

REPORT OF BIBLE-WOMAN FOR THE REFORMATORY AND JAIL.

In writing this Report, we would express thankfulness to our Lord and Master for His Divine blessing which has rested upon our work.

Every morning we visit the Police Court and do what we can to help women or girls who are there in trouble, under arrest. One night each week, from 7 p.m. to midnight, I relieve the Police Matron—taking care of the women who are arrested and brought in during that time. We visit the Jail and Reformatory twice every week and look after any discharged prisoners who will accept our help. Members of our class of illiterate women in the Mercer Reformatory have made good progress during the year. Our religious service on Thursday evening in the Reformatory is well attended by the Reformatory women and Refuge girls.

We have the names of one hundred and forty-seven (147) women on our list—some of them not more than twenty years of age—who are habitual drunkards and who spend a large part of their time in Toronto Jail on short sentences. Our experience is that these short sentences have no beneficial effect on this class. Long sentences at the Mercer Reformatory or medical treatment in an hospital would be of far more avail.

At present there are several of "our women" in the different Hospitals of the City, and we visit them twice each week and help them in many ways. During the year we have taken sixty-one (61) discharged prisoners to the different Homes and Institutions of the City.

Our "Cottage Home for Girls," which was opened twelve months ago, has proved to be a very important aid in the prosecution of our work. It has in fact, become indispensable.

We cannot close without thanking the Officials in the several Institutions and at the Police Court, for their kindness and help.

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