Children's Aid Society Annual

Reports Received from President and Agent, Showing Good Work Performed.

The annual meeting of the Children's Aid Society was held in the Children's Aid Home, 68 Garden street last night with the president, A. M. Belding in the chair. Election of officers resulted as follows:

A. M Belding, president; Mrs. W. B. Tennant, first vice-president; Mrs. J. H. Doody, second vice-president; Mrs. J. E. Secord, third vice-president; Rev. George Scott, secretary. Appointment of treasurer in succession to the late James Patterson was deferred till next meeting.

The annual reports of the president and agent were on motion referred to the incoming executive. Before the election of officers Mr. Belding intimated his desire to resign from the presidency. Those present, however, were unanimous in refusing to consider the matter and Rev. W. M. Duke and David Hipwell spoke in high terms of praise of the work done by Mr. Belding in his office. Representatives were appointed for the Woman's Council. They were: Mrs. W. B. Tennant, Miss Pratt, Miss Annie O'Neill and Miss Sinclair.

President's Report

In his report the President repeated the plea made in previous years for a provincial system of mothers' allowances. Such a system, properly administered, would enable many good mothers to keep their homes instead of having them broken up and the children scattered, also the plea for a provincial superintendent of neglected and dependent children. Many appeals have been received from places outside the jurisdiction of this society, or those of Fredericton and Moncton, and some are very pathetic cases; but because there is no Children's Aid Society and Children's Shelter in the county, town or village, there is no machinery to bring the law into prompt action. A provincial superintendent would organize such societies, appeal to the municipal authorities, get shelters provided, and himself have authority to act in any case in any part of the province. We should have child wardens, to conserve the greatest asset of the Province. He remarked that until St. John has a fully equipped juvenile court with probation officer it cannot deal effectively with the problem of juvenile delinquency. There is also need of a police woman, to protect girls of tender years whose parents are indifferent to or ignorant of their conduct in the streets at night.

That the agent should have to place eight children in institutions within a week, and that seven of these should be deserted by their mothers, emphasizes a condition which is the despair of child-welfare agencies. The class of mother who is only too ready to rid herself of the care of her children presents a problem with which it is extremely difficult to deal. A number of such cases have been brought to the Society's attention during the last few weeks. Mothers' allowances would be of no benefit in these cases, unless under a very close supervision, because the maternal instinct appears to be lacking. It is a distressing fact that such mothers are found, and they present a social problem of grave significance, which calls for the devotion and influence of sympathetic social workers constantly following up such cases. I may add that of five children taken into our care today four were of school age, and while three had been at school, the eldest being twelve years old, none of them had got beyond the first grade. This suggests the need of stricter enforcement of the compulsory attendance law in this city, as the case cited is by no means an isolated one.

The society, since the advent of prohibition, has not been called upon to deal with such glaring cases as formerly, when police-raids left groups of helpless children to our care; but there are still many cases of neglect to be dealt with, and the extent and value of the work done from day to day and week to week cannot be shown by any set figures, especially as our aim is not to break up, but if possible to build up the home, and only in hopeless cases is the law invoked.

One of our troubles at the moment is that of finances. Last January, knowing the many demands upon the municipal treasury, and hoping for generous support from private sources, we asked for a grant far short of our actual needs. Our hopes were not fulfilled, but we now trust that the tag-day to be held by our ever sympathetic friends of the Local Council of Women will meet our needs until the next grant is made. While the total of our expenditures is large, it must be remembered that the children who are brought to our Home need special care and good nourishment. We are especially fortunate in having our present matron in charge, and the whole work of the Home, under the careful supervision of our ladies' committee, is well conducted.

Because there is not sufficient accommodation in other institutions we are constantly being asked to take children who should be otherwise provided for. If there were a home where children could be placed to board, under proper care, in the many emergency cases that arise, it would serve a real and pressing need; for the Orphanages are not large enough to take care of all that need a temporary home while a mother is in hospital, or when for some other adequate reason they cannot be looked after in their own home.

The problem of the mental defective is still with us, and cannot be dealt with in a satisfactory way until a home for the feeble-minded is provided; and it should be a properly equipped provincial institution.

This year as last I desire to pay tribute to the faithful and fruitful work of our agent, Rev. George Scott, and my most sincere thanks are due to the members of the board for hearty and cheerful co-operation, and a devotion to the work which I feel has been more active throughout the year than my own.

Agent's Report

In his annual report the agent referred to the unselfish services rendered by Dr. McAlpine as well as by Dr. McGregor who kindly volunteered their services to care for the little ones under the care of the Society. While there was no serious outbreak of sickness in the home there were innumerable calls on these two gentlemen which were always cheerfully responded to. He also acknowledged his indebtedness to the Police department of the city where services were always willingly rendered. The Commissioner of Public Safety too had in many ways aided him in his work. In the actual hearing of cases Chief Justice McKeown, J. King Kelley, K. C., and J. L. Thorne had shown ready sympathy while Kenneth A. Wilson often at much sacrifice to himself had attended all hearings on behalf of the Society.

The total number of visits made during the twelve months was 530 to 55 families. The number of children involved were 224. Thirty of these children were admitted to the Home; thirteen were sent to other institutions; five were committed to Reformatory institutions and one died. The average number of children in the Society's care per month was 24, and the number in the Home on October 31st was 25.

Inquiries in regard to cases from outside points were received from nine counties in this province, three were fom Nova Scota, two came from Boston and one each from New York and New Hampshire. In the past twelve months 350 letters were written and 240 post cards were sent out.

The financial statement showed besides the grant from the Municipal Council the following receipts:—Woman's Council, tag day $1231.19, Care of Children $336.00, Donations $227.04, Other sources $64.93. The actual running expenses of the Society amounted to $8548.59. This amount however only shows the expenditure for eleven months, as the annual audit was made in the beginning of October instead of at its close. With the addition of the October bills the total would exceed $9,000.

Bits of China At Arms Parley

Washington—Swirl of satin petticoats. Laughter—light, tinkling capricious.

"I no suffraget!" she laughed

Her eyes were brilliantly alight. Her hands were fluttering. Such little Chinese hands are Mrs. J. T. Chen's, fringed with bracelets and sparkling with rings.

"But I dance your American dances!"

"Best toddler I ever danced with," from a man standing near.

"Now, that's enough!" A coquettish finger shook delicately in the direction of the young man. He had known her and her husband, who is a commander of construction in the Chinese navy, in China. Both are here for the arms conference.

"I like your family life—I have four children," said the youthful, the girlish little Mrs. Chen. "The oldest is eight, the youngest is 18 months."

"Four children and you so young looking! How do you stay so?"

The pretty sparkling hands were gesturing daintily.

"Nice husband, nice home!"

"The great mass of Chinese women are not yet well enough educated to have any part in the government."

It was Mrs. M. T. Z. Tyau speaking, a diminutive soul. Mrs. Tyau is the wife of the technical expert with the Chinese delegation to the disarmament conference.

"China is not in a condition to accept anything new.

"Sooner or later it will come, but now—easy led to love, easy led to lose.' That's the way of it.

"A husband and wife must understand each other, but need not think alike. That is something else we must learn from you.

"But there is one thing I think you got from us!" Mrs. Tyau's eyes were smiling; "your women stole our Manchurian habit of paint and powder!

"And then our Manchurian women turn right around and buy your cosmetics. They use your lip sticks, your eyebrow pencils, your mascara, your rouge!"

The fancy for fabric and color combinations is a boon to the economically inclined mother of a small daughter who wishes to make over last year's dresses or to cut down some of her own clothes and turn them into frocks for the child. Plain and plaid materials combine especially well, and there is no rule in regard to which portion of the frock should be plain and which plaid.

Bloomer frocks for small girls increase in popularity each season. For cold weather wear this year some very practical little models of corduroy are used. One little smock dress of black velveteen had bloomers of black and white checked silk.

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If You Have Rheumatic Pains, Lame Back, Sciatica, Rheumatic Hands, Feet and Joints, You Can Have a Trial Box of Gloria Tonic FREE to Prove What It Will Do For You.

Don't Delay Until You Are a Wreck Like This. Write Today.

On the theory that trying for yourself at our expense is the only real, honest proof, we are going to give away fifty thousand trial boxes, one to every sufferer, who sends us his or her name and address. We particularly want to send a free trial to all war veterans who suffer rheumatic pains. It will certainly relieve them. We have been putting up Gloria Tonic for more than thirty years and have letters from thousands who write us they have been entirely free from all rheumatic pains after failing with all other remedies. Don't fail to mail coupon below today for a trial box.

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Please send me, absolutely free, by return mail in plain wrapper, a trial box of Gloria Tonic to prove that what you claim for it is true.
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Common Council Dealt With Report

Matter of West Side Trestles Fully Gone Into by Commissioners.

At a committee meeting of the Common Council yesterday, the joint report, made by the City Engineer and District Engineer Kirby, of the C. P. R., in reference to the West Side trestles, was considered section by section and was considered satisfactory. Suggestions were made which will involve making some of the sections more definite and these will be reported on again by the city and C. P. R. engineers, and the city solicitor will then be asked to advise on the legal aspect of the proposed agreement.

Commissioner Bullock was asked what amount of money had been expended on the trestle this year, and he replied that upwards of $18,000 had been paid out. He said section L provides that the city be reimbursed by the railway for repair work on the docks in 1921.

Commissioner Frink asked what would happen if the parties fail to agree, and suggested that a third party be named, such as the engineer in charge of St. John harbor to deal with such a deadlock. It was decided to have the matter taken up with the city engineer.

Commissioner Bullock explained that an estimated revenue of $7,500 was expected from the car rental scheme, which went into effect on Nov. 1. From the revenue would have to be deducted an estimated expenditure of $5,000 for checking. He said the C. P. R. had already begun to charge the rental of $2.50 against the traffic.

Commissioner Bullock said that a clause would be added to the agreement, requiring the C. P. R. not to charge traffic for car rental on the city's trestles. The railway had agreed to do this.

Commissioner Bullock said that the annual expenditure on the trestles had been from $9,000 to $10,000, and that had there been such an agreement such as is proposed, half that expenditure would have been saved.

Commissioner Frink said that the policy of the city has always been to expedite and facilitate the work of the C. P. R., as that railway has been a tremendous factor in developing our trade. It is well that the elasticity between the C. P. R. and the city should continue. We recognize the potency of this corporation and will probably arrive at a satisfactory agreement.

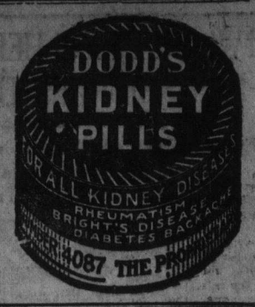
The Mayor suggested that Messrs. Hare and Kirby get together again and later that the city solicitor be called in.

If the details of the clauses can be made satisfactory the section relating to the rental of $2.50 a car can be eliminated.

Commissioner Bullock said Vice-President MacTier had approved of the principle of the proposed compromise agreement.

Authority was granted the commissioner of harbors to allow the steamer Maplecourt, Canada S. S. Lines, Ltd., to tie up at the head of South Rodney wharf, at a rate of $5 a day for a period of not less than sixty days, and at a rate of $10 a day for any shorter time. He said the vessel was going into winter quarters and that in addition to the wharf revenue there will be money spent here for engine repairs, etc.

Commissioner Jones, in reply to a request made at a previous committee meeting, reported on the streets in the city and Lancaster wherein water had been extended under the ten per cent.



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Who Perpetrated the Railway Crime?

Grain shipments go to Portland over the old Grand Trunk lines, not over any part of the Canadian National lines controlled by the Board appointed by the Government.

In reply to an enquiry by Hon. Dr. Baxter as to the quantity of grain being shipped to Portland and whether the C. N. R. had any authority to order it routed otherwise, Mr. D. B. Hanna, President of the C. N. R. Board of Management, writes as follows, under date Nov. 18th:—

"As perhaps you know, the management of the National Railways has no jurisdiction whatever over the Grand Trunk Railway, and I am, therefore, not in a position to give you any information respecting the movement of traffic on that line."

The policy of the Meighen Government is to bring the Grand Trunk under the management of the Canadian National Board and thus control shipments over all parts of the Grand Trunk, assuring trade through Canadian ports. The Liberal party in the first place was responsible for the diverting of Canadian grain to Portland through the deal which gave the Grand Trunk access to the grain fields of the West at an expenditure of $500,000,000 of the people's money.

HON. MR. BLAIR'S WARNING

Hon. A. G. Blair, New Brunswick's greatest Liberal minister, foresaw not only the diversion of Canadian traffic but the financial debacle in the Grand Trunk Pacific deal. Speaking in the House of Commons, Hon. Mr. Blair said:

"What does the right hon. gentleman (Sir Wilfrid) mean by saying:

" 'We cannot wait, because in these days of wonderful development time lost is doubly lost.'

"What does he mean by saying; that to wait would be to destroy our future national life? Wherein is our national life going to be destroyed because perchance we take the proper time in order to study what we are doing, and in order to reach a wise and just conclusion with regard to an enterprise which is vaster, greatly vaster, than any that has ever before engaged the consideration of this Parliament.

"What does the right hon. gentleman mean when he says:

" 'The flood of tide is upon us that leads on to fortune; if we let it pass it may never recur again.'

"What does the right hon. gentleman mean when he says:

" 'If we let it pass the voyage of our national life, bright as it is today, will be bound in shallows.'

"What does the right hon. gentleman mean when he says:

" 'We cannot wait, because time does not wait.'

"I think, Mr. Speaker, and I say it with all respect to my right hon. friend, that it would have been as correct if not so poetic for him to have said: **'We cannot wait because Senator Cox cannot wait.'**

"I am unable to understand, after we had adopted the principle of Government ownership down to this point, what are the reasons, what are the cogent and convincing reasons why we should divorce the principle of public operation from the principle of public ownership, and hand the road over to the operation of a private company. There is no reason to my mind which at all ought to commend this idea to one's reasonable judgment. Therefore, I complain of that feature of the scheme. **I think it is, in this respect, radically defective, and that it cannot be worked out successfully. I think it contains defects which will impair the successful working of the railway and which will prevent, rather than promote, the successful working out of financial results.** And it will strike a blow, which I regret to see struck by the Government of this country, at the principle of Government ownership."

Now the Liberal party, again under Quebec leadership in fact if not in name, threatens once more to strike at the interests of the Port of St. John. Sir Lomer Gouin advocates return to private ownership of the National Railways and the giving of further assistance to the Grand Trunk. Hon. Mr. Lemieux is out and out a C. P. R. monopolist.

Under the Meighen plan we are paying dearly for the railways, it is true, but we have the railways and they are now more than paying operating expenses.

The Liberals are not agreed on any definite policy but, they do appear to be agreed that Canada should keep on paying for the railways and **not own them, nor control them to the extent of confining Canadian trade to Canadian Ports.**

Is this good business? Blair was Right in 1904; Laurier was wrong. Meighen is right in 1921; Gouin is wrong.

Vote for DR. J. B. M. BAXTER, COL. MURRAY MacLAREN, Candidates supporting Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen.

CANADA NEEDS MEIGHEN