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ALBERT GALLION  
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## Mrs. Read of the Salvation Army.

The promotion of Brigadier Mrs. Read to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, on the platform of the Massey Hall, at a recent meeting in Toronto, was one of the most gratifying features to Salvationists, who most emphatically expressed their approval by hearty applause.

Mrs. Read (nee Blanche Goodall) has been an officer in the Army for nearly sixteen years. In July, 1884, she appeared as a trembling lassie cadet at London, Ontario. From there she was sent to Kingston, as lieutenant, and then commanded, as captain, several other Ontario corps, namely, Picton, Lisgar Street, Orillia, Brantford, Orangeville, Lindsay, and Essex Centre. Thus Capt. Blanche Goodall spent her first five years as a field officer, gathering valuable and practical experiences of dealing with the sorrows and sins of mankind.

### FIRST SOCIAL APPOINTMENT.

In 1889 Commissioner Coombs found so many cases of drunkenness among women in Toronto that the establishment of a separate home in the centre of the city for such cases appeared pressing. The building in the rear of the old printing house was fitted up for the purpose, and Capt. Goodall placed in charge, being promoted at the time to the rank of Brigade-Captain.

On the 14th of May, 1890, she married Staff-Capt. Read, who was then editor of the 'War Cry,' and became a great help to him in his editorial work. Mrs. Read continued, after marriage, to discharge various duties. Among these she had charge of the Auxiliary department, was correspondent for headquarters with sick officers, financial, special, etc. Mrs. Read also had charge of the Rescue Work for some time previous to the arrival of Mrs. Herbert Booth in Canada.

Next followed a period of new and different work. Jointly with her husband, Major Read, she was appointed provincial secretary, and as such they commanded in Newfoundland and the North-West Provinces. It was while in the North-West that Major Read's illness became alarming, and demanded a change of work, which would require less travelling and little exposure to changeable weather. He was appointed financial secretary at Territorial headquarters, and Mrs. Read assisted him with the auxiliary section of his department. The insatiate desire of her husband to be at the battle's front, and deal with the crowds of heedless sinners, was recognized by the Commissioner, and again followed a short appointment of Major and Mrs. Read as provincial secretaries for Central Ontario, in which capacity they were promoted to the rank of brigadiers.

### THE SORROW OF HER LIFE.

Then followed the days of severe trial to Mrs. Read. Her energetic husband was compelled to rest. The fatal sickness told upon his strength. A ray of hope penetrated those dark days, when the General interested himself in Brigadier Read's case, and through his effort arrangements were made for him to undergo a special treat-

ment in a famous institute in London, Eng. But God willed it otherwise. In October, 1898, Brigadier Read was promoted to his celestial place, prepared for him and all faithful servants of the Master.

Mrs. Read had taken the entire supervision of the Rescue Work for women and children in July, 1896, when Mrs. Herbert Booth left Canada, and has filled this important position with ability and success.

In an interview with Mrs. Read, she gave the 'War Cry' reporter some information about the work accomplished in her branch, which is positively startling. We have heard of the work accomplished by independent missions, other organizations, and various denominations, and with pleasure have noticed that the press and public gave well-deserved recognition of the work done

'After careful retrospection of our spiritual, philanthropic work, I am delighted to report decided progress, and although it has not been as great as we have desired, yet much that has been very satisfactory has been accomplished.

'Since the field commissioner assumed command of this territory, three years and a half ago, we have sheltered and cared for 2,030 girls, 85 of whom have been satisfactory cases; and 1,014 helpless little children. We have developed our facilities in several cities. In Toronto and Montreal we have opened more commodious homes, a new institution has been opened in Butte, and an officer has been despatched to Vancouver to inaugurate our much-needed work. We have moved our Rescue operations into larger premises in Halifax, and are build-



MRS. READ.

by those faithful toilers among the parliabs of society, but even the most rosy records cannot come any way near the facts that have been achieved in our Women's Institutions of this Territory. Surely we have been very modest in embellishing our records, but why should we not bring these things more to the public notice, since we lay the glory of it at the feet of him whom we call Master, and whose love constrains us?

### WHAT HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED.

'It is a source of gratification to me,' said Mrs. Read, 'on this important occasion to present a brief report of the Women's Social Department, which embraces the Children's and League of Mercy work. 'Advance,' is our watchword.

ing an addition to our present home in St. Johns,' Nfld. We have established a Maternity Hospital in St. John, N.B., and a Working-Women's Home in Montreal. We are also opening a larger home for children in this city in the course of a few weeks. Our work has received government and civic recognition in several instances, the most notable being the subsidizing of it by an annual grant from the Newfoundland and Manitoba Governments, the city council of Winnipeg, and the Spokane county council.

'By our own industries we have increased our income to the amount of \$5,860.

### LEAGUE OF MERCY.

'Three and a half years ago the League of Mercy was organized in the city of Toronto only. It is now working successfully and