

McMillan (a woman of experience and rare Christian qualities, who preferred Christian work with less remuneration to more lucrative positions) were secured as assistant matron, which the decease of Miss Howse had left vacant. The board of management feels that two women better fitted for this work it would be hard to find. In the same month, at the request of the Victoria local union, Mrs. Siddal, the first matron, was allowed to devote two afternoons a week to city mission work for that union, for which services they pay to the board the sum of \$5 per month. In February it was decided to open a work room. Three ladies were appointed as a committee to purchase material, the funds for which were generously donated by members of the board. The inmates of the home to make up this material, offer it for sale, receive a percentage for their work, the balance going into the treasury. Goods to the amount of \$3.05 were procured. Received for work sent to the home to be done, \$3.85; balance due on work, \$7.50; work on hand, valued \$25.00; on hand of this fund, \$20.25.

The regular weekly prayer meeting is held on Wednesday evening, conducted by members of the board and other Christian women, also a Sunday afternoon Bible-class. Several women in the home have professed conversion, and while with some it is a fearful struggle, and the fight has sometimes to be renewed after failure, we believe it is an honest struggle to overcome the evil habits which have become a second nature. Our home, from time to time, finds many friends, among whom should be mentioned the following gentlemen who have given their services gratuitously through the past year: Drs. Duncan, Leach and Ernest Hall in cases of confinement, and Dr. Lewis Hall for dentistry; the *Times* and *Colonist* for daily papers, members of the police force for assistance given the matron by notifying her of cases within their knowledge, and the many friends, impossible to mention by name, who have from week to week donated provisions, clothing and articles of furniture, and last, but not least, to the government for their munificent grant of \$1000, which has been of great assistance to the work.

It has been found during the past year, as the work has been increasing, that the present property is not by any means suitable either with regard to location or style of building. The present building is so public as to make it impossible for the inmates to have any outdoor exercise except when taken out on the street, which is a great drawback. In the house itself the sleeping rooms are larger than necessary and not enough of them, the matrons being compelled to have one and sometimes two of the girls with them, which certainly should not be. It is, therefore, the opinion of the board that, sometime during the present year, while property is at a good figure, the present place should be sold and a more conveniently located home secured. After careful consideration, it was decided to draw \$1000 from the treasury, borrow \$500 (which a friend has kindly loaned on a joint note signed by members of the board), pay off the \$1500 debt on the property, and have it in the hands of the W.C.T.U. that it may be disposed of, if it meets the views of that body.

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