

When members of the League and of other associations happen to be going for their holidays to a place where a Convention is being held along Civic improvement lines, letters of introduction as our representatives can be provided especially in the case of those associations with which we are formally affiliated, by communicating with the Secretary of the League, 402 Coristine Building, Montreal, office of this Journal.

A Hint for Canadians

Friends of Our Native Landscape

A band of ardent nature-lovers has recently organized a corporation, not for profit, under the name "Friends of Our Native Landscape." Its charter states its object to be:

Object

"To secure and preserve for the people of today and of all future generations typical examples of: Streams with their adjoining bluffs, and flood-plains with their native trees and flowers; woodlands of all types, including oaks of the various species; woods of white pine and woods of yellow pine; woods of beech and woods of maple; swamp woods of ash, elm, and alder, and kindred things; dunes with their rare and marvelous floral carpets, such as are found along Lake Michigan and the Illinois River; the fast-vanishing prairies, once the most characteristic feature of Illinois with their remarkable and beautiful flowers; ravines and canyons with their rare trees and ferns and their innumerable favorite flowers; ponds and swamps where the water birds make their haunts and many plants find their homes; tamarack swamps of the North and cypress swamps of the South, each with unique plant and animal life; rock outcroppings where geologists may study earth-history and where are found many peculiar plants; mounds with their mute testimony of races long since gone; native monuments of historical interest; and all spots and places of beauty and interest that will tie the present and future generations to the past and serve as playgrounds for the people and as a sanctuary of the wild plant and animal life of our native state."

Its by-laws provide that the annual meetings shall be held in June at some place "in the midst of some native landscape worthy of perpetual preservation."

It is proposed to make a survey or inventory of all the spots in Illinois and nearby of peculiar interest to nature-lovers for their beauty, geology, or history. These things are known to local nature-lovers, but to few others. By collecting and classifying this data and informing nature-lovers generally of it, the knowledge of these spots will be rapidly disseminated and go far toward creating a public sentiment for their preservation. The organization will also encourage the formation of special local organizations to interest local nature-lovers and will co-operate with local organizations already formed.

The Secretary is Sherman M. Booth, 18th floor, Borland Building, Chicago, Illinois.

Littering the Streets

While on a visit to Detroit, Mich., a Canadian Municipal officer got a very pointed lesson.

Coming out of the hotel in which he was staying, with his correspondence in his hand, he glanced through

the letters, and then, tearing the envelopes in two, threw them down.

A policeman approached him and said "Excuse me, sir, but that is against our laws; you will have to pick up all that waste paper."

"Indeed", said the Canadian, "have you a law against this?"

"Yes", said the officer, "and I am sorry that I must ask you to pick up the letter."

"I am glad to hear you have such a law," said the Canadian, "and I appreciate the courteous way in which you have told me of it," and he picked up the fragments, and carried a lesson home with him to his own Canadian City.

International City Planning

An International Garden Cities and Town Planning Association is being formed and the International Committee will meet very shortly. The City Improvement League of Montreal has been invited to be among the first members. It is hoped to establish a bureau for the interchange of literature and to organize periodical conferences in various countries of the world.

Mr. Ewart G. Culpin, 3 Gray's Inn Place, Gray's Inn, London, W. C., is the Secretary.

Bible Vocation School

A movement which started in New York in 1901, by which manual labour, organized play and Bible study went hand in hand, and which has had great success, will be started in Montreal this summer. Its aim and purpose is: (1) to instruct and amuse children; (2) to direct their play; (3) to teach them songs, loyalty and patriotism; (4) to fill long, hot summer days with interest; (5) to give children instruction in hammock making, basket weaving, etc., and (6) to tell them Bible stories.

To accomplish this work: (1) Competent teachers, many of them College Students, will be engaged; (2) practical talks will be given on habits of cleanliness, etc.; (3) the services of volunteers will relieve and supplement the work of paid teachers; (4) the children's games will be directed and supervised by physical instructors (in conjunction with the Parks and Playgrounds Association); (5) cool, empty churches will be utilized, thus taking idle children off hot, dusty streets; (6) as many Bible stories will be told by teachers and retold or dramatized by scholars in six weeks as a Sunday school would cover in six months.

The Treasurer is Mr. Theodore G. Morgan (Colonial House, Phillips Square), Montreal.

Notice.—The "National Municipal League" will hold its annual convention this year on Canadian ground, at Toronto, in November. Mr. Clinton Rogers Woodruff, the Secretary, would like to see the League represented. His address is North American Building, Philadelphia, Pa.