

vice-president becomes president, Miss Fagan, corresponding secretary, Miss Keith-Loidger, recording secretary and Mrs. S. M. Brown, treasurer. At Regina Madame Forget replaces Mrs. Padden as president, and at Calgary Mrs. Allan becomes corresponding secretary.

* * *

Let us urge on our members once more the necessity for disposing of the Annual Report which contains an epitome of all our work, many valuable speeches and papers. It is really a necessity to those who care about the work of the Council, and it is a good bargain for a dollar. Please send orders to Mrs. Willoughby Cummings, 44 Dawson Street, Toronto, as soon as possible.

* * *

ALL resolutions for the annual meeting must be received by March 14th, and the next executive will be held at Ottawa towards the latter end of March.

* * *

BRANDON LOCAL COUNCIL.

Report of the first annual meeting of the Local Council of Women held in Brandon on January 27, 1897, in the Y.M.C.A parlors.

The following affiliated societies were present through their representatives. The W. C. T. U., Y.W.C.T.U., Willing Workers, (Presbyterian), W.F.M.S., (Presbyterian), Ladies' Aid Society, (Congregational), Ladies' Aid Society, (St. Matthew's), Teacher's Association, Indian Industrial School, Roman Catholic Ladies' and Hospital Aid Society.

The president, Mrs. McEwen, having taken the chair, the meeting was opened with silent prayer, next came roll-call and reading of minutes. The president spoke impressively of the object of this convocation of women, that in this way all denominations and classes of women might be able to render mutual help in relieving evils which press heavily upon the defenceless members of every community. No incentives to jealousy can exist in this Council while there is scope for every one's talents—such diversity being a bond of union. The Brandon Council is preparing a petition to the local legislature asking for power to ring the Curfew bell. Our federated societies were asked to send in statistics on insanity in our province, its causes, and suggestions as to its prevention; also plans for medical aid and nursing in isolated districts; also information as to the benefits or otherwise of the bringing in of pauper children to our country.

Reports were read from two Presbyterian Societies, the Willing Workers and W.F.M.S., the Hospital Aid Society, the W.C.T.U., the Indian Industrial School, and the Salvation Army, a member of which body attended by request of the executive. These reports were listened to with gratified interest, and a proposition that a promenade concert should be held in aid of the Y.M.C.A. library fund was agreed to, and a committee named to make arrangements. Nomination papers from the societies were examined by the corresponding secretary, and it was found that the old executive was re-elected for 1897.

* * *

VICTORIA LOCAL COUNCIL.

The Local Council of Women of Victoria and Vancouver Island at their last meeting discussed in review the various matters of public concern in which it has played a part during the initial year of its organization, and entered upon the second year of its existence with increased confidence in itself, in the practical nature of its work, and in its power to accomplish needful reforms. Mrs. James Baker, the president, occupied the chair, and briefly addressed the large number of ladies present at the opening, afterwards calling

for the reports of the various officers and affiliated societies, which were read and adopted with many expressions of satisfaction. That of the treasurer showed a balance of \$25.15 remaining to the credit of the Council, all liabilities of the year having been discharged; while the secretary in her resume of the year's work noted that three important petitions had originated with and had been presented by the Council during 1896—one urging the necessity of employing a matron when female prisoners are dealt with at city police headquarters; a second asking for the amendment of the Married Woman's Property Act; and the third requesting that scientific temperance instruction be given in the public schools of the province. Practical and satisfactory results had been achieved by these petitions, while more recently—in fact during the past month—the Council has taken up the necessity for suitable provision being made by the city for the temporary care of insane patients pending their removal to Westminster for asylum treatment. The letter in this regard was considered by the Victoria board of aldermen less than one week ago, and already a communication in reply has been received from Mayor Beaven, in which he stated that a cell would be padded and otherwise prepared for use in such cases, at the city police station, other essentials also being provided as suggested.

The number of resolutions was very large, and we regret that space prevents our giving them in full. They emphasized the need of enforcing of the compulsory law regarding the education of children, and favored a "curfew bell" by-law. They urged the introduction of manual training into the public schools, and deprecated the evil of boys of tender age smoking.

The chief discussion however arose upon a Sabbath Observance resolution to petition the municipal council to enact a by-law for closing tobacco and fruit stores and barber shops on Sunday.

The desirability of this action was challenged by the delegates of the Hebrew Ladies' Association, but after a spirited discussion the resolution was adopted. Two resolutions furthering the temperance movement also passed.

Several interesting papers were read and the deliberations of the meeting throughout were marked by earnestness and vitality.

* * *

VANCOUVER LOCAL COUNCIL.

The annual meeting of the Local Council of Women was held on Tuesday, Feb. 2nd.

The president, Mrs. Beecher, read an interesting resume of the work and aims of the Council.

The recording secretary, Mrs. Ledger, gave a brief summary of the work of the past year. It was hoped that we should have for the coming year, women as school trustees in Vancouver. The question was earnestly discussed at our meetings and much done for the furtherance of that object, but on making further enquiries it was found that the School Act, which we trusted should give us this privilege, did not extend to Vancouver. We could go no further in this matter until a special act was passed in the Legislature. This, we are assured, will be brought forward as soon as possible by a good friend to the cause, Col. Baker. A committee has also been appointed to interview the City Council on this subject. The Vancouver Woman's Home was closed in April, as the funds were exhausted and it was deemed inadvisable to make a further appeal for subscriptions for that object in view of the existence of a similar home in Victoria, which is in receipt of a government grant. The furniture was stored at the Young Women's Mutual Improvement Home, and finally, on August 1st, the executive decided to give the same to that institution, provided the board agree to carry on a rescue and preventive work.

The treasurer, Mrs. McLagan, reported receipts, \$151.35; disbursements, \$137.71; leaving a balance of \$13.64 in the treasury.

At the evening session a number of most interesting papers were read on "Our Motto," "Concentration," and "Reading Circles." The meeting throughout was most successful in stimulating public interest in the Council's work and aims.

* * *

TORONTO LOCAL COUNCIL.

The regular quarterly meeting of the Toronto Local Council of Women was held in the amphitheatre of the Educational Department on February 3rd. There were two sessions, one in the afternoon, at which business of a routine character was transacted, and one in the evening, at which a number of addresses were given, notably one by Hon. Geo. W. Ross on "Manual Training." Both sessions were presided over by Mrs. Dickson, while Miss Cartwright, the new secretary, recorded the proceedings. The treasurer's statement, which was the first report submitted in the afternoon, showed that the total receipts, including a balance from last year of \$41.63, amounted to \$58.17. The expenditure was \$25.26, leaving a balance to the good of \$32.91.

Mrs. Dickson stated that during the interval since the last meeting the committees had met with great regularity, and much encouragement had been received in the prosecution of the work. She outlined a programme which would be carried out during the next few months under the auspices of the Council, and this programme included a lecture by Dr. Clark on "Insanity: its Prevention and Cure," to be delivered during the present month.

Interesting reports were received from various affiliated organizations.

Miss Lowe, the convener of the committee on the importation of pauper children, reported the work which was being accomplished by that body.

Miss McGaw reported the progress of the Industrial Room, which is accomplishing much good and furnishing needed work to the mothers of many families.

The report from the Women's Christian Temperance Union was delivered by Mrs. Bascom, who stated that in addition to the ordinary work pursued by the union, two new departments had been started.

Mrs. Dignum reported for the Toronto Women's Arts Association of Canada, and pointed out what had been accomplished in the way of educational advancement by that organization.

Mrs. Tilley of London spoke of the work done by the union of that city, which had made a special effort to get women on the board of the London schools.

Miss Cayley spoke for the committee which had the question of public baths under consideration.

Mrs. Curzon described the progress of the reading circles and the good work accomplished by them.

Mrs. Willoughby Cummings gave a detailed report of the recent meeting at Ottawa of the Executive Committee of the National Council of Women, and outlined the project which the Committee proposed for the commemoration of the Diamond Jubilee of the Queen.

The evening session was largely attended. Miss Hart, Mrs. Rowand of Quebec, Miss Cartwright and Mrs. Torrington spoke on varied points of interest, while Hon. G. W. Ross gave an admirable and effective address on manual training. The sessions were most successful.

Reports of Schools of Domestic Science in Ottawa and Hamilton, referred to in editorial notes, also of West Algoma Local Council have been received, but are held over for lack of space until next month.

