awful holocaust, devastating and devouring almost every conceivable thing of value over a stretch of seven thousand acres. On this vast area, not a structure or living thing remained; all had fled or were wrapped in the gloom of a dark and silent funeral pile.

"Desolation reigned supreme; where but a short time before had throbbled the heart of a great city, the commercial Tyre of the Golden West.

"Early the tragic news of the disaster had been borne upon electric wings to the ends of the earth, and people from far and near, frantic with grief and anxiety, were sending messages of inquiry for friends and relatives, visiting or residing in the fated city. Like the water mains, the avenues of communication were broken, and no return messages replied. In most cases, instead of hours, it was days of suspense before definite news could be obtained.

"Not dreaming that the quake could result in such terrible disaster, Mrs. Renowden-Bailey and I left my home on the morning of April 18th, for Tulare County Convention, returning to Stockton two days later to receive the following telegram from the officers of the National; 'Profound affection. Sympathy for our White Ribboners and all who are in distress.'

"Dazed by the awful certainty of our misfortune, I began to realize the loss that had come to the State, and the measure of damage to the organization.

"Letters from our members and from all over the United States dropped upon my desk as autumn leaves, filled with earnest inquiry after ours in the fated city. What news could be gathered was formulated by myself and sent to all the prominent newspapers in the State. We were most fortunate in having our inimitable reporter on the ground, so near the center of the most tragic and awe-inspiring scene, since the burning of Rome. Her able and graphic description was not overdrawn, but truthful and comprehensive. While the flames were painting the lurid picture of doom, Mrs. Spencer's rapid pen was tracing its awful splendor for the Union Signal, in which the report was published.

"The sad experience of being without our Ensign in such an awful time, was brought home in stern reality. As the days passed we learned that none of our White Ribboners had lost a life, though some had lost their earthly possessions. The merciless flames de-

COUNTY PRESIDENTS



MRS. MARY NORWOOD OSTRAN-  
DER  
Merced



MRS. A. W. NORTON  
Napa



MRS. L. E. EVERETT  
Nevada



MRS. JULIET LUKEY

COUNTY PRESIDENTS



MRS. MARGARET BEATTY  
WILLIS



MRS. JENNIE E. DIXON



MRS. MARY E. JENKS

Sacramento



MISS SABRA A. FINCH

COUNTY PRESIDENTS



MRS. ALICE STALKER



MRS. ALICE B. HINMAN

Sacramento



MRS. JULIA P. CHURCHILL  
Siskiyou



MRS. IDA FRANCES LEE  
Sutter

COUNTY PRESIDENTS



DR. MARY BELL MALLORY

Placer



MRS. S. E. CALLEN



MRS. HARRIET P. WATT  
Placer



MRS. M. A. HAIL  
Plumas

pouring alike the modest and the palatial home, had taken our headquarters with every picture, banner, book, and file, which embraced so much that was sacred and requisite to the progress of the work in the State.

"Truly we were in a deep shadow, while every way we turned for light it looked dark and unassuring, but in the magnitude of our distress, in common with the whole, it was manifest that sympathy was moving the heart of the world. We were certainly in the wake of the universal solvent, and could not be overlooked.

"Among the first letters received was one from the National enclosing a check for one hundred dollars, and the promise of more. Nothing could have given me greater surprise. For days letters continued to come enclosing checks. Our Treasurer smiled and smiled, and smiled again at these unexpected showers of blessings, and wrote with tear-blinded eyes. 'How thankful I am for this money, what should we have done without it?'

"Letters came from Africa, Australia, England and Japan. Remembrances so generous and prompt in such a time of need awakens a sentiment of deepest appreciation and profoundest gratitude.

"Illinois with her gifted president and great army of White Ribbons promptly remembered us with a check for one hundred dollars. Dollars looked large to us then, for they represented the love which is the soul's greatest gift, as the Union Signal expressed in these words, 'We pour out to you our soul's tenderest offering, that of love, the only thing that stands when He shaketh the earth out of place and the pillars thereof tremble, the only thing that remains when one removeth the mountains and they knoweth it not.'

"The promptness of President Stevens should strengthen the cords of kinship that bind us to the National. Her measure of generous love in the response should be the measure of our gifts as well as the cheerful spirit with which they are given. Truly bread cast upon the waters hath returned to us after many days. The lesson should impress on every one the duty of promptly responding to all calls from the National.

"The emergency of the situation in San Francisco opened the door for all the moral and charitable work that could well be supplied. Mrs. Bainbridge was on the ground to meet the opportunity and proved equal to the occasion. The refugee camps were her field of personal activity. The recognition of the value of her self-sacrificing labor and good generalship by the military authorities, supplied tents for every branch of the work. A tent for a reading room and the distribution of temperance books and good reading matter. More tents were furnished, until she was supervising manager of a veritable village of charitable industry. In large letters W. C. T. U. stood out in bold relief over the entrance to all tents. Mrs. Bainbridge wore these cabalistic letters on her cap, with as much grace and dignity as the military officers of the camps wore their shoulder straps

and epaulets. Her work though local was far reaching. With this opportunity of a century, and with this one woman of a thousand to embrace it, the potency and significance of our organization was felt and appreciated by the military and a large class of citizens as never before. The blessedness of the W. C. T. U. was realized in the generous supply of books, clothing, and money, from nearly every State in the Union, crowned with the children's gift of a half-bushel of pop-corn from Nebraska, and ten dollars from the L. T. L. of Maine.

The following report tells of the gifts and work of the Flower Mission department as directed by the Superintendent, Mrs. E. S. Pringle, and sent to Mrs. Bainbridge at the park :

The following is the report of this work:

Number of bouquets distributed .....	2,165
Number of text cards.....	3,841
Number of visits to sick, poor, etc. ....	2,342
Number of pledges signed.....	13
Number of garments.....	11,386
Number of sun bonnets.....	67
Number of quilts and blankets.....	124
Number of comfort bags (21 articles in each).....	526
Number of pens and pencils.....	767
Number of packages of fruit.....	342
Number of toys to children.....	986
Number of corn crisps.....	705
Number of satchels.....	9
Number of ties and handkerchiefs.....	178
Number of boxes and sacks of clothing.....	86
Number of sacks and packages of provisions.....	22
Number of boxes of fresh fruit.....	22
Number of pounds of dried fruit.....	45
Number of other gifts.....	876
Money spent .....	\$420.48

23 dozen eggs, 6 boxes of books, 6 bags and 1 barrel of literature, 7 boxes of dolls and toys, 10 pillows, 17 blankets and comforts, bedstead, mattress, crib, etc.

The Red Cross furnished sewing machines and hundreds of yards of material for making garments, while the military furnished the tents. Mrs. Bainbridge received every kindness and courtesy from the officers in command. Recent letters received from them testify to the high esteem in which she and her work are held.

Supplies were also sent by the unions to Santa Rosa, where the earthquake was equally violent, but no conflagration followed.



"A demonstration of immeasurable value is another object lesson, the immediate result of the disaster, and pointing to the ultimate aim of our organization—the closing of all the saloons and the revoking of every license for eleven weeks. The news of this fact, of its diminution of crime and suicide went around the world and can never be forgotten, for it is a death-dealing weapon to every argument of the traffic.

"This great lesson is supplemented by another in the enormous increase of crime since the opening of so many saloons on July 5th."

To take up the threads of state work, amid the confusion of losses and general paralysis of everything, required faith and energy. All conditions were bewildering. The difficulty of finding people was not only in the bay cities. The earthquake was felt in other localities as well, and the consequent upheaval of business and social life throughout the state involved unnumbered removals, and it was by tedious efforts that a meeting of the Executive Board was arranged. The president of the Oakland union, Mrs. E. Luella Curtis, kindly entertained in her home the first called meeting the State Executive Committee had ever held, on May 15th, but four weeks after the disaster. Plans had been made at the previous meeting to put a Financial Secretary in the field to raise money for general work. Mrs. Mary Fletcher Norwood was appointed to that office. In the demoralized conditions no schedule of dates could be made; the county presidents opened the way, and her own energy and tact enabled her in five months to do excellent work in eight counties, bringing in her sheaves of membership and revenue.

Four weeks after the fire the work all over the State was again directed by the officers at the temporary Headquarters, and the reports of the year told of no slack in the general work. Department work was especially good.

"Measured by numbers perhaps the Convention at Watsonville was not as large as in years past, but measured by enthusiasm, energy and White Ribbon grit it was simply immense."

### **The Ensign.**

The loss of the weekly organ, "The Pacific Ensign," was very serious. It had served its purpose for fifteen years, making a more intimate relation of the widely varying localities, a

closer acquaintance and more cordial affection for the leaders than could otherwise have been possible. The circulation was inadequate to its support, and while its Board of Directors were perplexing themselves about the means to carry it on, the whole matter was taken off their hands by the earthquake and fire. The insurance of the office fixtures saved it from debt.

No attempt was made to resume a weekly publication. The State Executive Committee assumed the conduct of the paper until the next Convention, with Mrs. S. A. Huston, editor, and Mrs. Emily Hoppin, assistant. In less than three months "The Pacific Ensign" reappeared as a semi-monthly, four pages, and letter sheet size.

The Convention in October decided to issue a monthly, to be called "The White Ribbon Ensign," editor and manager, Mrs. Emily Hoppin. The subscription price was to be twenty-five cents. A Health Congress was planned for this summer, but had to be omitted in consequence of the disturbance by earthquake and fire.

## CHAPTER VIII.

1907.

### Election of Mrs. Sara J. Dorr. Legislation. Tragic Death of Miss Kennedy.

This Convention was brilliant, enthusiastic and picturesque. It was the fourth held in Petaluma, the birth place of the State Union. Its program, prepared by the president, Mrs. Sturtevant-Peet, was striking in its presentation of the history of the state work, so much of which transpired during the seventeen years of her presidency. The contrasts of small beginnings with the progress and achievements of the present, were brought out effectively by well arranged tableaux and original platform exercises, illustrative of various periods, and in its impressive demonstration, made a fitting climax to an administration which had kept well in advance of public thought, faithful to its standards, fertile in resources, and rich in results.

Tenderly endeared to the whole membership, who year after year expressed their esteem by re-electing her, Mrs. Sturtevant-Peet claimed her right to retire from a position to which her keen perception of cause and effect, her comprehensive plans, her serene steadfastness, and gracious personality had contributed so much of power and influence to the State work. Mrs. Emily Hoppin was another officer whose efficiency had held her in the place of treasurer eighteen years, who also retired at this time.

Mrs. Sara J. Dorr was elected president, and Mrs. Iowa M. Holston treasurer.

Mrs. Dorr brought to her new duties the rich experience acquired in the presidency successively of three large and important county unions; having served the Tri-county union, Santa Cruz, Monterey and San Benito, four years, and San Joaquin and Santa Clara each two years.

Mrs. Holston, the new treasurer, had also been president of the Tri-county union five years, and has since filled the unexpired term of Mrs. Effie D. Whitman, who resigned the presidency of Santa Clara County in 1912.

There was a falling off in membership in consequence of the disaster of the previous year, the changes and removals incident to which affected the whole State, yet the work moved on vigorously. There was much local campaigning, and the record of the year was fifty dry towns.

The decision of Judge Artman, of Indiana, "that the liquor business can have no legal standing since it is dangerous to public morals and public safety" was an inspiration to all, though well understood that the decision must make its slow passage through higher courts to be effective.

Institutes stimulated department work—renewing activity in many lines.

The department for Soldiers and Sailors found plenty to do with the large number of men in the military camps. It was felt that the removal of the canteen demands something better in its place. A fund of \$300 was raised for the purchase of a library for the Presidio at Monterey, which was formally presented by the State officers. Great boxes of books and magazines were supplied to the ships of the navy as they came into the port of San Francisco. In Scientific Temperance Instruction, prize essays in schools were undertaken, and have since become an established feature; the first State prize being presented to Miss Olive Deyo, of Fresno, at the Convention at Petaluma.

1908.

### Prohibition.

The seventy-seven days of actual prohibition in San Francisco, after the fire, had been an object lesson not to be lost. There had been no question as to its expediency,—it was the logic of necessity. Nothing less could have maintained the superb order that prevailed in the chaotic city. The proclamation had been made and enforced by men with no previous predilection for prohibition. When the saloons reopened the moral effect was conspicuous in the increase of crime. An ordinance was soon passed forbidding bars in grocery stores, and there was a growing hope of better things to be. Early in 1908, when a vicious liquor ordinance had been passed by the notoriously infamous Board of Supervisors, the people rose in alarm, and by their insistent demands induced the Mayor to veto it. Miss Chase reported at that meeting hearing one

liquor dealer say to another, "this is the beginning of the battle between the 'wet' and the 'dry,' and no one knows where it will end." She could have told him how, but not when.

The Congress at Pacific Grove this year took the form of an Educational Assembly.

The Annual Convention at San Jose showed a net gain of 865 members. The increase is coincident with an unusual amount of field work done by county presidents, institute leaders, and other local workers whose knowledge of their own fields had a practical value. Noted speakers from the east this year were Judge Lindsay, Judge Artman, and Eugene Chafin.

The National Convention at Denver was near enough to once more enable California to help her own work by having a full delegation there. The Departments of Franchise, Supt. Mrs. P. H. Truax; Unfermented Wine, Mrs. S. M. M. Woodman; School Savings Banks, Miss Sabra A. Finch; and Institutes, Mrs. D. J. Spencer were all awarded special honors in the National reports and the National Prize for the "Temperance Essay in High Schools" was awarded to Eugene Foote of Hollister, Calif. All shared in the honors of Jubilee night, and introduced the rallying cry:

"California, the Golden West, California forever blest:  
Raise her standard,—raise it high!  
California's going Dry—Dry, Dry, Dry, Dry,  
California's going Dry!"

1909.

### Legislation.

Mrs. Sturtevant-Peet, Supt. of Legislation, recorded this as the banner year of her department, and at her request the Corresponding Secretary, Miss Chase, was sent to Sacramento to direct the interests of the W. C. T. U. at the Legislature. The president, Mrs. Dorr, was also in attendance a great part of the session. The "Age of Consent" bill was again introduced at the urgent desire of the W. C. T. U. of Northern California, and the "Marriage Reform" bill under the auspices of South-

ern California, W. C. T. U. The president, Mrs. Hester Griffith, was there, working for both. These were the only bills for which the W. C. T. U. stood sponsor, but its representatives combined with others in pushing the Local Option, Sunday Rest, Direct Legislation, Anti-Gambling and Woman Suffrage bills, and others of minor importance, for never before were so many reform measures under consideration. The Anti-Polygamy bill, having no commercial interest to retard it, went through without opposition. The Anti-Race Track Gambling Law was the moral triumph of the session. The agitation of the others only brought the future success a step nearer.

A "Four-Mile Limit" law was secured which forbids saloons being opened within a radius of four miles from any construction camp where twenty-five or more men are employed. The "Mile Limit" around the State University was extended to one mile and a half. Not the least important legislation of the year was in local and county ordinances throughout the State, all having an upward trend.

The Congress of Reforms was this year held at Berkeley, giving Pacific Grove its first opportunity to entertain the state convention. Several important topics were brought out at this Congress which have since grown upon public attention, for instance, the White Slave Traffic and Sex Hygiene; resolutions were passed to take steps to secure laws providing for definite instruction in schools on the latter, by special lectures. The discussion of "Economics," "Suffrage," and "Direct Legislation" by leaders of thought, proved it to be a real "Congress of Reforms," and that the W. C. T. U. was engaged in all.

Some time before the annual State Fair the state officers sent a protest to the Secretary of the Agricultural Association, against the free service of wine at the approaching Fair. The protest was not heeded, but over against the richly decorated booth of the wine makers, where it was constantly given away in its most alluring aspect, were the White Ribboners with ice-water and literature for all.

The reports of the year showed a gain in membership of 647.

COUNTY PRESIDENTS



MRS. ROSE M. FRENCH



MISS S. M. N. CUMMINGS



MRS. AUGUSTA C. BAINBRIDGE



MRS. ALICE E. BRADLEY

San Francisco

COUNTY PRESIDENTS



MRS. P. H. TRUAX



MRS. SUSAN L. LOCKE



MRS. LUDIE REYNOLDS



MRS. NELLIE GOODWIN

San Joaquin



COUNTY PRESIDENTS



MRS. ANGIE VAN BUSKIRK



MRS. EDITH MOULTON

San Jo aquin



MRS. SARAH C. HARRY

MRS. MARY M. SMITH

"United in Life and in the Great Beyond"

COUNTY PRESIDENTS



MRS. EMELINE CAMPBELL



MRS. C. M. BALDWIN



MRS. NINA S. SHEPPA



MRS. ELIZABETH D. BIGGS

SoIano

### State Paper Problem.

The expanding plans of the Convention brought about a Constitutional Amendment requiring sixty-five cents from the one dollar dues of members of local Unions, be paid to the State treasurer—twenty-five cents of which shall pay for the State paper. This had been presented and discussed at two previous Conventions, and was adopted at the third. It has worked well. It automatically secured the payment of dollar dues, and brought the State paper to every member. The weekly issue of the "Ensign" did a splendid part in the development of the State Union, but after all only reached one-fourth of the membership. The publication resumed after the fire as a monthly, at a subscription price small enough to be too often overlooked, has never had a mailing list equal to one-half of the members. The State paper problem was solved by this amendment, and its efficiency as a means of communication with the whole body of members at once assured.

### A Heroic Life and Death.

The whole State Union experienced a shock in the tragical death of Miss Isola Kennedy, president of the bi-county of Santa Clara and San Mateo. She was a young woman of unusual promise and much beloved, as evidenced by the office she filled. On the morning of July 5th, she, with two little boys of eight and ten years, drove out to a canyon a few miles from her home, for a day's outing in the woods. This is one of the most populous counties, from which wild beasts were believed to have disappeared years before. Soon after their lunch Miss Kennedy was horrified to see a mountain lion spring upon one of the boys as he was wading in the creek near by. The child was thrown under the water. Seeing their terrible situation, she rushed to the aid of the helpless children, telling them to run for their lives. The lion turned on her; the boys could give her no aid, but ran to a camp not far off to give the alarm, while she, prostrate on the ground, fought the enraged beast with a hat pin—her only weapon. When the men from the camp arrived she was still conscious and able to direct them where to stand to aim, so as to make sure of the lion's instant death. The claws of the beast were imbedded so deeply in her body that his death struggle would

have caused her death also. One shot in the head was instantly fatal. Her clothing was in shreds, one ear torn off, and her left hand and wrist so far down the creature's throat that his jaws had to be pried open to free her. She lingered through nine weeks of terrible suffering, borne with wonderful cheerfulness; the little boy she tried to save passed away before her.

A life given so heroically to save a child, made its appeal to other children, and at the suggestion of Miss Anna A. Gordon, the World's Supt. of the Loyal Temperance Legion, the children of that Branch of the W. C. T. U. raised a fund by which a monument was erected to the memory of Miss Kennedy, in the Mount Hope cemetery at Morgan Hill near her home.

The sympathy of friends was variously expressed, and among members of the union took the form of contributions amounting to \$380 toward the expenses of her illness. The greater part of it was given by Santa Clara county where she was best known and fondly loved.

#### 1910.

The annals of this and the last few years are remarkable, in their evidence of steady development of all departments, as if all were being brought up to a uniform proficiency and a thoroughness of organization ready for great movements. What the coming movements might be was indicated in the growing earnestness of Purity and Franchise, and departments most related to these.

The Congress of Reforms met this year in San Francisco, when all these subjects were forcibly presented by strong and able men and women.

The Convention at Berkeley followed, emphasizing the same lines and their relation to public education. The air was rife with a sense of preparation for advancement.

Legislation in counties and towns was going on with increased vigor, and elections under the Precinct Local Option Law were making dry the waste places, with the hope of making the map all white.

#### **Scientific Instruction.**

The Department of Scientific Temperance Instruction did splendid work. Its superintendent, Mrs. S. E. Ayers, and the

department lecturer, Mrs. A. C. Bainbridge, between them addressed ten "Teachers' Institutes" and the latter reached over 10,000 pupils by addresses in the public schools. Nearly \$500 was given in prizes for essays in the schools by state, county, and local unions, and the National Intercollegiate Prize of \$100 won last year by Mr. A. C. Peterson, an undergraduate of the "College of the Pacific," was taken this year by Mr. J. D. Hauser of "Stanford University."

## CHAPTER IX.

### Purity Conference. Red Light Bill. Suffrage Campaign. Victory.

A notable Purity Conference was held in San Francisco late in October. Among other well known speakers, Mr. John D. Hammond of Iowa, told of the "Red Light" Abatement and Injunction Law" of that state. The Corresponding Secretary, Miss Anna E. Chase, Mrs. Mary F. Gilley, and Mrs. A. M. McCroskey were present and deeply impressed by his statements. At the close of his address they had an earnest interview with him. They siezed upon the idea as the thing to be pushed in California. Miss Chase and Mrs. McCroskey went to Piedmont the next morning to lay the matter at once before the Legislative Superintendent, Mrs. Sturtevant-Peet, who recognized the peculiar merits of the law and the importance of immediately taking up the matter. Returning to the city, Miss Chase again interviewed Mr. Hammond and secured his promise to come and help if he should be needed. She then presented the subject by letter to the President, Mrs. Dorr, who being at her home in San Jose, was unable to attend the Conference or see Mr. Hammond.

Mrs. Dorr was equally impressed, and felt it to be an imperative call for action. She realized the tremendous task before her, but with faith in Divine leading and W. C. T. U. following, she began to lay plans to obtain the law.

Mr. Joseph Moffett of Southern California promised to pay, and in due time, paid Mr. Hammond's traveling expenses for the round trip from Iowa to secure his aid.

1911.

The January executive meeting, responded cordially to Mrs. Dorr's presentation of plans, and the Red Light, Local Option, and Anti-cigarette bills were made the special legislative objects. Mrs. Dorr and Miss Chase repaired to Sacramento, Mr. Hammond came at call, lectured in many cities and did excellent work at the capital.

The publication of large amounts of literature was required,

circular letters soliciting funds for printing were sent far and wide, with a response that gave but little more than \$100 to open the campaign, but day by day met every recurring obligation, amounting at the time the Legislature adjourned to \$1000, the last \$200 of which was donated by Mrs. Annie K. Bidwell. These were days of both faith and works, nor was the element of sacrifice lacking. The bill being before the Legislature, forced attention, and fixed public interest in it, so that its lessons were strikingly effective on minds to which the whole subject had been unthought of before. The bill was introduced by Hon. G. W. Wyllie and made strong friends for itself from the start, otherwise it would have been smothered in the Committee of Public Morals. At one time that fate was so imminent that it was saved only by the signal from Mrs. Dorr that brought down on that Committee an avalanche of letters that secured a hearing for the bill.

The City Prosecutor from Los Angeles, where the segregation of vice had been abolished, came to give his testimony to the value of that course, corroborated by a letter from the Chief of Police, and with the southern city's experience, and the scientific aspect of the vice question presented by Dr. David Starr Jordan, it was recommended to pass. Interest in the bill increased and so did the devices by which it could be held back, and the bill was simply not permitted to come to vote. However it was felt that the preliminary work necessary to its future success was done. Franklin Hichborn said of this bill, "When once the evils aimed at in this measure are understood, it cannot be defeated." That is the ruling thought in all the efforts of the W. C. T. U., else its ardor might cool, or its zeal abate. It has always the assurance of ultimate success.

This legislative experience served as the beginning of an educational campaign preparatory to the next session.

The "Local Option Bill" of 1909 had a similar fate, and was lost by tricks of parliamentary practice, but this year its friends stood firmly together, and succeeded in enacting a workable law, by which numerous dry victories have been achieved. The law makes its unit a supervisorial district; while the best the state has had, still better is desired, and at this writing (1913) a movement to amend by making a county

unit has begun. Our women lent their aid to various other measures, notably the "Eight Hour Law" for women, the law providing for Jail Matrons where there are women prisoners, a Child Labor law, and Direct Legislation. All were enacted.

By the special efforts of the W. C. T. U. an appropriation of \$4000 was secured to enable the Superintendent of Public Instruction, Prof. Edward Hyatt, to send a series of Quarterly "Bulletins on Health Conservation," treating on the effect of alcohol and tobacco, to every public school teacher in the state.

### Suffrage.

At the opening of the session the "State Suffrage Association" sent a strong delegation to Sacramento, establishing headquarters at a leading hotel, and began an active campaign. The Republican Party had pledged itself at its last state convention, to submit a Constitutional Amendment for Equal Suffrage, and saw now that its pledge must be kept. There was no object in dodging it. The contemptuous treatment of the last session was forgotten and before this was half gone, the bill had passed the Senate by a vote of thirty-three for, to five against, and the Assembly by sixty-six to twelve.

The Suffrage women retired victorious from the field to make ready for the stirring campaign to follow.

The W. C. T. U. had worked in perfect harmony, co-operating with them but having other interests, remained at the capital until the close of the session.

Plans for the campaign took shape rapidly. The experience of 1896 was immensely valuable. It was fully recognized now, that all evil forces would be allied to oppose "Votes for Women"; personal views, social distinctions, and religious affiliations were alike ignored, and the great issue revealed itself as a line of battle upon either side of which were aligned its friends or foes. "There was good fighting all along the line." There was good generalship, too.

Mrs. Elizabeth Lowe Watson had come to the presidency of the California Equal Suffrage Association in time to lead on to victory, a woman of rare gifts, and rich experience, a born orator, a preacher who had for many years ministered to a large congregation in San Francisco, a writer, organizer,



leader, and speaker, the power of whose rich voice and idealism of whose thought lifted her audience to the plane of her own altruistic vision. She was a White-Ribboner, though more widely known in other conspicuous activities of her busy life.

The Suffrage Association established headquarters in the Pacific Building in the heart of the business life of San Francisco, and it became at once a busy hive of well systematized industry. The W. C. T. U. Headquarters was equally so, all working in co-operation and unison. It was agreed to leave to the W. C. T. U. the special work of enlisting churches and all distinctively religious and philanthropic bodies. With an admirable sense of fitness, the individual woman everywhere adapted herself to the task nearest to her hand. The thorough organization of the W. C. T. U. was a great factor; a local union anywhere was a center of activity. Had not Sarah M. Severance had them in training for twenty-five years? Her voice or pen had never rested. Her weekly page in the "Ensign" had been an effective educator, and her supply of literature going from her home as well as from headquarters had been a flowing fountain. To her unremitting, persistent WORK as well as to her irresistible logic, eloquent speech, and absolute devotion, the whole state is indebted today. She had been hard at it for many years before, but recognizing the W. C. T. U. as the means by which women would be made to desire the ballot, because of a specific object to be achieved by it, she became its Superintendent of Franchise in 1886. Though withdrawn by ill health for a time, long enough for responsibilities to be taken by others, returning strength enabled her to aid in the campaign in Santa Clara County, speak to many audiences, participate in the Victory, and see the fruit of her lifelong labor.

Mrs. Alice Park had for some years been chairman of literature for the Suffrage Association, following largely the plans Miss Severance had used so well, both having brought out original publications in regard to "Women and California Laws," and both incessantly circulating up-to-date literature.

Mrs. Rose M. French, an ex-president of San Francisco county, W. C. T. U., took charge of this most important work for the Suffrage Association. "Under her able direction, edit-

ing, and supervising, nearly three million pages of printed matter were sent out."\* It was something to see that busy hive, a committee arranging lecture routes in the inner office, the long table in the public room loaded with packages awaiting the express, women preparing more, every corner filled with the desks of other busy women, and yet others coming and going, while reporters, mail carriers, and messenger boys, each with an errand, added to the picturesque effect, and the sense of something doing.

It is believed that nearly every voter in the state was reached with suffrage literature, an incredibly stupendous task, in which practically all organizations of women united. Systematic house to house visitation aided greatly in the prodigious undertaking. The Great Register of every community was studied and no name was purposely overlooked.

The W. C. T. U. Headquarters presented the same scene with a difference. It was as distinctly a mail order house, from which literature was constantly pouring out, but had at the same time the numerous and divergent interests of a great organization to keep in operation, but all subservient for the time to this dominating issue. It would be impossible to segregate the work of the W. C. T. U. in this campaign, for all wrought together with an eye single to victory. The W. C. T. U. had had years of training for such a time as this, and the campaign itself was training other thousands for civic duties yet to come.

Miss Anna Chase was in constant demand as a speaker in all the bay cities, and at the summer executive, the president of the Suffrage Association formally asked for her services in the interior of the state. An experienced substitute relieved her of duty at Headquarters, and she gave five weeks of arduous work, speaking from automobiles wherever a crowd gathered, from Court House steps, in churches or halls, or from a soap-box. It became a whirlwind campaign. Mrs. Watson with her seventy years upon her, made an auto trip of twenty-three days up the Sacramento Valley, speaking every day to large audiences. Many other women and men gave freely of their time and talents. The high moral and intellectual stand-

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\*How We won the Vote in California. By Selina Solomons.

COUNTY PRESIDENTS



MRS. L. M. HUTTON



MRS. GERTRUDE L. STONE



MRS. D. S. DICKSON



MRS. MARY DICKSON HOTLE

Sonoma

COUNTY PRESIDENTS



MRS. ADELINE M. GATES



MRS. H. B. LADD



MRS. S. M. WYLLIE



MRS. SARA E. AYRES

Santa Clara

COUNTY PRESIDENTS



MISS ISOLA KENNEDY  
Santa Clara



MRS. HANNAH BEAN  
First Superintendent Purity



MRS. EFFIE D. WHITMAN  
Santa Clara

MRS. ELLA A. WHITMAN  
All Prominent Successively in  
Three Counties

MRS. N. T. SANDERS  
An Honored Veteran and Her  
Daughters

COUNTY PRESIDENTS



MRS. E. C. LAUGENOUR



MRS. S. A. HUSTON



MRS ALICE SCARLET  
Yolo



MRS. MARY BOSWORTH CLARK  
Secretary Young People's Branch

ing of the volunteer speakers was a striking element of success. It is not too much to say that nothing heretofore had ever so unified the women of California, or developed in them a sense of civic responsibility. While the lines of demarcation were sharply drawn, there was a marked absence of acrimonious feeling, and even the men opposing the principle admired the gallant fight the women were making.

### Victory.

The portentous tenth day of October brought the struggle to its glorious climax. Never were the issues of battles awaited with more intensity of interest. News from centers of population came first, and on the eleventh, the amendment was presumably lost. All vainly were the wise words of Horace Greely recalled. "The rural districts will save the country."

The state convention opened at Stockton on the afternoon of the twelfth. Delegates from all sections were converging toward Stockton, ready to begin the next campaign, but at successive railroad stations later telegrams more and more, brought cheering news, and when Stockton was reached at noon, only a grand doxology could give due expression to the glad and grateful hearts of the women, and the natural order of procedure appeared to call for a Hallelujah Chorus.

When the fast growing crowd came together at their meeting place, and the president's gavel fell, her beaming smile anticipated her salute: "FELLOW CITIZENS," and every one felt the new dignity that had fallen upon herself. Tears of joy bedewed the eyes of veteran toilers who had not dared to hope to see this day, and to all there came the hope of the yet greater joy, when the desire of their hearts should be realized in the overthrow of the liquor traffic. Just a year had elapsed since the President of the National W. C. T. U., Mrs. Lillian M. N. Stevens, had made her Proclamation of National Constitutional Prohibition in 1920, and that vision was now revealed to their waiting souls.

"Full many a time and oft" had these women conferred together when only difficulties and possible disaster appeared in their way, but none had ever interrupted or retarded their advancing steps; nor did the joy of triumph, even, divert them from the plodding routine of duty. The usual evening recep-

tion afforded a safety valve, for the joy and gratitude that must find expression, and next morning the convention was called to order by the President as if it had never been anything less than an important body of citizens. The opening devotionals led by Mrs. Mattie Hamilton, had the appropriate topic, "Power bestowed by God."

Mrs. Dorr presented the Honorary President, Mrs. Sturtevant-Peet, who moved that a telegram be sent to Mrs. Elizabeth Lowe Watson, President of the Suffrage Association, to read, "The horse and his rider he hath thrown into the sea." Ex. 15.21. A telegram was also sent to the pioneer Suffragist, Miss Sarah M. Severance. A pretty feature was the introduction of the convention page, Miss Frances Willard Clarke, on whose infant arm Frances Willard had tied the White Ribbon with the wish that her little hand might some day cast a ballot. The First Vice President, Mrs. Reichenbach, moved a telegram be sent to the Colorado convention then in session to read, "Whom the Lord hath made free, are free indeed."

These little amenities being over, business proceeded. The agitation of the "Red Light Bill" had created a demand for more light on the subject, and the scientific addresses bearing on that measure were notable. The educational campaign was steadily waged during the whole year, and all occasions seized to bring it to public attention.



## CHAPTER X.

### Transfer of Two Counties to Southern California. Red Light Campaign.

The inconvenient bigness of California, as well as its rugged topography has made it extremely difficult and in many cases impossible, to reach entire communities that for this reason must remain in their relation to the state work very much like foreign missions. For instance, Inyo County, lying on the eastern slope of the highest range of the Sierras, has until very recently been accesible to the western slope, only by a round-about approach through the State of Nevada. In consequence it was not until 1910 when Mrs. D. J. Spencer as a National Superintendent, went there in the interest of "Work Among Indians" and did some organizing, that an accredited W. C. T. U. worker ever visited the county. A railroad has since been opened connecting that county with Los Angeles, and the best interests of the work could only be met by transferring Inyo, to the jurisdiction of Southern California. The same conditions in another part of the State, had made it expedient at its own request, to take over San Luis Obispo county from Southern California in 1896. The construction of the coast railroads had made communication with the south less difficult, and by mutual consent both counties were transferred to the W. C. T. U. of the south.

It had already been proposed to have a written history of the California W. C. T. U., and the president had appointed Mrs. D. J. Spencer, Historian. She was requested by this convention to prepare and bring out the work, to be financed by the state union. Mrs. Sturtevant-Peet, Mrs. A. E. Bradley, Mrs. L. P. Williams, Mrs. E. W. Farish and the Historian, were made the History Committee.

A Grand Diamond Medal Contest was held at which Miss Zoe Redden won the medal and was awarded a diploma for having completed the entire Contest Course by medals won in the State.

The banner for the highest percentage of increased membership, was won by Siskiyou county ; banners for the depart-

ments of Institutes, and for Social Meetings by Stanislaus; Young People's Branch, Press, and Union-Signal, by Santa Clara; the Loyal Temperance Legion banner by Pacific Grove; and the Contest Star by Selma.

Fresno, San Francisco, Stanislaus, San Joaquin, Butte, Sacramento, and Solano counties each gained members sufficient to give them honors on the Jubilee program with a slight gain for the whole state.

### 1912.

The convention met at Sacramento on the first anniversary of the adoption of the Suffrage Amendment, and marked a great development of the individual women, as well as the work they were doing. There was plainly a different point of view, and quite another atmosphere; and the strange condition was that there was nothing strange about it. So naturally had the duties of citizenship been assumed by women, that there seemed to be nothing new in the situation, every act had greater importance because of it. Public interests were more generally discussed. The impending elections at which many constitutional amendments were submitted, were debated with a degree of intelligence and breadth of vision highly creditable to the new voters.

The educational campaign for the Red Light Bill had been pushed with vigor and an enormous quantity of literature printed and gratuitously distributed. Valuable leaflets were written by men of expert knowledge, on "Purity" by Judge Murasky; "The Red Plague," Dr. David Starr Jordan; "The Relation of Venereal Diseases to Vice," Dr. John C. Spencer, Professor in the Medical Department of the University of California; "Objections Answered," Christopher Ruess, Juvenile Court Officer; "Feasibility and Worthiness of the Red Light Bill," Rev. O. P. Bell; "Segregation Policy Abandoned," Dr. David Starr Jordan; Clifford G. Roe, Secretary American Vigilance Association; Chester Rowell, Editor Fresno Republican, and Franklin Hichborn, Publicist; "Testimony from Iowa" by the Mayor of Des Moines. Special leaflets by C. A. S. Frost, attorney; Rev. Dr. Bovard. Dr. R. Cadwalader, As-

semblyman L. D. Bohnett, and others. Mass meetings were addressed by these and other able speakers.

While this matter had clear right of way, taking easy precedence, routine affairs were by no means neglected, the general advance was unbroken. Apropos to new responsibilities, the Supt. of Legislation, Mrs. Sturtevant-Peet, early in the year brought out a little "Catechism of Civil Government in California," which met an urgent need in clubs, and other organizations of women, exhausting three editions in its first year.

### Proportional Representation.

With new responsibilities and a great desire for a "square deal," the subject of Proportional Representation was introduced in this convention, and the Directors of the Incorporation of the California W. C. T. U. elected by that method as a practical demonstration of the system. Its justice and fair dealing were so evident that it was voted to inaugurate an educational campaign on that line.

An important amendment to the Constitution was made as follows:

"ARTICLE V. Section 3. Provision shall be made by every local union, for representation at state convention, by one delegate, preferably the president. Blanks shall be prepared on which said delegate, shall write amount of railroad or steamer fare, for coming to convention, with one third added for return (the usual convention rate) and her name. These shall be taken up by the treasurer and an average made of the whole. Those whose traveling expense shall be less than the average, shall pay to the treasurer enough to equal the amount of the average. Those whose traveling expense shall be more, shall receive a rebate reducing it to the amount of the average sum. This plan is for only one delegate, and does not change the number of delegates; all others are subject to the usual rate. The entertaining union or unions shall be exempt from this apportionment."

The National Convention meeting so near, at Portland, Oregon, this state was again fully represented in the National counsels.

The Red Light campaign only halted for conventions, and went on more and more vigorously. The president was fully occupied in placing the able speakers who volunteered their aid.

1913.

**Women's Council.**

The New Year opened with a sense of impending conflict. Mrs. Dorr and Miss Chase were on the ground, when the Legislature convened. Other organizations of women were also strongly represented and a "Women's Legislative Council" was immediately organized with Headquarters where Conferences could be held as occasion required. Social Clubs and Reform Societies alike made up its membership. Every one had a special measure to promote, but with one consent all agreed to push the moral interests first; material considerations must wait on the moral, and with this definite plan, all worked together in the utmost harmony.

"The Red Light Bill" was introduced January 16th, in the Assembly by Hon. L. D. Bohnett and in the Senate by Hon. E. D. Grant. A hearing was granted for it before a Joint Committee on Public Morals, of both Houses, not like that of the last session in a small room which easily held all who cared to attend, but in the Senate Chamber before a large audience. Even the newspapers gave it vastly more importance. "The Examiner" characterized it as a "bill with teeth." In vain its opponents endeavored to extract the teeth. No less than seventeen amendments were attempted, but every one was fought to a finish, and it finally passed in exactly its original form; but not without a valiant contest.

Never before were legislators so besieged with letters and telegrams, for never before had there been a constituency of women. Men were reminded that friends and foes alike would be remembered for their attitude regarding this bill, and men once opposed to it, declared themselves compelled by their supporters to vote for it. One said, "I might as well be killed by the Royal Arch (the Liquor Dealers' Association) as by the women. I'll stand by the women." This was an invincible argument.

By a new law, this legislature was divided by a mid-session recess of a month, giving time for members to confer with constituents. It was a busy month for all. During this month, twenty-three counties were reached by speakers on this subject. Senators Grant, Jones and Kehoe, and Assemblymen Bohnett and Nelson did platform work for it during the re-

cess. Rev. Mrs. B. C. Washburn and Miss Chase were in the field every day. Many ministers lent their aid, besides the speakers who had for months been doing their utmost. Of these special remembrance is due to Franklin Hichborn, and Christopher Ruess, the latter a public official whose duties were exacting, gave every Sunday, within distances that permitted him to reach his place of duty on Monday morning, and on week-day evenings in any of the bay cities. Their sacrifice of time and personal convenience was a rich gift to the cause. Dr. David Starr Jordan gave many effective addresses. It is safe to say that no measure ever brought before a California legislature, had ever been so well ventilated. Public sentiment was vastly educated by these means.

The bill came to a vote in the Assembly March 20th, and passed by a count of sixty-two for, to seventeen against; in the Senate March 28th, and passed by a vote of twenty-nine to eleven.

It was approved and signed by Governor Hiram W. Johnson, April seventh.

The pen with which this bill was signed, was presented by Gov. Johnson to Mrs. Sara J. Dorr, president of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, as a public acknowledgement of its maternity of the "Red Light Injunction and Abatement Law."

The law is to take effect August 10th, unless suspended by a petition for a Referendum before that date.

While others helped freely and splendidly in this achievement, it will be recollected as a triumph of the W. C. T. U. organization. It had so many outposts of faithful workers, on whose hearts it was a burden.

The W. C. T. U. raised and used \$3,500 for this purpose, printed 300,000 leaflets, which if reduced to pages would exceed a million, paid \$300 for postage and express, \$1000 for expenses of speakers, and many other incidental expenses, fully demonstrating its ability to deal with a difficult proposition. The end is not yet. The coming contest will be the Referendum or appeal to the people.

The Red Light Bill was the grand climax of legislative effort, but many bills, any one of which would have been at any

previous session, considered worthy of all praise, were adopted now almost as a matter of course, since women were an integral influence in legislation.

"The Age of Consent" for which the W. C. T. U. began to work in 1887 would have passed in 1911, had it not been sidetracked to give something else the right of way, but there was no setting it aside in 1913. A bill for "Equal Guardianship of Children," one holding the fathers of illegitimate offspring responsible for their support, an appropriation to establish a "Girls' Training Home," "Minimum Wage for Women," "Extension of Eight Hour Law to Women," "Marriage Examination," and other good bills became laws.

A meeting of representatives of "The Federated Clubs," "Church Federation," "Civic League," "Mothers' Congress," "Anti-Saloon League," "Sunday School Association," and several other societies and individuals has been held at the state Headquarters of the W. C. T. U., at which plans were made and an organization effected by which all these and many more will co-operate in the campaign in support of the Red Light Law under the referendum.

## CHAPTER XI.

### YOUNG PEOPLE'S BRANCH.

The Young People's Branch of today was prefigured by the earlier societies of young men and women. Of these none in this state reached the importance of "The Temperance Cadets" of Oakland.

Boys under fourteen were organized as "Junior Cadets" and met afternoons. Those above that age, made up the larger and stronger society, a splendid body of youths organized and supported by the Oakland union, with Mrs. Sarah C. Borland, Superintendent. The triple pledge, against alcohol, tobacco, and profanity, was the basic principle. Instruction on these lines was varied by military drill, given by a member of the National Guard. The boys met weekly, in the evening, and entered with such spirit into the work, that they not only increased rapidly, but better yet, held on steadily for ten years. Strictly military forms were used with appropriate uniforms, and perfect order maintained. Their musical ability was brought out in frequent social functions, arranged by the union. They had a Glee Club so proficient as to be a social attraction, sometimes giving concerts, and assisting in the School of Methods at Pacific Grove two seasons, when camping there.

Companies A, B, C, and D, were organized in Oakland, East Oakland, Berkeley and Alameda, and occasionally held competitive drills. A regiment was made up of these and some other companies in other localities, but on account of distance from each other could not work to advantage as such.

Too much praise cannot be given to Mrs. Borland, who with unflagging devotion mothered the Cadets. They called her "Mother Carey," and through all the ten years she threw herself unreservedly into the work. One of the Cadets writing now, tells of "her tireless energy, ready sympathy, and thorough understanding of that complicated machine, a BOY, all of which went to make her work a success. Without exception every boy who belonged to one of these companies re-

ceived an uplift which he could not have had in any other organization at that time." Another writes, "Of all the boys I can remember who belonged to our company, every one is a temperance man. There were others outside our ranks, who lived better lives because of their association with the Cadets. Mrs. Borland writes, "No matter where they go or how long gone, when they return they never fail to look up old comrades and "Mother Carey." The work did not seem very much in doing, but who shall measure results?"

At several other places temporary companies were formed. One of the Oakland Cadets was a student whose home was in New Mexico. On his return he organized a company there.

Mrs. Clare O. Southard was an able coadjutor of Mrs. Borland. She and her husband, Dr. W. F. Southard, were members of the first Board of Directors of "The Temperance Cadets."

Coincident with the Cadets were the "Young Woman's Christian Temperance Unions." An especially fine work was done in Oakland where it was mothered by Mrs. Southard. They co-operated with the Cadets, being naturally complementary to them, making a strong social force that popularized the principles they represented.

These unions were briefly called the "Y's." The first was organized in East Oakland in 1884. In 1885 San Francisco, Oakland, Antioch, and Haywards followed, in 1886 Grass Valley, Hollister, Ione, Nevada City, Napa, Petaluma, San Jose, Santa Rosa, Santa Cruz, and Berkeley. Twenty-eight "Y's" were reported in 1887 and thirty-four in 1888.

An organizer was one night asked a question by a miner in the audience, saying, "A man under ground told me today that there is a union of a hundred girls in Grass Valley who will have nothing to do with a man that drinks. Is that true?" She proudly verified the statement, adding "there are 139, all over seventeen." The man's response came with strong emphasis: "I wish they would do that here," a tribute alike to the value and far reaching force of their influence.

The climax of Young Women's work was in 1888. The declining membership was not so much due to loss of interest as to the fact that the Christian Endeavor societies and other young people's societies, then first organized in the various



churches doing the same work. "Young Woman's Work" was a distinct department of which Mrs. S. G. Chamberlain was the first Superintendent and during her three years' term its greatest success was reached. Conditions made progress more difficult for those who followed, Mrs. H. V. Brownell, Miss Winnie Morris, Mrs. Jessie B. Nevins, and Mrs. Emily Webb Giesey.

In conformity with the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union this department became in 1900, the "Young People's Branch," having membership of both sexes and broader plans of work. Miss Mabel Sabelman was the first Secretary, followed after a vacancy of a few years by Mrs. Alice Newton in 1905. In 1908 Miss Foneta Chase assumed its care until 1910, when Mrs. Mary Bosworth Clarke took charge, she was drawn into another line, and was followed by Mrs. Ethel Estes Stephenson, the present incumbent.

### **The Loyal Temperance Legion.**

The Juvenile department was the forerunner of the "Legion." It was reported in 1885 by Mrs. Elizabeth W. Farish. Plainly it was a paramount object, and everywhere the unions began work for the children, but each seemed to act on its own initiative, for as yet general plans had not developed nor had there been adopted a literature for children. Some of these juvenile societies were called "Temperance Bands," "Bands of Hope," "Silver Star Cadets," "True Blue Cadets," or "Juvenile Unions," but all did good work. In addition to these there appeared in the next year, "The Temperance Guards," and "The Stars of Hope." At the seventh state convention, the "Juvenile Union" of Grass Valley reported having entered on its ninth year, antedating the state union by two years. After two years of splendid work, Mrs. Farish took up other lines and was succeeded by Mrs. Nellie B. Eyster, who held the position eleven years. During this long term a better organization was effected under the uniform name and system of the "Loyal Temperance Legion," with a fine course of instruction prepared by the National Union supplemented by literature brought out by the superintendent. The course of study included, besides the primary teaching, a series of lessons for the Senior Loyal Temperance Legion. In

the changes incidental to the development of the "Young People's Branch," the Senior Legion was merged into that Branch, leaving the L. T. L. distinctly juvenile. Mrs. Alice Hyde was the next superintendent. In 1900 the name of Mrs. Alice Bowman appears as Secretary, indicating that the Loyal Legion had also become a Branch of the W. C. T. U. After four years of excellent service she retired, and this important office was vacant one year, when Mrs. Mary F. Gilley, a woman who must have been foreordained for this special purpose, was elected and is still ably filling the position.

## CHAPTER XII.

### THE EVOLUTION OF DEPARTMENTS.

Nothing has more impressed the compiler of these pages than the originality of ideas and methods employed. However commonplace they may now appear, they were all new once, and every step taken was on untried ground. The work was undertaken from a deep sense of moral obligation, without regard to model or precedent. Not more truly were the men of '49 and the early fifties pioneers, than the women who two decades later instituted a movement in the west, than which none has been of loftier purpose or more substantial character. Granted that similar proceedings had begun in the East; the east and west were far apart then, and the women of the west ventured upon the unknown when they met to organize the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, but the west has held its own, and strikes hands now with the east and the world, in the general advance of the age.

An eastern writer says, "It is wholly safe to claim that the Woman's Christian Temperance Union has been the wide-browed, strong-handed, sure-footed pioneer that led America's, if not the World's womanhood to the unclaimed but rightful suffrages that lay waiting to her hand." Miss Willard in her annual address of 1880 refers to the local unions as being "fitted incidentally to furnish incitement to noble enterprises closely related to our work, in which women who will not as yet engage in our direct temperance endeavor would gladly employ their steadily arousing energies," and this seems like a prophecy of the work of women's clubs, that has followed so closely in the way the W. C. T. U. has led, that it would be hard to find a single activity of club life, that has not first been exploited in these departments.

The available records of the beginnings are meager, but show a sifting each year of the work of the last. Committees were named in those years for everything, with the apparent intent of having as many localities represented in each as possible. With the wide distances involved, this was a cumbrous

and difficult plan, but broad foundations were laid, and when Miss Willard made her memorable tour in 1883, new light dawned; the increase of unions brought many within touch of others, and her suggestion of departments with individual superintendents must have been promptly acted on, for in that year Dr. C. Annette Buckel was made Superintendent of Hygiene, Miss M. E. Chase, of Education; Mrs. Thomas Varney, of Relative Statistics, and Mrs. M. E. Congdon, of Text Books in Schools and Libraries.

There is no record of the creation of departments or appointment of superintendents but at the next convention ten superintendents made glowing reports of vigorous work done in their respective departments. Scanning the lists of these from year to year the marvellous versatility of the women evidences itself. The same names appear in the most widely different lines of effort and with equal facility they applied themselves to any specialty to which they might be appointed, though the tendency has been to develop strong specialists by long experience in one department. It is not unusual to find a woman, superintendent of one department in the local union, another in the county, and yet another in the state, with the consequence that they became thoroughly equipped at all points.

The departments will be considered in the order in which they were adopted by the state union. Two, in the nature of things became Branches because they represented membership.

### Hygiene and Heredity.

Dr. C. Annette Buckel was made Superintendent of Hygiene in 1883 and at once gave force and impetus to the subject. Her instruction in a series of lessons, leaflets and lectures was very valuable. The demands of her profession took her from the office in 1885, but up to her decease in 1912 she was an ardent student and scientific writer on these lines. In her later years, when retired from professional cares, her time and thought were given to the study of defective children, and the means of developing their possibly latent faculties, leaving a bequest to further that object. It is good to know that she had carried it so far that it is to be taken up by the University of Califor-

nia, and a chair will probably be endowed for the purpose, bearing her name, as a memorial to her devotion and research.

Dr. Harriet P. Van Kirk succeeded her as Superintendent, and will be long remembered for her able and faithful instruction. Hygiene and Heredity were merged in 1896 under Mrs. Frances H. Bentley, who had been the able Superintendent of Heredity eleven years. Mrs. Orra J. Ward, the present Superintendent, took the dual department in 1897 and has rendered distinguished service by her practical literature on health subjects, notably, natural foods, fruits and vegetables.

#### Evangelistic.

Mrs. Sophia J. Churchill was the first Superintendent in 1884, and a nobler exponent of the department could not have been chosen. She resigned the next year when elected state president, but resumed the position in 1890. Mrs. Annie K. Bidwell served six, and Mrs. Jennette L. Everts ten years. Mrs. M. F. Bunker held it one year and Mrs. Mary M. Elmore, the present incumbent, entered on her labors in 1909.

This is felt to be the initial department, without which no union exists; and no group of women could have better represented it, or have shed a brighter luster upon all the work by its means. The results of their efforts cannot be told in statistics, or even incidentally, for it has been recognized as the subtle spiritual force that has permeated and directed the whole course of all that the W. C. T. U. has undertaken or accomplished.

The Bible in Public Schools is one of its aims.

#### Legislation Petitions and Law Enforcement.

Mrs. Sturtevant-Peet was the first Superintendent in 1884, and fills the same office now. During the seventeen years of her presidency of the State, nine women successively filled the office of superintendent, but her special adaptability to the work, as well as her official position, identified her always with it. She represented the W. C. T. U. at each session of the legislature with rare tact and grace, while the Superintendents kept up the requisite correspondence and essential clerical work.

During Mrs. Dorr's presidency, she and the corresponding

secretary, Miss Anna E. Chase, have represented the W. C. T. U. at each session of the legislature, and as results prove, have done splendid work.

The record of state legislation is told in the general narrative already given, but the sum of local effort in securing county and municipal ordinances will never be told. Persistent, unremitting toil, has gone on all over the State. Defeats have been recognized only as steps toward ultimate success, so promptly have the unions risen to renew the attack, and by their undismayed force "dry" ground has been gained little by little until half the state map is white.

The tedious process of carrying a bill through the legislature is illustrated by the passage of a bill for the "Protection of Girls." The W. C. T. U. was first represented at the capitol at the session of 1887, when the temperance education law was secured, but this measure attracted little attention. In 1889 "The Age of Consent" was raised from ten to fourteen years. In 1895 an effort was made to raise it to eighteen. It passed both houses and was vetoed by Gov. Budd. In 1897 it was raised to sixteen. In 1899 it was again raised to eighteen by a vote of both houses and the bill pocketed by Gov. Gage without signature. In later sessions it was simply side-tracked, and not until women held the ballot and their potency was recognized, did it become a law in 1913.

In work for local and county ordinances the women's vote was yet more persuasive, apparently conveying a hint of its latent power.

#### Scientific Temperance Instruction.

This department was prefigured by the "Prize Essays in Schools" in 1881 and 1882.

Mrs. Mary T. McCall was the first Superintendent in 1884. She removed to the east the next year, when Mrs. D. J. Spencer took her place. Mrs. L. P. Williams succeeded her in 1891, and Miss Jessie Norton in 1893. Mrs. J. J. Coyle served from 1897 to 1909, twelve years of strenuous devotion, and was followed by Mrs. Sara E. Ayres, the present Superintendent. No department has done greater things. First, placing temperance text-books in individual schools; then securing the law, making temperance instruction compulsory in all public schools:

COUNTY PRESIDENTS



MRS. FANNIE WOOD



MRS. GARRISON TURNER



MRS. JENNIE PHELPS PURVIS



MRS. MARY A. REICHENBACH  
Stanislaus

COUNTY PRESIDENTS



MRS. DUNCAN BERRY

Tri-County, Santa Cruz, San Benito and Monterey



MRS. J. L. EVERTS



MRS. MARGARET COLEMAN

Tri-County,  
Santa Cruz, San Benito and  
Monterey



MRS. M. H. WHITMER

San Luis Obispo



COUNTY PRESIDENTS



MRS R. A. HAWKINS



MRS. FLORA SAVAGE



MRS. LYDIA HORSEMAN



MRS. RACHEL BARTHOLEMW  
Tulare



THE WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION'S  
Refugee Camp in Golden Gate Park after the fire

the school lectures of Mrs. Eyster for three years; the present standing of the work and the respect of all educators; and the system of prize essays in thousands of schools by which millions of boys and girls write on the subject.

Mrs. Eyster is listed as department lecturer from 1898 to 1906.

### **Song.**

California was the first state to recognize song as an essential department of the W. C. T. U. Mrs. L. E. Higgins was Superintendent in 1884, Mrs. Eva Bishop in 1887, Mrs. F. M. Husted in 1890, Mrs. Annie Hilliker in 1891, and Mrs. Sadie Renowden Bailey began in 1893. For twenty years "our Miriam" has led by her voice and baton, arranged and conducted music for state conventions and congresses, contributing to the success of many county conventions and other meetings by the inspiration of good music and reliable service. Her sister, Mrs. Rebecca B. Painton, often sings with Mrs. Bailey and acts as Associate Superintendent.

This department has been effective in county and local unions. San Joaquin County had a White Ribbon Quartette of fine singers several years, known as the "Clover Leaf Choir" enthusing every meeting where they were heard. There were several White Ribbon Choirs among the "Ys" in the early 90s. The Senior L. T. L. of Corralitos had the first vested choir in the state as a temperance organization.

### **Penal and Reformatory Work.**

Mrs. A. B. Gove was another appointee of 1884, whose record is remarkable, serving nineteen years in the arduous and often delicate tasks which fell to her hands. A woman of rare gifts, pleasing personality, and Christian grace; cultured, refined, sympathetic and sensible, she gave herself to the service of the unfortunate without stint or reservation, and by her suggestions and experience did much to improve the conditions of prisoners in general, besides the personal influence and uplift to many lives. For fifteen years she went regularly to the penitentiary at San Quentin, from her home in Oakland, Bible in hand, every alternate Sunday, and ministered to prisoners as each occasion offered. Her tender spirituality and sweet motherliness won the souls of lawless men.

Many discharged men, now living honestly, are indebted to her care for places of employment amid wholesome environment, that gave them their opportunities to begin a better life.

Her tireless and persistent efforts secured the first Police Matrons in the city prison of San Francisco, and the state law for such in any prison.

After her retirement the department was conducted by Mrs. E. S. Humphrey for three years, and then by Mrs. J. B. McDonald. Mrs. Jean Sinclair entered upon it in 1910 and is doing excellent and comprehensive work looking to advanced prison reforms.

### Press.

First Superintendent, Mrs. Laura P. Williams, 1884. Her report is an augury of the future scope of this department. It began by securing space in local newspapers, with a woman in each union to fill it. The amount of this work was amazing. This method is still an important factor, in its primary object and in training reporters. Newspapers are now more chary of space, and the Associated Press, professional reporters, inside editions, and syndicate papers have added facilities to press work.

Mrs. C. E. Babb became Superintendent in 1885, Mrs. Grace M. Kimball in 1890, and in 1894 Mrs. Clare O. Southard accepted the work she is still most efficiently carrying on. She does nothing at haphazard but long before special events are to take place, arrangements for their publicity are fully made.

The excellent reporters developed in local and county unions would make a splendid roll of honor, but special attention cannot be withheld from Mrs. Mary H. Cartwright, who keeps in good grace with editors wherever she may be, by her skill and tact in supplying their columns with fresh readable news. Her reports of public meetings, conventions and congresses often call out a public vote of thanks.

When Frances E. Willard organized the W. C. T. U. of Oregon, in 1883, Mrs. Cartwright was elected state secretary, and then and there began to report, since when her ready pen has been held sacred to the W. C. T. U.

Mrs. S. A. Huston is a professional newspaper woman who found herself out by the duties of Press Superintendent of

Yolo County, and twenty-three years ago established a weekly paper, "The Home Alliance," of which she is Editor, Manager and general factotum. The "Alliance" continues to be a recognized aid to every good movement.

Mrs. Charlton Edholm, now Mrs. Frank J. Sibley, was another who distinguished herself in this department. Being a professional reporter, she was familiar with the methods of her craft, by which a great many papers could simultaneously be reached. Preparing original matter for many papers to be issued at different points, she has filled three hundred columns in a year. With tireless energy she so expanded her work that in 1891 she was made Superintendent of Press for the World's W. C. T. U., the first Californian to be honored by an appointment in that body. In that capacity she reports 1000 columns published in one year. In 1895, feeling herself especially called to another field, she retired from official work in the W. C. T. U. and entered upon that of "Rescue" under the Crittenden Missions to which she has since devoted many years of faithful labor by voice and pen.

### **Sunday Schools.**

This was one of the earliest departments, 1884, and has been a strong bond of co-operation with the church. The W. C. T. U. has not lost this opportunity to clinch its teaching with a "Thus saith the Lord," the quarterly temperance lessons holding the right of way for their message. The Superintendents have been Mrs. Caleb Sadler, Miss Mary Barbour, Mesdames N. B. Eyster, P. H. Matthews, L. M. Thomson, Eva S. Gilchrist, C. Mansfield, Eva Williams, and Harriet I. Farr.

### **Viticulture.**

This department has probably never been duplicated in any state. Its object was to create an interest in the culture of grapes for other purposes than the manufacture of wine. Mrs. L. Kelley was made Superintendent in 1884 and labored hopelessly two years, after which there was a lapse until 1888, when Mrs. S. M. M. Woodman accepted it and

### **Unfermented Wine.**

was added. In 1894 the original name was dropped and the latter substituted, as no headway seemed to be made in the

former line. The sacramental use of fermented wine was practically universal when the W. C. T. U. recognized that alcohol must be driven from holy places if it was to become disreputable. The persistent teaching on this line has made the use of pure grape juice at the sacrament almost as universal as the previous custom had been. Mrs. Woodman is now serving her twenty-fifth year as Superintendent and has been so absolutely thorough in all she does, that she continues year after year to take the banner of the National Superintendent for the best reports received by her.

### Literary Bodies and School Conventions.

The importance of presenting the work of the W. C. T. U. to other organizations required a special Superintendent and Mrs. Mary H. Field, than whom there could have been no abler, was appointed in 1884. She soon after became the state recording secretary, and was many years the general secretary of the Chatauqua. She was succeeded in 1891 by Miss M. E. Norton, and later by Mrs. Ada Van Pelt, and Mrs. Lydia F. Luse, and in 1899 the work was relegated to the general officers.

### County Fairs.

First Superintendent, Mrs. Susan D. Whitney, 1884. Under her guidance all fairs were included and the word county dropped from the name. In the next year the "Y's" of San Francisco had a booth at the Mechanics' Fair, handsomely decorated, having on one side the kindergarten display lately exhibited at New Orleans, and on the other a printing press operated by young men, on which temperance tracts were printed, and with other literature donated, they gave out 65,000 pages, and received 277 signatures to the pledge. At the close of the fair, the Board of Directors, of their own motion awarded the Y. W. C. T. U. a diploma for "Artistic decoration of their booth, and zeal in their management, exemplifying the high moral character of their work."

Mrs. Joel B. Russel was next Superintendent in 1888. County fairs had generally granted space to the W. C. T. U. and good work was done. In some, money enough to meet all expenses was received in premiums. Rest rooms were provided

by several, and always cold water and literature. After the success of county fairs, access was obtained to the state fair, where a booth has been kept every year. In 1911 it was shared with the Suffrage Association and made a center of suffrage propaganda. At citrus fairs, the local unions have won several prizes for artistic decoration.

Cloverdale, in the heart of the northern citrus belt, has a reputation for these, having once a well with the old oaken bucket, all made of oranges; and each year a new and striking design, attracting crowds to whom literature is freely given.

While writing this, a report from Humboldt county in 1889 reappears, and affords an illustration of what many counties were doing. "The pavilion is on the fair ground, and the W. C. T. U. has its own modest roof-tree there, called a 'rest booth,' furnished for the time with easy chairs and lounges, to which ten cents admits any one. Toilet facilities are provided to wash the candy off the children or the dust from the traveler; baggage is checked, and luminous thought, babies are taken care of at ten cents an hour, affording young mothers the rest and pleasure of the occasion, the climax of enterprise and loving kindness."

Mesdames Emma G. Snow, M. J. Mayhew, and Z. Buckminster were successive Superintendents until 1897, since when the state officers have arranged for the state fair as the county officers do for theirs.

### Coffee Houses.

The very name of this department suggests its historic character. In the early times of California eating places had been invariably drinking places also, and there was a popular delusion, so universal was the drink custom, that an eating house could not be made profitable without the sale of liquor. When the temperance wave broke on these shores, the first impulse of every union was to start a coffee house as an antidote to the saloon. In the rural towns there was little financial success, but much labor and sacrifice, with a moral influence that was a protest against existing conditions, but insufficient pecuniary support. The patronage of the cities stood the test, and all did a great part for the temperance cause.

In all these department sketches, the experience of one will

serve as a type of many. One in San Francisco opened in 1882, will illustrate. Women saw the homeless young men squandering time and money in saloons, and felt it was for lack of human sympathy that so many lives were thrown away. The Coffee House gave access to such, and women, sweet and gentle, who would shrink from positions involving publicity could approach a young man quietly, secure his confidence and rescue the life that was drifting away. One who brought in many such sheaves, tells of her daily efforts. "How I watched them as they came in Mondays, haggard and worn from Sunday's debauch, and asked credit for something to eat, and I determined that they should feel my care for them. I used to take a cup of coffee and go sit at their table, talk with them, and make them feel my personal interest. On Saturday nights they would bring me their wages of which I would give them enough to carry them over Sunday, and keep the rest for them until Monday. Soon they would take my advice and allow me to put the money in a savings bank, and as they began to save, they forgot to drink. I used to keep their bank books three months, and by that time they did not need such care. Sometimes I had as many as seven bank-books in my little bag belonging to these men, trying to reform."

This personal touch with men who could not have been reached otherwise, was the mission of the Coffee House, and well it served its purpose. There was always a Reading Room attached. Business men sometimes said to the women, "You are encouraging loafers," but they gave them a decent loafing place. When one said for himself, "You are doing too much for us," they knew he would soon do better for himself. A Gospel Meeting was held in the Reading Room on Tuesday evenings under the auspices of the Young Men's Christian Association, and a temperance meeting on another evening of each week.

Six of these Coffee Houses were maintained in the city, serving to prove their feasibility so well, that men with more capital and greater business advantages gradually took away their patronage and so ended their career.

One Coffee House did a business of over \$15,000 a year.



Everywhere the Coffee House was a refining and reforming factor. In some of the larger towns they became sources of revenue for the unions and furnished money to carry forward large plans of work. One union had by this means acquired a convenient bank account, and was able to aid a kindred organization. The Young Men's Christian Association was erecting a building for its own work, and asked the W. C. T. U. for a subscription to its building fund. The Union pledged \$1000 on the condition that it should have the use of one room in which to hold its meetings. The National Union had lately passed the famous resolution by which it was pledged to stand by any party that would adopt a prohibition plank in its platform. Word came back from the Y. M. C. A. that the proposition could not be accepted if meetings were to be held in the interest of prohibition. The union did not give the money. The building was erected, but never paid for, and finally went into the hands of a Spiritualist Society.

The experimental Coffee Houses among the unions were very numerous, those at San Jose and Oakland became popular lunch places and enjoyed a long and prosperous career. That at San Jose, after a successful life of eleven years, was destroyed by fire July first, 1892.

When these had been fully demonstrated to be a public necessity for which the public would pay, the demand was met without the aid of the W. C. T. U. and the department discontinued in 1896. Its superintendents had been Mesdames Nellie B. Eyster, F. S. Vaslit, M. N. Cook, P. H. Templeton, S. M. Gardner, S. F. Barnum, Clare O. Southard, and Grace M. Kimball, all women of ability and strength of purpose.

So recently as 1897 when the National Society of Christian Endeavor met in San Francisco, a salutary lesson was given to restaurants. Crowds of hungry people poured down the streets and into the restaurants only to turn again to the streets when they saw wine or beer on the lunch tables. A list of temperance eating places was kept at the W. C. T. U. Headquarters and the crowds directed to them. The effect was striking in the instantaneous and often permanent changes made.

### Free Reading Rooms.

Hardly a union in the earlier years that did not undertake to supply this natural want of gregarious humanity; some place to go, that was not a saloon. Every Coffee House had its reading room, and it seemed a needful adjunct to some other departments. Here and there one became the nucleus of a library, and was taken over by the town. From the little unions where the women "took turn about" in tending the coal oil lamps, and keeping the boys quiet, to larger ones with better facilities, all did their part in public education.

Among the first unions to open a Reading Room was Hollister, in 1884. It passed through all possible phases that experience of such an enterprise could have. The unfailing devotion of members sustained it; gifts of newspapers by publishers, books, magazines and other necessities, by friends, entertainments, and public dinners, were all utilized, until it was recognized as a public utility by an authorized monthly stipend from the town treasury. The W. C. T. U. nourished it until it was merged with its 1000 volumes into the beautiful Carnegie Library of the town.

Next in years of service is the Reading Room of Boulder Creek, which was opened on New Year's Day, 1893. The Southern Pacific Rail Road Co. donated a building site on condition that a Reading Room be maintained ten years. The ambitious union raised a fund of \$700, secured gifts of a considerable amount in material and labor, and built their own Headquarters, a most useful adjunct to their work. The rent of its second story provided the requisite care and attendance for the room. The town was once the center of extensive lumber interests, thronged by homeless men from the lumber camps, but is now a quiet rural community of which the W. C. T. U. Reading Room remains a factor for good influences.

Not every Reading Room enjoyed an atmosphere so friendly. One in the far north at Yreka had a troubled life. The union had hired a room on a principal street, made it comfortable and attractive, so that it was doing well. A saloon of the worst type located next door. The thin walls of both buildings, made the noise and vile language of the saloon intolerable. It became a question which should hold its ground against the other, but charges were brought against the sa-

ORGANIZERS



MRS. HENRIETTA SKELTON



REV. EMMA POW BAUDER



MISS I. C. DeVELLING



REV. BRIDELLE C. H. WASH-  
BURN



MR. EDWARD COLEMAN



DR. R. H. McDONALD

Benefactors

loon-keeper, and in an open trial before the supervisors, were sustained, and his license revoked. Notorious as the place had been, a false sympathy was aroused and a numerous signed petition presented to the supervisors asking for another license to be granted him. This could not be legally done, and the man was driven to other pursuits. Mrs. Julia P. Churchill, the president of Siskiyou County, having been very active in the proceeding, was prompted soon after to write a kind Christian letter to him. Undoubtedly this arrested his thought, for he became a changed man, acknowledging her letter to have so influenced him.

Coffee Houses and Reading Rooms were merged in one department and when the former was discontinued, Mrs. J. L. Everts assumed the care of the latter, followed by Mrs. Jennie Dixon in 1898, Mrs. J. Shattuck Morey in 1900, and Mrs. Lottie Devert in 1911.

Coffee Houses and Reading Rooms supplying a general need, naturally affiliated. The saloon could not be tolerated did it not afford some of the social demands these institutions were designed to meet. In Santa Clara county several organizations, including the W. C. T. U., and many individual friends are co-operating to establish "Friendly Inns" or model road houses, where "water for man and beast, toilet provisions, hitching posts and sheds for teams, bicycle racks, use of papers and magazines, and sheltered out door seats may be had free, with a reasonable fee for other accommodations."

This is probably the precursor of the "Municipal Centers" of which the W. C. T. U. has dreamed for years.

### **Soldiers and Sailors.**

The great seaport of San Francisco with its hundreds of seamen coming and going, only 5 per cent of whom had wives or homes, and its contiguous fortifications and naval stations manned by homeless men, made a special claim on the mother hearts of the W. C. T. U. Mrs. T. K. Noble was made Superintendent of Work for Soldiers and Sailors in 1884. In the following year it was found wiser to separate the two. Miss S. M. N. Cummings for seven years took charge of the work for Sailors, during which a local union was known as the Sailors' Union, and did good work among seamen, meeting in

the Seamen's Bethel, giving weekly socials, holding Gospel Temperance meetings, and aiding in their Reading Room and Library by the continual supply of literature. During this time the work for Soldiers was conducted by Mesdames Capt. Thomas, Sarah C. Borland, Rose M. French and M. K. Harnish, all women of special aptitude and experience. In 1898 the two departments were reunited under Mrs. Hannah Wright, succeeded in 1899 by Mrs. Annie Hilliker, and in 1900 by Mrs. Alice E. Bradley, the present incumbent. Since the Cuban war and Naval exploits in the Philippines this department has been very active, and is always ready for calls to service.

Dr. Mary A. Palm, former Superintendent of Non-Alcoholic Medication, was the first woman appointed for service in Manila, by the Red Cross Society in 1898.

### Foreign.

Mrs. L. M. Carver, the first Superintendent, laid foundations in 1885 and 1886. Mrs. E. P. Stevens taking it in 1887, after that there was a lapse of some years, but in the meantime Mrs. Skelton was at work among Germans. A German Union was organized at San Jose, which was maintained for seventeen years, San Francisco had a German union four years, one of Russian Finns, one year, and for several years a union of Swedish women did excellent work. Foreign literature in many languages was always kept at Headquarters and used freely by local unions. The present Superintendent, Mrs. C. S. Danks took up the department in 1901 and is working on broad and comprehensive lines. Her presentation of the subject at the Summer Congresses has been very effective.

Mrs. M. S. Carey of San Jose, as a teacher of Chinese, was able to use much literature in that language. Mrs. L. P. Williams from a long experience in missionary organizations had a wide grasp of the situation, and did thoroughly systematic work for them. A leaflet on "Alcohol and Opium" by Mrs. Nellie B. Eyster was translated into Chinese and had a large circulation by means of personal efforts; and in more than one Chinese store in the country places, that leaflet was kept in use by the Chinese themselves.

Mrs. Julia Barrett of Sacramento did a remarkable work for

Chinese. Being a teacher of stenography, she adapted the Pitman System of Shorthand writing to the sounds of the Chinese language, and a large number of Chinese became proficient in its use. Her heart's desire was to publish the Gospels in that form, as it would be so much more easily learned than reading by means of the great number of the old Chinese characters required. She has the joy of knowing that some large schools in China, including that of the Jesuit Fathers at Foo Chou, and the Adventists, have adopted it, while its introduction in business houses is making its own way to more general use.

A unique feature in organization was a union of foreign women auxiliary to the National Union of Japan. Miss Hayashi of Osaki came to Oakland in 1905, and while there met her Christian countrywomen at the Japanese Methodist Church, when they decided to organize a local W. C. T. U. At Miss Hayashi's suggestion they waited a few months for the arrival of Mrs. Kazahi, when they organized in the Japanese Congregational Church, with twenty-two members including officers. In the following year Mrs. Yajima, National President of Japan was here, and advised them to become auxiliary to the state union, where they found a warm welcome. It is a good union, conducted in their native language, and the usual order of work. Evidently the younger women understand English but it is expedient to use the language familiar to all. State or county officers visiting them, speak through an interpreter. There is another Japanese union at Sacramento, under the care of Mrs. Mary Bowen, who conducts an "Independent Mission to Japanese." This union has done excellent work and has been especially generous in its gifts to the general funds of the state.

### **Oriental Work.**

Which seems to fall naturally under the name "Foreign" was made a department in 1895 with Mrs. L. P. Williams, Superintendent. In 1907 when Miss Kara Smart, "Round the World Missionary," returned from several years spent in Japan, the Japanese work was given to her, Mrs. Williams retaining the Chinese.

Mrs. Julia A. Barrett was made Evangelist to the Chinese.

and Mrs. Mary Bowen, Evangelist to the Japanese, succeeding Mrs. Kara Smart Root as Superintendent in 1910.

### **Kindergarten.**

The first Superintendent, Mrs. E. G. Greene, began in 1885 with characteristic thoroughness to lay plans and publish required literature, creating a wide spread interest and resulting in active work. She was succeeded by Mrs. E. W. Farish in 1888 and on her removal from the State in 1892 Mrs. Greene resumed the work. The Kindergarten supported by the local union at San Jose having proved its value to the town, was taken over by the Board of Education, as those in San Francisco had been by the Kindergarten Association. The name of this department was dropped and its work given to that of

### **Mothers' Meetings.**

No department has done more fundamental work, entered more largely into both domestic and public interest, or been more ably led than this. Mrs. J. D. Jamison became Superintendent in 1897, Mrs. Effie D. Whitman in 1903, Mrs. N. S. Sheppa in 1904, Mrs. Louise Seymour in 1909, and Mrs. E. Musselman, the present incumbent in 1910.

### **Union Signal.**

The National Organ called for special effort in 1885 and Mrs. E. P. Stevens was made the first Superintendent, Mrs. Eyster in 1886, then it was merged with literature. In 1894 "National and State Organs" were made a department with Mrs. J. C. Lackie, Superintendent. In 1895 Mrs. M. E. Harrison, Superintendent, then merged with "Press," but again "Union-Signal" under Mrs. S. J. Dorr in 1904. On her election to the presidency in 1907 Mrs. J. E. Rhoads assumed it, and at her death it came in 1912 to Mrs. Florence Glaze.

### **Social Meetings and Red Letter Days.**

This department was instituted under the name of "Drawing Room Work" in 1886, but in conformity with the National, in 1890 took the present name, indicating the commemoration of important events or distinguished lives by anniversary social observances. It has been a social and educational factor of great value, and most ably conducted by active Superin-



tendents. The first, Mrs. P. D. Browne, served ten years, Mrs. F. S. Vaslit-Hackett nine years, Mrs. A. L. Berry one, and in 1907 Mrs. Mary Norwood Ostrander, the present superintendent, entered upon its duties.

### Literature.

This was one of the earliest necessities, and Mrs. S. J. Mc Chesney was given this important charge in 1885, Mrs. R. R. Johnston in 1886, then Miss S. M. M. Cummings. When the requirements of the work made it necessary for the Corresponding Secretary to be in constant attendance at Headquarters, that officer was made ex-officio Superintendent of Literature with a large stock of great variety, always on hand to meet every demand. It would be interesting, if possible, to tell of all the original publications of state superintendents, as each one met the wants of her own work. Each Secretary has in turn given her best energies and yearly brought out valuable material, the present year having, especially in the lines of legislation for the Red Light Bill, Purity and the White Slave Traffic exceeded all previous records.

In 1890 a complete "Digest of the Liquor Laws of California" was published by the state union in a convenient booklet, that was very useful. Some years later, a new edition was brought out, revised to date, that became a handy work of reference. Handbooks, Record, and Treasurer's books on original plans have been issued as required and numerous leaflets on many subjects, supplying the requirements of every rising issue.

## CHAPTER XIII.

### Franchise.

The earliest work for Equal Suffrage in California, culminated in a Woman's Suffrage Convention in San Francisco, 1871, in which Dr. Carrie F. Young, later a worker in the W. C. T. U., took a large part. She made an impassioned, but unavailing plea to the Legislature for woman's right to the ballot, and had some share in securing co-educational rights at the state University; a great joy to her as she had been a victim of collegiate injustice to women, and not permitted to take the degree she had won, in the '50s. She afterwards did excellent work in "Scientific Temperance Instruction," publishing much original literature, traveling extensively among schools, and lived to see her heart's desire, "Votes for Women."

Suffrage was not popular, and the prejudice of ages had to be overcome. It was not until 1886 that "Franchise" was made a department of the W. C. T. U. Miss Sarah M. Severance, than whom no state had ever an abler or wiser leader, served as superintendent twenty years, when failing health demanded rest. Mrs. P. H. Truax took the place and won from the National Superintendent honors for her work. The campaign of 1911 found Miss Severance only less active than before, and her friends rejoicing that she could "fight to the finish" and enjoy the fruition of the long struggle, "all of which she saw and part of which she was." It is not too much to say of her, and it may be said without the least reflection on others, that no other individual contributed so much to the cause of equal suffrage in California. She gave of her means and herself. Her ready pen was always in hand, her active mind alert, the sound logic and flashing wit of her argument made her a convincing speaker; and this service was not for a day, or a campaign, but for final victory. Unobtrusively but persistently she wrought for thirty years.

The women of the local unions all over the state had been for years under her direct and intelligent leadership, and when the final campaign was reached, these groups had made in-

fluent centers of strength and activity, contributing to the result.

The ballot was given to women by Constitutional Amendment in 1911 and the department discontinued in 1912.

### **Social Purity.**

This department was adopted in 1886, with a fine sense of its importance, and a realization of the immense educational work to be done. It was intrusted to Mrs. Hannah Bean of the Society of Friends, a woman of rare culture and rich experience, who impressed herself on its earliest efforts. When obliged to retire from it, she was succeeded by Mrs. W. S. Urmy, and later by Dr. L. J. Kellogg who introduced the White Cross and White Shield. In 1891 under Mrs. E. G. Greene, in conformity with the National Union, the name of the department became "Promotion of Purity." In 1892 Mrs. M. E. Teats entered upon it and for years while engaged in field work, gave original and thorough teaching on these lines. Her mantle fell on Mrs. Lizzie N. Fryer, who after one year of service, felt the call for work for the young in a college town and resigned; Mrs. A. C. Bainbridge, with the experience of a veteran teacher followed her, and made her instruction felt. A gifted woman of the "Do Everything" order, she specialized on "Sex Hygiene" and did fine work in schools, and wherever else a door opened to her advance. She has made a systematic study of the subject and holds a Diploma from the State Board of Education and the State Board of Health, as an authorized teacher on that delicate and important subject. On her removal from the state, another splendidly equipped woman, Mrs. Rose M. French was appointed but was unexpectedly called to England. The general officers temporarily carried the growing work, culminating in the "Educational Campaign for the Red Light Injunction and Abatement Law."

Mrs. Mary P. Hawley was appointed in 1912.

In 1907 the name was again changed to "Moral Education" but has since resumed its most expressive title, Purity.

### **Sabbath Observance.**

Mrs. Emma Cameron was the first Superintendent from 1886 to 1890, when she left the state, but on her return did

excellent service in San Francisco for many years. Mrs. M. J. Mayhew held the department one year, and Mrs. Christine Armstrong came to it in 1891, since when her devotion to the cause has been unswerving. She has co-operated with other organizations bringing various elements into united action, and has contributed strong articles to the literature of the department in her twenty-two years of faithful, efficient service.

#### **Finance.**

This was always a difficult problem and evidently no one was satisfied with her own success for six women each served but one year when it came to Mrs. J. L. Everts in 1892, who held it to 1896, when she was relieved by Mrs. Grace M. Kimball. At her death in 1905 the work was relegated to a Finance Committee of which the treasurer is chairman.

#### **Narcotics.**

This department has always been active. Mrs. L. J. Whitmore was the first superintendent from 1887 to 1890 when the name was changed to

#### **Anti-Narcotics.**

Mrs. J. P. Purvis came next and did especially thorough work in petitions, legislation and general efficiency. When the Anti-Tobacco Bill was under consideration she staid in Sacramento at her own expense to see it through. Mrs. Mary I. Mallory led the next five years, and earned a Gold Medal for the state, awarded by the National Superintendent for the best work reported to her. Miss Isabel Patterson followed in 1906, and Miss Julia Willson, the present Superintendent, in 1909.

#### **Railroad Rates.**

With the hope of securing special rates to National Conventions, in 1887, Mrs. Charlton Edholm was made Superintendent of Railroad Rates. Transcontinental rates were impossible, and the state railroads having adopted special rates for all conventions in the state, the department was dropped.

#### **Work Among Lumbermen.**

This department is an evangelistic effort to reach the men

SUPERINTENDENTS OF DEPARTMENTS



MRS. ELIZA NELSON FRYER  
Purity

SUPERINTENDENTS OF DEPARTMENTS



MRS. ELIZABETH WELLS PARISH  
Kindergarten



MRS. FRANCES H. BENTLEY  
Heredity



MRS. SUSAN D. WHITNEY  
Work at Fairs



MRS. JOEL RUSSELL

SUPERINTENDENTS OF DEPARTMENTS



MRS. CLARE O. SOUTHARD  
Press



MRS. GRACE M. KIMBALL  
Finance



MRS. A. B. GOVE  
Prison



MRS. MARY H. CARTWRIGHT  
Mercy

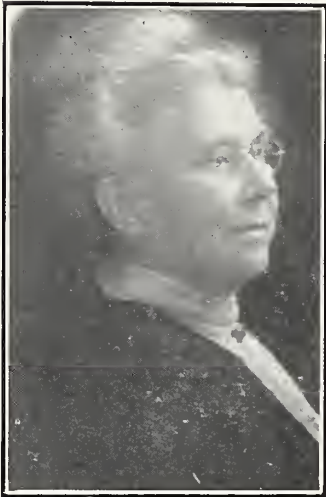
SUPERINTENDENTS OF DEPARTMENTS



MRS. M. N. COOK  
Coffee House



MRS. F. S. VASLIT-HACKETT  
Social Meetings



MRS. ELIZABETH SHELLEY  
Medical Temperance



MRS. M. M. ELMORE  
Evangelistic, and Pres. Merced  
County



in the great lumber camps, and the good work expended in it has not always brought results apparently commensurate with the effort, but it is believed that it has been well worth while. Its Superintendents have since 1889 been Mesdames McCullom, Anna M. Reed, A. B. Campbell, and Emma P. Long, the present incumbent, who began in 1909.

### **Non-Alcoholic Medication.**

This very effective department was instituted in 1889 and has been highly educational in its local, county, and state work. Mrs. M. N. Cook, superintendent, made good beginnings the first two years, then Mrs. H. J. Merrit, Dr. Anna Booth, Dr. Mary Palm, Dr. Minnie Hurlburt, Dr. Alice Goss, and Mrs. Ludie Reynolds each had it a year, Mrs. E. S. Potter, the next two. During her term she prepared a very dramatic illustration of her teaching in a platform exercise called "The Doctor's Day Off," presented by seven or eight characters so effectively that it was published by the state and used in county conventions and programs of other states. Mrs. A. A. Knisley took the work in 1901 and Mrs. Mary Smith in 1894. The name was changed to MEDICAL TEMPERANCE in 1904. Mrs. Rose Grigsby became Superintendent in 1909, and Mrs. E. H. Shelley in 1910, and was complimented by the National Superintendent for her efficiency. Mrs. H. F. Wakefield succeeded her in 1912.

### **Temperance and Labor.**

A department that has called out profound study and most thoughtful effort. Its leaders have been exceptionally able women whose conduct of a difficult and arduous task has conduced to a better understanding of many public questions. Mrs. Emma Pow Smith was the first Superintendent in 1889, Mrs. Lewellyn Haskell followed in 1894, Mrs. J. Clifford in 1895, Mrs. Mae M. Whitman in 1897, Mrs. E. B. Marcen since 1906.

Mrs. Elizabeth Ross Miller was "Department Lecturer" in 1901 and 1902, and Mrs. Bridelle C. H. Washburn since 1909.

Mrs. Mae M. Whitman, now the National Superintendent, has splendidly equipped this department with a comprehensive line of literature.

### **Law Enforcement.**

This department was created in 1889 with the enforcement of the mile-limit law at the State University as its special object, and has since found numerous other laws demanding its aid. Superintendents have been: 1889, Mrs. A. M. Weed; 1892, Mrs. A. M. Gates; 1893, Mrs. Rose M. French. It was merged with Legislation in 1906.

### **Work Among Indians.**

This department grew out of the work reported in 1889, and has been carried successively by Mrs. L. P. Williams, Mrs. E. M. Priddy, Mrs. M. E. Chamberlain, Miss Ella Brown and Miss Ada Campbell, until 1905 when it was taken by the National Superintendent, Mrs. D. J. Spencer. An indirect help to the Indian people has resulted from the better knowledge of their condition by whites.

### **Medal Contests.**

This department was adopted in 1891. Mrs. J. D. Jamison was the first Superintendent, succeeded in 1892 by Miss Mary Helen McLean; in 1903 by Mrs. S. E. Ayres; in 1905 by Miss Anna Chase; in 1906 by Mrs. N. A. Rowell; in 1911 by Mrs. B. Minges; in 1912 by Miss Luella Schwab.

This department gives a concrete demonstration by actual figures of what it is doing, finely illustrating all department work, woven together systematically by means of local, state, and national superintendents. Six recitations of temperance selections are required for a "Silver Medal Contest," and six contests must have been held to make a "Gold Medal Contest" possible; six gold medals must have been won for a "Grand Gold Medal Contest," and six grand gold medals for a "Diamond Contest" to be held. It takes but little arithmetic to show that 1296 recitations are required before a Diamond Contest can be held, and for a "Grand Diamond Contest" 7776. Allowing for the occasional incomplete number that must sometimes occur, for which special arrangements must be made, to be eligible for medals, it may safely be said that a Grand Diamond Contest tells of the faithful work requisite to prepare over 7000 recitations, not by that number of individuals, for all must have contested many times to win their

respective honors, medals, and the invaluable course of mental and moral training involved.

This is an incontrovertible testimony to the work of one department, the nature of which makes this evidence clear, but the systematic work of each department weaves itself into the life and movements of the W. C. T. U. just as thoroughly, and this explains its impression on public sentiment and moral issues.

#### **Work Among Railroad Employes.**

This is another evangelistic work reaching thousands of men, whose special labor makes them a distinct class. Mrs. Rose M. French was the first Superintendent in 1891, with the street car men of the cities as the first consideration. In 1892 Mrs. M. E. Jenks of Sacramento took up the work, and has been instant in season and out, never failing to bring the best available speakers before the men of the great railroad shops, often at the noon hour, and through her county and local superintendents, reaching farther than can be calculated.

#### **Flower Mission.**

This department, dating from 1891 has been a ministry of sympathy and tenderness, lending itself to the purposes of those who seek out lonely and shut-in sufferers; to sick rooms and hospitals; to the bereaved and sorrowing; or to regiments of men going out to military service, bringing them the last touch of home and native land; or to the poor who need food or shelter; for all these interests have crept into the Flower Mission, and it has become a sweet charity as well as a solacing grace. Mesdames Florence Chick, M. E. Tyron, Maria A. Crowley, N. J. Croake, and Misses Retta Dillas, and Mary Dickson each filled terms of generally one year until 1900 when Mrs. Ella S. Pringle came to the office, serving until 1906, since when Mrs. L. O. Macomber has taken charge.

#### **Purity in Literature and Art.**

Mrs. Margaret B. Pelton, the first Superintendent in 1901, still holds the same position; a woman of fine literary taste, who has with her own ready pen, wrought well in this important line, besides her work through county and local unions. She has been a frequent contributor to various publications, always with tact and grace that enforces the principle for

which she labors, to purify the press, and suppress matter that is vile, and art that is spurious.

### **The World's W. C. T. U.**

Was temporarily made a department in 1892, while Mrs. D. S. Dickson with her broad vision and ardent enthusiasm could serve as Superintendent, enlisting the interest of others, as she did in the world wide mission of the White Ribbon.

### **Work Among Miners.**

Another evangelistic effort for a special class of men, which, while having done excellent work, has had but a limited success, conducted from 1893 to 1902 by Mesdames Mary Frost, M. Monroe, M. A. Croley, and J. C. Ford.

### **Peace and Arbitration.**

This was made a department in 1899, Mrs. Maria Freeman Gray, the present incumbent as the first Superintendent, an able, enthusiastic, and scholarly woman, who with absolute singleness of purpose, has labored earnestly to spread the knowledge and instill the principles of her department; a painstaking Superintendent unsparing of herself in the detail work of keeping county and local workers up with the rapidly progressing movements of the time. Mrs. Gray is well known in the meetings of the American Peace Association and is a Vice-President of the international society known as the "Alliance Universelle des Femmes pour la Paix," discharging the duties of that office by correspondence in French.

### **School Savings Banks.**

This work was begun in 1899, Mrs. R. A. Emmons was the first Superintendent, followed in 1900 by Mrs. Jennie L. Southworth, in 1902 by Mrs. Franc Lee, Miss Sabra Finch took it in 1904, and excepting one year when Mrs. G. W. Ryan served, has carried the work ever since. Mrs. D. J. Spencer, then Associate Superintendent of School Savings Banks in the National, was Department Lecturer from 1903 to 1909. Much seed sowing was done in those earlier years, until like several other departments it popularized itself as the public came to know more of its merits. Women's Clubs have taken up the work that the W. C. T. U. alone advocated for years, and by

this time the large cities and many smaller towns are using this system of thrift teaching.

#### **Hospital and Almshouse.**

This was adopted in 1894 with Mrs. A. J. Hart, Superintendent, and lapsed at her death in 1896. In 1898 Mrs. Clara Starr Wood was made Superintendent and through the county superintendents, did a good work. When she resigned in 1904 it was merged with Prison Work, being considered a correlated interest.

#### **Physical Education.**

Was adopted the same year, 1895, but on the removal of the Superintendent, Mrs. Lilian Shuey, lapsed the next year, and only in 1910 Mrs. Rebecca B. Painton brought zeal and knowledge to the department and at once made its importance felt.

#### **Mercy.**

This department, adopted in 1895, has been fortunate in Superintendents who stay with it. The first, Mrs. Olive E. Gifford, gave eight years of patient, loving service, and was succeeded by Mrs. Mary H. Cartwright in 1903, who still devotes thought, care and labor to all its demands, inculcating humane ideas and habits of kindness.

#### **Parliamentary Usage.**

As the unions grew to be more and more deliberative bodies the necessity of systematized study on this subject became urgent, and was taken up in 1902 with Mrs. Sturtevant-Peet as Superintendent, succeeded by Mrs. E. S. Pringle in 1906, and Mrs. Annie L. Barry in 1907. Mrs. Pringle resumed it in 1911, and is now doing a work that is developing the ability of women to conduct parliamentary affairs.

#### **Proportionate and Sytematic Giving.**

This essential department was adopted in 1906. The first Superintendent, Mrs. D. S. Dickson, did faithful work ten years, succeeded by Mrs. Effie D. Whitman in 1906, and Mrs. H. F. Wakefield in 1909. Mrs. Mae M. Whitman came to it in 1912 and is leading onward.

#### **Institutes.**

This was taken up as a vital necessity in 1904. The first

superintendent, Mrs. Dorcas J. Spencer, having served many years as corresponding secretary, felt deeply the need of these training schools in all the unions and had asked to be relieved of her office, to enter upon this field of labor, which she conducted until 1909, when Mrs. Addie Garwood Estes, the present Superintendent, succeeded her.

The Institute has taken the place of the old School of Methods, but brings its instruction home to the membership, while the Congress of Reforms serves the purposes of a State Institute. The value of this work cannot be questioned, and its Superintendent has been annually awarded the Institute Star by the National Superintendent for excellent reports of work done, from the first year to the last.

#### **Gifts and Bequests.**

This department is more than a matter of ways and means, for it teaches the grace of giving. It was adopted in 1907, Mrs. Helen M. Stoddard, Superintendent. On her removal from the state in 1909 Mrs. Elizabeth Wolfe took it, and besides other active work is now bringing out special literature for its use.

#### **Rescue.**

This is an outgrowth of the work for social purity. Mrs. Mary C. Daswell was the first Superintendent in 1907, and did a blessed work for the ruined lives of many outcast girls, in the mountain towns to which she had access. Mrs. Harriet Osgood came to it in 1911, and is now carrying forward the same efforts and doing systematic work through subordinate helpers.

#### **Juvenile Courts, Industrial Education, and Child Labor.**

This is a natural offshoot from the Department of Labor, and in its incipiency was embodied in that. Its growing importance made another Superintendent necessary and the work was given to Mrs. E. B. Marcen in 1909, and in 1911 to Mrs. Angie Van Buskirk.

#### **Co-Operation and Missions.**

This department came into being in 1910, Mrs. J. L. Everts, Superintendent, at her decease, it was given to Miss Jennie Lind Redfield in 1912, in whose hands it is proving the actual

correlation of the W. C. T. U. to all missionary effort, and interesting mission workers in definite temperance work.

### **Civics Centers and Friendly Inns.**

This is a "new edition revised and improved," of the old idea of Coffee Houses and Reading Rooms. It recognizes the useful points in the saloon, that have made its toleration possible, for if the saloon had not supplied some real want of humanity, to offset its evils, it could not have lived. This department has for its object to teach the need of a harmless substitute for the saloon. In Santa Clara County some model road-houses have been opened and others planned. It is the province of the W. C. T. U. to see the vision of better things, to make it known, and secure the co-operation of other organizations and friends to carry out the thought. This special interest makes this appeal to all to work together for the common good, and looks forward to the time when wholesome public resorts will be provided by municipalities.

### **Curfew Law and Policewomen.**

Curfew Laws are a matter of local legislation and have been secured in the larger communities generally by the persistent efforts of women, led if not altogether obtained by the W. C. T. U. under the Purity Department. The appointment of Policewomen was recognized as especially in the lines of the W. C. T. U. interests, so these were combined and this department created in 1912, Mrs. Effie D. Whitman, Superintendent.

### **State Hospitals.**

This is quite a new departure, and has been undertaken in response to a feeling that a study of conditions in the care of patients in these institutions, and a proper psychological treatment might prevent the necessity of taking many sufferers from nervous disorders into hospitals for the insane, where their own conditions would be so aggravated, that inevitably they become insane.

To promote these objects this department was created in 1912 with Mrs. Lillian Hough, Superintendent.

### **Personal Work.**

Numerous and diverse as the departments are, there is much good work done that is not reported under any of them. The

individual woman doing whatever her hands find to do, often produces excellent results. Mrs. Lizzie Nelson Fryer was one of these. She became a member of the W. C. T. U. in China during Mrs. Leavitt's labors there. On her return to this country with her husband, Prof. John Fryer of the University of California, she wondered that every Christian woman was not a White Ribboner. Recognizing the splendid organization as the machinery by which latent powers might be brought out and put into action, she entered at once upon the work. With a broad grasp of the subject, she served as Superintendent of Purity in 1900, but retired from it the following year, feeling that her special opportunities with the young people of the University, made that her line of duty. Her attractive home was always open to every interest of the union and she drew about her many students to whom it became a social center, interesting them in reform ideas.

She organized "The Minnehaha Club" of young men and women students, with the same objects as the Young People's Branch of the W. C. T. U. They held their meetings at her home and constituted a most wholesome element of college life. After her death, the Club dwindled. As its members graduated from college, others did not take their places, until in 1910 the remaining remnant brought together other students and it became "The Temperance Research Club" of men only. This is affiliated with the "Inter-Collegiate Prohibition Association" and holds regular study classes every year, fifty members were enrolled last year, Mr. G. H. DeKay being their instructor. Mrs. Mary Case Lord had a similar class of young women. Largely through the influence of this club an important educational advance has been made.

The University has instituted a Scientific Investigation of the Liquor Problem, consisting of a course of fourteen lectures by able men, covering all aspects of the question. It is an optional course and credits will be given to students taking it.

#### **Official Reporter.**

This was originally an arrangement of the "Union-Signal" to secure reports of the work in this state for its columns. Not having been provided by the state, there is no early record concerning it. Mrs. Nellie B. Eyster, Mrs. Charlton Edholm



and Mrs. Dorcas J. Spencer served successively in this capacity. When the "Union Signal" suffered a financial stress, Mrs. Spencer voluntarily relinquished the compensation theretofore given, and made her letters a gift to the official organ. Since then gratuitous reports have become the rule of the paper, and the state makes the appointment. Mrs. Spencer continued to 1898. Mrs. Clare O. Southard followed to 1900, when Mrs. Spencer's name is again listed. She still serves as "Special Correspondent."

## CHAPTER XIV.

### ORGANIZATION.

Mrs. Mary E. Congdon is the only organizer mentioned in the records of the first four years. She was a woman of resources and initiative, acting on original plans that must have developed as exigencies arose.

Up to the time of the visit of Miss Willard and Miss Gordon in 1883, there had been no help from the East. That visit was inspirational and suggestive. Many unions were organized by Miss Willard, others came up spontaneously.

Mrs. J. Ellen Foster came in 1884 but in her brief stay could only reach the larger towns. Her magnetic eloquence attracted immense audiences and added many members.

Mrs. Mary Clement Leavitt came next, and began organizing, but her health failing, her task was finished by a visitor, Mrs. Hobart of Minnesota.

Mrs. Henrietta Skelton had come into prominence in the East and had been appointed Superintendent of "Work Among Germans" by the National. Her only son was wasting with consumption, and for his sake she sought the genial climate of California, and came with him to Los Angeles, where he died not long after. Mrs. Skelton then came north looking for her country people to whom she was commissioned, and soon found work for herself. "No pent-up Utica confined her powers." Her alert mind always saw something to do, and could always find a way to do it. Without appointment as an organizer, she organized the first county union, Contra Costa, as well as many local and other county unions.

In the same year, 1885, a National Organizer, Miss Henrietta Moore, was sent out and did excellent work.

In 1886 the first state organizer, Mrs. D. J. Spencer, was officially appointed. Public work was new to her and timidly undertaken, but the fact of having lived many years in the shifting population of the mines, opened the way, for everywhere there was someone who had lived in her home town to welcome her. Her first winter was spent at the Legislature

in the interest of the "Temperance Education Bill," giving her experience and prestige for the field work. Her note book tells that in her three years' service she spoke from the pulpits of fifteen denominations; an evidence of the heterogenous character of western people.

Mrs. L. M. Carver was made an organizer for 1888 with special reference to the needs of San Francisco.

Mrs. Skelton returned in 1891 and was then officially appointed, serving until her fatal illness in 1899, except in the intervals when laboring in other states under National auspices.

Mrs. Emma Pow Smith, whose life as a city missionary in San Francisco, had been a rare training, was also appointed in 1891, and for two years did valuable and strenuous work in the field. Her health failed temporarily, and while laid aside, she prepared for the ministry, and was in due time ordained, and took the pastorate of a church. She is now known as Mrs. Bauder, having married Rev. T. J. Bauder, since deceased.

It is safe to say that the utmost bounds of the state were never so nearly reached as while Mrs. Skelton and Mrs. Smith were both in the field. They were equally undaunted, and resourceful, reaching communities great and small, making their way about regardless of schedules, for railroad facilities were few then, and stages alarmingly expensive. They made their own routes as they went on, always reporting promptly and often to Headquarters, the marvellous amount of work done, new unions and members gained.

Mrs. Skelton continuing so long in service has left all over the State deep impressions of her strong individuality and devotion to the cause. Once in the hot valleys of the interior she was overtaken by a wasting fever, and tenderly nursed by the local union until able to be sent to the cooler region of the coast. Once she had an accident by which some bones were broken and others displaced; again the kind hands of faithful friends ministered to her need until she was able to walk on crutches. For three years, with sublimity of courage, she went about supported by a crutch, until obliged to submit to another surgical operation. Not even

under these conditions did she cease to plan and write for the beloved cause.

Miss I. C. DeVelling, who had been long in the same work in the East, was a State organizer in 1898 and 1899, and had her share of tilling the waste places and also brought in her sheaves. The allurements of home and rest led her to retire. She is now with relatives in New York.

Mrs. S. M. M. Woodman and Mrs. E. G. Greene were also organizers in 1898 and 1899, doing good work but in less extensive fields.

Mrs. L. F. King received her appointment in 1898, and served to 1907, since when she has resided in Southern California. She was another who traversed the highways and byways, entering all doors of service, speaking in pulpits, or canvassing from house to house with equal readiness. In her quiet motherly way she would call on families, and where nothing else could be done, interest the children and start a Medal Contest, going on to another town, perhaps doing the same thing, and later returning to hold the contests and plant a union if there were none there before. She is the only organizer the State Union has ever been able to send through the far northeastern counties, Modoc and Lassen, involving tedious mountain journeys unrelieved by railroads or automobiles to which those regions are only now being opened. Such heroic labor deserves the monument of lives made better by its consecrated devotion. Mrs. King was county president successively of Fresno and Contra Costa.

Mrs. Sarah J. Dorr was an organizer in 1900. Rev. Mrs. Bridelle C. H. Washburn, a National Organizer, has served the State since 1901. Mrs. Mae Guthrie Tongier, a gifted speaker from Southern California served the year 1904. Mrs. Mary Fletcher Norwood, in 1905, and Mrs. Mary J. Borden since 1909. Mrs. Anna M. DeYo, former president of Fresno county, took up the pilgrim's staff as a state organizer in 1912, and happily has traveling facilities that her early predecessors lacked.

#### Lecturers.

Mrs. E. P. Stevens in 1888, Mrs. Nellie B. Eyster, 1891 to 1898, Mrs. Elizabeth Ross Miller, 1907 to 1911; Mrs. Sturte-

vant-Peet, 1908-1909; Mrs. A. C. Bainbridge, 1909; Mrs. S. M. M. Woodman, 1909-1911.

### **Evangelists.**

Miss I. C. DeVelling, 1895; Mrs. E. G. Greene, 1896-1900; Mrs. L. M. Thomson, 1897-1902; Mrs. J. L. Everts, 1909. To Chinese, Mrs. J. A. Barrett; to Japanese, Mrs. Mary Bowen.

### **Field Secretary.**

Field Secretary, Mrs. Mary F. Norwood, 1907; Mrs. A. C. Bainbridge, 1909.

### **Pioneer Work in Lassen County.**

From a personal letter.

"I came to California with my parents in 1862, and settled in Lassen County, then a wild frontier claimed by both Nevada and California, and between the two we were left principally to our own devices. I was fifteen years old. I taught school that winter and talked temperance to my pupils. I had boys in my school older than myself, who drank and gambled. The trustees expostulated with me but came to the conclusion that I was a harmless fanatic, and as I could not be suppressed would have to be tolerated. I taught five years, and temperance continued to be a part of the curriculum.

"My husband was a strong temperance man. He had been in Lassen County two years before I came, when to refuse to drink with a man was a personal affront; he politely declined many invitations until at last he was told that he had to drink. He was siezed at once by all who could get hold of him, and pushed to the bar. They got ready to pour the liquor into him, when he said, 'Gentlemen, I give you fair warning that as soon as I am at liberty I shall shoot the men who pour liquor down my throat.' He was released and never molested again. I doubt if any other man not a professional ever gave as many temperance lectures as he did. We both talked temperance and equal suffrage in season and out, though we never recognized any out season. We both belonged to the Good Templars, and when the Crusade began I caught the inspiration, and redoubled my efforts, for I thought the end was near, and I wanted to be 'in at the

death'—and still there is work to do. I joined the W. C. T. U. of Nevada in the early 80s and soon organized a union in Susanville, auxiliary to Nevada, but not alone, for we had fifty members.

“In 1896 Mrs. Henrietta Skelton came and staid six weeks with me. She organized the county auxiliary to the California Union. I was always the whole suffrage committee in the W. C. T. U., it was tolerated on my account, and for years I gave most of my time to Franchise work. I stood alone. Many women agreed with me privately but could not stand for the ridicule. I do not blame them. Even when our first amendment was submitted most of our men thought it a huge joke, but the women came to the front nobly and the men saw that I was not the only woman who felt aggrieved. I feel that my part in the great movement for temperance has been of but small importance, but I have done all that I could.

“Those who live in ‘the center’ of things cannot realize the isolation of this county. The nearest railroad eastward in Nevada, and two great mountain ranges between us, and our own state proper. Speakers could not come to us and we had to work out our own salvation. My husband’s loyal support and assistance more than doubled my efforts. Without the work of the W. C. T. U., Equal Suffrage would still be a dream of the future in California. To it more than to any other organization belongs the glory of our recent victory. It educated and organized women.

“PHILINDA M. SPENCER.”

The above letter is a reflection of conditions in remote counties, so true to life, and so typical of others that it cannot be withheld. The unions in Lassen have died because so inaccessible, and the whole county is still unorganized. Heroic souls like Mrs. Spencer have kept the light burning. Her husband, Hon. E. V. Spencer, was a tower of strength to every moral interest. He represented his county in the state senate for some years, and was the best friend of equal suffrage in that body in the campaign of 1896. Mrs. Spencer is a fine type of isolated women throughout the state who, as she says, have each done “all she could.” Her community of interest with her noble husband made her a law student,

and now that women vote and need the help she can give she is heard of by her able lectures on "Law" to women's clubs. It seems good that such as she may see the fruit of their labors. She was in the great suffrage demonstration at Washington, D. C.

#### Reminiscences of an Organizer.

The writer had thought to gather some incidents from the labors of early organizers illustrating the conditions under which the pioneering was done, but finds herself unable to draw from any experience but her own. She begs it to be understood that the stories given are not beyond the experience of others, and similar incidents were common to all, at that time. The organizers worked hard, but not one, was ever known to be conscious of a hardship. The delightful welcome, and helpful sympathy of the homes in which they were entertained obliterated the remembrances of inconvenience or weariness, and the sense of acceptable service to a great cause sustained them. County organization had not proceeded enough to aid materially in making routes or fixing dates. Often the organizer must do both, almost without chart or compass.

Once a good man essayed to plan a route through a mountain county, assuring the lady that he would arrange for dates, entertainment, transportation, advance advertising, and everything. Just meet him there, that was all. She did, and he had forgotten, but said "You just take the stage to S——, go to Mr. K——, he is reliable, he'll fix everything." She went and found the guests arriving for the reliable man's wedding. She betook herself to the only public house, and almost melted in the fervent heat of that dreadful day. She had an appointment the next night ten miles away, and no way at all to get there. An itinerant book agent came to her aid. He had a horse and cart, lent out for the day, to be returned at six o'clock. "The very thing," he said, "it will be cooler then, and there's a full moon, I know the way, and will take you right there." Nothing could be better. After horse and man had been fed and rested, the journey began. It was a courtesy of the region to call a trail, a road, but in the deep shadows of precipitous and heavily timbered moun-

tains, all the light of the moon could not keep a trail in sight. Within an hour they were lost. The serene stillness of the night, in the woods, unbroken by the slightest sound of animal life, was wonderful to one who had never felt it before. Up and down the steepest hills the jaded beast went on, the poor man in pity walking by its head. Nothing would induce him to permit the lady to alight or the horse to stop. While he bemoaned his luck in real distress, she was amused by the absurdity of the situation. When weary with walking he would sit awhile in the cart, but try to keep the horse going. Once he said, "Can you sing?" "A little," she replied, and sang a hymn in which he joined with a rich baritone that with her piping treble woke strange echoes among the rocks. At intervals this was repeated, and in the small hours the distant bark of a dog was heard. This was followed with difficulty to the solitary cabin of a Swiss hermit. He could speak no English, but kindly led the horse far down the dry bed of a winter torrent to a road, and started him in the wrong direction. The dawning day revealed the mistake, the weary horse was turned about, and at eight o'clock reached the destination, where breakfast, bath and bed awaited the traveller. The book agent disappeared, and not for long after, did his passenger learn that two California lions had been seen in those hills within a day or two. That accounted for his distressing anxiety, and the songs were to frighten wild beasts.

The evening appointment was filled. The local saloon had an amusement hall across the road, to which a few people came. The saloon-keeper swept, garnished, and lit up the place, served as usher, took up the collection,—the best on the route,—and while the speaker awaited outside for her escort and his buggy, heard the squeak of a violin, and knew then, that her meeting, like everything else that brought people together there, had been the signal for the dance that was beginning.

She had once before been lost on a dark and foggy autumn night, when a young man whose best girl lived at the place where she was due to speak, had offered to take her there in a buggy. This was on what was then known as "hog-wallow" land, from its peculiar roughness. There being nei-



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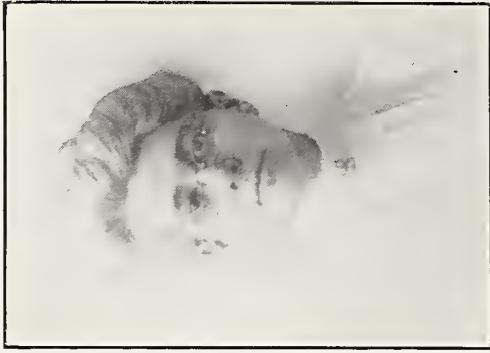


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Systematic Giving



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Superintendent  
Parliamentary Usage and Pres.  
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Benito and Monterey



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Superintendent  
Gifts and Bequests



MRS. O. J. WARD      MR. JAMES WARD  
Superintendent  
Health and Heredity

ther roads nor fences, the horses circled around, bumping over the uneven plain, but reached the appointed place, as the gathered audience, after spending the evening singing, were about to adjourn. However, they stayed and a union was organized. It being then late, the nearest neighbor took the speaker home. As might be supposed, she was tired and nothing less than what happened, could have disturbed her. During the night the dogs chased a skunk under the house, and the terrified creature was caught just under the floor of her room with the dogs barking on both sides. Her next date was out of the question,—because there was a “rabbit drive.” The entire population of the region for miles around was on the road to Pixley, next morning; the country was deserted. All she could do was to avail herself of a kindly offer to reach the railroad by joining the moving throng. While waiting some hours for a train, she saw the drive. The marvellously vivid description of a “rabbit drive” given by Frank Norris in his story “The Octopus,” might have been written of this identical scene. Dr. Chapman has made good use of the “rabbit drive” in his remarkable little book “Particeps Criminis” to illustrate the relation of the public to the liquor traffic.

She tells of another trip, where stages went through but once a week, and to make connections she must take the chances of a wagon going up the road. A kind farmer had taken her to the next place, after leaving the stage, where she expected to address the men of a tan bark camp, but found instead an audience of adolescent youth, out for fun only, but they were attentive. She waited long next day for a passing team and was at the roadside when one appeared. Having been told that the charge would be one dollar and a half, she asked, money in hand, for passage. The teamster replied gruffly, “I takes no passengers, only freight.” “How much for freight?” she inquired. “A dollar and a half a hundred,” he growled. “All right,” she said, “I weigh just one hundred pounds,” laid down her money, and mounted the high seat of a lumber-wagon for a fifty miles drive. The night was spent at a mountain roadhouse kept by a wornout teacher seeking health in the hills. The good woman supplied a fine lunch for mid-day, and at 4 o’clock the teamster left his freight at

a camp meeting, where a group of Christian workers had gone to hold such services for the sheep-herders who were tending their flocks in these high summer pastures. To help as best she could a few days at this meeting was a new experience.

Once she was taken by a skillful Indian driver, to a little nook hidden away behind a mountain, where there was a district school and a few families, to hold an afternoon and evening meeting. At the latter a union was organized, and they wanted another meeting, inviting her to stay all night and go back to town with a passing team next day. The Indian said he "wished she would, for the night was dark, the dug-out road was bad, and one of his mules had never had a harness on before." That settled it. She stayed. Her hostess was a cultured and refined woman, past middle age, who supported herself and her crippled husband by raising pop-corn, sending it to town, shelled, by some one going by who would exchange it for necessary commodities. In the joy of Christian fellowship she had forgotten her poverty, and the lack in her house of the simplest conveniences of life. She was assured that organizers were prepared for any emergency. So the guest wrapped herself in a roller towel that night, brushed her hair with a wisp broom, before a triangular fraction of looking glass in the morning, and felt that she had been entertained by the King's own daughter, for never had she met a higher spiritual grace, than in that brave, true woman. At nine o'clock six young women came for a mothers' meeting, and the eagerness of their hungry souls made her grateful for the opportunity of ministering to their need.

Perhaps the funniest thing that ever happened on her travels, was once on a regularly made-up route, working to schedule, by a misunderstanding, the lady who was to entertain the speaker did not appear. She went from the train to the parsonage, sure of a welcome there, and after the evening meeting in the church, a kindly old lady insisted on taking her home. Supposing this was the one who expected to entertain her, she went with her. They entered a big comfortable room which the old lady informed her was her home, presently remarking inquiringly, "I suppose you won't mind sleeping with me, there's no other place." The organizer was

too tired to wince. In bed her hostess continued to talk, talk, talk. When the sound was broken by an expectant pause, the guest emitted a sleepy assent, and the talk went on; and not until a tone of importance was assumed, and she asked "Be you nervous?" was the visitor really awake. The old lady was assured to the contrary, and expressed her satisfaction, for, she said, "I'm subject to fits, I thought I'd better tell you, in case I might have one. I ain't had one lately, but I never know when they'rs coming, they mostly comes nights." Suppose the stranger had been nervous. Her sense of the ridiculous dispelled the dread of fits and she slept soundly.

In the morning the old lady took her to a good breakfast under the same roof, at her son's table, where the family were surprised to learn that "Grandma" had entertained the speaker.

A precious experience to organizers, is the discovery of isolated workers, who have kept a light burning in dark places, with a persistent fidelity beyond praise. For years there was one White Ribboner, a teacher, in Mariposa County. Her annual subscription to the *Ensign* kept her in touch with the great movement of which she, in her isolation was a part.

At a far away ranch, a wedding was the occasion of a friendly reunion unlikely ever to be possible again, and before their separation, they organized themselves as a W. C. T. U., adding the White Ribbon bond to the tender ties of home and kindred.

There is now a plan by which isolated members may send dues directly to the state and thus "belong" to the great sisterhood.

## CHAPTER XV.

### The Official Organ and Its Editors.

Very dear to the hearts of the White Ribboners of California has always been their organ. The little "Bulletin" first of all, how they watched it grow; it became "The Pharos," and shed its light on the whole way, like a lighthouse as its name implied, and when it came to be the "Ensign" and weekly, how they loved it. The women have had great pride in the state papers, and the utmost confidence in their editors, who from first to last form a brilliant coterie of ability and worth, and will long be held in fond remembrance. The first editor, Mrs. P. D. Browne, pioneered the way successfully with the "Bulletin" and "Pharos." The next, Mrs. R. R. Johnston, edited the initial numbers of the "Ensign" but was obliged to go East after the first month. Mrs. Ada Van Pelt filled the editorial chair six years with great acceptance. She is now living in Los Angeles, and has distinguished herself by securing patents for a number of her own inventions, the most remarkable of which is an electrical device for purifying water, invented since she was seventy years of age. It will be a pleasure to her old-time friends to hear that she has received the very unusual honor of being elected a member of the French Academy of Science.

Next came the winsome Nellie Blessing Eyster, and two years her graceful pen and loving care served the "Ensign" and its readers. She was the first president of the San Jose union, was next, state Recording Secretary, and successively superintendent of four departments, editor, lecturer, writer of books, and the most charming story-teller, as thousands of school-boys in the years when she lectured in the schools could testify, as well as the smaller circle at Headquarters. That is a long record of service and growing longer, for she is now on the Committee looking out for the "World's W. C. T. U. Exhibit" at the Panama-Pacific Exposition.

Mrs. Mary Case Lord edited the "Ensign" three years, bringing to it a great soul, a buoyant spirit, and a whimsical wit, more telling than argument. She has denied to these



pages the picture of the sweet face the reader would be so glad to see, but many will recall her platform inspiration, contagious enthusiasm, and its helpfulness, and in memory see her now as she said "Frances Willard made herself popular doing unpopular things; and then made unpopular things popular because she did them." She has a habit still of bringing out a timely and effective leaflet, just at the right time, and sure to be right to the point. Living at Berkeley, she has been doing a valuable work in the instruction of a class of young women students at the University, by weekly lessons in scientific temperance, as a part of their college course. Regular text books are used but it may be surmised that the best of the lesson is the teacher.

Mrs. Clare O. Southard, whose name has appeared in the preceding pages in connection with many good deeds, became editor in 1902, and most efficiently filled the place until earthquake and fire destroyed everything that went to make up the "Ensign," as well as her own lovely home. That she cannot lose the elements that made her a good editor is proved by her excellent work as Superintendent of Press.

The disaster that seemed to shake the "Ensign" out of existence, left it on the hands of another able woman, Mrs. Emily Hoppin, whose experience of eighteen years as state treasurer, and the full complement of local and county work made her thoroughly acquainted with the needs of the readers of a state paper.

Miss Severance whose special page was the "Overlook," has earned her laurels, and has the honor of being identified from the first a department that finished its work, when votes were given to women.

It was designed to have a pictorial page, presenting portraits of the editors who have endeared themselves to the White Ribbon host perhaps with a more intimate sense, than most others. Their faces have all but one appeared in the official roster, and will be found there identified with their respective offices, but each one is more closely associated with her readers by the regular visits of the paper, than by other official relations.

### Headquarters and Fountains.

It would be interesting to know of all the enterprises the local unions have at various times undertaken. Coffee Houses and Reading Rooms have been too numerous to be reported, and as a survival and outgrowth of this idea, it is hoped that the Friendly Inn may lead on to the public ownership of wholesome places of resort.

The most ambitious efforts of local unions have been the erection of Headquarters. Those of Stockton and Boulder Creek have been already mentioned. Woodland has its own home with comfortable parlors for meetings or for a resting place, while part of the building is occupied by a printing office where the "White Ribbon Ensign" and "The Home Alliance" are printed.

The Campbell union has a real philanthropy in its "Coffee Club and Rest Room." Located in the heart of a fruit district, many women and girls are employed in the exhausting labor of the canneries. To afford them a comfortable resting place at the noon hour or when relieved from toil, the union for years maintained a room in a hired building. When this was no longer available, it had been found so useful and desirable that they built a house for the purpose. As its name implies, it has facilities for refreshments and all necessary comforts.

Elk Grove has a two-story building at present occupied as a library and office.

At Sheridan, in Placer County, a union once came up by spontaneous combustion, organized itself by the fervid ardor of its members, and was thriving before ever a public worker had seen it. The little town had no place for a public meeting and the gallant union built a hall to supply the need, renting it enough to keep up its expenses. There is nothing more striking to the eye of the traveling White Ribboner as the trains pass by, than that plain structure with the big letters W. C. T. U. on its front, like a standing protest against the evils it combats, and a witness to righteous endeavor. Not one is left of those who erected the house, but others have filled their places.

Sacramento union once had a gift of a city lot on Third St. below K St., a location at that time better adapted to a

charitable work than anything else. They put an inexpensive building upon it in 1895 and for eight years maintained a "Children's Day Home," where the children of working mothers were taken care of while the mothers were at work. When the Humane Officers of the city found neglected children they were taken temporarily to this Home. The property was afterwards sold and \$1000 of the money received was given to the "Young Women's Christian Association" for the permanent use of a room in their building for local Headquarters and a meeting place.

The Chico union incorporated some years ago in order to hold its property, which now amounts in value to several thousand dollars. By mutual arrangement the title to the property of several unions is thus held. There are four unions at and near Chico, each holding its local meetings separately but at stated intervals uniting in a federated body for general business. Within the last few years the Chico union has erected the Memorial Temple for its use; the Bidwell Hall on Kennedy Avenue belongs to the "Annie K. Bidwell" union. A wonderfully beautiful natural park at Chico Vicino was a gift from Mrs. Bidwell to the W. C. T. U.

There is a mining camp in the hills at Magalia, where Mrs. Skelton organized a little union. Its president was Miss Carrie Brydon, who had come to this out-of-the-world spot in search of health, and sadly missed the moral atmosphere of her earlier life. There were saloons in plenty, but no other place where people might congregate. She proposed to have a church, and there being no other religious organization at Magalia, the W. C. T. U. built a church in 1904 and own it. Sometimes they have regular services for awhile, more often occasional, but there is Sunday School year in and out. Removals and death scattered the original members but a few remain to keep alive their principles. Miss Brydon's object has been to make the church a social center, accordingly a "Ladies' Aid Society" was organized in 1910. They meet weekly, sew, embroider, make quilts and friends, and hold an annual sale whose proceeds cover expenses and repairs. A kitchen has been added so that the house is equipped for general social purposes and is certainly promoting public welfare.

None can say where the W. C. T. U. does its best work,

but none can be better than in the isolated communities where its very motherliness compels it to assume responsibilities. Through the sparsely settled section of Madera County, for a long time the saloons afforded the only place of recreation. Every saloon had a hall, generously given for any social purpose, receiving its compensation from the patronage of men thus placed under obligation. The Spring Valley union realized the evil and determined on a remedy by substitution. Being unable alone to compass their plan, they co-operated jointly with an Improvement Club in the erection of a Club House in which they have a pleasant place for meetings, for Sunday School and kindred objects, and in connection with it an Auditorium suitable for large gatherings and entertainments. The plan has succeeded admirably in its object.

The Sanger union has a unique property. Feeling long ago that their work should have a local habitation as well as a name, they secured a fine site intending to hold it until they could build. In the meantime religion and morals had reached a low ebb in the town, and the united clergy had decided that a great effort must be made to revive these interests, but there was no building in town large enough for great meetings. For this object the W. C. T. U. lot was the desirable spot. So the women forthwith raised money to erect and equip a building for Evangelistic meetings, all but a good floor for which a temporary substitute was provided. Later the other unions of the county helped to supply that, and with its seats and piano, the "Auditorium of the W. C. T. U." stands a monument to their faith and an aid to good works.

Many unions have had their abiding place in a rented room, and some are permanently located in a home that can lend its spare room to such a purpose.

Sissons, in the far north, was the center of lumber and railroad interests in that region and the large number of homeless men employed there gave the saloon element easy predominance. Mrs. Skelton organized a union of earnest women there like an outpost in the enemy's country. Not being an incorporated town the streets and walks of Sissons were an optional matter. A sidewalk on one side of the main street was presumed to be sufficient, and that side was lined with saloons. The women in disgust refused to walk on it, and built a sub-



MILLER MEMORIAL BUILDING  
Stockton



READING ROOM, BOULDER CREEK



COFFEE CLUB AND REST ROOM  
Campbell



BIDWELL HALL  
The Annie K. Bidwell Union, Chico

stantial walk on the other side of the street. It has been in use and known as the W. C. T. U. sidewalk for twenty years. Such towns have no fire protection, and when a fire occurs every man fights it. When it is over all are exhausted, and between excitement and thirst the saloons have a harvest. One night there was a big fire at Sissons. All the men rushed to the fire. The president of the W. C. T. U. at once lit her kitchen fire and prepared a wash-boiler full of coffee. Her husband returning, exclaimed, "What's all this?" For answer she sent him out to invite everybody in to have hot coffee. A saloon-keeper was among the first, and declared he had never had a better drink, little thinking this was done to keep men away from his place. Another case of substitution.

As far back as 1889 the Fresno union paid thirty dollars a month to keep barrels of ice-water on the streets of Fresno during the hot months. More substitution.

Next to Reading Rooms the most general effort of the unions was the roadside watering troughs. Such facilities were usually found in front of a saloon. The towns did not provide what the saloon was glad to furnish, and the teamster who did not patronize the bar in recognition of the accommodation, was likely to be advised to go on and water his horses somewhere else. In town or country the custom was the same. The unions took up that work early and must have set up miles of watering troughs throughout the state. Gradually public authorities have assumed this duty.

Many beautiful fountains have been erected by the unions. Sacramento in 1890 placed one near the Postoffice by permission of the government, at a cost of \$500. Hanford has a very handsome one, conspicuously placed. San Francisco W. C. T. U. placed a fine fountain at one side of the Ferry entrance, and the California Club a corresponding one on the other side. The Mendocino unions had erected two fountains in 1889. Benicia has a fine one near the old historic State House. Turlock union jointly with a Woman's Club placed a drinking fountain and watering troughs in that city in 1910. Madera union erected a granite fountain at a cost of \$400, in 1909. The union at Fowler presented a fine fountain to the city in 1912. Cloverdale, Petaluma, Pacific Grove, Los Gatos, Orland and some others not reported have provided public

fountains and nearly all have been presented to the towns, which then assume their care.

Selma has erected a fine fountain.

It is doubtful if even Miss Willard's "Do Everything" policy embraced all that the unions have tried. A large Young Woman's union once planted four miles of shade trees along a mountain road, but alas for the trees—like other good things planted, trees cannot live without constant care.

In the usual questions on the blank for local reports, is this, "What has been your special work this year?" One union replied, "We have built a fence around a graveyard." The union that could "find no living thing to do" or do for, probably died a natural death,—it has not been heard from since.

### Campaigns—Berkeley.

The W. C. T. U. has trained its members to a mental alertness that sees possibilities afar off, and in none of its activities is that more evident than in local elections. Some one starts an idea, and pursues it until others are aroused, and it becomes a popular thought. For instance, there occurred in Berkeley in 1905 an incident that led to great results.

Mrs. Mary H. Cartwright, local Press Superintendent, was going to a newspaper office early one morning, and met upon her threshold a man she had never seen before, or since that time. He pointed at her White Ribbon, saying, "So you belong to the White Ribbon Army do you? So do I," and added, "Wouldn't it be a good thing to have a prohibition clause in the new charter?" That idea was already burning in her brain and she responded, "Of course it would," and full of the hope that a sympathetic word had imparted, soon found herself in the newspaper office, where, being a frequent visitor she was sure of a welcome. She consulted the kindly editor, Mr. Friend Richardson, who thought there was a possible chance if it could be done in just the right way, asking her for her ideas which she outlined, and then went home to act upon. She wrote to the chairman of the New Charter Committee, not lightly, but with thought and prayer that held her far into the night. The letter was submitted to her newspaper friend, who approved and asked "What next?" "I propose," she said, "to write to the Improvement Clubs." This



she did, and again he approved, had them typewritten and mailed, and then asked her for an article for the "Gazette," which he would back with an editorial. The letters went to many clubs and were acted upon favorably by the most important. One invited her to present the matter personally. This was a cross, but had to be done. She talked straight at them for half an hour; then the president said, "Now Mrs. Cartwright, tell us just what you want." She sprang to her feet and said, "Just this, gentlemen, that you as an influential body, put yourselves on record in favor of a clause in the new charter forever prohibiting the licensing of liquor-selling in our University town." The very man who had argued against the proposition when her letter was read at the previous meeting, arose and proposed a strong resolution in its favor. It was adopted by unanimous vote, and she went home grateful to God for the victory. Next night the North Berkeley Club did the same, publishing her letter. The Gazette took up the cry, other clubs followed and the campaign went on. The charter when finished was not accepted by the Council. Another committee was named and all the work had to be repeated. When nearly done a conservative friend said that this clause might defeat the charter. With ready wit Mrs. Cartwright said, "Put it on as an addendum to be voted on separately." When ready, the prohibition feature was found to be very inconspicuous, while in another place were the ominous words, "All business shall be licensed for revenue."

The next meeting of the W. C. T. U. was an indignation meeting, and every woman had a copy of the new charter in her hand. A gentleman present offered them 10,000 cards and literature to distribute among the mothers of Berkeley.

A Woman's Charter Committee representing all organizations of women was promptly formed, the town systematically canvassed with literature and when the election came, the new charter was carried by six to one, and prohibition by three to one. It had been a struggle of two years and it paid.

Berkeley is the largest "dry" town in the state.

### Stanislaus.

Everywhere the women have wrought well in local campaigns. Stanislaus has sent the following account of the

election in that county; so similar to that of others that it would be superfluous to add to it.

"May 14th, 1912, will be celebrated as the dry election day. The County Union had just celebrated its twenty-fifth year. All the moral forces united in the campaign—the best speakers were secured, and much personal canvassing was done by men and women. The whole county went dry by this election, but Modesto as an incorporated city held a subsequent election, and went "wet" by 43 votes. In due time the "drys" will call another election."

There is a fine inference to be drawn from this victory and the steadily growing membership of the county.

"From May 1907 to May 1908—161 members.

From May 1908 to May 1909—195 members.

From May 1909 to May 1910—303 members.

From May 1910 to May 1911—370 members.

From May 1911 to May 1912—536 members.

From May 1912 to May 1913—662 members.

The present aim is 1000 members to be reported at State W. C. T. U. Convention in Modesto 1914. We can if we will, and we will."

An augmenting force like that promises votes.

### "Dry" Ground.

An effort has been made to secure data in regard to the extent of territory under prohibitory laws. The report of the Anti-Saloon League of Northern and Central California is complete and up-to-date. The jurisdiction of the League is identical with that embraced in these chronicles, and by their courtesy the statement is given.

"This portion of the state has forty-eight counties, in which there are 227 Supervisorial Districts outside the incorporated cities. Of these 109 are Dry. There are 146 municipalities, 43 of which are Dry. Eleven of the forty-eight counties are Dry."

While the map is more than half white, much less than half the population lives under prohibitory law. The W. C. T. U. has co-operated with all forces working against the liquor traffic, and the dry gains have largely increased since the Suffrage Amendment.

**Benefactors.**

The gift of more than \$3000 by Dr. Richard Hayes McDonald for the specific purpose of inducing the school children of the state to write essays on temperance, was indeed a benefaction. An account of the work has already been given. It accomplished its object in the schools and gave prestige to the early work of the W. C. T. U.

Dr. McDonald continued a warm friend and as long as he remained in the state, frequently assisted the undertakings of the Union.

The preceding narrative has also told of the generous gifts of Mr. Edward Coleman, whose beneficence enabled the state to do another splendid work for the schools, through Mrs. Eyster's lectures. He never lost interest in the W. C. T. U. after his first gift, and from time to time made contributions to the general work and to such special efforts as claimed his attention. By his will he has bequeathed \$5000 to the state union.

Mrs. J. L. Everts was a generous giver in her life, and bequeathed by her will \$2000 to the state union, \$2000 to the Tri-county union of which she had been an honored president, and \$1000 to the local union of Santa Cruz, of which she was a member. Her kind intentions were frustrated by the action of the courts. The will was contested and only a moiety of these amounts reached the legatees.

Mrs. Mary T. McCall recently left by will \$500 to the state union and \$500 to the local union of San Jose.

Mrs. Susan L. Locke is a benefactor whose helping hand has often by a timely gift of \$100, carried the work over a time of stress or aided in special objects.

Mrs. Annie K. Bidwell is another who exemplified the "grace of giving," and has given generously and judiciously to the special objects as they arise.

The late Mr. Joseph Knowland was a friend indeed whose timely gifts have often met a special object.

**Illustrations.**

The illustrations are presented in the assurance of giving pleasure to the old comrades of those whose portraits appear.

Securing them has been like bringing old friends together. Some will be looked for, that could not be obtained, but many old associations will be renewed. A beautiful coincidence occurs where mother and daughter are at the same time identified with the work.

Among the state officers are the Vice President at Large, Mrs. Addie G. Estes, and her daughter, Mrs. Ethel Estes Stephenson, Secretary of the "Young People's Branch."

Two successive presidents of Butte County were Mrs. D. W. Gray and her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Lillian B. Gray.

Another mother and daughter are Mrs. D. S. Dickson and Mrs. Mary Dickson Hotle, presidents of Sonoma County.

An interesting trio are Mrs. N. T. Sanders, a veteran whose intelligent devotion has been a factor in the work of Sacramento, Solano and Santa Clara Counties where she has lived. When past eighty years of age she was awarded a prize by the National Superintendent of Medical Temperance for the best local report of her department. One of her daughters, Mrs. Effie D. Whitman, has been president successively of Solano and Santa Clara Counties. The other, Mrs. Ella H. Whitman, has been identified especially with Medical Temperance in these counties. Only her family cares have kept her from the state work.

Two familiar faces will recall the striking personality and marked character of Mrs. Sarah C. Harry and Mrs. Mary Smith, always remembered in lifelong association with each other. Mrs. Harry as an ardent suffragist and eloquent speaker, and Mrs. Smith as Superintendent of Medical Temperance.

Another mother and daughter are Mrs. A. B. Gove, Superintendent of Prison work, and Mrs. Carrie G. Merrall, president of Contra Costa County.

The last group represents Mr. and Mrs. Ward. Mrs. O. J. Ward is the honored Superintendent of Health and Heredity, and Mr. James Ward is a helper too well known to be left out. Some years ago they took part in a Silver Gray Suffrage Medal Contest. Mr. Ward forgot his piece, but launched out in an eloquent original oration so superior to the one he had memorized that the Medal was awarded to it.

## FINIS.

This simple narrative is closed with the feeling that "all the way we have been led," has been but the drill, discipline, and experience, in short the novitiate, by which the organization has been made ready to enter upon an era of opportunity, responsibility and service, exceeding by far the limitations of the present.

D. J. S.

## W. C. T. U. HYMN.

Tune—"America."

To Thee, O Lord, we raise  
 Our hymn of love and praise  
 For all Thy care!  
 Thus far, we know, Thy hand  
 Throughout this wide, wide land,  
 Hath led our Union Band  
 By faith and prayer.

We know the coming years  
 Seem dark with sin; and fears  
 Our hearts assail.  
 But, with Thy hand to guide  
 And hold us near Thy side,  
 We know what'er betide  
 Right will prevail.

Before Thy throne we bow  
 In humble suppliciance; now  
 Thy blessing crave.  
 Though dark the storm-clouds lower,  
 Oh, help us in this hour,  
 Renewed by quickening power,  
 The lost to save.

And, in the year to be,  
 May we Thy glory see  
 To earth descend;  
 And from the East and West  
 May all mankind be blest,  
 And in Thy keeping rest  
 Till time shall end.

MRS. GRACE KIMBALL.

### Declaration of Principles.

We believe in the coming of His Kingdom whose service is perfect freedom, because His laws, written in our members as well as in nature and in grace, are perfect, converting the soul.

We believe in the gospel of the Golden Rule, and that each man's habits of life should be an example safe and beneficent for every other man to follow.

We believe that God created both man and woman in His own image, and therefore we believe in one standard of purity for both men and women, and in the equal right of all to hold opinions and to express the same with equal freedom.

We believe in a living wage; in courts of conciliation and arbitration; in justice as opposed to greed of gain; in "peace on earth and good-will to men."

We therefore formulate, and for ourselves adopt the following pledge, asking our sisters and brothers of a common danger and a common hope, to make common cause with us, in working its reasonable and helpful precepts into the practice of everyday life:

I hereby solemnly promise, God helping me, to abstain from all distilled, fermented and malt liquors, including wine, beer and cider,\* and to employ all proper means to discourage the use of and traffic in the same.

To confirm and enforce the rationale of this pledge, we declare our purpose to educate the young; to form a better public sentiment; to reform, so far as possible, by religious, ethical and scientific means, the drinking classes; to seek the transforming power of Divine grace for ourselves and all for whom we work, that they and we may wilfully transcend no law of pure and wholesome living; and finally we pledge ourselves to labor and to pray that all these principles, founded upon the gospel of Christ, may be worked out into the customs of society and the laws of the land.

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\*State and local constitutions can include the words "as a beverage," if desired.

# OFFICIAL ROSTER

## AND

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Mrs. L. C. Errington.....	1902 to 1903	
Mrs. L. C. Montgomery.....	1903 to 1904	
Miss Mary Hilton .....	1904 to 1905	
Miss Drusy A. Dick.....	1905 to 1908	
Siskiyou.		
Mrs. Julia P. Churchill.....	1893 to 1894	80
Mrs. Elizabeth Isgrigg .....	1894 to 1895	
(Lapsed)		
Mrs. E. A. Woodward.....	1911 to 1913	
Solano.		
Mrs. E. Campbell.....	1888 to 1890	89
Mrs. C. M. Baldwin.....	1890 to 1895	89
Mrs. C. A. Hutton.....	1895 to 1898	
Mrs. Mary Dillas .....	1898 to 1901	
Mrs. Effie D. Whitman.....	1901 to 1902	96
Mrs. Nina S. Sheppa.....	1902 to 1904	89
Mrs. Elizabeth D. Biggs.....	1904 to 1907	89
Mrs. M. E. Mallett.....	1907 to 1908	
Mrs. Alice Coombs .....	1908 to 1909	
Mrs. Jessie S. Clarke.....	1909 to 1913	
Sonoma.		
Mrs. L. M. Hutton.....	1886 to 1888	96
Mrs. E. M. Higby.....	1888 to 1889	
Mrs. L. M. Hutton.....	1889 to 1890	
Mrs. D. S. Dickson.....	1890 to 1894	96
(Marin County was joined as a bi-county.)		
Mrs. A. J. Wheeler.....	1894 to 1900	
Mrs. E. H. Button.....	1900 to 1901	
Mrs. A. J. Wheeler.....	1901 to 1902	
Mrs. D. S. Dickson.....	1902 to 1905	96
Mrs. Mary Dickson Hotle.....	1905 to 1907	
Mrs. J. S. McDonald.....	1907 to 1910	
(Marin County withdrawn.)		
Mrs. Lillian Hall .....	1910 to 1911	
Mrs. Gertrude L. Stone.....	1911 to 1912	96
Mrs. Emilie M. Skoe.....	1912 to 1913	48
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Mrs. Fanny Wood .....	1887 to 1889	112
Mrs. Garrison Turner .....	1889 to 1892	112
Mrs. Jennie Phelps Purvis.....	1892 to 1897	112
Mrs. M. M. Thomas.....	1897 to 1898	
Mrs. Garrison Turner .....	1898 to 1899	
Mrs. Jennie Phelps Purvis.....	1899 to 1900	
(Lapsed.)		
Mrs. M. A. Reichenbach.....	1907 to 1913	112
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Mrs. A. D. Smith.....	1892	
Miss A. A. Mansfield.....	1893	
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Mrs. Margaret Coleman .....	1908 to 1913	112
Mrs. Ella S. Pringle.....	1913	145

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Mrs. M. F. Kline.....	1885 to 1888	
Mrs. R. A. Hawkins.....	1888 to 1892	112
Mrs. Lucy F. Sharp.....	1892 to 1894	
(Kings County joined in bi-county.)		
Mrs. Lizzie H. Dopkins .....	1894 to 1896	
Mrs. Jennie Whittington .....	1896 to 1897	
Mrs. Lizzie H. Dopkins.....	1897 to 1898	
Mrs. Flora Savage .....	1898 to 1899	112
Mrs. E. Ballagh .....	1899 to 1900	
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Mrs. Lydia Horseman .....	1903 to 1905	112
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Mrs. Emily Hoppin .....	1887 to 1890	48
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Mrs. E. C. Laugenour.....	1895 to 1897	97
Mrs. Annie Hilliker .....	1897 to 1899	
Mrs. T. D. Morin.....	1899 to 1900	
Mrs. S. A. Huston.....	1900 to 1904	97
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Mrs. Alice Scarlett .....	1912 to 1913	

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Mrs. Ida Frances Lee.....	1891 to 1893	80
Mrs. Coombs .....	1893 to 1894	
Mrs. Ida Frances Lee.....	1894 to 1896	
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