

# WOMEN'S NEWS

## LATE MISS M. E. WILSON

### School Children's Loss

Miss Mary E. Wilson, whose death, after short illness, has deprived the school at The Steppes of its mistress, was the eldest daughter of Mrs. and the late Mr. Jas. Wilson, who for many years lived at this attractive spot in the Tasmanian Highlands. Long before the district was provided with a school, and before the formation of the correspondence classes, Miss Wilson on her own initiative opened a private school and educated children who have now grown to be prosperous residents of the district. Although Miss Wilson was of a reserved disposition and had an air of dignified aloofness with strangers, to those who enjoyed her intimate friendship she was an animated conversationalist, showing readiness to discuss current topics with cultured facility and a keen insight which was responsible for apt and humorous comment. Her literary taste was impeccable, and original articles from her pen were always acceptable to local publishers. She was particularly well-informed on all topics of human interest and possessed a store of information regarding the flora and fauna of the highland country in which her home was situated, and it was as the result of her representations that the Fauna Board was induced to declare The Steppes a sanctuary for native life.

#### Church Work

Her steadfast support of the Church of England was evidenced by her work in arranging for the service at The Steppes. About two years ago Miss Wilson was approached by the Education Department to form a school, and it was while she was engaged in this work that the illness occurred which ended her useful life in which it may veritably be said that "she touched nothing that she did not adorn."

The funeral, which took place at Bothwell on Tuesday, December 22, 1936, and at which the Rector of Bothwell (Rev. W. Walters) and the Rector of Ross (Rev. F. A. Carr) officiated, was well attended by residents of the district. Numerous floral offerings to the memory of a very gracious personality were placed at the graveside.