

At the Sign of the Maple

A DEPARTMENT MAINLY FOR WOMEN



Miss Elsie Mackenzie, an English Suffragette, invited by Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont to Teach Effective Militancy to the New York Suffragettes. Miss Mackenzie Has Tasted Prison Fare—at Least is a Hunger Striker. On Her Way to New York She Spent Some Time in Toronto.

Women Fight White Plague

TORONTO'S gaze, eye to eye with the Countess of Aberdeen's, has lately been focussed on the methods of prevention practised by the Tuberculosis Division of the Department of Health. Dr. Hastings finds himself coveted for preventive work in Erin. Likewise Miss Dyke, the city's leading tuberculosis nurse, and her staff of seven, have furnished the visitor tips for her favourite work; for the Countess' war on the plague has become a proverb.

MRS. HUESTIS AN AGITATOR

THERE are other preventive agents at work among our women, however. Mrs. Archibald Huestis, President of Toronto's Local Council of Women, has been doing some very important agitating. In a series of what she terms "half-addresses," though whole and something over in their effect, she has pointed out before the Balmy Beach Progressive Club, to the Bathurst W. C. T. U., to the Parkdale W. C. T. U., and at the King Edward School, just prior to elections, that while the physicians allege that 95 per cent. of pulmonary tuberculosis is traceable to careless coughing, expectoration and sneezing and that, while the public is supposed to be roused to the necessity of making really serious effort to stop the spread of the white plague, very little is ever really done. "Philistia" supports this view in the *Winnipeg Saturday Post*. "The statistics," she writes, "of the Winnipeg police department for 1912 have just been issued, and all the facts and figures are well worth pondering over, but I am moved at this moment to speak of only one thing with regard to them. That is that just one solitary 'lone lorn' man was charged during 1912 with spitting on the sidewalk. There is a by-law, I believe, with regard to spitting on the sidewalk. There are policemen, too, whose duty it is to enforce by-laws. Yet in the twelve months just past just one man was charged with this offence."

That the fine for this offence is twenty dollars in Toronto, is probably news to scores of men who were innocent of their danger. Mrs. Huestis expresses regret that that statement has been omitted in the wording of the notices posted about by request of the Public Health Committee of the Local Council of Women, of which Mrs. Huestis is convener. The fine, in certain American cities, is as high as fifty dollars, in others as low as one dollar; but in these cities proclaiming the fine, no matter what its sum, has proved a check which is far from negligible.

Mrs. Huestis, by the way, is a warm advocate of open air schools for children in the interests of prevention.

I. O. D. E. SAFEGUARDS CHILDREN

THE Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire are another powerful agent deadly antagonistic to the spread of tuberculosis. An enterprise the Municipal Chapter, Toronto, has in hand is the gaining a Preventorium, which shall be the winter home of the some two hundred children touched by the dread disease who have been cared for by summer at the Island.

This beneficent work was begun by the Heather Club Chapter, formerly the Heather Club, an association of doctors and nurses who at first undertook the summer work strictly on their own account. The Heather Club became a chapter of the I. O. D. E., and the sympathy and co-operation of that order became enlisted. The regret has been

that when winter arrived the work should be undone—the patients finding no winter accommodation.

And so it comes that fifteen or sixteen of the primary chapters of the I. O. D. E. in Toronto have succeeded in raising funds sufficient to warrant the looking up a premises to serve this purpose. A minority of voluntary outside subscriptions have helped the move.

The institution, primarily, will be for Toronto children. But in the case of there being sufficient room, outsiders will be admitted. The place will be formally announced in the near future. It will probably be a renovated building to avoid the expense of erection.

In Windsor, Ontario, the Border Chapter, Daughters of the Empire, has at last succeeded in its efforts to establish a sanatorium to provide relief and benefit to those afflicted with the dread disease in Essex. The contract has been awarded for such a building the design of which will admirably serve the need.

RESULT OF COMPULSORY REGISTRATION

SPEAKING of the war waged against tuberculosis, the compulsory registration of cases should give the cause an impulse. For one year



Mrs. Archibald Huestis, Toronto, President of the Local Council of Women and Convener of the Committee on Public Health, of the National Council. At Present she is Working to Have the By-Laws Enforced Which Were Passed to Prevent the Spread of Tuberculosis.

that same law has obtained in Great Britain, during which time notification has been made of 102,100 cases, and it is one of the objects of the National Insurance Bill to give proper treatment to patients who are unable to pay for the same at a sanatorium.

Need of Women Police

By MARY JOSEPHINE TROTTER

WE chatted in Mrs. Hamilton's upstairs sitting-room, the policewoman, Mrs. Alice Stebbins Wells, and I, she being the guest of Mrs. L. A. Hamilton, during her stay while lecturing in Toronto recently.

Mrs. Wells is a little person and the chair she sat in was deep. The picture was quite a domestic one as a kitten sprawled at her feet—without the slightest concern about its scruff. And Mrs. Wells, of Los Angeles, the first woman police appointed in all America! Which includes the Land of the Maple, please understand.

On the contrary to what might be the general expectation, Mrs. Wells is far from a connoisseur in scruffs. Oh, yes, she has made arrests. And she possesses a uniform. But, for the most part, her practical work is preventive. In places of public amusement for instance, where young people resort, the police women and their allies (which are the organized bodies of philanthropic and civic women workers) dangers of offence to the unsuspecting are being minimized and effectual checks have been put upon the breaking of ordinances.

"Oh, and a point I certainly meant to make last night"—Mrs. Wells referred to the lecture before the Women's Canadian Club—"relates to the newspaper columns advertising for women 'help.' Women police are cryingly needed to cope with this deadliest evil in our cities. Is there any officer in Toronto whose business it is to watch those columns daily? Who lays bare the pitfalls? Who brings the offenders to justice?"

Which was something more than a merely rhetorical question, as it fell.

Toronto has three women as probation officers in connection with the Juvenile Court conducted by Commissioner Starr. Reports of their work are loudly commendatory. Edmonton has Miss Jackson, an officer of repute. There are numerous others. But all these officers work as *correctors*. There are needed more recognized women *preventers* of crime—policewomen. For prevention is eternally better than cure.

Asked where she got her first impulse to prepare for her present work, Mrs. Wells declared it was at Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, where she worked among girls, as pastor's assistant, some years ago. Mrs. Wells is something curate, something policeman, and everything woman. Her energies count for much in the universal climb toward good.

When prophetic, Mrs. Wells looks forward to a day when every important city will have its training schools—of civics and philanthropies, or whatever may be needful—where women may qualify themselves for direct, public service, whether as women police or along other lines. There are more positions for filling than applicants to fill them in departments now newly recognized as women's.

Canada's interest is lively on the question of women police. For, what with sundry telephonic and other messages to her, my interview with their advocate and convincing commentary was the series of brief but profitable fragments—pieced together here.

Mrs. Wells, at present, is paying visits to sundry Canadian towns with purpose to interest our women in this departure.

Value of a Voice

CANADIAN hello girls will be looking to their voices as available beanstocks for getting them into the peerage. By the way, whatever may be said to the telephone's discredit, it, at least, is a potent agent in voice-culture. The newest Canadian Countess, the Countess of Ashburnham, was formerly Miss Marie Anderson, a telephone operator of Fredericton, N.B., who ensnared the presumably ready affections of the Hon. Thomas Ashburnham with the quality of her voice heard over the 'phone. Like a lordlier "Bottom" he made it his business to "see the noise he heard," and the attraction was, apparently, not diminished; for marriage ensued.

By the death of his brother recently, Major Ashburnham became the sixth Earl of Ashburnham and possessor of an estate yielding an income of some fifty thousand dollars. The new Earl and his wife prepared at once to sail for England. The Countess is an excellent horsewoman.



America's First Policewoman, Mrs. Alice Stebbins Wells, Who Has Done Effective Work in the Interests of Girls in Los Angeles. Mrs. Wells' Work Has Convinced Her That Policewomen Are Needed. And at Present She Has Canada's Ear on the Subject.