

of the Society are particularly anxious to find out our password, we do not suppose it will place any very severe tax upon their ingenuity to discover it. We impose no solemn oaths or obligations upon our members, and have made no suggestions to them that their entrails will be torn out and offered as a sacrifice to the gods if they divulge the secrets of the Order; but without any of these penalties we believe that our passwords will often serve a useful purpose, and that generally amongst our members the confidence and integrity of the Association will be respected and upheld.

An Opportunity for Genius.

AND why cannot something like the B. O. B. S. be devised for the girls? is the plaint that has oft-times reached our ears during the last few weeks. Why indeed? We beg to assure our young lady friends that they have our full and hearty sympathy in their desire for a kindred organization of their own, and we only wish we could suggest something for them on the lines of the B. O. B. S., with as appropriate and euphonious a title, and which will accomplish the same objects for the girls. We must confess, however, that hitherto we have felt unequal to the task of propounding any practicable scheme of organization. Our brains move slowly, and we have many calls on our time and thoughts; but the female wits are proverbially more ready than those of mere man, and let some of our old girls get their brains and inventive faculties to work and see if they cannot suggest something in the course of the coming three months that we can put before our readers in the next number of UPS AND DOWNS. We hear of Women's Leagues, Women's Unions, Girls' Guilds, Daughters of this and that, and it is on record that some of these institutions have produced something more than talk and feminine squabbling. The field is open for our girls, and we need only add that correspondence and suggestions

on the subject will be respectfully welcomed by the Editor.

Labour Troubles.

As a large and important body of wage-earners having now an organization of their own, our readers have somewhat more than a passing interest in the great industrial conflicts that have been waging during the past three months. In Canada we have seen the trackmen's strike on the Canadian Pacific Railway lasting through many weeks, to the great loss of the railway company, and at the cost of much inconvenience and risk of safety to the travelling public and business portion of the community. The object of the strikers was to obtain somewhat higher pay and a recognition of the Union; that is, as we understand the matter, to force the company to deal with their employees in that department through the officials of the Union who act as the delegates of the men, and as such have power to settle all questions respecting the conditions of their employment, and to enforce their decisions upon the members of the Union. The strike dragged on wearily during the whole of the Summer, the company claiming that there was all the time "no strike," that they had more men offering for employment than they could find work for, that the service was in no way impaired, and so forth; the men, on the other hand, representing that the refusal of the company to accede to their demands was making impossible the maintenance of the road-bed in a safe condition for travel, that the train service was utterly demoralized and the public interests as well as the property of the shareholders being sacrificed to the obstinacy and arbitrary action of the General Manager and his colleagues. It must be admitted that popular sympathy, if not very strongly expressed, was on the side of the men, and in the ultimate settlement, that was in the form of a compromise, they may be considered to have gained some