

THE SECOND DAY'S MEETING.

The first session for Thursday, November 16th, was opened by a short address, given by the presiding officer, Mrs. L. A. Hamilton, Port Credit, in which the suggestion was offered that the Women's Institute act as its own agent in the securing of domestic help. This might be accomplished by forming committees to keep in touch with the Immigration Agencies.

The Question Drawer, which immediately followed, was as efficient as usual in settling debated points. Among those submitted were the following:

"Will literature in regard to the Domestic Science Extension Course, be sent out?" Mr. Putnam—"Yes. Early in January a statement in regard to the cost will be sent to all Branch Institutes. A committee had already been formed to confer with the Department concerning all matters connected with the course, this committee being made up of Mrs. L. A. Hamilton, Mrs. W. M. Thompson, Mrs. W. W. Farley, and Miss Gertrude Gray, with Miss Watson and Mr. Putnam as advisory members."

"Is it against the regulations to discuss votes for women?" A few years ago Mr. Putnam would have said, "Yes." To-day, he could only advise, however, that the introduction of the Female Suffrage question into the regular monthly meetings might be, as yet, a little premature. He advised the women to go on for a while doing effective work along lines of far more importance than the securing of votes for women. When the women of Ontario are given votes, and it may not be long, you will be well prepared for the responsibilities accompanying that privilege.

It is against the rules of the Department to discuss the subject of woman's suffrage at meetings addressed by delegates sent out by the Department of Agriculture.

"Can the work of the Demonstration Lecture Course be taken by correspondence?" Miss Watson—"Not at present."

"What is the cost to an Institute of the course of lectures?" Mrs. Burns—"The cost to the members of the class is \$1.00 each in the initial course, and the Institute furnishes hall and supplies. To make the work self-supporting it will be necessary to guarantee classes of 30, at \$2.00 each, in each of 6 branches conveniently located."

"Must a woman be a land-owner to be a member of a School Board?" Ans.—"Yes."

THE BROADVIEW INSTITUTE.

One of the most delightful and most inspiring features of the Convention was the address on "What We Can Do for the Boys?" by Mr. C. J. Atkinson, of the Broadview Institute.

Some time ago an account was given, in these pages, of the work that is being done at that wonderful institution in East Toronto, "over the Don,"—an institution not, as some suppose, a home for boys, but one organized and carried on with the sole purpose of educating the lads of the neighborhood in citizenship, for making them better men and better citizens than they might otherwise be. As a beginning a plot of land was bought about ten years ago, and divided into "farms," on which the boys were encouraged to raise vegetables and flowers. Before long the whole was organized into a township, with reeve, councillors, constables, etc. Later developments were a Parliament, and courts, regular lectures and evening classes, annual fairs, manual training, and many other things.

The motto at Broadview, Mr. Atkinson said, has been, "Learn to do by doing." After ten years experience, he saw no reason for changing it. "Get the boys to do things for themselves," he said, "rather than do those things for them." He had noticed in boys generally a lack of respect for those in authority, but had found that by giving them responsibility of their own, this tendency was greatly lessened. "Self-government" had at all times been found effective at the Broadview Institute. It had been noticed repeatedly that to give the worst boys "police," had worked wonders in changing their procedure and their views.

It had been found necessary to establish courts at Broadview in the interests of good order. Occasionally, depredations had been made in the garden, tools had been stolen, etc. At first, he had

been present at the courts, but after a time found that the boys managed well by themselves. As an instance he told of one case in which some grievous offence had been committed by an outsider, a boy who, when threatened with a higher court, chose the alternative of coming, with an irate mother, to the Broadview court, where his guilt was successfully proved, and a sentence of "a fine of 25 cents and four hours work on the roads of the township" imposed. Out of the court, with the boy, came the now subdued mother, at last quite willing to acknowledge the guilt of her son. "Well?" said Mr. Atkinson. "He's guilty," said she, "and he'll do the work if I have to stand over him with a stick." By this and other examples, the speaker showed that a very effective plan to get a boy to respect other people's property is to let him have some property of his own.

Another problem in the training of boys is to counteract the tendency towards cruelty which some of them seem to possess. Mr. Atkinson had found, in such cases, that letting them keep pets had brought about a gradual, but sure change, both towards animals and humanity.

Boys had often been charged with laziness, but he believed that few boys are actually lazy. Like other people, they don't like to do things that are not congenial. Start them off on congenial work and they are ready enough. Try to find out the work they like, the work they are best fitted for, and put them at that. At Broadview, besides gardening, they build fences, dig post-holes, and make various articles. Usually, they want to work longer than required.

The Problem of Morals.—By suggestion, get the boys to take hold of this matter themselves. "A Moral Reform League" has been formed at Broadview. At present the boys are in the midst of an election, and the ground on which the battle is being fought is in regard to which "party" has the most advanced platform on morals.

At the Institute, one problem had been that the boys, having found that they could make money there, had become too anxious for merely financial success. Mr. Atkinson had pondered long as to what counteracting influence could be brought in to bring a higher and better side of their nature uppermost. At last it was suggested that the lads "adopt a boy,"—a scheme that met with enthusiastic assent. Since, however, space must be considered to-day, the touching story of "Little Scotty" must be left for a later issue.

REPORTS FROM VARIOUS DISTRICTS

As Miss Hotson, Parkhill, could not give her address during the morning session, some time was next spent in hearing reports from various branches of the Women's Institute.

Miss Farlinger, of Chesterville, reported that her Society had undertaken to clean up the town, a holiday being chosen for the work, and the help of the school children, in organized squads, enlisted. Horticultural Societies had been organized in connection with this branch; a doctor, banker, lawyer and dentist, had been induced to give talks, and the question of dental inspection of school children was now being considered.

The West Bruce delegate reported a large tea given in the town hall, by which \$70 had been realized as a contribution to the library.

Most interesting reports were given by delegates from New Ontario, where, as the district superintendent for Temiskaming informed the audience, the growth of the W. I. has increased, during six years, from 3 to 200, in the face of great difficulties, chiefly owing to the state of the roads. However, the women attend regularly, some even when obliged to tramp over miles of mud and corduroy. They bring the babies too,—at the County Convention at Earlton, she had counted thirty-two. This speaker emphasized strongly the need for Women's Institute branches in New Ontario, where, so often, young women, almost children, without adequate knowledge for care of either house or children, are in charge of homes.

MY CHILD'S FUTURE.

Mrs. Norman, Toronto, spoke on this subject, emphasizing strongly the necessity of care of the child. Mothers, she

thought, should let their sympathy and influence go out to all children, to those who need care that they are not receiving. Everything that touches the child life should be considered. The two great elements that affect it are heredity and environment. The best conditions of both should be afforded,—the best parents, the most attractive and sanitary homes. It has been proved that even the colors in a house affect the temperament of children, and statistics have shown that the child compelled to live in one room is smaller and less developed than the one who can live in two rooms, and so on. . . . The concluding part of Mrs. Norman's address was a dissertation on the subject of eugenics, and on the responsibility resting upon parents to tell children the facts in connection with life,—a question upon which, needless to say, there is likely to be always some difference of opinion.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

[Kindly reported by Mrs. Dawson and Miss Hotson, Parkhill.]

Miss Laura Rose, presided, and gave a talk on "How to Keep Young." (She looks as if she took her own medicine.) If you would enjoy old age, have a hobby—a young interest. This will bring you a circle of congenial friends and create a community of interest. For what we share with others is what we really enjoy. She could not imagine a girl who takes a box of candy to her room and eats it alone, as enjoying it.

A garden is a splendid hobby. Many a bad temper has been worked into the ground to spring up in a profusion of beautiful, fragrant flowers.

The expression of the eye has much to do with a youthful appearance. Keep your eye reflecting youthful emotions. Some man said to her, "Miss Rose, you have not changed a bit in thirty years" !!! (the brute!). Do not let marriage be the breaking-off place for accomplishments. It is not age, but lack of desire, which makes you drop these things. The enthusiasm of expecting better things is the elixir in one's veins that wards off old age. To travel hopefully is better than to arrive. Go on. 'Tis the still water that faileth.

Dr. C. J. Copp, of the St. John's Ambulance Association:—This Association was organized in European countries 34 years ago, at the close of the Franco-Prussian war. The Red Cross Society of England cares for those injured in war, but this society cares for those who fight the battles of life in mines, machine-shops, on railways, etc. The Canadian Branch was founded by Dr. Ryerson, and has its headquarters in the Governor-General's residence, and all certificates are signed by him. It is a teaching affair, and classes can be conducted in any town by a medical man who will comply with the requirements. The course of First Aid to Injured, is as follows: What to do for a splintered bone, arterial hemorrhage, venous hemorrhage, capillary hemorrhage, fits and convulsions, how to prepare a room for accidents, arrange a triangular bandage, and carry patients. This course takes six weeks, and examination is conducted by another doctor. Another course is Home Nursing. It includes fresh air, beds, drafts, infectious diseases and how to prevent, tuberculous patients, how to make a bed to lie in for years, how to change sheets and be economical in laundry, poultices, plasters, invalid cooking, take temperature, pulse, etc. This information would be valuable in homes where they cannot afford a trained nurse.

A course in Home Hygiene for mixed sexes.—What is air, its uses, its source, ventilation, water, sewage and disposal, clothing, teeth and bath. Given in ten lectures.

Literature concerning these courses will be sent to every Institute. If a doctor can be secured to give the lectures, Dr. Copp will provide supplies and all necessary information.

WATER SUPPLY.

Dr. W. T. Connell, Queen's University, gave a very practical talk on "Water Supply." He said, in part:—Many people think they can depend on the good appearance and taste to guide in choice of water supply. The water, however, may be very dangerous and polluted when palatable and clear. The first settlers in Ontario found all water clear and

good, but improper sanitary arrangements have polluted many springs.

The main source of supply is the surface well and the artesian well. Surface wells go down to the level of saturation, possibly only four or five feet, but sometimes 100 to 150 feet. Artesian wells run through the level of saturation and clay belt to rock water.

Out of 1,000 samples of water tested, two-thirds showed germs from intestinal canals of man or animals. Such things of dangerous character enter the well through lack of elevation, or through improper curving of mouth of the well, which allows drainage water to run back and carry in worms, frogs, toads or mice. The loose covering of the well mouth admits the same thing. Often wells are situated to get drainage from manure heap, or house slop-water, or drainage from outbuildings. Thus wells become polluted, and typhoid results.

Danger to artesian wells comes through fissures in the rock which allows infection to be carried to deep well water.

The spring well water is ideal if properly protected. Trees should be cut from near it, and a ditch made to throw surface water off. If this is not done, the danger is the same as in the surface well.

All well water which contains excretions of man or animal is not dangerous, since the normal man or animal does not excrete dangerous germs. Were it dangerous, the death rate in Ontario would be very much higher. That kind of well water is not just the kind we like to drink. Nor can we be sure when danger will enter. One-third of typhoid cases were traced to the house drainage, and two-thirds to wells situated near a pigpen, a barn, or to neglect in removing excretions of animals watered near. Four-fifths of all typhoid fever cases traced were water carried.

Dr. Connell illustrated his talk with lantern views, which made it exceedingly clear and interesting.

THE SCHOOL.

Speaking on "The School: Its Relation to the Community," Miss Hotson said: The school is the educational institution of the community—the community owns the school, they should use it, and it should supply what they want. Rural schools, like others, ought to be social centers in which boys and girls are made strong in body and in spirit.

The spirit of the teacher in the little log schoolhouse made the school, and boys and girls catching that spirit were turned out men and women of whom Ontario has justly been proud. A good teacher is an invaluable asset to the community, and should have their loyal support.

Agriculture and Domestic Science are the most fundamental and educative of vocations, and should be taught in every school to those over fourteen or fifteen years, when the nervous system is pretty well built up and the foundation in education is well laid.

The Department of Agriculture, through its county representatives, and through the very successful domestic science courses being given this autumn in Haldimand County, has shown that short courses of work in rural districts are very practical, and in that way outlying villages and country districts can have whatever special training they desire.

The greatest need of the schools to-day is the need for mothers. When problems concerning the school, the teacher, or the children, are to be brought up, the most experienced men and women should be on hand "to talk things over." Some of the women should have had that experience which only motherhood gives.

As an immediate result of the talk, a Child Welfare Committee was named by the Superintendent, Mr. George A. Putnam, as follows: Miss Hotson, Parkhill; Miss Guest, Belleville; Mrs. Norman and Mr. Atkinson, Toronto. Two rural mothers to represent the rural communities will be added later.

If possible, the papers given by Mrs. Parsons, of Forest, and Mr. Harris, Toronto, given at the evening meeting, will be published in full, in these columns, at a later date.