

MARY BOYLE O'REILLY MEETS MOTHER JONES
IN HER MILITARY PRISON IN W. VIRGINIA

THE DAY BOOK

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ONE CENT

WHY THE DAY BOOK CRITICISES THE METHODS OF THE REV. WILLIAMS IN FIGHTING VICE

*What the Editor Saw at That Midnight Session, and
What He Thought as He Saw a Woman Pilloried
Before Her Male Accusers—Christianity
Twenty Centuries Ago and Now.*

BY N. D. COCHRAN, EDITOR OF THE DAY BOOK

It may be that I have my Christianity upside down, too. And, again, it may be that Christianity is just as right as it was twenty centuries ago, and modern civilization is upside down.

I have a letter from Frank L. Lee, which is evidently sincere and earnest in a sharp criticism of The Day Book for a story about Rev. E. L. Williams, pastor of Grace M. E. church, in which story Mr. Lee says Pastor Williams was "disrespectfully ridiculed, misrepresented and denounced."

"This pastor is greatly admired by all the Y. M. C. A. men and all Christians in general who have the foresight to see the ridiculousness of your ridicule," says Mr. Lee.

I want frankly and earnestly to meet that criticism, which I am satisfied was meant to be helpful to The Day Book by one of its readers.

I never met Pastor Williams, and do not know him, but I want to be just with him as with every other human being. And I do want readers of The Day Book to understand its policy and my policy.

I attended that midnight meeting of the Illinois Senate Welfare Committee at the LaSalle Hotel. There was a table on a raised platform in the room, and behind that table sat Lieut.-Gov. O'Hara and three other members of the committee.

At one stage of the proceedings, a man and woman were taken on that platform and seated in two chairs, so that the pair were facing the committee across the table.

Seated in a semi-circle facing the committee were many men and very few women. Most of the women who had been there had gone away. Around a table sat newspaper reporters. To one side stood newspaper photographers, with their cameras and flashlight apparatus.

The woman's head was bowed—possibly in shame. Mixed with that emotion, undoubtedly, was fear. She turned away from the cameras.

Gov. O'Hara asked the man if the