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# Cwenty-Second Annual Report

OF THE

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# Prisoners' Hid Association of Canada

62 QUEEN STREET EAST, TORONTO

For the Year 1895-96

WITH

## Constitution and Eist of Subscribers

"Finally, the prevention of crime depends, to a very large degree, upon the education of public sentiment. . . Public opinion, therefore, needs to be enlightened, informed and guided, upon all questions relating to crime, its causation and prevention, and to criminals, their treatment, reformation and rehabilitation."—F. H. WINES, L.L.D.

TORONTO
DUDLEY & BURNS PRINTERS
1897



## EXTRACTS FROM THE CONSTITUTION

OF THE

# Prisoners' Aid Association of Canada.

ARTICLE I.—This Association shall be called THE PRISONERS' AID ASSOCIATION OF CANADA, and its central point of operation shall be the City of Toronto.

ARTICLE II.—The object of this Association shall be the reformation of offenders from time to time confined in the Penitentiaries, Prisons and Jails of the Dominion of Canada, and of the several Provinces thereof, during the period of confinement, and their welfare when discharged; the prevention of crime; and prison reform. For the furtherance of these ends it shall endeavor to organize similar Associations throughout Canada, and these Associations shall bear the name of "The Branch of the Prisoners' Aid Association of Canada," and shall report their work to this Association annually, on or before the first day of October in each year.

ARTICLE III.—The means to be employed shall be (a) the establishment of Sunday schools in Penitentiaries, Prisons and Jails; (b) the personal visitation of prisoners both before and after their discharge; (c) the supply of pecuniary and other material aid to discharged prisoners; (d) the dissemination of information likely to promote the objects of the Association; (e) the use of proper methods for the successful attainment of the objects of the Association.

ARTICLE IV.—All Christian workers who are actively engaged in the Sunday schools of the Association, and each person paying one dollar annually, to a branch, or to the General Treasurer, shall be members of the Association. The payment of \$25 by one person at one time, shall constitute a life membership.

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# Prisoners' Aid Association.

Officers for 1896-97.

President:

HON. S. H. BLAKE, Q.C.

Vice-Presidents:

J. G. Hodgins, LL.D. Robert Kilgour, Esq. J. T. Gilmour, Esq., M.D.

E. A. MEREDITH, LL.D. W. B. McMurrich, Esq., Q.C James Massie, Esq.

Secretary:

A. M. Rosebrugh, M.D.

Treasurer:

JOHN AITKEN, Esq.

Supt. S.S. Central Prison:

HAMILTON CASSELS, Esq.

Supt. S.S. Reformatory for Women:

HUGH MACMATH, Esq.

Supt. S.S. County Jail .

ROBERT HALL, Esq.

Agent and Teacher:

FINLAY SPENCER, Esq.

Bible Woman.

MRS. L. C. BELLAMY.

#### OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

The objects of the Association are the reformation of offenders, their welfare when discharged, the prevention of crime, and prison reform.

The means employed are:

- 1. A Sunday school Mission in Central Prison.
- 2. A Sunday school Mission in the Reformatory for Women.
- 3. A Sunday school Mission in the County Jail.
- 4. A night school for secular education in the Central Prison.
- 5. The employment of an agent and a Bible woman for the welfare of prisoners.
- 6. The distribution of prison reform literature, and the use of other means for awakening a more general interest in the cause of prison reform.
- 7. The formation of Branch Societies in different parts of the Province of Ontario.
- 8. The maintenance of a Home for Girls in connection with the work of the Bible-woman.
- 9. Assisting with tools, and making temporary loans to discharged prisoners.
- 10. A preaching service weekly at the Central Prison, and twice a week at the Female Reformatory, by members of the Toronto Ministerial Association.

# Prisoners' Hid Association.

## REPORT OF THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The Twenty-Second Annual Meeting of the Prisoners' Aid Association of Canada was held in Cooke's Presbyterian Church, Toronto, Monday, March 8th, 1897, at 8 p.m., the President, Hon. S. H. Blake, Q.C., presiding. Among the many influential persons present, who are interested in the Prison Reform movement were: -The Bishop of Toronto, Principal Caven, Rev. C. O. Johnston, Rev. Dr. Blackstock, Hon. E. J. Davis, (Provincial Secretary) Dr. Gilmour, (Warden of the Central Prison) Dr. Chamberlain, (Inspector of Prisons) Inspector Noxon, Dr. A. M. Rosebrugh, (Secretary) Rev. Dr. Parker, Dr. E. A. Meredith, Rev. F. B. Hodgins, Mr. Hamilton Cassels, Mr. Hugh Mac. Math, Rev. Septimus Jones, Rev. John Hunt, Hugh Miller, Esq., Staff Inspector Archibald, Inspector Stark, Dr. W. Oldright, J. J. Woodhouse, John Harvie, Esq., Mr. Findlay Spencer, Mr. Beverley Jones, Mr. Edward Taylor (City Relief Officer), and Ald. Scott.

Bishop Sweetman opened the meeting with prayer, after which the Chairman delivered his annual address.

#### CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS.

We may sound a hopeful note. It is slow work to set people thinking on such a subject-much slower to get them to act. engaged in the work the wonder is that what appears to them as so absolutely plain and such needed reforms should not at once be granted. It is indeed a work of line upon line, to be done by littles. But "No vast design was ever snatched in haste, 'tis patience heaves it on."

How many years it took to arouse and enlighten to any extent ic opinion. We have, however, now arrived at this point that the public opinion. principle of prison reform is admitted. Our difficulty is in procuring the necessary legislation to make effectual what seems to be almost universally admitted as proper reforms. It seems incomprehensible to those interested in this work and who witness the legislation else-

where passed from year to year and the benefits derived therefrom that our Parliament should not give us the laws needed to give effect to these much needed reforms.

There seems to be three grounds on which such legislation could

reasonably be demanded and on which it should be granted.

1. The large cost to the community of the present ineffectual method of dealing with the criminal classes. This divides itself into three branches, (a) the actual loss in money and goods arising directly from the depredations and acts of the criminal; (b) the cost in money in watching, catching, trying, housing, feeding, and supervising the criminal and all the paraphernalia needed for the administration of criminal justice; and, (c) the indirect but much more serious cost arising from the injury to the moral life of the community, the contamination of a large part of the population, the accustoming to crime, the leading into it, and the consequent deterioration of the common wealth. It causes an ugly and ever enlarging cancer and is a constant menace to the body politic.

The duty the State owes to the community to prevent in every way in its power the criminal class from preying on society, to lessen their number, and to put incorrigible or habitual criminals under lock and key until they express the determination to abandon crime as a means of livelihood and express a wish to become good citizens.

3. The duty the State owes to the criminal to seek to reform him, to better him, to surround him with good and not evil influences, to enable him to retrieve the black past and start in a new life.

This all seems so plain that one is lost in wonder that means towards effecting these results are not adopted. What has been tried and found effective and for which we are clamouring? Does not our common sense inform us that good must flow from plain rules such as the following which we now beg our Legislatures to pass and enforce:

(a) Separation.—Persons awaiting trial and not under sentence and who may be acquitted should not receive the stigma of jail birds and the evil influence of the jail. There should be no contact between first and older offenders. Incorrigibles and habitual offenders should be kept separate from others and from each other. It is impossible for the first offender desiring it, as our jails now are, to be decent and resist contamination. Separate confinement should be insisted on, with the consequent opportunity for reflection, for reading, and for such kindly and benign influences as will lead to better thoughts and

Work.—Industrial Employment—as a reward a portion of the money earned to go to the prisoner or those dependent on him. conduct marks-a shortening of the term of punishment, and every reasonable incentive to take advantage of the offers made.

(c) A system of parole and probation with investigation, visitation, and oversight. The Province of Quebec is in advance of us in this respect as they have now an act which enables the authorities to pardon, parole, and apprentice. This system introduced and judiciously applied would I am satisfied be of large benefit to the community.

- (d) Indeterminate Sentences so that the incorrigible, the habitual criminal, or drunkard, may be taught that he cannot with impunity war against society. This is also demanded in the interest of the criminal who during the short sentence has not the chance to reform; n or the State the opportunity to educate him. What a farce if a dog bites a citizen to send him down for thirty days and continue this process from month to month, but, this is the obnoxious system which we suffer in our midst to-day.
- (e) Require of the criminal that he make restitution for the loss caused to the party injured. Let this be done out of the property taken; or by compelling work and applying a portion of the earnings to satisfy the claim. This, as old as the law of Moses, must prove a great deterrent to crime.
- (f) Let there be in the sentences pronounced on the prisoner a system of certain but gradual cumulation so that he may see that continuing in his course he must end his days in prison.
- (g) Be merciful to the unfortunate whose only crime is their poverty and let them not in their old age be herded with malefactors as the reward of the State for a life of toil.
- (h) Insist on the parental responsibility; and when this is disregarded let the paternal office be undertaken by the State; making the parent responsible to the extent of his capacity for his work thus done by the State. Where possible let the boarding out system be adopted.
- (i) Reduce to the very minimum those in our jails by the most perfect system of Industrial Schools, Reformatories, Houses of Industry, and all such like deterrent and progressive influences so that the supply of criminals may be cut off at the fountain.
- (j) Let there be liberal aid judiciously given to the discharged prisoners, so that it may be made easy for them to turn over a new leaf, and that they may not be driven as a means of self-defence, back to the criminal classes.

Much has been said of the three R's in our education. Let us have in our prison system the three H's,—the heart, the head and the hand, all brought into play.

Let us insist upon our prison Sunday; and at least once a year let this most important matter, to the welfare of our community, be the subject of our anxious thought and prayers.

We complain bitterly and continuously of burglars, thieves, and criminals of all classes. Are we really satisfied with what we have done to eradicate and better them?

We should all contribute to the solution of this question: "If thou forbear to deliver them that are drawn unto death, and those that are ready to die; if thou sayest, "Behold, we knew it not; doth not He that pondereth the heart consider it? And He that keepeth thy soul doth not He know it? and shall not He render to every man according to his works?"

The Chairman called upon Dr. Gilmour, Warden of the Central Prison, to move the first resolution, which is as follows:—

Moved by Warden Gilmour, seconded by Rev. Principal Caven.

"That the reports of the various officers be taken as read, that this meeting recognizes with deep satisfaction the helpful character of the work of the Association, and its steady development and advance in the direction of increased usefulness, and that the work done by this Association commends itself to the sympathy and support of the Christian public of this Province."

Further, That 3,000 copies of the Report of the Directors, as presented to the Annual Meeting of the Prisoners' Aid Association, be printed for circulation, and that the following officers be appointed for the year 1896-7: (See page 4).

Dr. Gilmour said, that the time at his disposal would not permit him elaborating upon the subject of criminal sociology, but that he would like to say a word or two upon the relation of society to the criminal class. People were very prone to consider the criminal class as an element or section of society entirely isolated from themselves. One brief year as Warden of the Central Prison had taught him that any ideas of that character should not be entertained. During the past year he had had under his charge men whose brothers had sat with him in Parliament. Some of the men in his charge had come from the very best homes in the country. To relate a little episode, he said, a couple of days ago two respectable ladies, while in the waiting room of the Central Prison, recognized each other as old acquaintances, and as they did, they became embarrassed for they each had a son there, whom they had come to visit. These people had lived beside each other in a town in a eastern part of this Province some years ago. Their children had played together and they little dreamed in those early days that their boys would ever be confined in the Central Prison. In the Central Prison the professions are all represented, law, medicine and divinity. There are many reasons why the people, especially those bringing up a family, cannot afford to treat what is termed the criminal class with disdain. Many men in a moment of weakness yield to temptation, and the duty of society in the future is very apparent. There are many reasons why society should take an interest in the criminal classes, one of the reasons is expressed by Carlyle very appropriately, in speaking of the large number of paupers and criminals, he says :-- "Masses, yea masses, yet singular to say, if by an effort of imagination we follow them into their hovels, garrets and huts we find the masses composed of units, each unit of whom has his own heart sorrows, stands there covered with his own skin, and if you prick him he will bleed." He

was not prepared to say that the social system was not altogether blameless for some of the crime committed. There were men serving terms in the Central Prison who had gone there through habitual intemperance. A wealthy man is addicted to the same vice as a poor man but his social environments are such that the law could not reach him, yet they both yield to the same influence which produces the same effect, with the result that one is a member of society and the other a convict. There are many reasons why the better element of society should have the strongest impulse possible to do all that it can for the criminal class. But there are two classes of people who should never have anything to do with the criminal. First the sentimentalist, who is clay in a criminal's hands to be moulded as the criminal wishes. Secondly, the skeptic who can see nothing good in a criminal. Geothe tells us that "despair of mankind is distrust of God." Speaking of the criminal classes it would be well to divide them into two classes the accidental and habitual. In the accidental class we put people who have led most of their lives an honest life, but in a moment of weakness have yielded to temptation, brought before a Judge, convicted and sent to prison. This is the most sensitive class, and they suffer the imprisonment most keenly. In each case they return home to live proper lives and become useful citizens. I have never seen a man so bad but there was not some good in him or a man so good that there was not some bad in him. Then there is the habitual criminal, and in dealing with him it can be said there is a very strong element of heredity in his composition, by that, it is not meant that he is not responsible for what he does. There is nothing that does more to encourage the habitual criminal than our system of short sentences for old offenders. Habitual criminals follow crime as old gamblers follow poker. They take the chance of making a livelihood by taking what does not belong to them with the expectation, if caught, of receiving six or seven months imprisonment. Now in dealing with these people the Indeterminate Sentence and the Parole System should exist. Dr. Chamberlain or Dr. Oldright would not send a small pox patient to the hospital to be released at a certain date, whether he was cured or not. No, the patient would have to be cured before he would be released. One is the question of medical pathology and the other of social pathology. An habitual criminal should in place of six months be sentenced to say five years, as a maximum sentence, and when you give him a parole and make him report, you place in the man's hands the prison

keys and he generally tries to keep outside of the prison wall. While out on parole the man gets in the way of earning a livelihood. The worse man outside the prison wall is generally the best man inside. The habitual criminal takes his punishment as a matter of course and tries to make the best out of his prison life. The most difficult class of prisoners to manage is the boys who have never had proper home influence. The two great causes which lead to prison are defective home training and intemperance. Almost in every instance if it is made a study it will be traced to defective home training. As a rule the parents of these children have been degenerated. In the confirmed criminals as a rule you will find them gentle, but you will find them defective in one or the other particular. They need perhaps more of what you term hospital treatment, such as the degenerates in a more advanced stage receive in the hospital treatment in our asylums. In referring to accidental criminals, the Warden said, that morning a man whose term of imprisonment would expire in two to three weeks had come to him, to see if he could not get some extra work to do so that he could make some money. When the man had entered the Central Prison he could not write, but he had learned while there at the night school, and he was greatly delighted when he could write a letter to his wife. This man had a family, and he said, although he had suffered by being kept in prison during the year, that suffering was nothing to the torture of going back to his old friends and acquaintances. What did that man require? It was not money. That man required strong moral support and unless he got that it would be fearful to contemplate what his future would be. If he gets that moral supportwhat he should get—it can be said with absolute certainty that he will lead an honest and respectable life. Referring to aiding the prisoners on their coming out of prison, Dr. Gilmour said, the Government did almost all that was necessary-speaking from a financial standpoint. During the year \$2,600 in cash and \$1,700 worth of clothes had been given to discharged prisoners, and every one on being discharged is given a ticket to return to the place from whence he came. In a good many cases money to discharged prisoners was a curse. The three great reforming elements were religion, labor and education. He had often seen money a curse to discharged prisoners, and the more he saw of it the more inclined he was to ask the question, would it not be better, not to give them a single dollar? Two cases were illustrated regarding the giving of money to discharged prisoners, one where the Warden had recommended Inspector Noxon to give a prisoner coming

out \$25, having been a most diligent and industrous mechanic and who had squandered it in a few days in liquor; the other was where the Doctor had met a former inmate of the prison in Detroit, who had with the money got from the Prison, with some that his wife had, bought a waggon and was now making \$15 or \$16 a week selling pop corn. In concluding Warden Gilmour said, they were most anxious to have the Interdeterminate Sentence and the Parole System introduced here. Sir Oliver Mowat, Minister of Justice of Canada, had promised to give, if not all, part at least of the reforms asked for at the coming session of the Federal Parliament. The Provincial Government, with the Hon. Mr. Davis at the head of the Department that has charge of the Central Prison would do all it could to assist on the reforms. What was wanted, was strong moral support. It was not the question of money, but it was to be ready to engage in the work personally. Many men will give large amounts of money to charitable institutions and yet would not take back a discharged prisoner who had formerly been in their employ. It is said, "That the strongest hope of the worst lies in a loving contact with the best." Then encourage this work for "a benevolent endeavour is never lost, it must tell somewhere." The Doctor concluded by moving the adoption of the first resolution.

Principal Caven, in seconding the motion for the adoption of the report, said, that the question of how to treat criminals and prisoners required a great deal of study, and he was pleased to see that a large number of highly intelligent and benevolent ladies and gentlemen were making it a study. They were all aware how in olden times criminals were treated. There were so many capital crimes in those days that a person shudders to think of them. Almost every town had its gallows hill. In speaking of the prison reforms during the last five cr six centuries, Dr. Caven said, it was strange that the great religious movements which took place before the last century and which had so largely ameliorated the condition of all classes failed almost entirely to reach prisoners. There was little effectively done in prison reform in England until the time of John Howard, who commenced his visitations of the prisons in the year 1773. His labours were the very embodiment of Christian Benevolence. Then came Neild and others who worked for reforms in prison life, whose names will not be forgotton, especially the name of Elizabeth Fry. Crime must be treated with justice but also with kindness and the law of

love. There was a great deal to be done in our Penetentiaries, Jails and Central Prison, and he trusted that all would do what they could in helping on the good work.

The resolution being put to the meeting it was carried unanimously. Moved by Rev. C. O. Johnston, seconded by Rev. Dr. Blackstock.

2. Resolved, That we hereby desire to record our deep regret that the Ontario Government has not as yet given full effect to the necessary reform recommended by the Prison Commission, and, as embodied in their valuable Report, which was presented to the Lieutenant-Governor in April, 1891.

Resolved, That while the thanks of the Prisoners' Aid Association are due to the Ontario Government for having enlarged the cell capacity of the Central Prison in accordance with a recommendation to that effect made at the last Annual Meeting, we would again call attention to the advisability of erecting a block of isolation cells for two classes of prisoners, namely, firstly for incorrigible effenders not amenable to discipline and who exert a bad influence upon other prisoners, and secondly for the isolation for a few weeks of first offenders before being admitted to work in association with other prisoners.

Rev. C. O. Johnston in moving the second resolution said, it seemed a pity that there could not be a photograph of that gathering put into the hand of every discouraged prisoner so that he could see that all men were not against him. It was a grand sight upon a rainy night to see so many prominent men both in the church and state whose heads and hands were filled with matters of the greatest importance come together to consider how they might help the classes that were least ready to help themselves. They should reach down to the lowest and lift them up upon the platform of manhood, respectability and morality. There is before us a great promise. As we look out we behold not clouds of discouragement, but the rising of the sun, with a better hope for these men, so much so, that men and women turn their faces prayerfully and sympathetically towards this question which is usually the last question to interest society. When you see leading men of the church, of medicine and in all practical lines of life, giving some consideration to this question of uplifting those whom it is most easy to forget, and with whom it is most undesirable to associate with, there is great hope for the foundation of society in the near future. Mr. Johnston said he was not a politician but that he was a supporter of any party in power while they did what was right. It should be the desire of all to do all they could towards making it hard to do wrong and easy to do right. He was willing to stand by any one, no matter whether that person was a Roman Catholic or a Methodist in religion, so long as he or she was true to the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of man. He would seek to be a humanitarian in the best Christian sense. The Government was

responsible for criminality to the extent of its failures to provide preventive legislation. The reverend gentleman then referred to the desecration of the Sabbath by permitting the running of excursion trains, street cars, excursion boats and various other equippages. There should be instilled in the minds and hearts of our young people that character of good citizenship and morality which arises from a careful observance of the Seventh Day of the week. We should endeavour to create a moral observance of the Sabbath as a day for spiritual culture and moral development. The liquor traffic and pugilism were spoken of as leading to criminality, and not sufficiently covered by law. In conclusion the speaker called the attention of the meeting to these words in the resolution :--"That we hereby desire to record our deep regret that the Ontario Government has not as yet given full effect," the words "as yet," implying the promise of more governmental help in the near future. He had the utmost confidence in many of the Christian men who were members of the Government, and hoped that they would do what was right and therefore stand before the world as a successful Government.

Rev. Dr. Blackstock in seconding the resolution said, that he knew the Government had many difficulties to encounter, and it became necessary very often at times to make haste slowly, yet he had no doubt that the meeting would have a great deal to do towards strengthening the Government in dealing with the question. He was sure hat the alterations in the law, especially those of the proper classification of criminals, would receive at the hands of the Government due consideration. It was difficult to induce counties to act as they ought to act, as they did not want to do anything that would involve additional expenditure. In order to provide for the proper classification of criminals it would be necessary to incur a good deal of expense. He regretted that public opinion was not what it ought to be.

The resolution was unanimously endorsed.

Moved by E. A. Meredith, LL.D., seconded by Rev. F. B. Hodgins.

3. Whereas, It is desirable when first offenders and persons awaiting trial are confined in common jails, that they should be provided with separate cells altogether apart from other prisoners. And whereas, a competent architect has made an estimate that on one of the flats in the Toronto Jail, 18 or 20 well-lighted and wellventilated roomy cells could be provided for this class, for a sum not exceeding \$3,500, therefore.

Resolved, That in view of the great improvement in the classification of prisoners that would result from the change referred to, it is the opinion of this meeting that the expense incurred would be more than justified by the beneficial results which may be expected therefrom, ina-much as said change would prevent the spread of vice and crime incident to open corridor association of jail prisoners.

Dr. E. A. Meredith said that the question of the separation of first offenders and persons awaiting trial confined in our common jails had been advocated strenuously by Prison Congresses, Prison Associations and Prison Reformers throughout the world during the last forty years. As yet nothing had been done, here, from this universal advocacy, although it was universally admitted in theory but unfortunately the theory had not been translated into action. During the last thirty or forty years great improvements have been made in our common jails. When he first became Inspector of jails, they were very different from what they were to-day. In those days there was no attempt whatever at classification, and consequently the jails were in a wretched state. It was an act of cruelty to place youthful prisoners where they would associate with hardened criminals of the very worst kind. It was putting them through a course of compulsory education in crime. The Doctor also referred to the monsterous injustice existing, that persons awaiting trial should be compelled to herd with the worst criminals in the land.

Rev. F. B. Hodgins said in speaking to the resolution, that he desired to express his sympathy with the movement they were engaged in. He would like to see the next meeting of the Association held in the Central Prison, so that the prisoners could see what interest was being taken for their welfare by some of the leading men of the city. The speaker then spoke against herding all classes of persons together in our jails. He said, they should be isolated as you would isolate contagious diseases, and that we should endeavour in every possible way to encourage them to amend their lives and by so doing we would be doing a service to the community.

The chairman said that the question of isolation should be tested in Toronto. That the people should be educated up to the necessity of this change; that it should be tried for four or five years to see whether it would not diminish the number of criminals, and if it was a success the system could then be introduced throughout the country. The resolution on being put to the meeting was carried unanimously. Moved by Beverly Jones, Esq., seconded by Alderman Scott.

4. Whereas, We are informed that in many parts of the Province boys are fast drifting into a life of vice and crime because the Municipalities decline to undertake their maintenance in an Industrial School:

Resolved, That in the opinion of this meeting an understanding should be arrived at between the Government and the Municipalities without delay, whereby this fearful state of affairs shall cease.

Mr. Beverly Jones said, that about fifteen years ago the first

Prison Reform Conference was held in Shaftesbury Hall, Toronto, at which the present chairman presided, and associated with him was, Mr. William Howland, that great man who had since gone from us to the great beyond. One of the chief questions that came up for discussion at that meeting was the way boys and girls were being brought up as criminals. It was then no uncommon thing to find ten or twelve boys in Toronto Jail in association with criminals. Mr. Howland's great maxim was, that "no child should be sent to jail." That no child under 16 or 17 years of age should ever see the inside of a prison. That was the principle we adopted and worked on for a good many years. The Children's Court came after a good deal of effort. We interviewed the Ontario Government as well as Sir John Thompson regarding the matter. In 1888, the Ontario Government gave us the Juvenile Offenders Act which first legalized a Children's Court. The Police Magistrate did not acknowledge the authority of the Ontario Legislature so we went to Sir John Thompson and got similar legislation from the Dominion, which established the Children's Court beyond cavil. The principle we contended for was that children should be tried separately from adult criminals, and that their parents should be present and be looked to as responsible for the conduct of the children The falling off in committals to the Industrial School would seem to be the natural result of the efforts which have been made in the interest of the children. We find there is one cottage closed at the Industrial School, and that the population has fallen from 200 down to nearly 100. Last year at the Children's Court there were 506 children arraigned for various crimes as follows:—larceny 234, disorderly 17, vagrancy 34, gambling 18, trespass 70, pocketpicking 11, assault 7, housebreaking 20, incorrigible 23, horse stealing 4, arson 13, burglary 3, malicious injury to property 36 and tilltapping 17, making a total of 506. Sent to Victoria Industrial School 11, Alexandria Industrial School 1, Penetanguishene Reformatory 8, Mercer Refuge 6, St. John's School 5, Then there were sent to foster homes by the Chilmaking in all 31. dren's Aid Society about 57 children. We have no information what became of the remaining 418 children who came before the Police Magistrate. Simple letting them loose on the community would not seem to be a very satisfactory method of dealing with them. appears that the number of young men in the Central Prison was increased. This would seem to show that boys who are not stopped at first in their career are ultimately landed in the Central Prison. Mr.

Jones then said that the City of Toronto objected to paying not merely \$2.00 a week for her own children, but also paying for the education of all children sent to the schools from other municipalities. This is of course a great burden to the city. He thought the burden to the city should be reduced; that the city should only be charged \$1.00 and the Government pay the rest. Each boy who went to Penetanguishene, be it noted, costs the country \$4.50 a week. The Government in 1895, received nearly \$400,000 from the succession tax. This tax was first advocated by Mr. Howland and the speaker in order to benefit Industrial Schools. After referring to two boys who had been brought up theives by their mother, one of whom would have been 25 years in the penal institutions of the country at a cost of at least from \$7,000 to \$10,000 when his present sentence had expired, the speaker moved the above resolution.

Ald. Scott in seconding the resolution spoke of an incident that had come under his observation. A youth in his employ some time ago had appropriated a considerable sum of money, and the question arose as to what should be done with him. He personally favored letting him go with a reprimand, thinking it was far better to do that than to throw him indiscriminately amongst the hardened criminals whom he would come in contact with under the present system. He was willing to give the boy a chance to redeem the past, but he was overruled by others, and a sentence of six months in the Central Prison was given the lad. Fortunately Mr. Massey, who was then warden, took an interest in him, and the lad showed his appreciation of that interest, and left that institution with a record for good conduct. His occupation while in prison fortunately kept him to some extent apart from the worst of the criminals. The young man learned a lesson, and there is reason to believe that he is now doing well and honestly endeavoring to redeem the past as far as he may. A different result would undoubtedly have followed, had it not been for the isolation at the prison and the kind interest of the warden. With regard to classification of criminals he believed in it, and he was sure it would produce beneficial results. Referring to the Industrial School he argued that it should be taken charge of by the Government, which should manage it in the interest of the Province, although he would not say that the Government should assume all the responsibility so far as the expense was concerned. A great objection had been taken by the Council of Toronto to one item of expense, that of teaching. The city does not

send all the boys to the Mimico School yet they have to bear the expense of the teaching staff. He had great confidence in the good work done at the Institution.

The resolution was put to the meeting and endorsed.

Moved by the Bishop of Toronto, seconded by Hamilton Cassels, Esq. 5. Resolved, That the following gentlemen, in association with the Board of Managers of the Prisoners' Aid Association of Canada, be appointed a Committee by this meeting, to take such steps as they deem proper with a view of giving practical effect to the foregoing resolutions, viz:

Hon. G. W. Allan, Hon. S. C. Biggs, O. A. Howland, M.P.P., Dr. Wm. Oldright, Dr. W. W. Ogden, J. S. Willison, Esq., J. K. Macdonald, Esq., Rev. Dr. Parsons, Rev. Dr. Potts, Rev. Dr. Thomas, Rev. Wm. Frizzell, and J W. Langmuir, Esq., with power to add to

Bishop Sweatman said that he took an active interest in Prison Reform work which was undertaken by the Association. He did not believe in pampering criminals, but they should be treated humanely. There was one branch of work undertaken by the Association that had his special sympathy, that was, looking after the juvenile criminals. The Bishop spoke very highly of the management of the Penetanguishene Reformatory, and he said, that the boys there received fatherly, loving and Christian care. He did not think the Government should undertake the moral reformation of the boys, that ought to be the work of the churches and Christian philanthropists. His Lordship said, they wanted classification in our prisons and he was greatly in favor of the cottage system which had been adopted at the Industrial School for the treatment of young boys and girls.

Mr. Hamilton Cassels seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

The chairman said that letters regretting inability to be present had been received from Hon. G. W. Allan and Mr. O. A. Howland, M.P.P. He would now call upon Dr. Chamberlain, Inspector of Prisons and the Hon. E. J. Davies, Provincial Secretary to move a vote of thanks to the pastor, trustees and choir of Cook's Church.

Moved by Inspector Chamberlain, and seconded by Hon. E. J. Davies. That the thanks of this meeting be tendered to Rev. Wm. Patterson and the Session of Cooke's Church for the use of the Lecture Room and to the choir of the church for their valuable services.

Dr. Chamberlain said he was glad to be present that night with them. While he could not altogether subscribe to all the views held by the Association, yet he could say they were in many ways leading in the right direction. It would be seen from his report of last year

that the diminution of crime was much more marked than it had been for years. Perhaps it had been owing to some extent to the movement The number of committals for drunkenness on the Temperance lines. has been greatly reduced of late years. As Inspector of Prisons he had moved along the lines of reform carefully during the past few years. It was not his business to theorize but to practice. From some of the observations dropped to night there appeard to be some erroneous ideas regarding the management of our Common Jails. He thought the Government were moving as fast as circumstances would warrant. Whatever was required proper steps should be taken in order to obtain the reforms asked for. For years he had been working along the lines of reform. When he first took up prison work, theory said it was always best to place prisoners, who did wrong, in a dark cell and in consequence there was a dark cell in all the jails in the province, but there were no dark cells to-day. Theory to-day says some things should be done, and he was not prepared to say it was wrong, but that it was a debatable question. It must be borne in mind that prisoners in this country are moved far more rapidly than they are in other countries, they are not confined altogether in the Common Jails, they are moved to the reformatories and so on, and thus you have a chance for reformation. There was the danger of expense in advocating changes, which the counties were very careful as to incurring. He would not say now what his views were regarding the prison management of this country. As an official of the Ontario Government it was his duty to recommend any change to the head of his Department, whom he was pleased to see present to-night. In concluding he moved that the thanks of the meeting be tendered to the Rev. William Patterson and the trustees for the use of the room, and to the members of the choir of Cooke's Church for their valuable services rendered that evening.

Hon. Mr. Davis said in seconding the resolution that when he had received a few days before the kind invitation from the officers of the Association to be present that night, he had replied, that if his public duties would at all permit him he would be present. After listening to the addresses there would appear to be some things desirable to be done for the benefit of the prisoners. Now some of the reforms spoken of have been introduced in the Central Prison under the excellent management of Dr. Gilmour. As Provincial Secretary, the Central Prison being in his Department, the excellent work going on there was brought to his attention. On behalf of the Government

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he might say that they were anxious to do all they could in advancing the interests of the Prisoners. The Government although anxious to do what was right had to use the people's money to the best advantage. He would be delighted to receive suggestions from the Association or from any other Association of citizens with reference to any improvements that might be brought to the attention of the Government. He was not there to say that the Government would be able to adopt them, but he would promise them that they would receive careful attention. He was pleased to see so many distinguished gentlemen in the different churches of the land taking such an interest in the work of preventing young men and women from getting into the penal institutions of the country. So far as the Government was concerned he believed they were anxious to do what they could to make it easy for the people of the Province to do right. He had been delighted to hear Mr. Blackstock say that the Government had many difficulties to contend with. After being twenty years in public life, both in municipal and parliamentary, those kind words would give him encouragement to do what he supposed to be right. Warden Gilmour had made reference to one thing which he believed ought to be impressed upon their minds, that was, where a young man had asked to be re-employed by the firm he had previously worked for and they had declined to do so, and they probably had good reason for reaching that decision. Then, the question What is to be done in a case like this, where a young man has made a mistake and been committed to prison for a short term, and at the expiration of his term determines to redeem his character and become a good citizen, but is refused employment because of the fact that he has served a short term in prison? Now, if the Association could, by educating public opinion, or in any other way, make it easier for the young man so situated to obtain employment, a very great advantage would be gained in the direction of reforming those who, perhaps, have made their first mistake and are anxious to retrieve the past. Mr. Davis, after seconding the vote of thanks, asked to be allowed to be come a life member of the Association on the payment of \$25.

The Chairman said they would be pleased to receive the life membership fee from the Hon. Mr. Davis. He then thanked the ladies and gentlemen for their attendance on such a disagreeable evening.

The Rev. Principal Caven closed the meeting with the benediction.

## Prisoners' Hid Association.

#### REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS.

During the year, work has been steadily carried forward in all the departments. The Sunday Schools, conducted every Sunday morning at the Central Prison, Women's Reformatory, and City Gaol, have been carried on uninterruptedly and by a full staff of teachers. The religious services by the Toronto Ministerial Association, at the Central Prison on Sunday afternoons, and at the Women's Reformatory on Sunday afternoons, as well as on Tuesday evenings, are still continued.

These services are very much appreciated by the inmates. We thankfully recognize the assistance given by many of the ministers of the city in this respect. Sometimes those who undertake these services do not attend according to appointment. If they knew the disappointment caused by this they would make the attendance on these services an absolute duty. Even when a substitute is sent there is not the same satisfaction given as when according to the programme the minister appointed to the allotted day is present.

#### HOME FOR GIRLS.

Since the last Annual Meeting two new departures have been made in carrying on our work, which have proved to be important, steps in advance. Early in the year we were fortunate in securing for Bible Woman the services of a married lady (without family) whose home for years has given a welcome to the unfortunate of her sex. We were so favorably impressed with this happy feature in the Bible Woman's method of working, that we were glad to avail ourselves of the first opportunity of making arrangements whereby Mrs. Bellamy, (the Bible Woman,) would be placed in a position to develope or extend this feature in her method of working. In September we were enabled to secure a flat in the same building occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Bellamy. This was fitted up as a "Home for Girls"; Mrs. Melrose was appointed Matron, and the Home was opened on October 1st. Mrs. Melrose, however, soon retired, and Miss Ward was appointed Matron. Miss Ward has been an active worker for years in connection with the Gaol Mission as well as with the Boys' Mission on George St. The indications are that this "Home for Girls" will greatly facilitate our work among the class of girls for whom it is designed, namely, those who

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learn Alexand, be tw have been imprisoned or simply arrested for petty offences, and whom we desire to save from becoming fallen women.

#### AGENT AND SCHOOL TEACHER.

The second departure during the year was made in connection with the Agency. Up to July last an Agent was employed in the interests of discharged prisoners and the families of prisoners, and a teacher from one of the City public schools was employed for conducting the Night School at the Central Prison. In July it was decided that it would be wise to endeavour to secure the services of an agent who could also act as school teacher, and such an agent was accordingly advertised for. There were some 70 applicants, and from this number Mr. Finlay Spencer received the appointment. As was anticipated, we find that in making the acquaintance of the prisoners in connection with the evening school, the agent secures their respect and confidence, which could not be easily secured in any other way.

#### REFORM LEGISLATION.

We will be glad to see the year 1897 marked by the inauguration of important legislative measures in the interests of Prison Reform, including the following, namely, the establishment of the principle of Cumulative sentences, Indeterminate sentences, the Parole system, the Massachusetts Probation system, and a scheme for aiding discharged prisoners, Prisoners' Aid Societies, and a Board of Charities and Correction. We desire also to see the Penitentiaries reorganized, graded, and placed on a reformatory basis, and a Training School for prison officials established. We would suggest the propriety also of providing for the separate supervision of the industrial departments of the penitentiaries, with a view of affording the Wardens more time for the disciplinary and reformatory departments.

#### REFORMATORY FOR YOUNG MEN.

Correspondence has taken place with the Hierarchy of Canada with regard to this Reformatory, and from this correspondence it has been learned, firstly, that the Catholics of Canada are quite satisfied with Alexandria as the location of the proposed Reformatory for Catholics; and, secondly, that the Hierarchy would much prefer that there should be two distinct and separate Reformatories, one for Catholics and one for Protestants. Under these circumstances we are now asking the

Dominion Government to complete the building already commenced at Alexandria, and devote it to the purposes of a Reformatory for Catholic young men, and to establish a Reformatory for Protestant young men near one of our larger cities. We are very strongly of the opinion that the Protestant inmates of a Reformatory for young men should have the benefit of the religious instruction and sympathy of both the clergy and the laity of different denominations, and of a character similar to that afforded the inmates of the Central Prison, Toronto. We are also asking the Government to appoint a Commission to formulate a scheme for the organization and management of such Reformatories.

#### REFORMS REQUIRED IN ONTARIO

We know of no more fitting way whereby the Ontario Government can commemorate the completion of the sixth decade of the reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, than by giving practical effect to the recommendations of the Ontario Prison Reform Commission, made fully five years ago,-including the establishment of a Reformatory for Inebriates and reorganizing the Woman's Reformatory, Boys' Reformatory, and Girls' Refuge. We are also desirous that a Provincial Board of Charities and Correction shall be established in Ontario similar to the State Boards in the United States. Within the last few months correspondence has been held with Inspector Noxon with regard to certain very desirable reforms required in connection with the Ontario Woman's Reformatory; and we are pleased to be able to report that the Inspector appears to be in full accord with us in regard to the desirability of the proposed reforms. We trust our recommendations, endorsed by Inspector Noxon, will be acted upon by the Ontario Government with as little delay as possible.

#### COUNTY COUNCILS AND PRISON REFORMS.

It has been our custom for several years to communicate, at least once a year, with each of the County Councils in regard to the objects and aims of our Association, especially in the direction of prison reform, and asking for co-operation in this work. We are pleased to report that within the last two years three county poorhouses have been established, making thirteen in all now in operation in Ontario,—and that other counties are moving in the same direction. In this connection we desire to thank the Justices of Ontario for calling the attention of Grand Juries to these questions, as also the Clergy and

the W.C.T.U. for most valuable help. A number of the counties contribute to the funds of our Association, for which we are very thankful. This year we are asking the County Councils to make the year 1897 memorable by the introduction of much-needed reforms in our County Jail system. As about nine-tenths of all the prisoners of the Province are incarcerated in county jails, it is of first importance that these jails should be both deterrent and reformatory. As now constituted, they are neither. On the contrary, it is claimed by some of our best authorities that our common jails are actually schools of vice. We are hopeful that the County Councils, as constituted under the new Municipal Act, will be enabled to approach this important question from a more liberal and patriotic standpoint than has characterized the County Councils as previously constituted. These remarks apply also to the lack of provision in many of the counties for the proper care of the destitute poor. It is in the interests of the counties, as also of the entire Province, that there should be a properly organized poorhouse in every county. Poorhouses are as necessary as hospitals, and we hope soon to see one in full operation in every county in Canada.

#### TORONTO AND PRISON REFORM.

It has not yet transpired in what manner the Toronto City Council proposes to commemorate the Victoria Jubilee. We do not know however what would be more appropriate than to make more humane provision for the classes now confined in Toronto Jail, namely, (a) the destitute poor whose only crime is poverty, and (b) first offenders, many of whom are quite innocent of any criminality and who should be kept separate on the English cellular system. The destitute poor should be provided for on a farm colony. For the efficient classification of first offenders, one of the flats of the Jail should be re-modelled and the cells constructed on the English system. This we have ascertained will cost \$3,500. We believe the whole of the extra cost would be saved in five years, on account of the diminished number of prisoners to be arrested, and as a direct result of the inauguration of the improved system. Moreover, the expense of maintenance would be reduced thereby, inasmuch as it is found that short sentences under the separate system is more deterrent than long sentences under the congregate system.

## CONFERENCE OF CHARITIES AND CORRECTION.

There is an organization in the United States called the National Conference of Charities and Correction. The Twenty-fourth Annual Meeting of this influential Society will be held in Toronto in July next. This Society has never met in Canada. As a result of this meeting, we trust there will be formed in Canada an organization of like character, to carry on similar work here. We bespeak for this July meeting the hearty co-operation of all.

#### OBITUARY.

We regret the painful duty of having to record the death of two of our Vice-Presidents, during the year, viz.: H. A. Massey, Esq., and J. R. Miller, Esq. Mr. Massey was ill at the time of his appointment and he was never able to give time to the work of the Association. Mr. Miller, although sorely afflicted for several years, was, nevertheless, a warm friend to the Association and to the cause of Prison Reform. In 1895 he visited one of the County poorhouses of the State of New York at his own expense, and he made a special report of his visit for the use of the Association. He was also strongly impressed with the necessity of the proposed reorganization of the Reformatory for Boys at Penetanguishene.

#### SEPARATE REPORTS OF DEPARTMENTS.

For the reports of the separate departments of our work, our friends are referred to the Report of the Central Prison Sunday School by Mr. Hamilton Cassels, the Superintendent; that of the Reformatory for Women S. S. by Miss Sams, the Secretary; that of the Toronto Jail S. S. by Mr. Robert Hall, Supt. Male Department, and Miss Cull, Supt. Female Department; that of the Night School by the late teacher W. E. Smith, and that of the Bible Woman by Mrs. L. C. Bellamy. There will be no report from the Agent this year, as Mr. Spencer took charge of this department near the close of our financial year. The former Agent failed to prepare a report.

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## PRACTICAL WORK OF THE ASSOCIATION.

The statistics of practical work of the Association for twelve months, ending September 30th, 1896, are as follows:

Total number discharged from City prisons, 1576.

The number of prisoners assisted by the Association on being discharged, was 228.

Employment was found for 48. Provision were given to 24 families and rent paid for 1. Articles of clothing were given to 92. Railway fares were paid either to homes or where employment could be obtained, for 9. Loans were made to 2. Meals and lodgings were given to 111.

The agent and Bible-woman made 498 visits to the prisoners, and 1205 visits outside in the interests of the prisoners and their families; 193 visits made to the Police Court, and 139 visits to the Hospitals and Homes of the city. They have had 3629 personal interviews with prisoners in their cells.

The Night School at the Central Prison has been held four nights each week during the year, with an average attendance of 74. A class for imparting secular education is held weekly at the Mercer Reformatory. The Bible-woman has relieved the Police Court Matron 34 nights. She has written 120 letters to female ex-prisoners, and received 76 replies. 121 female ex-prisoners have called at the home of the Bible-woman for advice and assistance.

133,000 pages of literature was printed during the year, the greater part of which has been distributed.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

The thanks of the Association are due to the following, viz.:

The Ontario Government for encouragement and help.

The Toronto Ministerial Association for sympathy and co-operation.

The Clergy and members of the W. C. T. Unions throughout the Province, who have co-operated in the cause of Prison Reform.

Upper Canada Bible Society for Bibles. The Willard Tract Society for periodicals.

The large number of teachers, for so faithfully conducting the Sunday School work every Sunday.

Our members for their annual subscriptions.

The Corporation of the City of Toronto; the County Council of the County of York; and to the other County Councils, for the annual grants to our Association, as well as to the township, town and village corporations, for donations.

J. R. Miller, Esq., for visiting, at his own expense, and reporting upon the Chemung County Poorhouse in New York State.

A number of friends for cast-off clothing.

The Managers of the Fred Victor Mission for the use of room for meeting discharged prisoners.

The Officials of the Government and of the various prisons for the uniform courtesy that has been extended to the officers and teachers of the Association, and more especially to Dr. Chamberlain and James Noxon, Esq., Inspectors of Prisons; Dr. J. T. Gilmour, Warden of the Central Prison; Mrs. O'Reilly and Mrs. Coad, of Andrew Mercer. Reformatory, and John Green, Esq., Governor of Toronto Jail.

Above all, we are thankful that the Divine blessings has attended the work, during the year.

A. M. ROSEBRUGH,

Secretary.

S. H. BLAKE,

President.

## CENTRAL PRISON SUNDAY SCHOOL.

The character of the work carried on in the Sunday School presents no new features to which attention can be called from year to year, and therefore a very brief statement of the record of attendance is all that is necessary to put those interested in full possession of all the information that is likely to be desired

The attendance of both scholars and teachers has been large, averaging for the year, of teachers 35, of scholars 228. There has as heretofore been a somewhat smaller number of men under our care and fewer teachers during the summer months, but the number of either scholars or teachers has not fallen off as much as usual, this last summer.

The newly-appointed Warden has manifested a deep interest in the School and has much encouraged those engaged in the work. To him and to all the other officers of the Prison we owe sincere thanks, which we extend to them, for their uniform courtesy and regard for our comfort and convenience.

The teachers in Central Prison Sunday School are:—Messrs. Aitken, Banfield, Barber, Bates, Beattie, Bell, Best, Best, Boyd, Broad, Brough, Coles, Complin, Cunnyworth, Curry, French, Hood, Jolly, Kendall, Lelean, Long, Logan, McAlpine, McCormick, McCrae, McFadden, McPherson, Munro, Neal, Oswald, Plowman, Pritchard, Rennie, Ross, Ruddy, Stook, Shepard, Simpson, Stafford, Spencer, Stevenson, Sykes, Wardell, White and Wishart.

HAMILTON CASSELS, Sup't.

## CENTRAL PRISON NIGHT SCHOOL.

The Central Prison Night School has been conducted four evenings each week through the year.

The work of the classes, both senior and junior, has been most satisfactory, while some individuals have made astonishing progress, notwithstanding that through the requirements of discipline and from other causes, the attendance has not been so regular as could be desired. The highest average attendance for any month was 82.69, the lowest 65.46, making a total average of 74 for the year.

It is particularly encouraging to the teacher to note the delight of the men, who, for the first time, conduct their own correspondence.

During the year, some of the men have requested a private interview, in which they evinced the greatest anxiety for salvation. With peculiar pleasure I directed each to the "Lamb of God that taketh away the SIN of the world," "Who died that THEY might live," and "Whose grace is sufficient for them."

I cannot close this report without expressing my indebtedness to the Warden and his staff for their hearty co-operation in furthering the objects of the Association. Guards McDonald and Elwin who were more intimately associated with me in school, contributed in no small degree to the success of the work.

W. E. SMITH, Teacher.

# WOMAN'S REFORMATORY SUNDAY SCHOOL.

The year just ended has been one of patient prayerful sowing the seed, and trusting to the Master for the fruits, and in this He has not withheld the blessing.

The teachers report that at least twelve women are to all human appearances now doing right,—living a renewed life. This of itself is a great reward for all our efforts. The number of prisoners has been smaller this year than ever before; this also is a cause for thankfulness. We of course meet with discouragements in the work but the encouragements far out-number them.

In the children's department the perfect recitation of memory verses and golden texts is most satisfactory.

The teachers hold regularly a short Consecration service, before going up to the chapel Sunday morning. Here thoughts are interchanged relative to the lesson of the day, and prayer is offered on behalf of both teachers and pupils. This meeting is most helpful and is a grand feature of the work. (John 14, 14.)

We go forth gladly to labor in the new year knowing that He who has been with us in the past will be with us in the future, for have we not His promise "Lo I am with you alway."

The teachers engaged in the work at present are H. MacMath, Esq., (superintendent), Mrs. Chamberlain, (assistant superintendent), Misses Scott, Kelly, Howell, McKenzie, Parker, Robertson, Elliott, McKenzie, Carlyle, Fenwick, and Mesdames Slocum and Leach.

E. Y. SAMS, Secretary.

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## THE JAIL SUNDAY SCHOOL.

#### MALE DEPARTMENT.

During the past year the work in the Jail has been faithfully carried on under three divisions: The Male Sunday School, The Female Sunday School, and Personal Work in Corridors, and Jail Hospital. The Women's Sunday School is superintended by Miss Cull, whose report is also presented.

The total attendance at the male Sunday School during the year was 1,386, and the number of men not attending Sunday School, but reached by the corridor work, was 1,890, making a total of 3,276, or an average each Sunday of 63 men.

Besides the Sunday School work, 164 services were held in different parts of the Prison during the Sunday School session, and everywhere much interest was manifested by the prisoners.

Our Christmas breakfast, given by the teachers to the prisoners, was not omitted last year, and at the Gospel service that followed, many were much impressed.

We gladly note the almost entire absence of boys from the Jail, and we trust that steps will at once be taken to provide some proper place for the care of the aged and helpless poor.\*

Several of these have been forwarded by your Superintendent to the municipalities to which they belong. † The teachers in this department are, Messrs. Thomas Cowan, Thomas Taylor, Robert Simpson, J. Harcourt, T. Henderson, W. Russel, J. T. Taylor; Mr. S. Arnold, Mr. John Wood, Assistant-Superintendent, and Mr. Robert Hall, General Superintendent.

I desire to record our sincere appreciation of the kindness and aid so constantly and freely accorded us in this work by Governor Green, as well as by all other officers of this prison.

#### ROBERT HALL, Supt.

<sup>\*</sup>What the Inspector Says.—"It is a disgrace to the people of this Province to allow their aged poor, who have committed no crime against the laws of the land, to be incarcerated within prison walls, clothed in the distinguishing garb of prison criminals. In most cases these people have lived honest and respectable lives, and, perhaps, have reared and educated large families, but from circumstances over which they had no control, have lost children, property and health. It is inhuman, un-Christian and impatriotic, and should be prevented by most stringent legislation, if not immediately remedied by the authorities of the various counties."—Inspector of Prisons for Ontario, Report of 1891.

†Toronto should have a workhouse on farm land, not far from the city, where vagrants and many of the aged poor could contibute to their own maintenance. Provision should also be made in the jail for keeping each first offender isolated from all other prisoners.

#### WOMEN'S DEPARTMENT.

In submitting a condensed report of work among women in Toronto Jail, we would say that, as in years past, we have followed in the Sunday School, the regular International system of Sunday School Lessons, varied by occasional Gospel Meetings. The interest manifested by the women has been very satisfactory. We never close this service without urging an immediate acceptance of Christ as a personal present Saviour. Several have professed conversion. We would refer especially to three girls who, from subsequent report, we have every reason to believe were sincere in their profession of conversion.

Scripture prayer services were held in the Hospital ward, and in cases of illness, in separate cells. One thousand religious papers were distributed and a number of articles of clothing furnished discharged prisoners.

The number of prisoners confined within the woman's department of the Jail, during the past year, was below that of former years, and was almost exclusively confined to that class known as "old offenders"—a class very difficult to reach. This class, however, by their very hardness emphasized the importance of preventative work among juveniles, girls, and young women, who are exposed to temptation.

We cannot speak too highly of the work of the Bible Woman. The Cottage Home for Girls, recently opened under the care of Mrs. Bellamy and Miss Ward, will meet a long felt want in connection with our work.

We acknowledge thankfully the great kindness and valuable assistance rendered at all times by the Jail officials.

The teachers in the female department are the Misses Kelly, Ward, Green, Wood and Cull.

Several of our teachers also visit "our women" at the General Hospital every Sunday.

ANNA CULL, Ass't-Sup't.

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# REPORT OF BIBLE READER FOR THE REFORMATORY AND JAIL.

At the close of this year's labors we pray that Christ may dwell in our hearts by faith, and that we may be filled with all the fulness of God.

It is with heartfelt thankfulness we can say that the year through which we have passed has been marked by many tokens of Divine favor.

Our Wednesday evening meetings in the Mercer Reformatory are well attended; we seldom have less than 40 bright young women, and we have seen as many as 20 rise to their feet at once and ask us to remember them in prayer. The number of prisoners there is not increasing, but more of them are drawn into the meetings.

Instead of a religious service on Saturday afternoon, as formerly, we now teach the unlearned to read and write; and it is very encouraging to see how interested they are in the exercise and how quickly they learn. We are glad to see the number of female prisoners in the Jail decreasing; although the number is small yet we enjoy our visits there and have felt the presence of the Saviour while holding meetings or talking with our perishing sisters, most of whom are there through strong drink. We are very much encouraged as we count the number of women who are remaining in the different Institutions of the city apart from the Jail or Reformatory, showing a willingness to work and to keep away from temptation. Quite a number of women and girls whom we have had to do with either at the Reformatory, Jail or Police Court, are now living sober respectable lives, some in their own homes where we have had very blessed times visiting, reading and praying with them.

Our visits every morning to the Police Court are very helpful to us in the work. The officials there are very kind and ready to do all they can to help any one who wants to do better. Every Friday night from 7 until 12 we relieve the Police Matron, caring for the poor women who are brought in as prisoners.

During the year we have taken 56 discharged prisoners to the different Homes and Institutions of the city.

We have also had a great many of our women transferred to the different Hospitals. At present there are over thirty in the General Hospital whom we visit twice every week, our work there being chiefly on the fourth flat. On Sunday afternoons we gather all who are able, into one ward, and hold service. During the week we write letters for them and carry them fruit or any little delicacy they may fancy and we can afford. Some of them are very near the grave and we believe very near heaven.

Again thanking our Heavenly Father for His presence with us through the year, we cannot speak too highly of the kindness shown us by the officers in the several institutions, and pray that God's richest blessing may rest on us all.

The Home for Girls established in connection with my department of the work, was not opened until the close of the financial year. I would say however that this seems to be the "missing link" we have needed to make our work more effective.

## STATISTICAL REPORT ENDING SEPT. 30TH, 1896.

No. of visits to Police Court			-
No. of visits to Jail			214
No of visite to Reformations			. 89
No. of visits to Reformatory			. 76
110. Of services held in Jan			-75.60
Att. Of times taught in Ketormatory			
No. of letters written		٠.	605
No. of personal interviews		٠.	120
No. of personal interviews			1717
210. Supplied with Cidening			/3. hm
No. of meals and lodgings given			360

MRS. L. C. BELLAMY.

D. MA

1895. Sept. 30

## TREASURER'S REPORT.

D. MACGILLIVRAY, TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT WITH THE PRISONERS' AID ASSOCIATION OF CANADA.

. For the Year Ending September 30th, 1896.

#### RECEIPTS.

1895.	RECEIPTS.		
	Fo Balance in Canadian Bank of Commerce. Ontario Government Grant. City of Toronto. County Grants. Grants for Cabs. Subscriptions Interest on W. Gooderham's Legacy. Sundries.	. 200 . 600 . 173 . 63'	0 00 0 00 5 00 7 05 1 50 1 26
		209	9 75
	DISBURSEMENTS.	\$4608	3 45
В	y Interest, Insurance, Rates and Repairs, Sim-		
	Rent of Office and Hall for Annual Meeting.  Office Furniture.  Postage, Advertising, Travelling, Books for	401	13 00 15
	Remington Typewriter Meals and Lodging for ex-prisoners Central Prison Night School	197 50 134	
- 11	Water, Printing, Stationary, Books etc Literature for Prisoners of W. (Conduction of the Conduction of the Conductio	451 409 158	25 23
	Fund.  Loan to ex-prisoners.  Salaries  Bank Commission  Travelling Prisoners	792	00
	Travelling, Printing, Postage, etc., re Prison Reform. Cheques out Sept. 30th, 1895 Savings Bank Deposit, Canadian Bank of	857 22	78
	CommerceSavings Bank Deposit, account Gooderham	500	00
	Balance in Canadian Bank of Commerce, Current Account	278 261	
A 3:4 - 3	이번 사람이 있는 것이 없었다. 이 사람이 되었다면 하고 있어요? 그 없다.	1608	_

#### PRISON REFORM.

#### WHAT IS WANTED.

1. From the Dominion Government: (α) The proposed Reformatory for young men located near a large town or city, so that the Protestant inmates may receive the benefit of the sympathy as well as the moral and religious instruction of the members of the local Ministerial Association, and also that of the local Young Men's Christian Association. (b) Commissioners appointed by the Government to enquire into the working of reformatories in other countries, and to mature a well-considered scheme for the organization and management of the reformatory, before taking further steps in the matter. (c) Larger powers granted to the Provincial Governments to pardon, parole and deal generally with juvenile offenders, as has already been conceded to the Province of Quebec. (d) Placing under proper supervision first offenders discharged on suspended sentence, or the adoption of the Massachusetts Probation System. (e) The adoption of the principle of cumulative sentences for old offenders, and the indeterminate sentence system for first offenders. (f) The establishment of a training school for prison officials. (g) An annual grant to promote prison reform in the Dominion, as well as to promote the maintenance of a Board of Charities and Correction.

2. FROM THE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT: (a) A reformatory for inebriates. (b) Re-organization of Boys' Reformatory, Women's Reformatory, and Refuge for Girls. (c) A new block of cells at the Central Prison on the English local prison system for the isolation of confirmed criminals. (d) Public aid to organize and maintain a Provincial Board of Charities and Correction.

3. From the County Councils: (a) Re-organization of the County Jail system—providing efficient classification of, and proper industrial employment for prisoners. (b) Providing the prisoners with wholesome literature, and giving them material aid upon their discharge. (c) Making independent provision for the poor of the county, and providing County Industrial Homes where required. (d) An annual grant to the Prisoners' Aid Association, to aid prisoners discharged from the Central Prison and Mercer Reformatory.

4. FROM THE TORONTO CITY COUNCIL: (a) One of the flats in the City Jail changed from the congregate system to the English system of separate confinement for the benefit of first offenders and for prisoners awaiting trial. (b) A workhouse on farm land near the City, where tramps and vagrants may be made to contribute to their own maintenance.

"Isol felons in the begin they pro "To isolation

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An ad

by Mr. S

of all w Canada. commitm thousand Blake, ' continua rent influ side our Culprits they are two meas is very d should be of mainta exceeded the numb years the says: Yo show mor and so are

#### CLASSIFICATION OF PRISONERS.

"Isolation is also indicated as a desideratum, in many instances, for felons in our adult reformatories and penitentiaries, particularly at the beginning of their term of incarceration, or at a later period, when they prove stubbornly rebellious and irreclaimable.

"To preserve the innocent from contamination, the absolute isolation of every prisoner awaiting trial is an indispensible necessity. A foul blot upon American civilization is the toleration of the association in idleness which characterizes our county jails and city lock-ups. The county jail system is inherently bad, and that for many reasons . . . They are nurseries of crime and of vice, plague spots, which demand complete suppression.—Fred Howard Wines, LL.D.

#### THE CRIMINAL RECORD.

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An admirable handling of the "Prison Reform" question is given by Mr. S. H. Blake in a recent letter which appeals to the good sense of all who have studied the methods of dealing with crime followed in Canada. Mr. Blake states that in Ontario last year there were 9,500 commitments for crime, and 6,000 convictions. If there had been six thousand cases of small-pox instead "we should have felt," says Mr. Blake, "the necessity of meeting such a state of affairs, and yet the continuation of crime has worse results than that of disease. Deterrent influence to those outside and reformatory influence on those inside our prisons are the main factors in dealing with this question. Culprits are sent down to what they call the "Criminal Club" where they are reasonably well fed, well housed and are glad to meet. The two measures necessary to prevent this are work and separation. It is very desirable that in the Toronto jail this work of separation, should begin. A sum of \$3,500 would answer for this test. The cost of maintaining a single prisoner from his twentieth to fiftieth year has exceeded this sum. I feel but little doubt that in thus diminishing the number of prisoners to be arrested, tried and kept in jail, in five years the whole of the extra cost would be saved. As Mr. Justice Rose says: Young men are often convicted of offences which do not really show moral guilt. In the jail they consort with hardened prisoners and so are educated in crime.—Presbyterian Review.

## ONTARIO W. C. T. U.

## DEPARTMENT OF PRISONS AND POLICE.

(From the Annual Report 1896, Mrs. M. M. Brownell, 33 St Mary St., Toronto, Superintendent.)

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One of the chief aims of this Department is to carry Gospel Temperance to the inmates of prisons and jails, and the reports this year show that the work done has been almost entirely along this line. Evangelistic services have been regularly held, a large amount of literature distributed, prison libraries established, and in one or two instances special efforts were made at Christmas time to reach the hearts of these perishing ones, and lead them to that loving Saviour who died to redeem them, and who said, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me."

No new suggestions have come to us from the Prisoners' Aid Association, and so far as we know, little aggressive work has been done in the way of reform in prisons and reformatories. Three houses of refuge: one in Lambton, one in Perth, and one at Athens for Leeds and Grenville, are being erected. In a very special way does the building of these industrial homes or houses of refuge appeal to us. The practice still continues of placing in the jail old people unable to work, and who have no home or friends who are willing to care for or look after them. We would urge our Superintendents, and all who are interested in our work, to be more diligent in promoting the welfare of these aged and homeless ones.

At the Prohibition Convention, held in Toronto last July, a resolution was introduced urging the advisability of establishing one or more inebriate asylums or industrial homes for the treatment of habitual drunkards. Sir Oliver Mowat has said upon more than one occasion that the Government would do their part as soon as the temperance people were ready to do theirs. And why should they not? If they legalize a traffic that ruins hundreds of thousands every year, why

should they not do something for the victims? It might be well if some plan of action could be set forth so that, unitedly, our W. C. T. U. women in Ontario could use their influence in this direction.

During the year your Superintendent obtained samples of literature especially prepared for prisoners and prison libraries. They are issued under the supervision of Mr. Moody and his co-workers at the Bible Institute, Chicago, and can be obtained free by paying the duty. They are highly recommended by Dr. Rosebrugh, Secretary of the Prisoners' Aid Association; ex-Warden Massie, of the Central Prison; Mrs. Cowan, Superintendent for Toronto, and others.

There have been seven Superintendents appointed in this Department, and eleven counties have sent reports.

Bruce—Mrs. Keeling, Superintendent—Reports having visited the jail regularly, holding evangelistic services and distributing literature; has been agitating for a house of refuge.

DURHAM—Mrs. Cryderman, Superintendent—Does not report any work in jail, but visited the lockup and found only a short hall with three small cells without light or ventilation. The whole combined only large enough for five or six persons. Sometimes twelve or fourteen persons are crowded into this place, not fit for human beings. A petition largely signed was sent to the Council praying for better accommodation.

Hastings—No Superintendent—The Visiting Committee report visiting the jail regularly. Evangelistic services have been held, especially among the women. The prisoners are supplied with books from the prison libraries, and with tracts and pamphlets. The committee has found situations for several girls who were out of work, and in some cases provided passes to take them home.

Lambton—Mrs. Wheatley, Superintendent—Have held evangelistic services regularly throughout the year; attendance good and services appreciated; four young men signed the pledge, and one professed conversion; thirteen of the prisoners were women, this being the largest number ever committed in one year. A number of aged men have been living in jail awaiting the completion of the house of refuge; 12,600 pages of literature distributed.

Lincoln—Miss McGhie, Superintendent—Evangelistic sorvices have been held during the year. A Book Social was held in March,

by St. Catharines Union, which resulted in donations of 125 books, and some money; the County Council also donated \$10.00 towards the library.

Leeds and Grenville — No Superintendent — The Counties of Leeds and Grenville are united in their municipal work. There has been a house of industry built at Athens for the poor of the counties. No further work has been reported.

PRINCE EDWARD — Mrs. (Dr.) Morden, Superintendent — No report.

Peterro No Superintendent—The President reports a number of visits to the jail, and 3,003 pages of literature distributed, also 31 books. For want of a house of refuge, the aged homeless ones have been sheltered in the jail.

PEEL — No Superintendent — The President reports Brampton Union having visited jail regularly, holding services and distributing literature. At Christmas and Easter, the Union remembered them with fruit and flowers, accompanied with text cards.

TORONTO — Mrs. Cowan, Superintendent — Evangelistic services have been held regularly among the women in the jail. Clothing has been frequently supplied to those leaving the jail, and sometimes places are found for those requiring work. Literature from Chicago has been distributed in the jail and Central Prison, and has been much appreciated.

Wellington — No Superintendent — Corresponding Secretary reported evangelistic services having been held regularly with the prisoners during the year. God has owned the efforts put forth in the conversion of sinners.

#### SUGGESTIONS.

That we still urge upon the Unions the appointment of a Superintendent where jails or other institutions of a reformatory character are situated.

That local Unions donate a collection each year to help the County Superintendent in her work, and to assist in supplying literature. This is one way in which local Unions can help a County Superintendent.

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Aikenhead & Crombie . Adelaide st. E	W 1 00
Allen, A. A. & Co.	
Allen, A. A. & Co. 228 Bathurst st. 31 Bay st. 4 London Hon, G. W.	3 00
Allan, Hon. G. W. Leader Lane.	5 00
Allen, Rev. James Leader Lane Ball, Miss Louise 266 Jarvis st.	1 00
Ball, Miss Louise	1 00
Beardmore, George L	1 00
Beardmore & Co	1 00
Beatty, Chadwick & Co. Bank of Toronto Building.	1 00
Beatty, R	2 00
Beatty, Mrs. M. 327 Jarvis St. Bellamy, Mrs. 620 C.	
Bellamy, Mrs. 327 Jarvis St. 639 Queen st. E. 639 Leen st. E.	1 00
Best, Henry	1 00
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Bishop of Toronto.	1 00
Blackford & Co. H. C. Wenington st. W	5 00
Blake, Hon S H	4 00
Blake, Lash & Cassala	10 00
Body, Rev Archdonor	20 00
Boyd Hon I	1 00
Briggs, Rev Wm D D	3 00
Brock & Co W D	1 00
Brown Bros	5 00
Brown, Wm 64 King st. E Burns, R. N. Rev Wellington st. E	2 00
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Burns, R. N. Rev. Wellington st. E.  Burns, Mr John I Rushoffer ed.	5 00
Burns, Mr John Dudley & Burns.  Caldecott, Burton & Co. 46 Bayes	1 00
Caldecott, Burton & Co	5 00
Campbell, Mrs. James	2 00
Canada Paper Co	2 00
Carlyle, Alderman, Wm	1 00
Carty, the Misses	5 00
Cash 203 Jarvis st	
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Caley, Rev. J. D. Spadina rd. Clarke, Mrs. Mortimer Spadina rd. Clarke, Mrs. Mortimer Wellington W.	1 00
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Clarke, Mrs. H. E	2 00
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Gzowski, C. S., Jr       103 Bay st       5 00         Hardy, Hon. A. S       Brantford       1 00         Hagarty, Hon. Chief Justice       Simcoe st       10 00         Hamilton, W. B. & Co       15 Front st. E (Goods)       2 00         Hargrave, Mrs. J. H       269 Jarvis st       1 00         Harris & Co       King st. E       1 00         Harvie, John       U. C. Bible Society       1 00         Henderson, Rev. J       165 Carlton st       1 00         Heward, Mrs. S       38 Peter st       2 00         Hillock, Frank       31 Wilton Crescent       1 00         Hodgins, Thomas, Q.C       Osgoode Hall         Hooper & Co       43 King st. W       1 00         Hoskin, Alfred       23 Toronto st       1 00         Hoskin, John, Q.C       23 Toronto st       5 00         How. A       23 Toronto st       5 00	Gregg, Prof. W Know College			
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Heward, Mrs. S	Harvie, John U. C. Bible Society			
Hillock, Frank.   31 Wilton Crescent   2 00     Hodgins, Thomas, Q.C.   Osgoode Hall.     Hooper & Co   43 King st. W   1 00     Hoskin, Alfred.   23 Toronto st.   1 00     Hoskin, John, Q.C.   23 Toronto st.   5 00	Henderson, Rev. J 165 Carlton et			
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Wilkinson, H. M
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#### CONSTITUTION

FOR A

## Branch of the Prisoners' Aid Association.

ARTICLE I.—This Association shall be called "The Branch of the Prisoners' Aid Association of Canada."

ARTICLE II.—Its object shall be to Aid the General Association in the attainment of the ends for which it was constituted.\*

ARTICLE III.—Any person may become a member of this Association by the payment of one dollar annually.

ARTICLE IV.—The Officers of this Association shall be a President, Secretary and Treasurer.

ARTICLE V.—The President shall preside at all the meetings and have a general oversight of the work.

ARTICLE VI.—It shall be the duty of the Secretary to record the proceedings of the Association, give notice of meetings, and prepare the annual report. He must also keep the General Association informed of the condition of the Branch, and forward a list of officers with the report and the Treesurer's statement.

ARTICLE VII.—The Treasurer's duty shall be to report the state of the treasury at every meeting, and to make a yearly report both to the Local, and to the General Association on or before the first of October in each year.

#### MEMORANDUM.

Any rules relating to the local affairs of the Association may be adopted, provided they do not conflict with the constitution and rules of the General Association.

<sup>\*</sup>Branch Societies are expected to co-operate with the General Association in extending a helping hand to discharged prisoners on their return to their homes, as also to befriend prisoners both before and after their discharge from the local jail or prison.