



## CANADIAN WOMEN'S PRESS CLUB

MISS IDA WILSHIRE, a member of the Vancouver branch of the Canadian Women's Press Club, writes from Arkansas that she is enjoying greatly her extended tour of the Western States with Madame Labadie. Miss Wilshire writes Madame Labadie's advance press notices and is full of admiration for the interpretative reader's great ability.

Miss Margaret L. Hart, a member of the Toronto Women's Press Club, has been appointed Canadian correspondent of The Catholic Union and Times of Buffalo. Miss Hart taught in Toronto before she entered journalism. Her first newspaper work was done for the Irish Canadian. When that journal was succeeded by the Catholic Register Miss Hart joined the staff, was assistant editor and later editor. Miss Hart whose special work is descriptive and editorial writing, has frequently undertaken special reporting of such events as the Eucharistic Congress in Montreal, the Church Centenary in New York, and Father Fallon's consecration in London. She is a frequent contributor to The Canadian Magazine and The Canadian Courier.

At the annual meeting of the Winnipeg branch of the Canadian Women's Press Club on November 5th, Mrs. Rockwell C. Osborne was chosen by the Club as their President for the ensuing year, Miss Frances Beynon as Vice-President and Miss Mary S. Mantle as Secretary-Treasurer. The retiring President, Mrs. C. P. Walker, in a bright speech expressed her appreciation of the position she had held, and spoke of the keen interest she felt, and would continue to feel, in the doings of the Club. Five new names have been added to the membership since the last annual meeting, and during the same period it was the privilege of the Club members to entertain Mrs. Balmer Watt, Mrs. J. H. R. Bond, Mrs. Nellie McClung, Miss Agnes Murphy, Miss Aimee Moore, Mr. George Ham, and the Thunder Bay branch of the C. W. P. C.

The Winnipeg branch of the Press Club has been holding many interesting meetings of late. On November 11th last Mrs. F. Graham entertained the members of the Club at afternoon tea. During the following week the Club were fortunate in having as their guest Miss Marshall Saunders, and greatly enjoyed her talk regarding Supervised Playgrounds, the work of the Humane Society, and her own undertakings.

The closing meeting of the Club for the year, on December 28th, was held in the beautiful Louis XV room of the T. Eaton Co., by invitation of Mr. A. A. Gilroy, their Manager. Miss Hind, who lately returned from Chicago, and Miss Beynon from a visit to the West, gave interesting accounts of some of their experiences.

On January 26th the Club again met, by invitation of one of its members, for afternoon tea, the hostess being Mrs. H. J. Parker. ("The Bookman" of the Manitoba Free Press.)

The second birthday of the Levy Magazine, Vancouver, B. C., was duly celebrated in December by a birthday dinner at which there was a brilliant array of toasts. After "The King" came "Our Guests" proposed by Judge McInness and responded to by Mr. J. P. McConnell. "The Women's Press Club" was proposed by Mr. B. McEvoy (Diogenes) and to this Mrs. W. J. Holt Murison, (vice-president of the Vancouver Branch of the C. W. P. C.), made an amusing reply. Miss Clara Battle proposed "Our City" and Miss Laverock responded; Mr. R. G. McPherson's toast was "The Press" to which Mr. L. W. Makovski made answer; and, last but not least, Judge McInness proposed "The Levy Magazine" to which Miss Beatrice A. Levy, publisher and editor, replied.

In a miniature of the Levy Magazine the Levy Menu is given, and the story of the many stages of the menu is wittily given by Miss Edy Torr. We

quote the lines which refer to the salad and dessert.

"The 'Province' and the 'World' and the 'Advertiser' met, and decided just like Christians to forgive and to forget. For a strong fraternal feeling kept them fully exercised on leaves from nature's notebook, which the chef had just revised. Lady Van(illa) Ice-Cream once worked out a beautiful scheme: 'Twas that editors never should think themselves clever; but, alas, it was only a dream."

In "The Circle of Young Canada" in the Globe, Miss L. M. Montgomery, the author of "Anne of Green Gables" and two delightful successors to "Anne," recently told of her early writing. From this letter we quote the following paragraphs:

"When did I begin to write? I wish I could remember. I cannot recall the time when I was not writing, and when I did not fondly dream of being a 'really, truly author' when I grew up. From the time I first tried to guide a pen I was a most indefatigable scribbler, and stacks of MSS.—long ago reduced to ashes, alas!—bore testimony to the same. Sometimes I wrote prose; and then all the little incidents of my not very exciting existence were described. I wrote descriptions of my favorite haunts, "biographies" of my pets, accounts of visits and school affairs—and even "critical" reviews of books I had read. Sometimes I broke out in verse, and wrote "poetry" about flowers and months, or addressed "lines" to my friends, and enthused over sunsets. I remember the very first "poetry" I ever wrote. I was nine years old, and I had been reading Thomson's "Seasons," of which a little curly-covered, atrociously-printed copy had fallen into my hands. So I composed a poem called "Autumn," in blank verse, in imitation thereof. I wrote it, I remember, on the back of one of the long red "letter bills" then used in the post-office service. It was seldom easy for me to get all the paper I wanted, and those jolly old "letter bills" were positive boons. My grandparents, with whom I lived, kept the postoffice, and three times a week a discarded letter bill came my delighted way. As for 'Autumn,' I can recall only the opening lines:—

'Now Autumn comes, laden with peach and pear:  
The sportsman's horn is heard throughout the land,  
And the poor partridge, fluttering, falls dead.'

True, peaches and pears were not abundant in Prince Edward Island at any season, and I am sure nobody ever heard a 'sportsman's horn' in this Province—though dear little partridges are shot mercilessly. But in those glorious days my budding imagination declined to be hampered by facts. Thomson had sportsmen's horns, and so forth; therefore I must have them, too.

"Autumn" had many successors. Once I had found out that I could write poetry, I overflowed in verse about everything. Writing came as easily and naturally to me as breathing or eating. Other children found their recreation in games and romps. I found mine in creeping away into some lonely corner with a pencil and a "letter bill," and writing verses or sketches in a cramped, schoolgirl hand.

I remember—who could ever forget it?—the first commendation my writings received. I was about twelve, and I had a stack of poems written out, and hidden jealously from all eyes—for I was very sensitive about my scribbles, and could not bear the thought of having them seen by those who would probably laugh at them. Nevertheless, I wanted to know what others would think of them—not from vanity, but from a strong desire to find out if an impartial judge would see any merit in them. So I employed a ruse to find out. It seems very funny, and a little pitiful, to me now; but then it seemed to me that I was at the bar of judgment for all time."



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