

WOMAN'S CANADIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

The third regular meeting of the Woman's Canadian Historical Society of Toronto was held in the lecture room of the Canadian Institute, 58 Richmond street east, on Saturday the 8th ult. There was a large attendance of members to hear Mr. O. A. Howland's address on the "Practical interest the society might take in the work of the Canadian Historical Exhibition of 1897."

After briefly outlining the scheme of the proposed celebration of the 400th anniversary of the discovery of Canada by Cabot in 1497, and dwelling upon the importance of the event, its results in the foundation and development of Britain's great colonial empire, the speaker explained the means and plan of carrying this historical exhibition to a successful issue.

Women had ever been the record keepers, the historical relic preservers in other countries, and Canadian women were no exception to the rule. From garret and old stone houses and other home repositories of treasures or old papers, documents, or relics of bygone days, valued or not, much that is not only interesting, but which may prove to be of inestimable value in illustrating to the people of the present day the life of the past, much that may supply a missing link or authenticate tradition and make them recognized history of our country may be found. To discover and preserve these is one direction in which the practical interest of the society will be of great value to the project. One suggestion made by one of the members was admirable, and he would like to see it carried out, not that he had any doubts, for when women undertook to do anything it was generally done and done well. This suggestion was the erection of a French chateau and a colonial house and the furnishing of them as in the days of their actual existence. It might be done well, as there was ample material throughout the country to make them thoroughly representative and real. One addition he would like to make to the original idea was that when choosing the original for the colonial house they should try to find one formerly owned by one or other of our U. E. Loyalist families, one given up by them rather than be untrue to the British flag, and that beside it should be placed a representative log cabin, such as they first dwelt in when they obtained the grant of forest land in Canada. In this way the sacrifice they had made for loyalty, and the hardship they endured during the first years of pioneer life in Canada would be graphically told. There were many other ways in which the society might be of very great assistance to the Historical Executive Committee, and he would ask that a committee be appointed from among their number to confer and work with the men's committee. Before closing his remarks the speaker referred to the scheme whereby the necessary funds were to be provided for the successful carrying out of the undertaking, and promised to send any member a share paper to enable them to advocate the taking up of the shares, which were arranged so as to be no more than the annual subscription to a magazine, and the results be infinitely more profitable. The secretary then read a contemporary account of the presentation of the banner worked by the ladies of Toronto in 1812. A resolution was passed that Mr. Howland's suggestion be adopted, and a committee appointed to co-operate with the executive of the Cabot celebration. A vote of thanks to Mr. Howland for his able and most interesting address was moved by Mrs. Forsyth Grant, seconded by Mrs. Morrison, and carried. Notice was then given that the next meeting of the society in March should be an open one, and the members were requested to send the names of friends they wished invited to the secretary before the first of March and the meeting dispersed. The interest in the society and its aims is unabated, a number of new names being added to the member's roll book.

KINGSTON.

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY Y. M. C. A.

The Woman's Auxiliary to the Young Men's Christian Association of Kingston have now 125 members. They have almost succeeded in clearing off the amount they undertook to raise for the furnishing of the association building, viz., \$3,000. Only a little over \$200 remains to be paid. By their last entertainment, a "connundrum tea," they realized over \$90.

Their president, Mrs. R. H. Foye, attended the convention of auxiliary workers held last month at St. Catharines, and reports a good meeting. Next year Kingston auxiliary will, we trust, be represented by social delegates, as these meetings with other workers are full of profit and blessing.

POOR RELIEF ASSOCIATION.

This society is doing excellent work in Kingston. During the winter of '95 they had 103 families upon their list for assistance. It was found necessary for the first time to ask the City Council for a special grant of \$200, which was obtained. Several socie-

ties and schools volunteered donations. Altogether nearly \$12,000 was expended.

The Poor Relief Committee arrange that two ladies meet the applicants for relief every morning at the W. C. A. rooms and due enquiries are made to prevent imposture. An industrial department is also carried on, giving employment in as far as possible to those in need. In addition to families of men out of work, the friendless aged are looked after and their needs supplied.

A. M. MACHAR, Secy.

CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY.

The monthly meeting of Children's Aid and Infants' Home Society was held on Feb. 6th. The children were inspected and found to be healthy and well cared for. There are some especially fine boy children of three or four just now in the Home. A great need of the society is an official agent who can be sent to investigate alleged cases of child ill-treatment or neglect in the distant townships. We also need active men to forward the work of the society within the city.

LONDON.

LOCAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN.

Annual meetings of Local Council of Women held in London on Friday, Jan. 31st, in the Y.W.C.T.U. rooms. The meeting opened at 3 p.m. An informal tea was handed around between 6 and 7, and second meeting began at 8 o'clock. Officers for the year elected were: President, Mrs. English; vice-presidents, Mesdames Tilley, Shanley and C. Leonard; recording secretary, Miss Macdonald; corresponding secretary, Mrs. H. Moore; treasurer, Miss McKenzie. Resolutions were passed recommending the encouragement and purchase of Canadian books and magazines, on urging the desirability of women on school boards; another that stringent means be made to keep impure literature and pictures out of the country; and one deploring the number of pauper children sent annually to this country from England. Short reports were read from the various federated societies with reference to their year's work. The three committees on pure literature, factory workers, and better protection for women and girls, and manual training in schools, also reported progress. Mrs. John Hoodless, of Hamilton, gave an admirable address on manual training and showed the sewing book which was used in the New York Training School. The meetings, both interesting and successful, were opened with silent prayer, followed by the Lord's Prayer, and closed with the National Anthem.

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784 Richmond Street, London, Ont.

WINNIPEG.

WOMAN'S ART ASSOCIATION.

The Winnipeg Branch of the Woman's Art Association intend holding their first ceramic exhibition on the 18th, 19th, and 20th of this month. To make the exhibition more of a social event, the ladies are going to serve tea every day, from four to six in the afternoon, and from eight to ten in the evening. We have two very cosy little rooms to entertain our guests, and feel sure our friends will not forget us. The Association is steadily growing, due to a great extent to the untiring energy of our president.

Every evening during the exhibition a musical program will be rendered; some of the leading pianists have kindly offered to assist.

GERTRUDE C. DREWRY, Sec.

OTTAWA.

KING'S DAUGHTERS.

We have in the city and vicinity eighteen Circles, with two departments of work. These Circles are kept in touch with one another by means of a Union called the United Circles of King's Daughters. Mrs. (Dr.) Ami is president of this Union and Mrs. E. D. Parlow, secretary. The officers of the Union and the leaders of the different Circles compose the Executive Committee. Quarterly meetings of the Union are held, at which reports from the different Circles are read.

K. PILSON, Cor.-Sec.

MONTREAL.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN.

The Executive Committee of the National Council of Women of Canada met here at the Windsor. Lady Aberdeen, who had come from Ottawa with the Governor-General in their private car, presided, and there were over thirty members present. Arrangements were completed for the annual meeting, which will take place on May 10 and following days. It is expected that Lady Aberdeen will hold a reception the evening before the opening day in Windsor Hall. The meeting of the Executive lasted the

greater part of the day, Lady Aberdeen entertaining the members at luncheon.

HAMILTON.

The sixth annual meeting of the McAll Mission was held Feb. 5th. Addresses were delivered by Mrs. Harvey, of New York, and Mrs. Cowan, of Toronto. The following officers were elected: Mrs. McGiverin, president; Mesdames Logie, Scott, Belhouse, and Morton, vice-presidents; Mrs. Lazier, treasurer; Miss Buchanan, secretary. The mission has remitted \$79 to the mission field.

THE DUFFIELD FLOWER MISSION.

More than fifteen years ago this beautiful charity was established by a few ladies who felt that individual effort was inadequate to meet the calls upon their time, required to visit the wards of the city hospital each week, and speak cheerfully to each poor sufferer there. These ladies also felt that they required some funds to purchase fruit and flowers for the patients, not wishing to pass by any bedside without leaving some small offering for its occupant. There are twenty-four working members in the mission. The president is Miss Billings, vice-president, Mrs. Reynolds; secretary-treasurer, Miss Kathleen Mackelcan. The work has been supported entirely by voluntary subscriptions, except on two or three occasions, when, funds being at a low ebb, successful efforts were made to replenish the treasury. During the summer time flowers are donated in profusion, and all the year round the two boxes, situated on well-frequented streets for the reception of reading matter, are well filled with papers and magazines. The Board of the Public Library also donate all their illustrated papers and magazines when discarded. A lending library is established in each ward in the hospital. Each week books are given out to those patients who are able to read. This branch of the work is conducted by two young lady members of the mission. The library is composed of used books donated by friends. The books have been carefully mended, covered with glazed lining, and labeled with neat blue slips.

Each Wednesday four members visit the hospital. An orange, a flower (in summer a bouquet and seasonable fruits) and a paper or magazine is donated to each patient. Kind words accompany the simple gifts. Many troubles are told to the sympathizing visitors. Many sad faces brighten at their approach. Besides the annual fee of \$1, each member donates six pots of jelly during the winter to be given to the nurses to divide among the most friendless of the patients at tea-time. Should funds get low, or the supply of flowers in summer fall off, the president sends a reminder of the mission's work to the local papers and states the case pathetically to the public, and the public responds always, and generously.

In conclusion I would state that our Flower Mission is non-sectarian. We include in our list members from every denomination in the city.

"FIDELA H. HOLLAND."

VICTORIA, B.C.

LOCAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN.

In spite of strong opposition, one of the ladies running as the Council of Women's nominee for school trustee was among the four successful candidates at the recent municipal elections in this city. Mrs. William Grant takes her place on the School Board for the ensuing two years, and thus will the mothers of this city be represented in a most fitting capacity.

A general meeting of the Local Council of Women was held on February 10th. There was a good attendance of presidents and members of affiliated societies. The meeting was a long one and a great deal of business, mostly of public interest, was discussed.

A resolution in the form of a protest to the School Board against their recent action in cutting down teachers' salaries, and charging a fee of \$5 per term for students in the High school, was carried. The secretary was instructed to forward copies of a petition from the W. C. T. U. to the Legislature, asking that scientific temperance should be a compulsory subject in the public schools; of a notice of motion that the Legislature should enact a law for the protection of the rights of married women; to each affiliated society, that their president should be informed how to vote upon them at a special meeting of the Council of Women to be held on February 24th.

The question of moral reform as relating to this city was brought forward and four resolutions on the necessity of enforcing our criminal laws and favoring an investigation of the police department were carried and forwarded to the City Council. An interesting paper on the ladies work in connection with the Y. M. C. A. was also read, and a resolution from the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor on prohibition, was discussed.

EDITH HILDA SCAIFE, Cor. Sec.