

every Sunday; and a good deal of quite unnecessary work is carried on which no kind of legislation can interfere with. For example, there is probably a good deal of cooking done in rich men's houses which persons more considerate of the best interests of their servants would not require.

Again, there are a good many private carriages used to carry people to their places of worship; and we think there is force in the argument which says that those who put down the poor man's Sunday car should also, in strict logic, put down the rich man's private carriage. Yet we doubt whether any are prepared to go this length.

Two things then seem to be tolerably clear: first, that there may be, and ought to be, a considerable amount of legislative interference with Sunday traffic; secondly, that, after all, a great deal must be left to the common sense, good feeling, and religious sentiment of the employers of labour.

We are not quite sure that the argument for church-going cars is unassailable. Is there any necessity for persons going such a great distance to church? Toronto is so well supplied with these sacred buildings that most persons can find more than one belonging to their own denomination within reasonable distance from their residence. On the other hand, there does seem to be a very strong argument for Sunday cars driving out to the suburbs during some part of the day. There are a great many persons living in the very heart of the city, engaged in labour from morning to night every day of the week, to whom it would be of the greatest benefit to be allowed a stroll in High Park or on Scarborough Heights on a Sunday afternoon. But how are they to get there? Women and children, walking from the centre of the city to either extremity, would be in no condition to stroll about in High Park after having gone all that distance on foot.

Why, then, should not cars be allowed to run during a part of the day for the purpose of conveying these poor people to scenes in which they might draw in health and strength for the work of the coming week? Let the period of time within which the car-traffic is permitted be strictly limited. Suppose they were allowed to run between the hours of two and seven, this might be found sufficient. With regard to the objection that the men and the horses need the day of rest, it is easy to add to the number of men and horses in proportion to the increased work, so that no man need work longer than a certain fixed time on the Sunday, and he might be allowed the same time on some other day.

Here is something for our Mayor to take up. Mr. Howland has for many years shown himself a sincere and devoted friend of the labouring classes; and, if he will espouse their cause in this matter, the thing will be as good as done. As far as we can at present see, the arguments are all one way. At any rate the matter should be well considered, and it should be considered at once before the summer has passed away.

We have said nothing of the argument about Sabbath desecration. No work which is really promotive of man's physical, mental, and moral well-being can be desecrating, whenever or wherever it is performed. Even under Judaism, "The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath."

EXTRACTS FROM THE "WOMAN'S JOURNAL," MAY 2, 2001.

OTTAWA CORRESPONDENCE.

DURING the session of this beautiful May morning, immediately after the reading for the second time of Mrs. Curio's Bill for the Extermination of the Masonic Body, while the little birds chirped at their nest-building, and the sun through the chestnuts made exquisite arabesques upon the lawn, and the white clouds sailed overhead like messengers of love and peace to a troubled universe, the familiar whiskered face of the Male Re-enfranchisement measure presented itself again. The yawn with which it was greeted was cavernous. The accomplished lady who represents East York crossed her feet—very pretty feet they are, too, in their dainty French kid number threes—took out her tatting, and lapsed into meditation. Caramels were freely distributed, unfailing sign of prospective boredom; the Speaker adjusted her bonnet, and resigned herself to gentle somnolency; and the various members of the committee appointed to investigate the pension claims of widowers and orphans still surviving the struggle for the ballot in 1950, slipped quietly off to confer. A few members, however, awake to the growing feeling throughout the country in favour of re-enfranchisement, brought the usual arguments to bear against it with such energy that the bill was more ignominiously routed than ever before. In a stirring speech, the leader of the Radical wing of the Dress Reform Party compared the length of time disenfranchisement has been visited upon men with the period during which women were deprived of the glorious privilege of the ballot, according to which, she said, justice, working with compound interest, should withhold its votes from the subject sex for aons yet to come. Looking at it from the standpoint of mere expediency, their probation, she said, was comparatively short, and it was extremely improbable that its lessons could as yet have been thoroughly learned. The political depravity of man was not a thing to be

eradicated in a century or two. Re-enfranchisement might mean, even in this advanced and enlightened age, a return to the intolerable tyranny of the days of that arch-fiend, Sir John Macdonald, who had once, as everybody knew, gratuitously insulted the whole sex by offering it the voting privilege in return for a kiss! With a few general observations on the mischief the male vote would probably effect in the progress of certain highly-desirable domestic reforms then being dealt with by the Provincial Legislatures, and a feeling reference to the discord that would undoubtedly ensue from it about the sacred fireside, which caused pocket-handkerchiefs to be sought for in every hand-bag in the room, the speaker assumed her *fauterail*, having augmented the defeat of the measure at the previous session by seven votes.

An interesting feature of the afternoon session was the debate upon Mrs. Dotheboys' resolution affecting the encroachment of men upon the professions. Mrs. Dotheboys argued that since by their own Amazonian efforts, and the valuable co-operation of Mr. Henry George, our great-grandmothers effectually reduced man to his original occupation in Genesis, with the domestic pursuits undoubtedly attached to it, no foolish leniency on the part of those who enter into their labours should permit the undoing of this excellent system. It was impossible, Mrs. Dotheboys thought, that any man could discharge the duties of husband and father with professional ambition rankling in his mind and poisoning the cup of his domestic bliss; a fact quite apart from her main argument, which was the protection of the legal sisterhood. Several members of the Bar supported Mrs. Dotheboys' argument, whose motives were not unnaturally impugned by hon. ladies opposed to the resolution. In the scene that ensued, the dignity of the House was, for the moment, in abeyance, the epithets, "manomaniac" and "homophobic," being freely used by the hon. ladies in describing one another. The motion was referred to the Committee on the Spoliation of the Egyptians.

The bill empowering husbands to enter into other than matrimonial legal contracts with their wives, entitling them to alimony in the event of judicial separation, and giving them control over all moneys earned by them independently of their wives, after marriage, passed its second reading, after a stormy discussion. In the opinion of many members, the law as it is, is capable of being too broadly interpreted to decide satisfactorily the many perplexing cases that constantly arise.

Notices of motion were given as follows:

Miss Condemmit (West Middlesex), a bill prohibiting the manufacture, sale, and use of tobacco in any form, as offensive to the greater part of humanity, and detrimental to the progress of the race.

Mrs. Gwallior Gwamingee (East Indian convert, elected on her merits to represent the cause), a bill to dispose of the present providential surplus, by the institution of schools that will bring the priceless boon of Kensington stitch to benighted maidenhood in Bengal.

NEWS NOTES.

THE report that Mrs. Unimpeachable has bartered the confidence of her constituents for a mess of pottage, and gone over to the Government, is verified by her vote yesterday on the Home Rule question. The Secretaryship of the National Association for the Protection of Canary Birds seems to have been the bribe. It is presumed that the estimable Secretary will be obliged to look after her own feathers at election time.

VASSAR has taken her place in the van of progress by opening her doors to the long-debarred male student. The reason urged is the discrimination which is very naturally made against the graduates of such seminaries as Harvard and Yale, where diplomas are taken under the conditions commonly attached to the limited education of masculinity. Vassar has decided that equality of opportunity for the sexes shall be recognised as an indispensable factor in the true progress of the race. This will probably strengthen the interest felt in a similar movement in Toronto, Hamilton, and Brantford.

POUR LES HOMMES.

THE extraordinary dimensions of the hats worn by the gentler sex at the theatre ought to be lessened by Act of Parliament. Either the young gentleman of the period should withstand the wiles of his milliner more successfully, or he should be compelled—barbarous as it may seem—to remove his headgear altogether upon taking his seat, and hold it in his lap while the performance is going on. His forefathers did this from preference in theatres not half so well ensured against draughts as ours, and it is not impossible that their descendants may do it from necessity. *Verbum sap.*

OWING to the foolish tendency on the part of young men to imitate feminine fashions, it has become almost impossible to distinguish from the rear a youth of the day from his escort. Draw the line at hoop-skirts, gallant gentlemen!

THE tint, "Rameses II.," is to be the prevailing one in neckties this season. It should be worn, however, only with moustaches *that exactly match*.

FATHERS' DEPARTMENT.

THE house-cleaning season, with all its attendant miseries, is upon us. The air is thick with carpet dust, the whitewasher's harvest is at hand, the silver teaspoon, missing since January, has turned up in the *débris* of the back yard. The weary wife returns from her labours at the office or the counter to find her evening meal promiscuously laid out on the top of an empty barrel, her much-tried husband crying in a corner of the coal shed, his highly-wrought nervous organisation having given way before the fiendish conduct of the paper-hangers in reversing the order of the patterns on the drawingroom wall. It is a pessimistic season, but it will not last away. The attention of husbands and fathers is requested to our adver-