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An Imperial Order

THE place filled by the Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire is one of patriotic and social prominence. Canadian women are not so closely in touch with political questions as their English cousins are, but their concern in what vitally affects the future of the Dominion is decidedly sincere and profound. The Imperial Order, Daughters of the Empire, was formed more than ten years ago, during the Boer War, and in the early years of its existence, the efforts of the members were directed towards memorials associated with the Canadians who gave their lives for the Empire in South Africa.

Since then, however, the Order has turned its attention chiefly to domestic affairs, while not forgetting the duty of emphasizing our imperial association, especially as regards the education of school children as loyal young Britons. While central authority is necessarily held by the Head Executive, there is much latitude allowed the various chapters, in the matter of assisting local enterprise or philanthropy. The Daughters of the Empire, in Hamilton, Ottawa and Winnipeg, for instance, have been most enthusiastic in working against tuberculosis, which has been making such inroads as to earn the name of White Plague. Most of us will admit that measures which will preserve the health of our citizens are the most sensible and praiseworthy type of patriotism.

The Order has grown with a rapidity which is astonishing, even in our new country of rapid development. There are twenty thousand in the membership, with several chapters in the United States, and the West Indies. At the recent annual meeting, held in Toronto, Mrs. A. E. Gooderham, who has for several years been regent of the Royal Grenadiers' chapter, was elected President by acclamation. There is every prospect for increasing usefulness for this thriving organization, and its early promise has already been more than fulfilled.

Concerning Co-Education

THE optimistic utterances of twenty years ago about co-education in our high schools and universities do not seem to have been justified, if recent criticism is any criterion. In the United States, the dissatisfaction at Wesleyan University has become so acute that the women students have been "abolished" and have departed from that institution with some display of indignation.

We have expressed the opinion already that the co-educational academy or university is not the ideal system of education. Of course, the difficulty in the past has lain in the superficial and comparatively worthless course of studies undertaken in the girls' schools or colleges. That criticism can not be made with justice to-day, for the modern girls' college is practically and thoroughly equipped. It is recognized to-day that it is well for every girl, no matter what may be her father's wealth or position, to receive such a training in some department of modern activity as to qualify her for earning her own living. The turn of fortune's wheel has shown so frequently how pitiful is the case of the "distressed gentle-

woman" who has no practical equipment for any useful work, that even the fashionable schools take the requirements of to-day into account.

What we need in Canada is a good university for women—similar to Smith or Wellesley in the United States. But we must wait until several ships come in, before we may regard such an institution as "almost planned." Some day a Canadian Carnegie will endow it and we shall see the best educational work in Canada when we have this university for women—and domestic science will have an honored place on the curriculum.

Culinary Accomplishments

A CANADIAN business man said the other day: "I wonder that some enterprising novelist or playwright does not write a book or a tragedy about the domestic unhappiness caused by woman's failure as a cook. When a home is "unhappy," sentimental reasons, such as uncongeniality or lack of understanding are always put forward. Many times, I believe, the unfortunate state of affairs is due to the

fact that the wife does not know how to prepare a decent meal. Men are not brutes if they are properly fed."

Now, while this criticism reduces married happiness to a most practical basis, there is a great deal of wise observation and judgment in it. Indigestion is a promoter of family disputes, and it is almost impossible to be either amiable or polite if dyspepsia is creating havoc in the system. Sometimes the wife may prepare such rich and tempting dishes that the husband eats, not wisely but too much, and is consequently an irritable and disagreeable companion, whose occasional absence from home fills a long-felt want. But it cannot be denied that good cooking is a most excellent thing in woman and possesses a charm greater than any other for the masculine fancy. A man may forget a woman's bright eyes or sunny hair; but if she knows how to appeal to his palate he will remember her with increasing tenderness. He may not long to see her smile or hear her voice, but he will become tearfully reminiscent at the thought of her tea biscuit or her pumpkin pies. A course in the

diet kitchen is really a most valuable insurance for domestic happiness, and the retaining of that uncertain quantity, a husband's affections.

The Summer Days

DO not be so busy in the summer time as to miss its beauty. Some women are so industrious during July and August that they remember the summer with a weary sigh and the reflection: "It was so painfully hot and I had so much to do." If there is any time of the year when the simple life is a duty, it is in these days when the mercury is mounting in a merciless fashion.

A busy housewife may here remark: "It's all very well to say that: the work must be done." However, it is just as well to consider how much of the work is foolish and unnecessary—such as could easily be dispensed with.



MRS. A. E. GOODERHAM, PRESIDENT DAUGHTERS OF
EMPIRE FOR CANADA