

The Young Woman and Her Problem

Pearl Richmond Hamilton.

YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

One in touch with girls and women is deeply impressed with the important service of the Y.W.C.A. In every city and large town this organization with its force of workers reaches out to bless, strengthen and inspire girls and women in practical, educational, physical and spiritual development.

Readers of this page have written me of their desire to be met at the station, as they were not familiar with the city. Every request I place in the hands of the Y.W.C.A. and their Travelers' Aid Agents meet and protect the stranger. The Travelers' Aid Department of the Y.W.C.A. co-operates with all of the Y.W.C.A. branches throughout Canada, the States and abroad; it is a protective organization incorporated to safeguard girls and women who are traveling. It provides information, advice, guidance and protection to all, irrespective of race, creed or class. Nearly all of the churches contribute to its support besides other organizations and charitable men and women.

"Women workers of the Society who speak the different languages meet trains and steamers to aid and conduct inexperienced or confused travelers any hour of the day or night to their destination within the city, or to trains or steamers for other points. This protection is continued by co-operation with other societies or friends at terminal points until the traveler is known to have safely reached the proper destination. When necessary the Society provides temporarily for the traveler through an investigated list of homes, institutions, boarding houses and hotels. A Travelers' Aid worker is on the Exposition grounds. Travelers' Aid workers are known by the official badge of the Society."

There are women who travel through Western Canada to interest girls in "homes for girls" that are not safe. While there are smaller organizations that are splendid, the stranger is not in a position to distinguish the safe from the dangerous. It is for this reason that I emphasize the Y.W.C.A. I shudder when I learn of smooth women who claim to represent good institutions, but who



Bride travels 4,000 miles to marry her wounded soldier sweetheart. Her sweetheart having been wounded at the front and brought back to an English hospital, Miss Stonehouse of Winnipeg made a 4,000 mile trip to marry her lover at the hospital. The photo shows them receiving the congratulations of a wounded soldier friend.

The agents of the Winnipeg branch every year meet many hundred girls and women with children who are traveling to and from the West. This is especially helpful to girls and women from rural communities or from the old countries.

Any girl or woman, unused to travel, who intends to change trains or who comes to the city for a time may write to the General Secretary of the Y.W.C.A., and she will place the request in the hands of a Travelers' Aid Agent. These agents never neglect a request of this kind.

This summer girls are traveling to and from California in great numbers, owing to the Exposition. The General Secretary of the Winnipeg Y.W.C.A. says they are helping a great many girl tourists who need Travelers' Aid protection.

I quote the following from a leaflet sent to the cities all over the continent from the San Diego Travelers' Aid Society.

"Social conditions and the activity of avarice and crime are such that in the great rush of travel many persons are taken advantage of by the agents of commercialized vice of every form. Agents of disorderly houses travel on trains and boats alert to secure victims. Every year thousands of young women come to the cities looking for a chance of honorable livelihood. Many fall easy prey to the unscrupulous persons always lying in wait for travelers, who use every means to take advantage of the unwary, the unfriended, the ignorant, the timid, the sick, the stranger and the foreigner.

are really out to deceive girls and women in rural communities.

The Travelers' Aid of the Winnipeg Y.W.C.A. saves scores of girls and women every year from the clutches of dangerous men and women. I strongly urge girls who intend to go to any city to write to the General Secretary of the Y.W.C.A., and give her your name, date and time of arrival, railroad station, and destination—also description of clothes and age.

The girls who board and room at the Y.W.C.A. in Winnipeg have a comfortable home, good social advantages and splendid opportunities for study. The rates for board and room are from \$3.00 up. Girls earning less than \$50.00 per month only, can board and room at the boarding homes.

The matrons of the homes look after the moral and social life of the girls. Recently a very efficient young woman—Miss Eleanore Blair—has been appointed matron of the Martha Street Home. She is specially fitted to guide girls sympathetically and wisely, and will make the environment clean and helpful.

During the summer vacation camps are open for girls—one at Winnipeg Beach—the other at Ravenswood, where a five cent car fare takes one from the city.

The schedule of educational and physical advantages at the Y.W.C.A. provides opportunities for all classes and ambitions. There is the department of religious work, physical training, health talks, St. John Ambulance course, English branches, French, elocution, music, household arts, including dressmaking, millinery, embroidery, china painting and

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What a Million Mothers Avoid

More than a million careful mothers have intuitively known the dangers of poisonous fly destroyers. They have known that such preparations contain arsenic in deadly quantities. They have realized the peril to little children that accompanies the use of fly poisons.

But for those who have not learned of these dangers, we quote from a recent issue of the Child Betterment Magazine, which comments upon 35 cases of children being poisoned last year:

"The danger to children is great, and the danger to adults is by no means inconsiderable."

In the December issue of The Journal of the Michigan State Medical Society, an editorial on the same subject cites 47 cases and goes on to state:

"Arsenical fly poisons are as dangerous as the phosphorus match. They should be abolished. There are as efficient and more sanitary ways of catching or killing flies. And fly poisons, if used at all, should not be used in homes where there are children, or where children visit."



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