

pitals. Others followed suit. The Association began putting down long useful tap roots. Soon the two or three originally gathered together began interesting and enrolling others. Then came two hot days, when (as the Poet remarks) it seemed that "Spring had come." The Woman's Gardening Association broke into leaf and bud, with over a hundred members.

The City Council have co-operated to the extent of ploughing the Community Gardens. There are now six of these, in different parts of the city. Each garden is in charge of a Convenor, who appoints her own Committee, secures workers, if enough are not forthcoming, and who is responsible for the usefulness and beauty of that particular plot. To help her she has a "Director," i.e., a skilled Amateur, who is giving free instruction and advice to those who want it.

Nearly a hundred women and girls are already at work. Each gardener may have the contents of her own plot—to eat, or store, or sell—as the Spirit moves her. Supply and demand will doubtless have something to do with the Moving Spirit! Gardeners always get near to Nature, and grow like her—lavish. Gardeners have a reckless way of growing more than they can use. Gardeners are notoriously generous. But this year even the most lavish of us may feel less like pressing potatoes and lavishing lettuces on those who are too slack to dig! Selling here a little and there a little, wastes time and pati-

ence, and often makes it difficult to preserve the freshness of the Produce. And—except in a few special lines—it does not pay the Back-Yard Gardener to sell to the Retail Stores.

So the Women's Gardening Association hopes to run a Community Store this year, where each member (by paying a small percentage towards expenses) may send her surplus produce for sale.

If the Store is a success—you'll hear about it!

The real aim of the Association is to increase Production, and to interest women and girls in outdoor work.

Following Production by Conservation, it is hoped to provide for the members a course of Lectures by an expert, on the scientific canning of vegetables.

The Association is not merely a Hardy Annual, but an everblooming perennial, and its President—for the Committee has flowered into a Real Society, with Officers and a Constitution—has already a vision of the great work its members may do for Canada and the New Canadians, in the piping times of Peace.

I have asked her to be specially photographed for this article, as "The Woman with the Hoe."

She protests that she would not know how to hold one properly.

It may be true—that Miss Carling cannot handle a hoe. But she knows just how to put the Prod into Production. And she doesn't have to imitate being a man in order to do it.

of the meatless and potatoless message was very simple:

"It is not so much what the members of the Order will themselves save by economy in carrying it out, but the effect which such abstinence on the part of 40,000 Canadian families may have in lowering prices to people who will be too poor to purchase even the plain necessities of life."

We assume that if the message goes into effect it will be respected as rigidly in the Gooderham home as in the humblest home of the Order.

By the time this reaches our most distant subscribers the 17th annual meeting of the I.O.D.E. will be convened (May 28—June 1), at the Empress Hotel, Victoria. At this convention there will be delegates, members and friends of the Order. All members are to be allowed to take part in the discussions, but only delegates may vote. A good part of the first two days will be occupied in the registration of delegates. This seems unfortunate. The address of welcome will be read by Mrs. A. F. Griffiths, Regent of Municipal Chapter, Victoria.

Afternoon of the second day Mrs. W. M. Martin, wife of the Premier and herself Provincial President of Saskatchewan, will address the convention on The Value of Provincial Organization. Next day—there will be extraordinary feminine days in Victoria—there will be an address by Miss Alice Ravenhill on Modern Aspects of Thrift in Line with Our National Service. Reading of reports will occupy several hours. No doubt these will be of an eminently practical character. There will be a reception at Government House by Lieutenant-Governor and Madame Barnard. At the morning session of the last day Mrs. Sexton of Halifax will give an address on Some Aspects of the Navy. Other valuable talks will be on Value of Organized and Disciplined Service by Mrs. A. W. McDougald of Montreal; on Educational Work by Mrs. George H. Smith of St. Catharines, Ont., and on National Service for the Development of the Nation by Miss Crease.

In all these deliberations we trace no allusion to Woman Suffrage. There is a constitutional character to the debates which makes it hard to discuss direct politics. The I.O.D.E. is not directly political. The Gooderham family are known to be Conservatives. The Order takes in both—all parties. One very significant omission from the list of names included in the programme is—French-Canadian women. Is there any reason for not regarding French-Canadian women as Daughters of the Empire? Or do the women of Quebec prefer to remain out of the Order?

In these strenuous times less will be said about the more cultured side of the I.O.D.E. than usual. But

(Concluded on page 24.)

A WORKER FOR ALL CANADA

By THE EDITOR

AT 12 o'clock midnight of May 10 a long line of motors began to pull away from a large brownstone house set in a poem of woodscape overlooking one of the great ravines that make the north half of Toronto so peculiarly beautiful. Deancroft



is one of the landmarks in that part of the city. Thousands of women all over Canada know Deancroft who have never been there and have never seen the home of the President of the I.O.D.E. They know Deancroft to be more than a beautiful home kept by a charming and gracious hostess. They know it as a centre of Dominion-wide work of an educational, social and national character. And if any head of an I.O.D.E. Chapter has any doubt about how busy a place it is she had better read about the motors that began to trail away from Deancroft at midnight on May 10, 1917.

Some of these motors had to wait for half an hour longer. There had been a large gathering. The occasion was not merely sociable. Many of the ladies present were beautifully gowned. It was an after-concert gathering to welcome to that part of Canada a new Belgian pianist, Mons. Francis de Bourguignon, who had given his premiere Canadian recital that evening. Mrs. Gooderham had been too busy to attend the recital. As the guests began to arrive she was answering the fourth long-distance call that evening. The supper was a very simple affair. But a casual visitor, not knowing Mrs. Gooderham, might have supposed that nobody in the gathering had much to do with the war.

However, when half the guests had gone a large group still remained standing in the large drawing-room. Twelve o'clock came and went. These ladies still waited. Was it a discussion of the relative characteristics of Chopin and Beethoven; or of Alfred Noyes and Masfield? No, it was a meeting of the I.O.D.E. to draft a resolution, copies of which this week are being mailed to the heads of Chapters all over the country:

To all Members of the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire:

In the present crisis of our Empire, when we are assured by those most competent to know, that world hunger stares us in the face, and that it is absolutely necessary that we help those who are fighting for us by increased production and greater economy at home, the National Executive, at a meeting held on May 10th, 1917, decided to make the following appeal to all Members of the Order, and through them and their influence to all the women of Canada.

It is in no spirit of arrogance, but in the spirit of humble service that we deem it incumbent on the Order to do its utmost to give the Light and Leading so vitally essential at the crucial period of Canada's welfare.

We ask that Members pledge themselves to observe two meatless days, and two potatoless days a week, the meatless days to be Wednesday and Friday, and also to abstain from the use of veal and young lamb.

We also ask that every member should realize for herself and impress on others the terrible gravity of the situation, and the imperative need of loyal and immediate co-operation, and acquaint herself with the various aspects—scientific, economic, social, of this many-sided problem.

When the message was complete the members went home, knowing that the injunction they had set forth in it would come to the attention of about 40,000 families all over Canada.

Mrs. Gooderham has been President of the I.O.D.E. for a number of years. She has been so long the heart and soul of the Order so far as one woman is able to organize the interest of thousands more, that no one seriously at present considers anybody else in that position. What is most attractive about the public efforts of this lady is that she has never permitted her contact with public affairs to interfere with her truly domestic life. Deancroft may be a place of business. It is also a real home. The mistress of Deancroft is interested in all that makes a home the bulwark of truly national life.

Now there are many women who aim to reform homes along with society and end by making themselves peculiarly obnoxious. Mrs. Gooderham retains the gentleness of manner and the broad outlook upon society which keeps her influence over her associates in I.O.D.E. work that of a perfect lady who is first of all a woman. Surrounded by wealth she has the practicality of a woman who understands the homes of those less affluent. Her explanation



Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, President of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, who recently lectured in Canada.