

she opened the Girls' Reading Room in what is now 2254 St. Catherine Street.

Many were the discouragements and prophecies of failure, but, with a faith that never faltered, she went on. Some of you will recall how gladly the girls availed themselves of the privileges held out to them, and that very soon after the opening God set His seal upon the work, by bringing one of the girls, as an earnest of what was to follow, to a definite knowledge of His saving power, and soon after led her out into active work in His service.

The work went on growing in interest, the Woman's Exchange sprang into existence, and the classes and meetings so increased in numbers and attendance that, at the close of the first year, it was necessary to enlarge our borders, and the adjoining store was secured and added to the first one. Nine happy years passed, God fulfilling His promise, and the daily needs were supplied, though there were days when faith was sorely tested, and all we could do was to stand on the promises of God. While many times we passed through deep waters, God gave us to understand, as we could not otherwise have done, the power of prayer and the blessedness of trusting in His word.

In 1895 the premises changed owners, and the rent so increased that it seemed advisable to look for a new home. Again we could not see a step before us, but when the right time came God, who had gone before, led us into this building, where we have remained ever since.

Seven years ago, when dear Miss Barber, *so consecrated, so eminently fitted, and so specially set apart for this work,* was called to the heavenly home, the cry rang forth from