

### Evensong.

By R. L. STEVENSON.

The embers of the day are red  
Beyond the murky hill,  
The kitchen smokes: the bed  
In the darkling house is spread.  
The great sky darkens overhead,  
And the great woods are shrill.  
So far have I been led,  
Lord, by Thy will:  
So far I have followed, Lord, and wondered  
still

The breeze from the embalmed land  
Blows sudden toward the shore,  
And claps my cottage door.  
I hear the signal, Lord—I understand.  
The night at Thy command  
Comes. I will eat and sleep and will  
not question more.

### "The Exhibition."

WHEN you say "The Exhibition" at this time of the year, anyone in Canada knows that you mean "The Canadian National Exhibition, held at Toronto. This year is the 42nd annual event of the kind on the old Exhibition Grounds, and it seems to me that in some respects it is the "best yet." There seems more room for the exhibits, more places to sit down to rest when one is tired, more system everywhere. Creator's Band—the favorite Italian band, returned after two years—is in attendance and every afternoon plays as it knows how to play, in the pavilion by the lake, and so far the weather is ideal.

This is the 5th day of the Fair. First day was "Veterans", second "Automobile," third "Children's"—there I've lost count. To-day seemed just anybody's day.

So far we have visited the Manufacturers', Horticultural, Women's and Government Buildings. But after going through the Eastern Gate we got down first of all among the Household Conveniences exhibits under the Grand Stand.

The very first thing we noticed was an adjustable dress form, which can be made stout or thin, high bust or low bust, with one hip larger than the other or any way you like, to suit your figure. The thing is fairly expensive—\$30.00—but it seemed to us that it would make dressmaking easy for anyone who does her own sewing.

Really always there are improvements to things. We noticed a collapsible or folding tub bench. The next stall advertized an odorless disinfectant. Then closely following came an ironing machine and all sorts of washing machines, hand, electric and water-power. We asked if the water-power machines could be used on farms and the woman said they could wherever any sort of water system was installed. Think of it!—your clothes washed by machinery while you get dinner or go to the store! . . . Next came the cream separators, milking machines, etc., and then we made way to the Manufacturers' Building.

That is the place, you know, where the manufacturers show everything from a cup of Reindeer Coffee to a grand piano, and usually the central points of interest are the Eaton, Simpson, Northway and Fairweather (fur) exhibits.

Of course the dresses and coats in the ready-made clothing exhibits make you feel that you "never, never" can own anything so gorgeous—and just possibly you wouldn't want to. You feel, also, that there must be great wealth somewhere in this country since there are people who can afford to buy such things. However, one can gather the broad general lines according to which we women must dress for this season at least—short tight skirts, sometimes long tunics, rather tight sleeves. Suit coats are at least knee length and are buttoned up to the chin. Most of them are trimmed with fur—high fur collars, fur cuffs, and sometimes fur banding around the bottom. We noticed one afternoon suit, brown, faced with fur and with a fur vest. Most of the evening dresses in the Simpson Exhibit were black jetted net in variations, and nearly every "figure" carried a bright

ostrich feather fan. No separate waists at all were shown except monkey blouses. One of these was henna Georgette, another coral pink with a simulated girdle, reaching a high point in front, run in a design with white wool and black beads.

It is quite amusing to overhear the remarks of the crowd before the cases. "There's a giddy gown, Joe", said someone behind us, and following the indication we noticed a sprightly figure that looked like the Venus de Milo poised on one toe in taking a step. Her hands and arms were just about where artists have supposed the Venus's would have been, if she'd had any,—but oh, but oh! She wore a tight bodice of black jet beads, a gay short skirt of gold, green and orange brocade, caught in at the bottom, and short-vamped, round-toed, strapped pumps. Probably "Joe" was properly impressed.

The furnished rooms are always a magnet to the ladies. Eaton's living-room, this year, left a general impression of "mulberry," or "raspberry." Evidently perfectly plain rugs are now the fashion, for this one was plain, reddish mulberry velours. The chairs were also plain velours, but some were mulberry, some a deep, dull olive green, the mulberry predominating as the chesterfield was upholstered in it. The wall was an indistinctly figured affair blending tones of gold, mulberry and dull green on a dull grayish tan ground, and there wasn't a single picture to be seen; upon one wall hung a mirror with a dull gilt frame, instead of a mantel a frieze of figures in bas-relief (like Ivory stucco) ran above the fire-place, and there was a bust of some curly-bearded ancient standing on a high carved cabinet. Behind the chesterfield a long narrow table was placed, with nothing upon it except some books, a fern, a bit of bronze statuary, and a lamp with a parchment yellow shade. Lights were also placed at each end of the chesterfield, with decorated shades of the same yellow color, but the shades were placed at the side of the light, evidently adjustable

to wherever one wated them when reading or sewing. These shades were among the very few absolutely new ideas we noticed at the Fair.

The Eaton dining-room, had a dull tan figured rug, with wall-paper of the same tan mingled with old blue, and there was but one picture over the buffet; evidently pictures are to be relegated, for the most part to a gallery, in these expensively furnished houses. A mirror, however, hung over the mantel, and plain blue curtains were decorative. The seats of the chairs were upholstered in plain dull blue, and the table was oblong instead of round as so long in fashion. The lack of "ornaments" was quite notable; Evidently our decorators are achieving the good taste of simplicity. On the table was a floral decoration of pink roses and asters in a silver holder; on the buffet were 2 silver candlesticks with white candles; at one side of the room was a many paned door, with mirror, instead of glass panes. Truly the room was very beautiful, and we heartily endorsed the opinion of an on-looker, "Ain't that magnificent?"

The bedroom in this suite suggested the "old-fashioned." It had a plain mulberry rug, a plain cream wall and cream curtains. There were light mulberry comforters at the foot of the twin beds. Here there were three or four pictures on the wall, all quaint copies, quaintly framed, of famous old pictures.

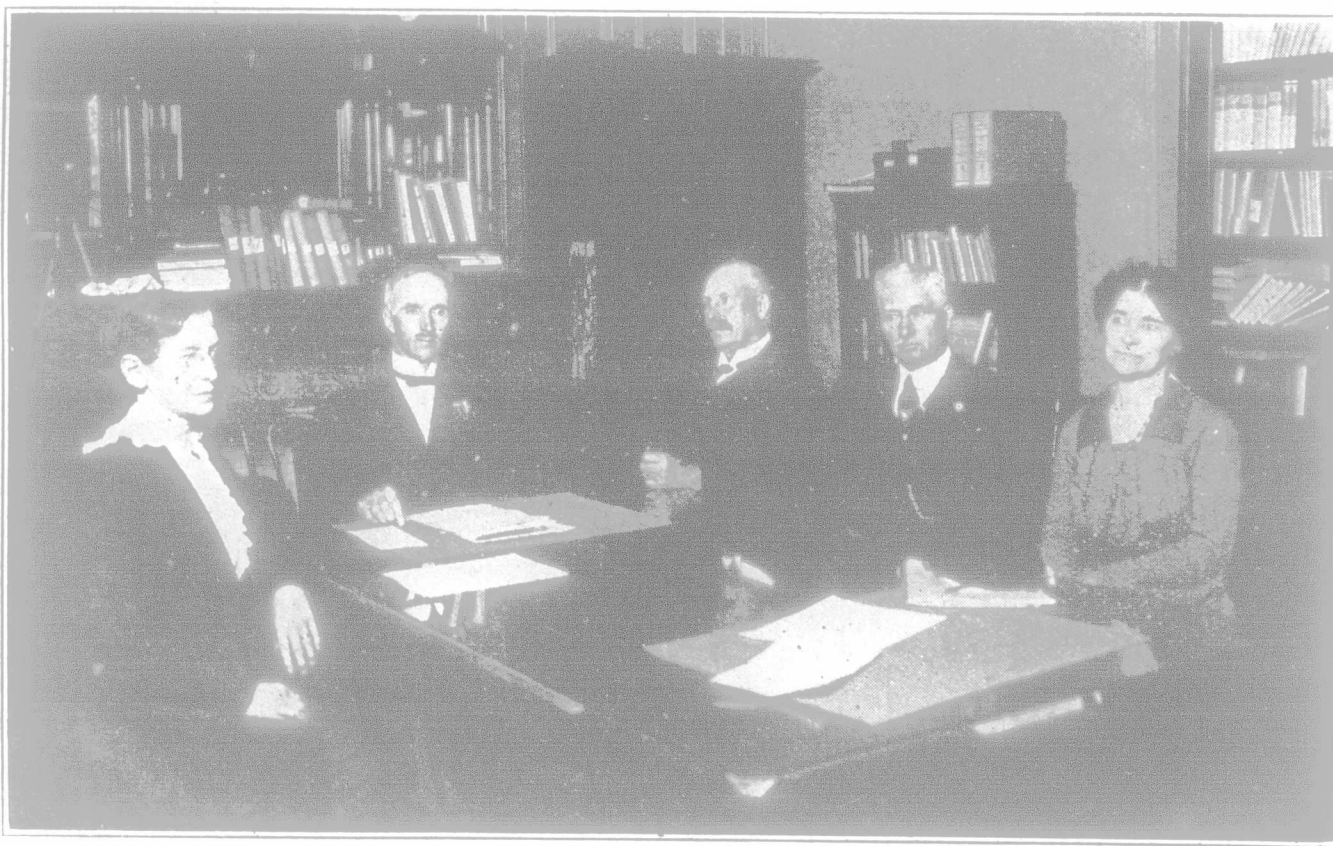
But our space is run out. The rest of this epistle must be continued next week.

### Important Rural Questions.

ON Friday morning of the first week at the School for Rural Leadership, O. A. C., Guelph, President Reynolds submitted the following suggestions which had been sent to him by a correspondent, and which he was using as an indication of some things that might profitably be done in some of the rural districts. The suggestions were as follows: That there should be discussion upon:

- (a) A co-operative organization federated out of small units.
- (b) A community club, or town-and-country club, or woman's club, that is actually "doing things."
- (c) An instance of successful co-operation among consumers.
- (d) A community church that is able to hold its young people.
- (e) A co-operative motor truck line that is lowering costs of transportation from the farm market.
- (f) A successful instance of partnership between the landlord and tenant. Something that is worth real study or possible copying.
- (g) A similar partnership between father and son.
- (h) A municipal market (public or private) that actually brings producer and consumer together.
- (i) A bank that is making use of the "moral risk" in its loans to farmers, and especially to the young men starting out.
- (j) A man or a neighborhood that has solved the farm labor question in a way that invites labor to the farm.
- (k) A country storekeeper who has beat the catalogue house and has the confidence of his neighbors, together with their trade.
- (l) A land colonization company that is co-operating with the settler.
- (m) One or more instances of farmers who have made themselves felt in a broad way as leaders in community progress.

In introducing these questions Pres. Reynolds said he could not answer them fully, and immediately, in regard to Ontario, but he thought possibly some of the audience could give instances



Mothers' Pension Board.

The newly appointed Commission to deal with Mothers' Pensions in the Province of Ontario. The Commission, under the Chairmanship of Rev. Peter Bryce, has now got down to business, and is getting everything in order for the operation of the Mothers' Pensions' Act in October. The photo shows the Commission in session as follows: Mrs. Adam Shortt, Ottawa; Rev. Peter Bryce, Toronto; Major T. J. Murphy, London; Mr. A. J. Reynolds, Hawarden; and Mrs. W. F. Singer, Toronto.