

Society, and acted on the Board finally formed, which is found to be doing a work which is really needed. I am glad to have the opportunity of mentioning this now and of pressing upon those here the necessity of supporting the Associated Charities, formed as it is of representatives of all charitable Societies and Churches to investigate cases requiring help and to obtain work for those who have not got it. The Secretary tells us that he finds considerable difficulty in finding work for the applicants. We often hear that there is no distress in Ottawa—that all who need work can find it, but the Secretary of the Associated Charities tells us a different tale, and I would ask you here to remember that every citizen of Ottawa can be of real help to the Charities if they will both refer to the Secretaries' appeals for relief and if they will let them know of jobs of work which may be available for those needing them and help to tide over a period of distress.

That is the first thing we have successfully attempted.

The second scheme was the Public Library—an effort which will be fresh in the minds of those present. We remember, too, the history of that. We remember the paper of Miss Bolton and the petition which our members undertook to get filled up with the names of ratepayers. We remember the efforts made to bring it and keep it before the community and the City Council, and finally our efforts to get the by-law carried, and we remember, too, our failure. But there never was a body of workers less discouraged by failure. (Applause.) The women of the Local Council of Ottawa positively still think that the capital of the Dominion ought to have a Public Library free and open to every citizen, and they think moreover that this need is a more important one than some of the material wants of which we hear. At one of our meetings, a speaker said he thought that our Local Councils stood to the cities in which they were established very much in the relation of a wife to her husband, and that the Local Councils of a province in turn occupied very much the same relation to the National Council, and of course the National Council claims in that aspect no other lord and master than the Dominion Parliament. (Applause.) Perhaps if that be the case the wife of the City of Ottawa need not be discouraged if on the first application she finds her husband a little disinclined to put his hand in his pocket for what he deems a needless luxury. But after all such a wife does not take the first no as final. (Laughter.) Perhaps there are means, particularly when she thinks the object she has at heart is for the good of her children, of dropping hints now and then—of using a little gentle influence at the right moment when he is in a good humour, and so bringing about a change of mind. At least this is the attitude of the City of Ottawa's wife and we are confident that the time will come when our children and our young men and maidens and our working men and women will have a free access to those treasures of knowledge, healthful recreation, high and inspiring thought which should surely be within the reach of every citizen of the capital of the Dominion. (Applause.)