

THE RIGHT ARM OF WESTMINSTER HALL

On April 21st, 1908, a number of ladies appointed by the sessions of the Presbyterian Churches in and near Vancouver, met with Rev. Principal Mackay at the New Presbyterian College which had not then received its name of Westminster Hall.

After Dr. Mackay had explained the reason for calling the meeting, a Woman's Auxiliary was organized, the object of which is to assist the College in any possible way.

The initial work undertaken by the Auxiliary was the furnishing of the building, and so expeditiously was the work done, and so readily did the ladies of the different congregations assist with gifts of money and furniture, that in little more than two weeks from the first meeting there was ready a comfortable and substantially furnished home, capable of accommodating fifteen students.

Before the opening of the session of 1909 it was found necessary to add to the equipment throughout the College and provision was made for seven additional students.

Still the number of students grew and in December, 1910, the Auxiliary was again called upon to furnish more rooms, when a house close by was secured for the use of the College. In ten days this new home for fifteen students was ready and occupied. Just a few months after this an extension was built to the College, and once more the Auxiliary looked after the fitting out of the rooms.

In addition to attending to the present need, it is thought well to look forward to the time when Westminster Hall will be removed to the University grounds; and, while all the furniture is bought with a view to being suitable for the permanent building, there will be much more required then, and a fund is being raised to meet this future need.

The plan which has proved a successful one is this:—Each congregation has a special month given it in which to make a canvas, when each lady is asked to give a dollar towards the work. Many give more than this and it is seldom that a refusal is met with.