

## \*A Plea to Teachers.

BY MRS. BOOMER.

Although only a mere member, just a private in the ranks of the London Local Branch of the National Council of the Women of Canada, I am always glad when an opportunity is afforded me to say a few words in regard to it. Its aims and objects even in spite of its having given good and sufficient proof of their very real practical value, are still somewhat misconstrued, and many even of those whose societies are affiliated with it do not realize its full meaning to themselves. They fail to recognize in it a very real channel of influence—influence flowing out from themselves, as well as influence imparted to themselves, by their having joined hands for the commonweal. The Council needs no justification from me. It has come to stay, to fill "a distinctive place in our national life"; but how large a place depends much upon the hearty and intelligent co-operation of its members, and it is this intelligent and hearty co-operation on the part of the teachers of our public schools that I would venture most earnestly to invite.

Perhaps there is no subject which has been more frequently brought up at the meetings of the National Council, or which has been more thoroughly weighed and discussed, than that of the education of Canada. The truest recognition has been given to the immense importance of the subject, stress being laid upon the absolute necessity of laying a firm and sure foundation, if the structure of the future was to be of any real value, and not a mere house of cards; of the need of a very careful training of the sapling, if the sturdy oak was to be its crowning glory. Of all the associations affiliated with the National Council, none are in closer touch with its aims than those of the educational centres of our land, no individual members conceded a more honored position than the teachers of our young. The Council, while recognizing the immense value of the free education afforded to nearly every child born within the wide Dominion of Canada, realizes how much of result depends upon the teacher. If the teacher be well-bred, intelligent and broad in her views, she will try in every way to elevate her pupils, not alone intellectually, through books, but what is of greater value still in character, she will inculcate, realizing that her responsibility does not stop at mere book learning, however important that may be, but that to her is committed, caring their tenderest and most susceptible years, the training which may make or mar their future lives; and it is because the National Council knows how much the future of Canada depends, humanly speaking, upon the faithful realization of their immense individual responsibility upon the part of the teachers in our public schools, that it desires to welcome amongst the ranks of its earnest workers the teachers of the Dominion.

I rejoice to know that the Teachers' Association of London has affiliated with our Local Branch; but will you forgive me if I venture to urge upon you a heartier co-operation, a more frequent and fuller attendance at our public meetings, and a more earnest and thorough enquiry into our aims and objects. Don't judge us by hearsay. See if you would not find much to interest you, to broaden your views, by contact with workers in other spheres while you would help to broaden ours by telling of your experiences in your own especial field of honored labor. There are so many of you who are already workers amongst the various philanthropic and other mutual help associations, also affiliated to the National Council, and know what you have gained intellectually, morally and religiously by such membership. You attend the meetings of those bodies, and you know all about them and what they are trying to accomplish, and because you know all about it you are the more willing and more efficient helpers. Treat the National Council in the same spirit of fairness; never let us meet without a full and complete representation from our association. Do not think from this that we are ungrateful for the recognition or the representation you have already accorded to the Council. Our Local Board has no more interested or intelligent members than Mrs. Gahan and Miss Mackenzie.

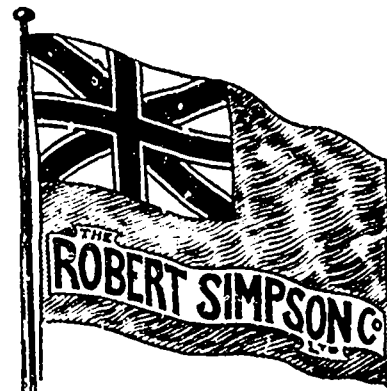
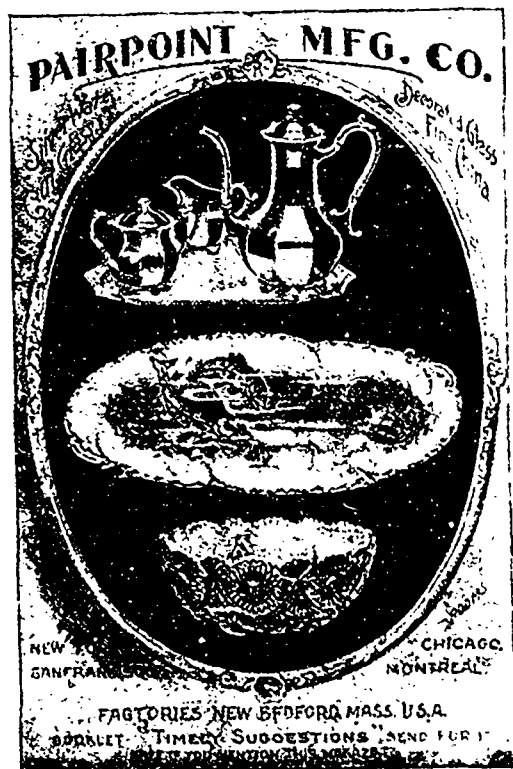
If you could glance over the subjects for discussion, the agenda of each of our annual public meetings, you would recognize how much, how very much, the

National Council has in common with your own special life work. I will take just a very few at random "Training of children," "How to retain home influences over growing boys and girls," "Difficult children and how to understand them," "Manual and industrial training—especially for girls," "Social knowledge," "household arts form part of the public school curriculum for girls," "Co-operation between parents and teachers," "The influence and place of an educated mother in the training of her children," "How to provide good reading for children, and how to protect them from deteriorating literature," "Amusements, entertainments, and the parents' duty in regard to them," "Teaching of hygiene and physical education," "Reading clubs," "Home lessons," etc.; whilst the fact that the teaching of the public schools should be one of the most important factors in "fostering in the minds and hearts of the young a spirit of national enthusiasm, a love for Canada, a pride in its wonderful resources, and a living belief in its great future," was emphasized by the hearty and unanimous passing of a resolution "that the National Council should seek in every legitimate and judicious way to assist the educational departments in every effort they may make to attain that most desirable end."

It was my great pleasure and privilege to read at the first annual meeting of the National Council at Ottawa a most admirable paper on "The Early Training of Children," by Miss Laidlaw. It would have cheered the heart of every teacher among you if you could have seen the wrapt attention accorded to that paper, and heard the enthusiastic applause with which many of its excellent points were greeted.

I would ask you, then, to strengthen this bond by heartily co-operating with the Council, as it is the earnest desire of the Council to co-operate with you. Remember that you on your side have exceptional opportunities for influencing others, from the very recognition given to you as educated women, and the position which by virtue of that education you hold in the community, whilst, on the other side, the receptive side, you have all the advantages of belonging to a society which brings you into closer relationship with workers in different spheres, with all the encouragement, mutual sympathy and help such a relationship cannot fail to afford. This union with others opens up wider avenues of usefulness, fuller and freer opportunities for loving ministry; and whilst it seeks to know nothing of one's political bias, nor asks of one to which church you belong, it does ask us to adopt as our own the golden rule, which is the motto of the National Council, "Do unto others as ye would they should do unto you," and thus, by God's constraining grace, we shall have the comforting assurance that whilst we are at least striving to do His will, we shall have His blessing upon whatever we may undertake in His name or in whatever field of labor to which He in His good providence may have appointed us.

H. A. B.



## WHITE GOODS SALE.

The first of the year is the season to buy White Goods. We make a special of everything in White Goods for the opening of the New Year. It is not a case of buying old goods, but the White Goods sale is something planned a long way ahead of the time it is announced. It brings to you unsurpassed values in ready-to-wear White Goods, Embroideries, Cottons, Sheetings, Fancy Work and everything that goes under the particular heading of White Goods. Some suggestions:

- LADIES' CORSET COVERS AND GOWN'S.**  
 Cotton Corset Covers, plain, reg. 15c., for 10c.  
 Cotton Corset Covers, trimmed with lace, reg. 20c., for 15c.  
 Cotton Corset Covers, trimmed with embroidery, high and low neck, reg. 30c., 35c., and 40c., for 25c., 30c. and 35c.  
 Cotton Corset Covers, trimmed with frill of embroidery and galloon braid, V shape, reg. 40c., for 40c. and 50c.  
 Ladies' Night Dresses, Cotton, trimmed with lace, reg. 50c., for 35c.  
 Night Dresses, Cotton, trimmed with cluster tucks and lace, reg. 60c., for 45c.  
 Cotton Night Dresses, trimmed with cambric frill and sailor collar, reg. 65c., for 55c.  
**LADIES' CHEMISE AND DRAWERS.**  
 Cotton Chemise trimmed with lace, reg. 20c., for 15c.  
 Cotton Chemise trimmed with cambric frill, reg. 30c., for 25c.  
 Cotton Chemise trimmed with lace, reg. 30c., for 25c.  
 Cotton Chemise trimmed with embroidery, reg. 35c., 40c. and 50c., for 30c., 35c. and 40c.  
 Extra Heavy Cotton Chemise, large size, reg. 75c., for 60c.  
 Cambric Chemise Yoke of insertion laced with ribbon, embroidery frill around neck, reg. \$1.10, for 90c.  
 Cotton Drawers, trimmed with lace, reg. 20c., for 15c.  
 Cotton Drawers, trimmed with tucks and cambric frill, reg. 35c., for 25c.

### SPECIALS IN COTTONS, SHEETINGS AND TOWEL LINEN.

- 36 in. Unbleached Table Linen, reg. 40c. a yard for 30c.  
 36 in. Bleached Table Linen, reg. 35c. for 25c.  
 22 x 22, Pure Linen Table Napkins, reg. \$1.50 a doz., for \$1.00  
 24 x 40, Pure Linen Huck Towels, colored borders, reg. 35c. a pair, for 25c.  
 18 in. Glass Cloth, checked, reg. 7c., for 5c.  
**SPECIALS IN EMBROIDERIES AND FANCY WORK.**  
 Cambric Edges, 1 1/2 in. wide, fine work, cheap at 6c., now 4c.  
 2 1/2 in. Cambric edges, reg. 8c., now 5c.  
 Cambric Flouncing, 6 to 7 in. wide, special, 10c.  
 Flouncing 9 and 10 in. wide, heavy open-work, reg. 20c., for 14c.  
 White Zulu Cloth Table Covers, 36 x 36, with tinted designs, special at 25c.  
 New Toilet Covers, 18 x 27, reg. 35c., for 15c.  
 White Linen Table Centres, stamped for buttonhole edge, size 21 in. slightly soiled, reg. 45c., for 20c.

Thousands of shoppers in all parts of the Dominion buy at this store through our mail order system. There is nothing the store sells you cannot order, and the time is opportune to buy white goods by mail. Write us.

The **ROBERT SIMPSON CO.,** (Ltd.)  
 S.W. CORNER YONGE AND QUEEN STS.  
 170, 172, 174, 176, 178 Yonge St. 1 and 3 Queen St. W.

Address given at the Teachers' association, London, Ont., November 27, 1896.