

foreign work are discussed in their various bearings, and many incidents, both touching and encouraging, given. Speaking of the work of the Shiznoka school (Japan) the report says: "It is with much satisfaction that we see our girls coming up to stand by us in the effort, and to take up under our direction, work among their own people that we, who come from a country entirely different in thought and custom, cannot do so well."

A touching incident comes from the Nova Scotia branch. A young lad after weary months of suffering was called "Home," and among his personal possessions was the sum of \$50 left to "Mother's Society," as he always called the W.M.S. The mother had been for years a valued member, and in her decease had preceded her son but a year.

### OTTAWA.

#### MORNING MUSIC CLUB.

The Woman's Morning Music Club gave a very enjoyable concert on December 7th, when the following ladies took part in the programme: Mrs. C. Elliot, Mrs. Beddoe, Mrs. Bronson, Miss May, Miss Cole and Miss Wise.

#### NATIONAL COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Council of Women was held at Government House on December 11th under the presidency of her Excellency the Countess of Aberdeen, whom everyone is glad to welcome back again. Delegates were present from Montreal, Quebec, Kingston, Toronto, Hamilton and other places. Her Excellency afterwards invited them to luncheon.

His Excellency the Governor-General and the Countess of Aberdeen were received on their return to Ottawa by Major-General Gascoigne and Mr. Gordon, of Eilon. On the way down from Winnipeg short stoppages were made at Rat Portage and Fort William, where public meetings were held. Her Excellency the Countess of Aberdeen organized local Councils of Women in Vernon, Brandon, Regina and Calgary during her absence in the West, and also addressed the local Councils in Victoria, Vancouver and Edmonton, Donald and Winnipeg, and in all of these places most encouraging reports were made

of the good work the councils are doing. Their Excellencies lunched with Senator Kirchhoffer and Mrs. Kirchhoffer while in Brandon.

#### THE KINDERGARTEN ASSOCIATION.

Five years ago, the kindergarten in the Normal School was the only public kindergarten in the city. In January, 1891, the first public school kindergarten was opened as an experiment for one year. With fear and trembling, the kindergartener met eleven little ones. The inspiration of numbers was truly not very great; yet, notwithstanding an august audience of the inspector and six trustees, twelve kindred spirits passed a profitable and enjoyable morning before the end of the month. In spite of a fee of one dollar per month, twenty names were enrolled, and since that the growth has been steady. In the following September another class was opened in the district of Ottawa known as Lower Town, and here true missionary work has been done. In January, '92, a third kindergarten was organized. In September, 1892 a class was opened in a central position and this class has always been well filled; and in September, 1893, the fifth kindergarten was established. Since September, 1893, there have been no new classes formed, yet we have reason to believe that our endeavors in kindergarten work have not been in vain and that much good work is being done.

On January 11th, 1894, the kindergarten teachers of Ottawa, feeling the truth of the motto, "In union is strength," met for the purpose of forming a society for the study of child nature, and for the broadening and cultivation of methods of teaching through the interchange of ideas. It was decided that the society be known as the Froebel Union, of Ottawa. Miss Bolton, director of the Normal kindergarten, was unanimously elected president, and to the untiring zeal and sympathy of the president the kindergarteners of Ottawa owe more than can ever be repaid. Dr. McCabe, principal of the Normal School, and Mr. Glashon, Public School Inspector, consented to become honorary members of the Union. It was decided to ask all who were or who had been at any time connected with kindergarten work in Ottawa to become members of the Union. Meetings were to be held once a month, at which members should give exercises suitable for use in kindergarten classes, that through an exchange of ideas, harmony and progress might be insured.

A part of each meeting is allotted to the study of some educational work. In years '94-'95, "Froebel's Education of Man" and "Symbolic Education," by Miss Blow, were taken up. Since September, 1895, Psychology and Child Nature has been the study of the Union. In February, 1895, the first annual meeting was held in the Normal kindergarten, and through the interest and enthusiasm shown in our year's work the success of the Union was manifest. At present on the Froebel Union roll are fifteen members resident in Ottawa and fourteen corresponding members. Each member feels the truth of Meredith's words: "No life can be pure in its purpose, and strong in its strife and all life not be purer and stronger thereby." This is the aim of kindergarten work, to so live, so work, that all life may be purer and stronger for our efforts.

### MONTREAL.

#### INDUSTRIAL ROOMS.

The thirty-third annual bazaar in connection with the Industrial Rooms was held on December 5th and 6th, at the Windsor Hall. In the absence of the first directress, Mrs. A. F. Gault, Mrs. John McDougall, Mrs. Rielle, and Mrs. John Turnbull were the managers. They were assisted by the ladies who are actively interested in this good work. The Industrial Rooms fill a place in the charitable life of the city which is unique; numberless women are provided with sewing to do; for which they are paid a fair price, and who would otherwise be utterly destitute. It is to dispose of this surplus of work that the bazaar was held. Many of the women employed can only do coarse work, and this is offered for sale at a reduced price and is bought by the charitably disposed and presented to the different institutions. But if there is coarse work, there is also the daintiest and finest of fine underclothing, which leaves nothing to be desired, nor will the finest trousseau or lafayette be supplemented by importation from Paris.

Windsor Hall presented a pretty spectacle during the two days. The booths were artistically arranged and did a rushing business. Each booth was under the charge of some one of the Montreal churches. The flower booth, presided over by Mrs. Montague Allan, the candy table, under the charge of Miss Susan Smith, and the baby table, controlled by Mesdames Barclay, W. W. Watson, A. F. Beddell and Kenneth Macperson, were especially dainty.



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