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God s in his heaven,
All's right with the world.
—[BROWNING.

If you trust in God and yourself you can surmount every obstacle. Do not yield to restless anxiety. One must not always be asking what may happen to one in life, but one must advance fearlessly and bravely.
—[PRINCE BISMARCK.

London, Wednesday, April 18.

THE LONDON ADVERTISER, *with its morning and evening editions, covers the ground. With one exception, it is* THE ONLY EARLY MORNING DAILY IN ONTARIO, *outside of Toronto.*

—Only those communications to which the writers are willing to have their names appended in print will be published in these columns. Neither the writing nor the publication of anonymous letters can be justified.

SWEARING WITNESSES.

There must be something to conceal very discreditable to the Dominion Government, or the Ministers at Ottawa would not so persistently object to a searching investigation, under oath, of all matters coming before that most useful organization, the public accounts committee. Yesterday another attempt was made to get the Ministers, who attended in unusually large numbers, to yield, and thus enable the committee to get at the whole truth by a uniform system. There is good ground for asking that in taking the testimony of public officers regarding the expenditure of many millions of public money there shall be no red tape or circumlocutionary methods pursued. By not following a course so plainly in the public interest in the past, the country has suffered, and the evidence of worthy men has been thrown under suspicion by the double-dealing of their fellows. Only a short time since an official of the Public Works Department was examined. He testified in such a way as to baffle investigation and to conceal facts necessary to obtain the truth regarding a charge which had been made. Under the rule that the Ministers insist on retaining, he was not put under oath. But in the following session another committee ordered that he be examined under oath, and he then admitted that which he had before denied. On being asked for an explanation of the discrepancy in his testimony, he said that in the first investigation he was not under oath, and did not therefore think it necessary to tell all that he knew in exact terms. There have been other occasions when witnesses, under covert hints from friends of the Administration, have kept back facts that they dared not have suppressed if under oath, and there are many reasons for believing that under the system of testifying that calls for no oath similar falsification may take place.

Why should any honest man regard it as wrong to testify under oath? Why should the men whose record as administrators is at stake so persistently insist on leaving loopholes for friendly witnesses to crawl through in times of difficulty? No honest man will object to be put on oath. No honest administrator will object to testimony being taken with every safeguard necessary to getting at the whole truth. The Liberals do well to persist in demanding that all evidence taken before this most important committee shall be under oath. So long as the men in power insist on the free-and-easy-do-not-tell-unless-you-have-a-mind-to style of giving evidence, there will be the gravest suspicions that there are scandals to conceal, guilty men in high places to save.

—An Irish member objected to Sir William Vernon Harcourt's budget propositions because he increased the cost of whisky, which is largely consumed in Ireland. Why should any real friend of the Irish, knowing the harm that whisky drinking does, wish to make the intoxicant cheap?

—According to the official estimate, the population of the United States on March 1 was 67,910,000, as against 66,468,000 a year ago. The census figures for 1892 were 62,622,250. By and bye the time will come when our neighbors will have to draw upon Canada for a greatly increased supply of food products.

—Provincial Secretary Gibson has extended the operations of his bill to put down personation of voters in Ontario elections to towns and incorporated villages as well as to cities. This is a proper amendment. May we suggest that the measure should be applied to municipal elections, too. In the larger cities, personation is often resorted to by unscrupulous individuals who have personal objects to serve.

WOMAN'S NATIONAL COUNCIL.

The First Canadian Convention in Ottawa Last Week.

Important Papers Presented and Questions Discussed.

The first annual meeting and conference of the National Council of Women of Canada was held in Ottawa last week, and the meeting was very successful in every way. The council was well attended by many of the well-known representative Canadian women from different Provinces. Lady Aberdeen, to whose active interest and exertions the new National Woman's Council largely owes its existence, presided, and much of the success of the meeting was owing to her efforts and rare ability as a presiding officer. Among the various women's organizations represented were the following local councils of the National: London, Toronto, Hamilton, Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec, Winnipeg, St. John, N. B. The leading officers of the body were: Lady Aberdeen, Ottawa, president; Mrs. M. Macdonell, Toronto, vice-president for Ontario; Mrs. McDougall, for Quebec; Mrs. Willoughby Cummings, corresponding secretary; Mrs. English, London, recording secretary; Mrs. Hoodless, treasurer.

THE PROCEEDINGS.

A very able and thoughtful opening address was given by Lady Aberdeen, which well deserves to be printed in full and very largely circulated all over Canada. She claims a higher mission for women, and especially those of wealth and more leisure than mere "leaders of society" or fashion or amusements, but of "mothering," which is a God-given instinct to women. Even those who have not families of their own have other mothering missions which they can well perform in community. An address of welcome was presented on behalf of the Ottawa Council, which was neatly responded to by Mrs. Macdonell, of Toronto. A large number were present during the opening session, including many visitors from the Dominion capital.

THE PAPERS READ.

During the different sessions a large number of very valuable and practical papers were read, many of which ought to be published in permanent form for general distribution. We much regret that it is not possible to find space for even a fair synopsis of these papers.

Mrs. Ashley Carus-Wilson, of Montreal, read the first paper, entitled "Co-operation on a General Basis," in which she first well set forth the reasons why such a national council should be formed at all. Circumstances are constantly changing, which means changed needs, to women equally with men. Accumulation of capital, extension of commerce, and invention of much machinery has crowded our great cities with individuals, who form parts of one whole without touching each other. There are unequal distributions of wealth, and some rich people do not recognize their wealth as a trust to be used for the benefit of others, rather than themselves; thus wealth sometimes becomes a curse even to its possessors. The employer who loves justice and mercy, or otherwise, can make a substantial addition to human happiness or of misery of which the world never hears. The institutions with which the council is mainly concerned are but devices for bridging over the ever-widening gulf between the rich and the poor. We find such organization in the various forms of associated women's work which the last century has produced. The soul of all improvement is the improvement of the soul, and one individual soul can only be moved by another soul. The extent to which it brings individual influence to bear upon individuals will be the measure of the extent to which the National Council will be effective for the welfare of Canada.

CHARITIES' CO-OPERATION.

Mrs. Drummond, of Montreal, read a paper, entitled "Co-operation as Shown in Associated Charities." These charities, it said, had their pioneer in the Charity Organization Society, formed in London, Eng., in 1868. One of the first promoters was a woman, Miss Octavia Hill. These methods are:

1. To maintain a system of registration, whereby information regarding the needy poor is collected and placed at the service of all dispensers of aid, whether churches, charitable societies or individuals.

2. In association with this to enlist a large body of volunteer visitors, whose office it is to keep in touch individually with a very few families and to endeavor to fulfill towards them the true and enduring helpfulness of a friend.

A number of valuable points and suggestions were brought out in this paper, such as the importance of a medium through which these societies might know each other's work, regarding private giving, and a system of registration by which those needing help and those needing work can know of each other.

WOMEN'S CLUBS.

Miss A. Sherrick, of Ottawa, had a paper on "Literary Clubs and Their Influence on Canadian Literature." The first of such clubs was organized in 1868 in New York, where a few literary women had the idea of bringing together women of many minds, of various degrees and of every shade of opinion. Much good came out of its efforts in the investigation of the condition for foundlings in hospitals, the admission of women in universities and the like. Such clubs are general now over the United States. A number exist in Canada and the training in these clubs in the way of conducting meetings, in methods of thinking and speaking and in many womanly and wifely duties, is of very great value.

Mrs. Dandurand, of Montreal, gave a very valuable and cultured paper regarding women's clubs, especially in regard to French-Canadian women. Among other bright thoughts it contained were these:

"If throughout the land clubs were founded where young girls might meet weekly to listen to lectures and discussions on history, art or literature, they would thus perfect their studies, acquire a taste for things intellectual, and frivolity would be dethroned. As a natural result of this desirable innovation young men who, from the moment of their entering society, would have been charmed by the intercourse of brilliant and cultivated women, would not totally desert drawing-rooms for clubs; the good husband who in the company of his wife would not suffer any lassitude or lonesomeness would never think of abandoning his home. The co-operation of feminine forces, the union of all our wills, ladies, may without doubt bring about in the near future this gratifying state of things."

ART CLUBS.

Mrs. Dignam, of Toronto, read a paper on "Art Clubs and Associations and Their Influence." She was one of the organizers and the president of the Woman's Art Association of Canada. She made a strong plea for maintaining a high and cultured ideal in art and cultivating its taste among the rising generation. "The enjoyment of young children who are allowed paints, pencils, paper and clay, and are taught at the earliest possible period to use them, is too evident to need more than passing comment. If this reaching out of the young mind to express itself were encouraged, we need not, I think, discuss the question of 'How to retain home influence over growing girls and boys' or trouble ourselves over some other questions. I speak of that whereof I know when I say that that occupancy of the child's mind with pure and lofty thoughts which a close communion with nature establishes is a safeguard for such a child, by having pointed out to it some lovely sunset, the green grass, a flower, the reflections in water of trees, land and sky, may be kept unsullied by chance contact with the impure." Art was not for the few. All might have the painter's eye and the poet's heart, and for such nature's beauties were always present. The paper closed with a plea for greater sympathy between the artist and the laity, and the firm hope that all effort in such a worthy cause would succeed.

PARENTS AND CHILDREN.

Miss Laidlaw, of London, contributed a paper on "The Training of Young Children," giving practical hints of great value, and Miss Osler, of Toronto, on "How to Retain Home Influences Over Grown-up Boys and Girls," in which was said: "Mutual confidence was one of the strongest influences. Begin young, very young. Keep their little secrets; never make a joke to others of the child's deep, pretty fancies and artless trusts. Finally, there was love to be treated of, and the proper manner of showing it. To sum up, make your children friends, trusted friends, and then, upon the lasting foundation of loyalty to father and mother, home influence shall be securely built."

Mrs. Frechette, of Ottawa, gave one on the difficult question of how to deal with difficult children—one that perplexes many parents' hearts. Some of the points made were the following:

"Often a 'difficult child' is merely a problem of nerves, and alas, too often, nerves are met by nerves. According to my creed the 'rod of correction' can never be the 'divining rod' which finds the pure waters of a child's soul, and I earnestly hope that the day is not far distant when it will be thought as unworthy to strike a helpless child as it is now held to strike a less helpless woman. To understand a child, go down to its simple understanding, and as far as possible lift it up to your own. Give it your sympathy freely in all its little trials and let it give you its sympathy in return. In short, go very close to it, and let it give you the first place in its warm, generous heart, and then even the most difficult child need not be hard to understand.

FOR THE SICK.

Several of the papers had to do with woman's mission to the sick. Miss Harris, of Hamilton, read a paper on "Hospital Nursing," a subject with which the writer was practically familiar. Mrs. Tilley, of London, gave one on "Nursing the Poor at Their Own Homes," which was one of the most valuable presented during the whole conference, and was highly commended by the leading dailies at Ottawa and Montreal. Mrs. Hodgers also gave a practical paper on "Emergency Aid to the Injured," illustrated by the application of a number of bandages on Lady Marjorie Gordon, the young daughter of Lord and Lady Aberdeen, the performance of which was applauded.

DOMESTIC SERVICE PROBLEM.

Mrs. Boomer, of London, who is reported to have been quite a favorite with those attending gave a paper on the "Domestic Service Problem," from the mistress' standpoint, and Mrs. Helliwell from the servant's standpoint. The paper referred very considerately to the often hardness of the servants' life, whose room is often the worst in the house, whose hours are the longest, whose sympathies few in the household enter into, and who is too often treated with even scant confidence. Her sympathies are, evidently, with this class who much need friends.

AN HONORED VISITATION.

During the last evening's session several distinguished gentlemen were present, including His Excellency Lord Aberdeen, Governor Schultz, of Manitoba; Sir John Thompson, Premier; Rev. Principal Grant, of Kingston; Rev. Archdeacon Lauder, and Rev. Dr. Manly Benson, of Ottawa, and several others. Apologies were made in behalf of Hon. Mr. Laurier, who desired to be present, but was unavoidably prevented. Appropriate and appreciative remarks were made by the Governor-General and Sir John Thompson, who were in full sympathy with the members of the conference in their work.

A VICE-REGAL RECEPTION.

During one evening a reception was given to the members at Rideau Hall, the residence of their Excellencies, where they were entertained with all due honors. The hospitality of the citizens of Ottawa extended in their own homes, which were thrown open to the visitors for their entertainment during the conference, was also of a princely character, and was much appreciated by the guests.

On the whole the meeting will long be remembered with pleasure and profit, both by the attending delegates and the citizens of Ottawa.

The next meeting will be held in the city of Toronto.

THE AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS.

During the meeting Mrs. Willoughby Cummings, as secretary, presented a report which reviewed the history of the work since the organization of the National Council. There are now affiliated with the local councils the following number of philanthropic, religious and other associations: Toronto, 23; Hamilton, 25; Montreal, 32; Ottawa, 33; London, 11, and Winnipeg 7. The report was adopted.

The Superiority

Of Hood's Sarsaparilla is due to the tremendous amount of brain work and constant care used in its preparation. Try one bottle and you will be convinced of its superiority. It purifies the blood which, the source of health, cures dyspepsia, overcomes sick headaches and biliousness. It is just the medicine for you.

Hood's Pills are purely vegetable, care fully prepared from the best ingredients. d

Another consignment of $1 oak finished rockers just arrived, also great bargains in sideboards, at TRAFFORD'S Popular Furniture House, 95 and 97 King street. Phone 864.

Mr. Grumpps—What earthly good would it do if women should be allowed to take a hand in politics? Mrs. Grumpps—Well, for one thing, we'd clean house a good deal oftener than you men voters do.

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It will tone up your system, and restore the appetite.
JUST WHAT YOU NEED -- THIS SPRING.
The best cure for Debility.

WATSON'S MEXICAN
SWEET CHOCOLATE
Is absolutely pure, nothing whatever being added but sugar and flavor. For icing cakes or making a cup of Good Chocolate it has no equal, Put up in 5c tablets. **Try it.**

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General and Nervous Debility,

Weakness of Body and Mind. Effects of Errors or Excesses in Old or Young. Robust, Noble Manhood fully Restored. How to enlarge and Strengthen Weak, Undeveloped Organs and Parts of Body. Absolutely unfailing Home Treatment—Benefits in a day. Men testify from 50 States and Foreign Countries. Write them. Descriptive Book, explanation and proofs mailed (sealed) free.
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For Disorders of the Chest it has no equal.
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Glandular Swellings, and all Skin Diseases it has no rival; and for contracted and stiff joints it acts like a charm.
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Purchasers should look to the Label on the Pots and Boxes. If the address is not 533 Oxford Street, London, they are

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CHAPMAN'S

This beautiful weather is having the desired effect. It creates wants in all directions---the old hat, the old mantle, the old dress must give place to stylish millinery, becoming wraps and the latest dress materials. 'Tis well to know that you can get suited at CHAPMAN'S in any department of

Ladies' and Gents' Wear.

Scarce Goods

The demand for black and colored Serpentine Braids has been phenomenal. First importations sold out very rapidly, and for weeks back they could not be had at any price. You will be glad to know that we have now a full range of colors and black, in the different widths.

Scarce Goods

One of the scarcest articles just now is Colored Moire Antique. This one article of fashion has caused a great deal of running round from store to store. Ladies will be glad to know that we have just received a full range of leading colors, also in black. Price, 85c, $1 and $1 35.

Kid Gloves

In black and colored. We are showing a fine assortment, all new, and brands that we guarantee. New shades of tan and grays. See our line of laced Gloves at $1. We are also showing a full assortment of Children's Kid Gloves.

Turk Caps

For boys or girls, in navy and cardinal, a very popular article, and note the price, only 20c; sold in some stores as high as 45c, and no better quality.

Gents' Ties

See our windows for novelties in Gents' Neckwear, Ties, Collars, Cuffs, Shirts, Braces and Hats; a complete assortment, and our prices will please you—none better in London.

Parasols

An article for immediate use—75c, $1, $1 25, will be useful lines with serviceable handles, colored and black; a fine display. Plain, with frills and lace, $1 75, $2, $2 50, fancy and plain handles.

Millinery

All that the most fastidious could desire. Our designers and trimmers are the best in London. Give this department a call.

Dressmaking

This department is now in charge of Miss Eveleigh, late with Spittal, Burn & Gentleman, who will be glad to have a call from old friends, and give estimates and show styles. Perfect satisfaction guaranteed. Prices moderate.

Capes & Jackets

The Bourbon is the leading Cape this season. You get it in a variety of colors and prices, to suit all tastes and purses, from $2 50 to $20. Mantles at your own price—$2, $3 and upwards. An inspection solicited.

Wrappers

Complete and ready to wear, simply for the price of the material. Print Wrappers, perfect fitting, fast in color, only $1 75, trimmed with lace, $2 Cloth Wrappers at $2 50, $3 50, $4 50. The sale is marvellous.

Dress Goods

We mention only a few lines — Swivel Cord, a popular line, all wool, 47c; Satin Victoria, a great selling line and stylish, ten distinct shades, 70c a yard; Armure Cloth, a new cloth this season, made to imitate the Armure silk, only 50c; trimmings to match all the shades.

Staples

Cottons are always fashionable. We want every lady to see our White Cotton at 8½c or 12 yards for $1; not long ago this brand was worth 12½c yard. 40-inch Gray Sheeting, only 6¾c yard, or 15 yards for $1. Flannelettes, only 5c; heavy and 35-inches wide, only 8½c; a fast washing print, only 5½c, dark and light shades. American manufacture

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