

drawing attention to a grievance. The schoolyard, which had always been used as a public playground, had been closed for that purpose owing to some alleged damage to property and the paper did a service in pointing out that the action of the trustees in depriving the young people of a place for sports was not in the best interests of the community. Another way in which the society helped the school was this. When public opinion, vigorously prodded by the school inspector, demanded that the old red-schoolhouse should be replaced by a modern building, progressive ratepayers thought it might be a favourable time to launch a consolidated school and the Literary Society provided the organisation for bringing Professor McCready from Guelph to give an illustrated lecture on the subject. While the proposed consolidation was not effected, this visit bore results in the subsequent action which has been taken to realize the larger possibilities of the school.

The small surplus which remained at the close of the first season was used to buy two beautiful prints for the school. One, a Corot landscape in colours, the other, a Copley print of "The Plough Horse" by an American artist, Carleton Wiggins. The second year's surplus was much larger, and a movement was commenced to secure the co-operation of all in making the new school-grounds, which were twice as large as the old, the recreation centre, thus benefiting the school children and the young people at the same time. In view of the action of the trustees previously mentioned, there was some doubt whether such an experiment would succeed, but as the result of much discussion, we had the unique experience some weeks later of reading a public notice from the school trustees calling a special meeting of the ratepayers to consider with the members of the Literary Society and the Women's Institute, the question of making the new school grounds a recreation centre, and a beauty spot for the neighbourhood. A meeting had never been called for such a purpose in this community before, and it seemed to be an augury of a better era in country life. The meeting not only warmly supported the plan proposed, but provided the machinery for carrying it out in the form of a committee comprising representatives of the trustees, the ratepayers, the Women's Institute and the Literary Society.

This meeting, called together on a pleasant June evening by the old school bell, was marked by a significant incident when the children were presented with playground games on behalf of the men of the section. A bee had been held to plough the new school grounds, and the men stipulated that the value of their work should be expended by the trustees on further improvements. One speaker during the evening humorously remarked, that if the trustees had done anything like that when he was a boy, the children would have looked on it as a sign of softening of the brain. This is another evidence of the new social spirit in the school.