



NOTES FOR THE COUNCIL.

During these summer months we shall not have many meetings of our Councils to record, but for all that work is being done and preparations are being made for an advance all along the line next winter.

In particular, we are right glad to hear that in many quarters inquiries are being set on foot, with a view of commencing Home Reading Circles a little later on. For example, Halifax has decided to form a Committee for this special object, and Mrs. Archibald, the president, and vice-president for Nova Scotia, is to address a circular letter to all the country newspapers telling them of the scheme and asking them for names of persons in each place willing to act as agents for the Home Reading Circles in their locality.

The Local Council of East Kootenay is also forming a Home Reading Circle at Donald and others are moving in the same direction, which we hope to report later.

We have to announce the receipt of the additional sum of \$214.69 from the Halifax Local Council in aid of the Armenians, making in all the splendid total of over \$2,400, collected for this purpose by that Council.

Vancouver Local Council has also sent \$50 to this fund and both contributions have been duly forwarded through His Excellency, the Governor-General, to the British Committee formed under the Duke of Argyll and the Duke of Westminster for the aid of this distressed people.

A full list of the contributions, collected by Local Councils, for this object, will be printed in these columns later on.

We have still a few more items of news to report from Halifax. In the first place we grieve to hear that the accident which happened to Miss Walshe, one of our delegates in Montreal, has resulted in a considerable disablement of her right arm, and we know that all our members will desire to express their hearty sympathy.

Then this Council has had regretfully to accept the resignation of Miss Creighton, its faithful recording-secretary and has appointed Miss Annie Stairs in her stead, and lastly, we understand that it intends to be active in the promotion of branches of the Woman's Art Association and of the Woman's Historical Society.

We have no further formal report from Toronto, but are delighted to hear of the probable formation of a Training School in Domestic Science. More will be said about this shortly and meanwhile we may note that a public meeting is being arranged by the Toronto Local Council at the Pavilion at 3 p.m. on September 9th, at which their Excellencies, the Governor-General and the Countess of Aberdeen, hope to be present. As His Excellency has a meeting of the Boy's Brigade the same afternoon, he will only be able to look in for a short time.

We have reports of meetings of the Local Councils of Victoria, Vancouver, Winnipeg, Regina, and Rat Portage, but the most of these were occupied with the reports of the delegates to the Annual Meeting at Montreal, and the reading of the President's letter, which was printed in these columns.

The London Local Council is also organising a public meeting on September 16th, on the occasion of their Excellencies' visit to the Agricultural Exhibition.

We note with pleasure that the directors of the Toronto Industrial Exhibition received with cordiality the deputation from the Toronto Local Council requesting that there might be some women amongst the members of that Board, and we hope that we shall be able to record the fact that that request has been granted, and that the inclusion of women may prove to have a beneficial influence on some departments of exhibits.

Our secretary at Winnipeg reports that in all probability a Home for girls immigrating to this country will be established there by the generosity of Miss Fowler (daughter of the late Sir Robert Fowler, Lord Mayor of London), who has, we understand, volunteered her services at the Home personally for a time. Under such auspices, the undertaking has every prospect of success in a centre where it is much needed, and the members of our Council who took part in the Immigration Conference at Montreal look forward to co-operating with this new effort heartily.

Lady Reid, the president of the Vancouver Council, has gone to Halifax for rest and change after serious indisposition, and accompanied by her daughter, Miss Reid, the secretary of the Council. Miss Beecher, vice-president, has kindly undertaken to see to all business in their absence.

The Victoria Local Council has appointed Mrs. David Jenkins to act as press reporter on their behalf to these columns.

We wish to remind all Councils that we shall be glad to receive items of interest regarding their work by the 10th of each month. We shall be much obliged if such communications can be sent on separate sheets of paper to those in which other correspondence regarding Council is sent to the President and if such sheet can be labelled, "FOR CANADIAN HOME JOURNAL."

It is with peculiar pleasure that we hear of two events of interest for the Aberdeen Association:

1. A French branch of the Association has been formed at Montreal, which will undertake the duty of forwarding French literature of a healthy character to all French applicants throughout the Dominion. This meets a definitely-felt want.

2. Lord Herschell, the chairman of the Board of the Imperial Institute in Great Britain, and his colleagues have been good enough to respond favourably to the request that the use of a room at the Imperial Institute might be provided for the purpose of receiving literature collected in Great Britain for the Association. The services of one of the clerks at the Institute will also be granted for the arranging and despatching of the parcels for a very moderate charge.

The work of this Association, which sends out monthly parcels of literature to settlers not able to afford the luxury of books and magazines, is ever increasing, and the grateful thanks received from all sorts

of recipients are very touching. Branches now exist at Winnipeg, Halifax, Ottawa, Toronto, Montreal, Calgary, Regina, Vancouver, and some seven or eight hundred parcels are sent out monthly by ladies banded together for the purpose in these places.

The Association gives a considerable amount of work to those connected with it and has to be worked with much system and regularity, and the labour involved by the weeding out of the literature sent by friends is by no means inconsiderable. But nevertheless, it fascinates those who undertake it, and the revelation of its helpfulness to the most desirable class of our settlers makes them enthusiastic in its cause. Friends having magazines, books, etc., of a good class, which they can spare, will be greatly helping us if they will forward them to any of the branches above named. Consecutive numbers of good magazines are the most valuable and children's literature is much in demand.

Mrs. W. B. Scarth (office of Aberdeen Association, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa) will always gladly give any further information needed.

We print this month a few hints for the use of those desirous of forming new Local Councils, which we trust may be of service.

It will be remembered that amongst other recommendations made by our Literature Sub-Committee was one to the effect that the formation of school libraries should be encouraged, and in the discussion on the subject the regulations by which school trustees in Ontario could contribute from the school funds for local libraries and books for the same were read. Mrs. Thomson, one of our St. John delegates, mentioned that the New Brunswick Government directly encouraged the formation of libraries in connection with the Public Schools, and she has now provided us with the official report on these libraries and the interesting catalogue of books compiled for the use of school trustees and teachers by the Education Department. We are sure that our members will like to see the extracts which we are able to give them from this report, and hope that it may help them in any efforts they may make towards getting more school libraries established.

The twenty-five cent Council badges seem to continue to give satisfaction; several orders for them have been received.

It will interest our members to know that Miss Teresa Wilson has again undertaken to visit several of the National Councils in Europe on Her Excellency's behalf this season.

HINTS ON HOW TO ORGANISE NEW LOCAL COUNCILS OF WOMEN.

1. Apply to the President, the Countess of Aberdeen, Government House, Ottawa, or to the Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Willoughby Cummings, 44 Dewson Street, Toronto for copies of the Constitution and Rules and papers bearing on the aims and working of the Council.

2. Distribute these papers to ladies representing the different churches, societies and institutions in the district who would be likely to take an interest in the formation of such an organisation.

3. Invite these ladies to come to a little private meeting to discuss the possibility of forming a Local Council in your district and to have a little friendly talk about it. Be sure you understand the Constitution and the aims of the Council before this meeting or have some one present who does and who will be able to answer questions.

4. If the general feeling of these ladies is favourable to going forward, let a small Provisional Committee be appointed to arrange a public meeting at a suitable date, when the whole subject can be brought before the public, and especially before the members of local societies and institutions connected with women and children.

5. The first duty of this Provisional Committee is to obtain a list of all existing societies, guilds, institutions of all descriptions, schools, clubs, etc., which could be represented on a Women's Council. Then let an invitation be sent to the officers and members of each such organisation to attend the meeting, enclosing papers explaining the work of the Council.

(NOTE.—Sometimes it may be found best to call a preliminary meeting of the presidents and secretaries of all local societies before arranging the public meeting.)