

we are our brothers' and sisters' keepers—to the extent of our ability, to prevent and relieve suffering, we will be held responsible for the aching hearts and the blighted lives of our neighbors.

Our slow progress has been charged to the text-book, to the teachers and Inspectors, and to the regulations governing these matters. I feel that a very large share of the blame should be charged to the parents of the children under instruction. Most of our inspectors are enforcing the regulations as far as the crowded curriculum will allow. A few are not in sympathy with our work, but will see the error of their ways I trust. The majority of our teachers are ready to do our bidding. If we say to them, "prepare our children for Entrance Examination in the shortest possible time, or we will dismiss you," we cannot expect them to give much time to subjects that are not required in the examination. When we succeed in convincing them that *character* is the first essential in the *teacher* and that the laws of health and good morals *must* form the basis of their teaching whatever else is delayed or omitted, we shall witness the reform we are praying for. This may not be accomplished in a lifetime, but *let us build for the future*, and to this end let us work and pray.

In regard to further legislation I cannot say yet what steps will be recommended, but you will be advised in due time.

TORONTO DISTRICT.

[This report was received too late to be embodied in the Corresponding Secretary's Report, and for this reason is printed here.]

There has been fourteen district executives, and nine monthly meetings held; six meetings, with advisory board; ten honorary members constitute the board; 198 letters, 592 post cards, and over 600 invitations sent during the year.

December 17th—A public meeting was held in Shaftesbury Hall, against running Sunday street cars; arrangements were also made for canvassing the women votes of the city; 10,000 slips were printed, and distributed from door to door; also to canvas for lady school trustees.

January 2nd—A meeting was held in same place for prayer for God's blessing to rest on the electors, and to put it into their hearts to vote against street cars running on the Lord's Day, which was carried at the polls by a majority of 4,647. And three women elected: Mrs. R. McDonnell, Dr. Stowe-Gullen and Mrs. Harrison, as school trustees. Finding the City Council had refused to carry out our desire, to add pages to the voters' list for married women's names (ratepayers in their own right), the Hon. G. W. Ross, Minister of Education, was interviewed, and promised the deputation that he would do what he could to have the matter made compulsory by law, as far as cities were concerned. Thus far the matter is unsettled, as the executive committee of the city council refused to report funds for the printing.

Good evangelistic work has been done; jail visited weekly; mothers' meetings held; literature distributed to the jail, fire halls, railways, boats, lumber camps, and Industrial Fair; in all, 64,325 leaflets, papers and magazines.