

exists. The Superior Council of Quebec now has jurisdiction over the Society in the Dominion of Canada, a charge that must entail a vast amount of labor for several reasons—the large area which it has to supervise, extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and also the extra work entailed by difference in language. The President General therefore considers that it would be for the advantage of the Society here if a Central Council were established in Toronto. It would relieve Quebec of the work of collecting and collating reports, and conducting the correspondence connected with the councils and conferences within the Province of Ontario, or the Archdiocese of Toronto, if considered more advisable. The suggestion has not taken any definite shape yet, and our Particular Council while admitting the necessity of such a body, is afraid that the working material which it has at present would hardly warrant the undertaking of more extensive duties. When, however, a direct proposal is made, the conferences will have an opportunity of giving an expression of opinion upon it.

As a general rule the conferences give nothing but the bare statistical reports of the work they do. Those items relating to special cases and incidents which occur during the year, and which relieve the dreary record of columns of figures, and make an annual report so much more interesting, are wanting. This is no doubt due to remissness. The practice should be introduced of immediately making a note of such cases when they occur, either in the minute book or some other record kept expressly for the purpose; and thus preserve them for the annual report, and the general edification of the Society.

There are a few special cases mentioned which we have separated from the Conference reports in order to give them the prominence they deserve.

The Conference of St. Mary reports that the members have raised the sum of one hundred dollars, by private subscription amongst themselves, to defray the expense of a stained glass window, representing our Patron, St. Vincent de Paul, in the new St. Mary's church.

A case of great hardship was brought under the notice of this conference during the year. A widow with three young children was in such destitute circumstances that she was obliged to part with them, and place them in dif-