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W. P. A. Child Welfare Meeting.

In the Presbyterian Hall last night large gathering attended a meeting, called by the Executive of the W.P.A. to make known their work for Child Welfare, and the need of Child Protection. His Excellency the Governor presided and was assisted on the platform by Lady Harris, His Lordship Bishop White, Mayor Gosling, Rev. Canon Bolt, Rev. Dr. Jones, Rev. Fr. Renouf, Rev. Gordon Dickie, Lady Horwood, Mrs. Squires, Mrs. Gosling, Drs. Campbell, Brehm and Keegan

In his opening remarks His Excellency referred to the inauguration of the Child Welfare work by Mayor Gosling and the efforts of the W.P.A. who had taken up the movement. Lady Harris in an interesting address dealt with neglect of children, and the Legislation enacted elsewhere for their protection.

Mayor Gosling gave a review of the movement since its inception in July, 1917, covering the work of Miss Hudson, Miss Rogers, Dr. Brehm and the Misses Kendall and paying a high tribute to the latter especially for their services during the "flu" epidemic. He said the death rate of illegitimate children is 350 per thousand, due to sheer neglect. The nurses have to practically fight to keep them in some cases alive, which shows the need of a Protection Society. He hoped the government would appoint an officer to look after mothers and children by visiting them regularly.

His Lordship Bishop White praised the work of the nurses and hoped to see children's hospitals or homes started where they could be cared as in England. He felt the resolutions to be put to the meeting should be given a wide interpretation and of larger growth and the work should be extended beyond the city where many who should be at school are employed at hard work which undermines their physique and must have an injurious effect on coming generations. Children up to 12 or 14 years of age should be looked after. He was in entire accord with the movement and hoped it would receive the sup-

port it merits. Miss Haslam during her short time here had found children died whom scientific care would have kept alive. She referred to the need of a maternity hospital and training of midwives, and also a foundling hospital where children could be cared for till adopted. School clinics too would prevent half the evils of after life. Dr. Campbell thought the benefits of the movement would be reflected in the reports of the Registrar General in after years. An enormous number of our potential men and women lose their lives before the age of 1 year through negligence of one kind or another. Through the work of the community nurses the death rate had dropped from 125 per thousand in 1918 to 114 in 1919.

Dr. Keegan believed the cases of cruelty to children largely due to want of knowledge as to proper bringing up which is a difficult matter and must be done scientifically. He was given hope by the reference of a previous speaker to the building of better houses. Some with narrow winding stairs are still occupied as when he first saw them 31 years ago, and he was delighted to hear we are to have new dwellings. "Hope springs eternal in the human breast." It will be great if Mr. Anderson's scheme materializes. Housing is very important. As to cruelty due to neglect he quoted the case of a 10 year old girl having to house for 4 men, with the result that she is in hospital suffering from St. Vitus Dance, induced by nervous prostration. Under the welfare ent things of this kind would

sence of Rev. D. B. Hemmeon resident of the Social Service Coun cil, as he was well acquainted with welfare work. All agree that the child has a right to be well reared,

they are supposed to be. Modern operate with that Council in all movelegislation gives the State the power ments aiming at the protection of child life; o look after the children. An effort has been made to get protective leg-

offenders in proper environment and give them counsel instead of reprimand which may only make them hardened. If the foundation of the present movement is well laid, it will become more satisfying to our demands and be a credit to the people generally. The S. S. Council will support the movement.

Rev. Dr. Jones said Rev. Fr. Renouf Rev. D. B. Hemmeon and himself had approached the Government as to the need of legislation for the betterment of children, on the idea of placing boys and girls in homes or reformatories in Canada, a juvenile court and the prevention of young girls staying on board foreign ships all night. The Government had given assurance of bringing legislation to of Mexico in 1912, that Mrs. Nuttall, remedy the evils. The passing of the an American lady, discovered a Deresolutions would forward the work. claration by Nuno da Silva about how

meeting was a public one and the pirates" on his voyage from Oporto resolutions would represent the sentiment of the city.

Mrs. Emerson then read the fol-

RESOLUTIONS: WHEREAS the Women's Patriotic tific care and development of the child life of this city under the title of "Child Welfare"; AND WHEREAS it has been ascer-

children in this city who are inade-quately and remissly cared for, with

community;
AND WHEREAS it is understood that the Social Service Council, re-cognizing that the welfare of young children is a moral obligation rest-ing upon all citizens, as such has, not be confined to babies. A law is through its Executive, made strong needed to prevent cruelty to children representations to the Government in favor of comprehensive child-welfare

legislation;
RESOLVED that the members of the Women's Patriotic Association heartily endorse the representations made to the Government by the So-

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RESOLVED FURTHER that this meeting take steps to form a Society islation here and a Magistrate should for the Protection of Children, or the be appointed to deal with juvenile Prevention of Cruelty to Children in Newfoundland, the work of such Society to be in close touch with that of the Women's Patriotic Association

Mrs. A. Macpherson seconded the resolutions and pointed out the value of woman suffrage in combatting the were passed unanimously.

A vote of thanks which was tendered by acclamation, was proposed to His Excellency and Lady Harris by Rev. Canon Bolt, who referred particularly to the work of the latter in the cause.

The meeting closed with the Na

tional Anthem. A Drake Discovery.

It was while rummaging in the

archives of the Inquisition in the city

His Excellency pointed out that the he fell prisoner amongst "English to Brazil on May 23, 1579. Reading this almost illegible Spanish script, she was struck by a casual statemen on the third page , which said "this Englishman calls himself Franco Drac." She had, indeed, alighted by association have formally undertaken mere accident on a contemporary account of the voyage of Sir Francis Drake to the Spanish Main, which threw some interesting new light on the famous Admiral's career. It was tained that there are a number of in 1579 that Drake entered the fort fatal results to the infant life of the a fellow-Englishman, John Oxenham, with two shipmates, was living in the prisons of the Inquisition. Drake's idea was to capture a couple of Spanish ships and hold them as a ransom for the lives of the British tars, so he went into the harbour and cut the cables and hawsers of two big galleons, hoping that they would drift out and fall into his clutches. But the wind failed, the scheme was unsuccessful, and Oxenham and one of his cormades were hanged. The new documents seem to reveal that Drake really had the Queen's commission for his voyage, so was not a pirate, as the Spaniards loved to style him. Atthough he had a chaplain aboard, the great circumnavigator personally read prayers and conducted the services with "the gentlemen on board," round the table. Drake always insisted on his prisoners sharring his table, and he treated them in gentlemanly fashion. The hidalgos reciprocated his courtesy; scarcely one of them, when again free, stooped to expressions of hatred or abuse towards their "pirate" captor. One, a Spanish captain, who was badly wounded in the face by Drake's men ere he laid down his arms was the guest of the Admiral for several days, and in his deposition he refrains from any reference to such a slight matter as his wound. In view of the serious manner which Drake "singed the King of Spain's beard," and the strong feeling among Spaniards as to the "English heretics," the chivalrous at titude of both sides is noteworthy.

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