

DOMINION BOND COMPANY, LIMITED

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WINNIPEG
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LONDON, ENG.

CO-OPERATION IN GREAT BRITAIN.

The grade of business ability required to organize and conduct such enterprises as the present English and Scottish wholesale industries is of the type that demands million-dollar salaries in the capitalist world. Naturally the co-operators could not afford to hire such men. They must train their own people. And that they have done so and also retained them is perhaps the most astounding result of the co-operative movement; it upsets the theories of most economists. One by one these captains of democratic industry arose from the little store committees and made good. Nor does the lure of capitalists' gold seem to tempt them. William Maxwell, for thirty years the president of the Scottish Wholesale, conducting a fifty-million-dollar-a-year business, never demanded a higher salary than \$38 a week. And he is only one of many.

Before the Manchester Congress, in 1902, there were only half-a-dozen wholesale societies outside of Great Britain, of which only Germany had as yet ventured into production. The rest were mere purchasing agencies. Today there are twenty wholesale national societies in as many countries, the last being established in Poland last year, while Canada promises to organize the next this year. Before gauging the significance of these federations and their activities, it is necessary to explain a few of the principles on which they are organized.

The unit of organization is the head of the family, man or woman, who may be an unskilled laborer, a clerk, a doctor, a novelist, or the governor general of Canada. Earl Grey was, in fact, an ardent member and honorary president of the International Co-operative alliance. These units form the local society which conducts anything from a small grocery store to a chain of big department stores. The capital of this local society has in the beginning been subscribed by the members, but later has been augmented by a percentage from the profits,

gradually becoming collective capital. In some older societies new members pay only a small initiation fee. The fundamental principal of the local societies are: One man, one vote; the lowest market rate of interest to invested capital, which must never share in the profits; the distribution of the profits among the members in proportion to their purchases, unless devoted to collective enterprises, and membership open to all comers.

WOMAN'S WORK.

The Chicago TRIBUNE prints a remarkable list of the achievements of women in bettering civic conditions in that city in the last few years, most of them attributable to the women's clubs. To them, it says, the city owes the kindergarten in the public school, the juvenile court and detention home, the small park and playground movement, the vacation school, and the school extension development. To them is also to be credited the establishment of a forestry department of the city government, with a trained forester at its head, of which the masculine heads of the city's administration are now very proud. Really, the length of this list the TRIBUNE prints is amazing. The City Welfare Exhibit, the development of the Saturday half-holiday, the establishment of public comfort stations, the work of the Woman's Protective League, now absorbed by the Legal Aid Society, the reformation of the Illinois Industrial School—these are additional samples of what Chicago women have accomplished. Beyond doubt the anti-suffragists will say that this proves their contention that woman does not need the ballot in order to do great things for the home, the municipality, and the State. It does prove the enrichment of our public life as a result of woman's participation in it, and points the way to what will be accomplished now that the direct civic responsibility of a participation in government through the use of the ballot is the possession of Illinois women.—NEW YORK EVENING POST.