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## Life, Literature and Education.

F. A. and H. M. L. S.

In our last issue appeared an announcement which, we trust, proved of more than ordinary interest to our readers, viz., the forming of a gigantic literary society in connection with our paper, the discussions Literary Society: Mock Parand debates thereof to be carried on by our readers, and to form a leading feature of our Life, Literature earnest solicitation of several of our of a Mock Parliament. . . . . In only with the whole-hearted co-opera- cerning the Mock Parliament, the foltion of our readers. We want this lowing hints may be of use: society to be a veritable mind and It will be necessary at first to wit polisher to those who take part, choose leaders, government and opand a source of information and rec- position; members who shall stand reation to those who merely read; (for convenience) for fictitious conand we want you, our readers, to stituencies; a speaker, who enters supply the material, rub and be rub- into none of the debates before the bed, good-naturedly, of course, and house, but whose duties are to preso help us to keep things moving. serve order, put motions, and decide The more mechanical part of the on all questions of order; and a clerk, work, which must be done here in whose place it is to enter in his the office, we shoulder cheerfully. We journal all motions read or prowish to render to our readers the posed by the speaker. The clerk in best services in our power.

offered in our last issue? Possibly speeches, these being attended to by not-if you are a new subscriber. Then the Hansard reporter, who records here it is, in a nutshell: If you wish all the proceedings of the House. . to become a member of this—which ... In some Mock Parliaments, must become the most extended Literary Society in Canada—and so provide yourself with a mental stimulus which, perhaps, you cannot easily lay hold upon in the place where you live, all you have to do is to write us, requesting that your name be enrolled as a member. That alone will entitle you to write us upon any topic that may be presented, or to offer any suggestion that may occur to you for the improve-

ment of the society.

The first topic—and, by the way, a paper on this topic may accompany your application—is: "Which do you consider the most important event in the year 1905, in (a), your Province; (b), in Canada; (c), in Great Britain; (d), in the United States; (e), in the world? Give reasons for your answers. Keep your essay within a limit of 500 words, and written on one side of the paper only. Prizes of books standard books, of course) will be given, not as an emolument, but as a slight token of our gratitude to those who may help in establishing and maintaining the Society.

Write us immediately how you up the votes on each side, and deyears of age.

## liament.

Mr. J. R. V. asks for a few subjects for debate, suitable for discusand Education page. Now, having sion in a Literary Society, also for taken this thing in hand, at the some hints regarding the conducting readers, and, needless to say, with regard to the first question, we refer much pleasure upon our own part, Mr. J. R. V., with much pleasure, to we are minded to make it an out- our issue of Dec. 14, which contains and-out success, and this we can do an excellent list of subjects. Con-

Parliament, it may be noted in pass-Have you read the conditions, as ing, takes no notice of members'

In Parliament, due notice must be given of any motion which is to be brought forward. We quote from Bourinot: All motions shall be in writing

and seconded, before being debated or put from the chair.

No motion is regularly before the House until it has been. . . . proposed from the chair, when it becomes a question. A question may be debated, amended, superseded, 'resolved in the affirmative,' or 'passed in the negative,' as the House may decide.

"When a debate on a question is closed. . . . the speaker proceeds to 'put' the question. . . That is to say the speaker says, 'Is the House ready for the question?' The sense of the House being unequivocally in favor of closing the debate, and no member rising to speak, the speaker again reads the motion.

"In the House of Commons, the speaker says, 'Those who are in favor of the motion (or amendment) will please to rise.' The clerk has before him a list of all the names printed alphabetically, and places a mark against each name as it is called. The assistant clerk calls out the name of each member as he stands up."

The names of those opposed are

like the idea of the Society, will you clares them, and the speaker says: not? And remember that all contributions upon the first topic must negative," or "passed in the negative," as the case may be. In reach us not later than January 20. case of an amendment, it will be re-The prizewinning essays will, of membered that any member has the right to move such without giving course, be published. Remember, contributors to the "F. A. and H. Bourinot: "When it is proposed to M. L. S." must not be under 16 amend a motion, the question is put to the House in this way: The speaker will first state the original motion, (Mr. A moves, seconded by Mr. B that), etc. Then he will proceed to give the amendment: 'To this, Mr. C moves in amendment, seconded by Mr. D, that, etc.' The speaker will put the amendment directly in the first place to the House: 'Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the amendment?'" If the amendment be negatived, a debate may ensue, and an amendment may be proposed, "That the main motion, as amended, be further amended, etc." In this case, the speaker will submit the three motions in the reverse of the order in which they are made, and take the vote of the House on the last amendment first.

There are, however, innumerable rules and regulations governing the procedure of Parliament, for which we have no space here, and which are yet essential to the carrying on of a Mock Parliament; hence we would strongly advise all those who purpose organizing such a debating society to procure a copy of Bourinot's "Procedure of Public Meetings," or, better, of his "Parliamentary Procedure," at the earliest opportunity.

Probably some of our readers have had experience in a well-conducted literary society, and would give us concisely their method of successfully conducting Mock Parliament.

## Partnerships.

A young man comes to the period of life when his fancy turns rationally to thoughts of love. I say "rationally" to indicate that the calf variety is not being considered just now. This young man is well grown, of good habits, of sound mind and body, and of reasonably good appearance. He has found a young lady who is in every way a good mate for him, and he thinks of marriage. The thought of marriage brings with it the thought of home, and of his ability to provide a home. The young man finds that he has no money of his own. The sweetheart is in the same financial situation. Very often neither the young man's parents nor the parents of the young lady are financially able to give the young people a start. Under such circumstances, no one need wonder if the young people conclude to remain unmarried. And so, in many cases, the question of to marry or not to marry is a question of finances.

In view of this, I submit the following suggestion to our farmer friends. It is worth thinking about, at least:

As soon as a son or a daughter is capable of appreciating what is being done, let the child be made a partner in the financial welfare of the home. At first the child's share may be very small, but it should be large enough to engage his hearty The names of those opposed are large enough to engage his hearty similarly taken. The clerk counts interest. It must be a genuine part-points."—[Ex.

nership, not a side-line interest, into which the child enters. What he does must be of such a nature as he sees will affect the financial returns of the firm, such as an increase in the butter or egg yield, or additional neatness and convenience of the farm or its furnishings. The judicious mother will readily suggest ways and means of taking her daughter into partnership. years pass, and as the capacity of the child grows, his share in the partnership will be increased, till, finally, the family will, in all matters of profit and loss, share and share The result will be better work, because of deeper interest in the home; the boys and girls will, in many instances, stay at home, and resources in the farm, undreamt of heretofore, will be developed. Further, the old people will not have to "move out" as the young people come in. Besides, when a young man wants to marry he will have his own earnings, and a deal of good experience to boot, wherewith to start life on his own responsibility.

## Flaw-seeing Eyes.

Lowell speaks of "flaw-seeing eyes like needle points." They travel over a piece of cloth with preternatural sharpness to discover its hidden defects; they travel over people in the same way. People on the lookout for flaws find so many that they are always sure that they are in everything, and if they do not succeed in detecting them at first sight in any instance, they go over and over it, like a hound thrown off the track. It is too bad to have such a vision, for it makes the possessors unhappy and others uncomfortable.

We say that it is pitiful to have such imperfection-seeing vision, but those who have it do not think so. They congratulate themselves upon being smarter than other people. Others may be imposed upon, but they-never! So with their needlesight they go pricking into things and people, not realizing to how many good persons they are making themselves disagreeable before they find one scamp. But they so gloat over discovering him! Their chuckling over their shrewdness, however, is no compensation for their loss. They cannot enjoy a superb painting because they are endeavoring to detect some defect. After hearing a solo you will hear them speaking more of a slight break than of the really fine rendition of the song. And so it is with everything else, their pleasure is spoiled by the foibles. weaknesses, faults, flaws they behold in all things and in everybody-but themselves. There their flaw-seeing eyes are blind.

It is exceedingly uncomfortable to live in the same house with a flawseeing individual. However much one may strive to do the right thing, and however well he may succeed, those penetrating eyes see some unforgivable shortcoming. Under such inspection the temptation to give up altogether is very strong, and many yield to it. Wherefore, guard