

VOCATIONAL SCHOOL NATION'S STRONGHOLD OF FORTIFICATION

Mrs. A. Pauline Raymond, Convener Home-making Committee, Submitted Lengthy and Very Interesting Report at Meeting—Reviews the Work Accomplished During Past Term and Shows Great Necessity of Vocational Training.

This comprehensive maxim that, "The true order of learning should be: first, what is necessary; second, what is useful and third, what is ornamental," which finds its application in the constructive work of the Home-making Department, has been our motto since we began to carry on its work of initiative development.

As a representative of the Vocational Committee in St. John, individually and collectively, its organizing progress has indeed presented for the past eight months, many problems for serious consideration, lengthy argument and strong debate. Opposition to any project, immediately arouses public attention, and like the traditional snowball, it assumes greater proportions.

To arouse interest and enthusiasm among the phlegmatic, to stir the sluggish waters of conservatism, requires more than ordinary methods of publicity—but with the earnest sustained effort, in time, comes a veritable upheaval of preconceived ideas, and re-education along industrial and home-making lines becomes a strong factor when substantial facts are shown. The world never loses its "Doubting Thomas," he is ubiquitous.

Thus our committee has organized, supervised and substantiated Vocational Home-making, and today we submit for your approval the records of the initial term.

At times, there has arisen the question, as to whether under the Vocational Act, registration for the Home-making classes should be permitted, when it is not the stated purpose of the proposed student to use this training professionally.

Should we close this registration against the prospective home maker, the wife, the real home maker, or yet against the mother whose little family is dependent upon her knowledge of food values and in many cases for the planning of little garments, where economical cutting and careful sewing bring better results, and a system of order, health and economy leads to creditable citizenship? We cannot professionalize the home. From its portals issue forth the rulers and workers of the nation. "Men are what their mothers make them," Emerson declared and the whole civilized world flings back upon the mothers its encomiums and reproaches alike for neglected or protected health and morals of its children. Teach the children the rudiments of home making; first, method, for "method is the hinge of business, and there is no business without order and punctuality." Give the children reasonable knowledge in vocational training, following the adage that "it is better to know much of a few things than a little of many things, remembering that the Vocational School as well as the public school is the nation's Our Home-making Committee of three, consisting of Mrs. Richard O'Brien, Mrs. Alexander Wilson, the writer of this report, and then our chairman of Vocational Committee, Dr. Emery, ex-officio—after many sub-committee meetings of arrangements of detail for organization and publicity, opened the Home-making Department on January 13th, closing the last class on April 16th.

Restricted finances compelled us to use the Domestic Science building on Waterloo Street, though we realized the entire inadequacy after six classes a week had been arranged, and no more accommodation was possible.

Under Miss Northrup's supervision, and purchasing of supplies, Mrs. Milligan, Miss Hart, and Miss Gladys Dowling carried on a splendid system of theory and method.

On the fourth of Odd Fellows' Hall, Union Street, the classes in Dressmaking, Millinery and Knitting were carried on by most competent teachers under the direct supervision of Mrs. O'Brien and myself.

Mrs. E. C. Weyman, a graduate of Columbia, who had there followed the course in Vocational training was most helpful in compiling rules of instruction for the dressmakers and milliners, also rules for the students, and to her unselfish co-operation of time and energy we record a grateful tribute.

The expectation of a Vocational Director for our Department had made us feel that our daily supervision was to be only a temporary measure, but as the weeks went by, without an appointment, we realized our responsibility and putting our shoulders to the plough, energetically worked and supervised, and I need not add that it was a selfish work—as its demands involved many details of self and a disregard for winter elements but our optimism and determination to make Vocational Home-making permanent in our Loyalist City, have moved many obstacles. With the splendid co-operation of our teachers, we made the Pioneer Vocational Home-making Exhibit an unqualified success, reports of which filled the most prominent columns in our daily papers. The Press sent its reporters to glean all information of the work on exhibition, of our Vocational methods of its teachers and of its students and gratifying remark of one of our City Hall representatives was a well earned tribute to the organization. Let me quote: "This Exhibition has done more to make Vocational Schools permanent in St. John than all other methods of publicity."

Our Millinery Room is equipped with 2 machines, 2 large tables, suitcases lockers and blackboards, 2 ironing stands with electric irons.

The teachers in charge—Miss Joseph Carleton were most efficient in knowledge and instruction. About 165 hats were made, some remodelled, and in many cases the material for the new hats was supplied by Committee and the hats purchased at cost after the exhibit.

For the Autumn Term in this Department we cordially recommend these teachers for the work, as we understand their applications have been sent to the secretary.

The Knitting class was taught by Miss Gladys Dowling to make socks and sweaters and during the coming term we would like to see this work extended.

In the Dressmaking Room we were obliged to engage a large staff of teachers for afternoon and evening classes who were: Mrs. Iza Boine, Miss Annie McInerney, Mrs. Corkery, Mrs. Thomson, Miss H. Cross, Miss Cyrene Harrison, Miss Ains, a Quinlan, Miss Mary Mullin, Miss Belle Kingston, Mrs. S. F. Lamb, and Miss Katherine McCallough. These teachers gave excellent satisfaction in their methods of instruction.

The opportunity for attendance at the Vocational Summer School in Woodstock for four months in July, is most opportune for all our teachers who can find possible the time for this instruction. Transportation and meals are provided, the only expense is the lodging. Our Committee realized the benefit to them, especially at this initial term of Vocational School with us, as they will be better qualified for another term.

In our Dressmaking classes, elementary and advanced work were taught, and in very many cases ordinary sewing was utilized ground.

Many of these girls and women have been our City's busy workers in shops, banks, and offices, and no opportunity had been available for the study of practical home-making, many wives and mothers and, yes, widows from the terrible war, and home-making in all its conflicting problems of increased cost of living uppermost in their minds.

Perhaps you can thus appreciate the interest, the enthusiasm, the devotion to work which brought to our Committee and teachers, such gratifying results.

Naturally it has been difficult to keep an exact, accurate estimate of the number and style of garments made, of those remodelled from suits to dresses, or yet to state definitely the total number to whom the articles of the sewing machine were not, or even the number taught button-hole making, cutting from pattern correctly, or the making of the little garments for their children's needs, but we can with surity state that over 600

garments, large and small, were made under direct supervision and instruction. Material for morning dresses, night gowns and aprons was supplied by the Committee, if desired, and sold on same system as the Millinery.

Next term we will recommend that students furnish all their own material and thus minimize the detail work of the Home-makers. In the Dressmaking Room, we have 9 tables, 10 ironing stands and 2 electric irons, and for both Millinery and Dressmaking Rooms a full supply of scissors and dippers etc.

In closing the term's work, which involved much detail of importance, Mrs. O'Brien and myself carefully checked all our indebtedness, made an inventory of the Dressmaking and Millinery accessories for the classes to facilitate the Autumn organization.

The Dressmaking and Millinery Rooms could be available for meetings of Associations at the customary rental charge, which would increase the funds. We beg to state that the Dressmaking Room was rented for one evening to the School Teachers' Association for the charge of \$3.00. This we trust will bring other satisfactory arrangements.

The large number of cuttings from garments, of no value to students, was divided, and sent to the home of the Good Shepherd, Waterloo Street, and to the Protestant Orphanage on Britain Street, where they can be utilized for making quilts for the children's beds.

It is with much regret, that I express on behalf of Mrs. O'Brien, her sincere regrets for unavoidable absence from the City, thus preventing her attendance at this meeting. Mrs. O'Brien has been a splendid co-worker in our Home-making Department. I can assure the Vocational Committee, that these duties and responsibilities have developed the closest confidence and good fellowship among the members of this sub-committee.

To our co-worker, Mr. Wilson, to our

indispensable Vocational Chairman, Dr. Emery and to all the other members of the Vocational Committee; to Mr. Gordon Leavitt, the willing hand and unfailing courtesy and to his assistant, Miss Reed; to Miss Carleton, and to our teachers, we extend our grateful thanks.

Likewise we wish to place on record, our appreciation of the Press for the never flagging interest and reports of our work.

"New occasions teach new duties, Time makes ancient good uncouth, They must upward still and onward, Who would keep abreast of truth." Respectfully submitted, A. PAULINE RAYMOND, Convener Home-making Committee, PROOF T. OUDTCH.

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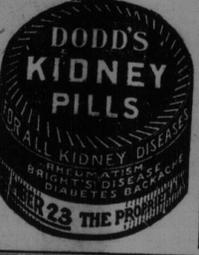
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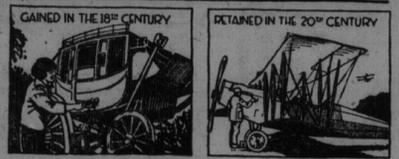


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And the Other Presidential Candidates is Clearly Shown In "The Digest's" Mammoth Poll of 11,000,000 Voters

There are from fifty to sixty thousand votes being received daily in THE LITERARY DIGEST'S great presidential poll of 11,000,000 voters. As the vote grows and all sections of the country begin to be represented, a number of editors comment on the really popular expression of opinion which these ballots represent. The Troy Record makes the interesting suggestion that by means of such polls "it may be possible for the people to shake themselves free from paid publicity and artificially stimulated candidacies and indicate the men they want to that class of representatives who really want to know." In trade and labor circles, in political clubs, in fact wherever men and women congregate throughout the country, THE LITERARY DIGEST poll is arousing the most intense interest, as is evidenced by our daily mail.

More than 700,000 votes are tabulated and shown in THE LITERARY DIGEST for May 8th. When it is remembered that eleven million voters, almost two-thirds of the vote cast in the last presidential election, are being canvassed some idea of the magnitude of the enterprise will be gained. Every ballot is mailed in an envelope, and delivered through the U. S. Post-office personally to the voter addressed. Return postage on the ballot is prepaid, and the voter has only to check or write the name of his or her party and the first and second choice for Presidential candidates. Thus every vote cast is absolutely a secret ballot.

If you are not following this unique poll through the pages of THE DIGEST weekly, begin to do so this week. Other important articles in this number of THE DIGEST are:

- The Fight for the Republican Nomination
- Profiteers, Jailed and Unjailed
- Sixty-Cent Cotton?
- Mexico's Gun-Powder Primary
- Causes of Japan's Panic—Does It Contain a Warning for Us?
- President Masaryk on Socialism
- Bolshevism as Spring Medicine
- A 132-Year Old Kentuckian
- Why Mail Matter is Side-Track
- Topics of the Day
- New Theatrical Zones
- America's Fatal Neglect of Its Moth and Babies
- The New Chinese Bible
- Prison Cruelty and the Church
- The President's Power of Pardon—A Difficult Duty—Danger of Too Much Leniency—The President's Responsibility
- Speculation in German Securities
- The State of Maine, Now With Us More Than 100 Years
- Best of the Current Poetry

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