

As a step in the direction of manual training the members of this Local Council interested themselves in an effort to get the privileges of the Technical School extended to women, and to enlarge its sphere of usefulness by the establishment of classes for instruction in the domestic arts. The Technical School Board considered most favorably the suggestions made them, and have asked the Local Government to grant such a sum of money to the school as will, by supplementing the city grant, enable them to effect the desired extension. There seems little doubt that with the beginning of the next scholastic year (October, 1896) this branch of instruction will be established. Thus all young women who have had no previous opportunity of learning housewifely duties, or those who wish to add to already acquired knowledge, may be able, with a little effort on their own part and free of charge, to fit themselves for any domestic positions that may fall to their lot, even should these prove to be the onerous and honorable ones of wives and mothers.

The Prisoners' Aid Association having asked the co-operation of the Toronto Local Council in the urging of certain reforms touching the classification of prisoners awaiting trial, it was decided that before taking action a personal visit of inspection should be paid to the jail by the President and First Vice-President. These officers willingly undertook, and were gratified by finding every facility afforded them by the jail officials for forming an independent judgment. The result of their visit was that, while bearing testimony with pleasure to the excellent management of the jail and the carrying out of the idea of classification so far as its fairly good existing arrangements permit, they yet felt justified in recommending still further improvement. A strong resolution to this effect was passed by the Local Council, and a deputation appointed to unite with one from the Prisoners' Aid Association to wait upon the City Council and petition that body to make such alterations within the jail as would permit of complete isolation of persons committed for the first time while awaiting trial, thus sparing them, if innocent, the degradation of being brought into direct contact with any of the criminal class; giving them, if guilty, a chance for quiet reflection, and avoiding at the same time the possibility of their contaminating one another.

The Mercer Reformatory and the Mimico Industrial School were also visited with a view of obtaining, from personal observation, clear