



THE NEW ST. LOUIS GATE.

coat, even on smaller boys, a modified Prince Albert girted by a green sash, the cap a cossack. These are the pupils in the Laval University and the seminary, the largest and the oldest boys' school in the Province. Their tutors are often seen with them, and the spirit of *camaraderie* speaks well for the tutors, who are in orders, or preparing for orders, in the Roman Catholic Church.

Girls, even little girls, are never seen in large numbers on the streets. But they delight the eye wherever seen; whether on the beautiful Grande Allee or in the poorest section of the city, white aprons are the most conspicuous articles of dress; even on Sunday these are worn, and they are distinguished often by hand embroidery on the material. One feels the home idea in this article of dress that is so rarely seen with us. These aprons are home-made, for the ready-made white garment sold in a department store is most unusual in Canada. The making of women's and children's garments is the peculiar business of ladies in both Montreal and Quebec, and the garments in stock in stores devoted wholly to this business are plain and limited in number.

The sweat-shop is as yet the producer of cloth garments and of furs.

The workrooms in many establishments are badly lighted, badly ventilated, and the wages are very low. Thirty-five cents a day is about the average wages for hand-sewers in any industry. The stores are crowded with goods rather than shoppers; the art of display is unknown. The goods in sight are for use rather than show, and the thousand useless accessories that tempt the woman of limited means, with us, are not in sight. The ever-recurring up-to-date silk waist is not a necessity to the women living on small incomes; children are most sensibly dressed; simple wool dresses covered by pretty white aprons and long coats on cold days are universal. One wonders whether the absence of self-consciousness in the children is not in a large measure due to the fact that the question of their appearance, beyond tidiness, is not of vital importance to those about them. The conspicuous hat, the dress designed to attract attention or arouse envy, are not worn by the working girls. The poor do not impose unnecessary burdens on their own lives. A house of their own, good food, and clothes that are suited to the demands of work, church, and home, represent the standards of the French-Canadian women. No doubt this contributes largely to the quietness of manner, the good feeling, and the never-failing courtesy of the people everywhere to one another.

A holy day, an election day, and a gala day were crowded into those charming days in Quebec. The gala day was the return of thirty-three of the Canadian contingent from South Africa. The flags were flying and the people hurrying to the points of vantage early in the day. Never was a city better placed for such an occasion. It must have thrilled the hearts of the men to have seen the city with its waiting crowds on the Battery and