

publication. The time may not have arrived yet when we can maintain a paper of our own, but we must keep it in view as something to be attained to. This also was left for further consideration with the Publication Committee.

On Wednesday forenoon the Council was waited upon by Mrs. Pooley and Mrs. Gillespie, a deputation of ladies interested in obtaining a weekly half holiday for young persons employed in the retail dry goods shops. After they had stated their case, a very spirited discussion followed, and much information was given by the Recording Secretary and others, as to the laws in force in the East and the privileges accorded, and it was decided to meet with the Victoria ladies on Saturday morning, when there would be no Council meeting, for a fuller consideration of the matter. Before Saturday came, however, the newspapers announced that two of the leading dry goods houses had determined to grant the desired half holiday, during the months of July and August. This speedy result from the appeal to the Council was very encouraging, showing, as it did, a regard, at least, for the opinions which had been expressed upon receiving the deputation, and at the meeting on Saturday it was resolved to make an organized effort to secure like privileges from other employers.

A great pleasure came to the Council on Friday morning, on receipt of a letter from Lady Aberdeen: a letter which brought her very near to us, though indeed throughout the whole meeting she was ever present in influence and reference. Yet the kindly, loving words, fresh from her pen, gave an assurance of her continued sympathy and abiding interest in us and in our work, which touched all hearts to the quick and gave fresh courage and hope for the future. Miss Perrin, Mrs. McEwen and Mrs. Gardiner were appointed a committee to prepare a reply.

I have made no reference to the public evening meetings which were interesting and well attended, but feel that some mention should be made of the closing one, held on Monday, 30th July, which does not appear on the Agenda. A large meeting assembled, and much interest was evinced, which was encouraging, showing as it did, how strong was the hold the Council had on Victoria. Indeed the interest in our meetings maintained and increasing to the close through the whole series, was an outstanding feature, and demonstrated as nothing else could have done, the esteem in which we were held for our work's sake.

The sad news of the death of the Duke of Edinburgh having reached Victoria on Tuesday morning, a meeting of Executive was