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THIRD ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Local Council of Women

OF

HAMILTON, ONTARIO.

NOVEMBER, 1896.



CONTENTS:

Officers for 1896-7,	1
Conveners of Committees,	1
List of Federated Societies,	1
Abstract of Minutes of Third Annual Meeting,	2
President's Address,	3
Recording Secretary's Report,	5
Corresponding Secretary's Report,	6
Treasurer's Statement,	7
National Home Reading Union,	8
Aberdeen Association,	8

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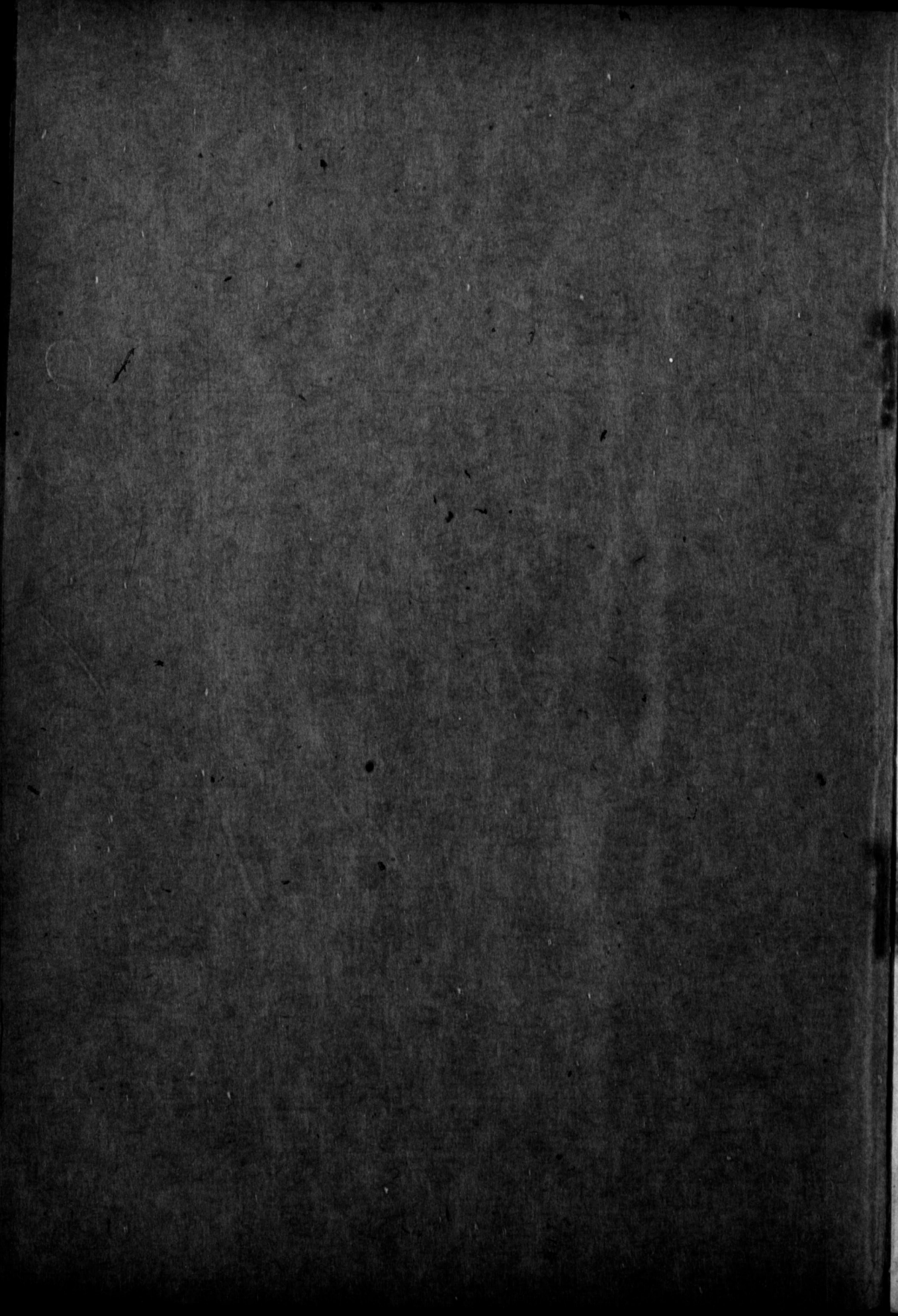
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HAMILTON LOCAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN.

OFFICERS FOR 1896-97.

President—MRS. W. E. SANFORD, Jackson St. West.
1st Vice-President—MRS. J. M. GIBSON, 311 Bay St. South.
2nd Vice-President—MRS. LYLE, 136 Bold St.
3rd Vice-President—MRS. A. BURNS, Wesleyan Ladies' College
4th Vice-President—MRS. LEVY, 143 James St. South.
Ex-Officio Vice-Presidents—The President of each Federated Society.
Recording Secretary—MISS G. C. COUNSELL, 211 Jackson St. West.
Corresponding Secretary—MISS S. R. MACDONALD, 28 Duke St.
Corresponding Secretary pro tem.—MISS HARRIS, 136 Duke St. *cor. Hunter & Hess*
Treasurer—MRS. W. H. BALLARD, 196 George St.
Auditors—MRS. FREED, 49 Homewood Avenue; MISS G. SMITH, 556 King St. East.

CONVENERS OF COMMITTEES APPOINTED TO WORK FOR THE NATIONAL COUNCIL.

SHORTER HOURS IN FACTORIES—MRS. J. M. GIBSON, 311 Bay St. South.
IMPURE LITERATURE—MRS. W. H. WATSON, 213 Herkimer St. X
PAUPER IMMIGRATION—MISS HARRIS, 136 Duke St.
COMMITMENT OF INSANE PERSONS—MRS. CHARLTON, 280 Bay St. South.
CRIMINAL CODE—MRS. LYLE, 136 Bold St.
NATIONAL HOME READING UNION—MISS G. C. COUNSELL, 211 Jackson St. West.
MANUAL TRAINING—MRS. HOODLESS, Main St. East, cor. Blake St.

FEDERATED SOCIETIES.

PHILANTHROPIC.

Hamilton Orphan Asylum, Aged Women's Home and Ladies' Benevolent Society: Representative, Mrs. Newton Galbreath, 346 Main St. East.
Infants' Home and Home of the Friendless: President, Mrs. A. T. Wood, 265 James St. South.
Children's Aid Society: Representative, Mrs. J. M. Gibson, 311 Bay St. South.
Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals:
Young Women's Christian Association: President, Mrs. John Hoodless, Main St. East, cor. Blake St.
Duffield Flower Mission: Representative, Mrs. Sewell, 21 Bold St.
Hamilton Branch of Aberdeen Association: President, Mrs. W. A. Logie, 79 Markland St.

RELIGIOUS.

All Saints' Church Branch of Woman's Auxiliary: President, Mrs. Chas. Lemon, 156 Markland St.
Hebrew Women's Society: President, Mrs. Levy, 143 James St. South.
St. Mary's Church Ladies' Aid Association: President, Miss Reche, 179 Mary St.

TEMPERANCE.

Hamilton Women's Christian Temperance Union: President, Mrs. W. H. Watson, 213 Herkimer St.
Central W. C. T. U.: President, Mrs. T. H. Pratt, 6 East Avenue North.

EDUCATIONAL.

3rd Book Section, Hamilton Teachers' Association: President, Miss Riach, 225 Maria St.
2nd Book Section, Hamilton Teachers' Association: President, Miss Wood, 153 Market St.
Primary Section, Hamilton Teachers' Association: President, Miss Minnie Morrison, Queen Victoria School, Hunter St. East.
Kindergarten, Hamilton Teachers' Association: President, Miss Henderson, 139 Markland St.
Wesleyan Ladies' College: Representative, Mrs. A. Burns, 104-114 King St. East.

LITERATURE AND ART.

Women's Art Association: President, Mrs. John Calder, 182 Hughson St. South.
Arts and Crafts Association: Representative, Miss Harris, 136 Duke St.
The Reading Club: President, Mrs. Sutherland, 136 Maria St.

NURSING.

Hamilton Association of Trained Nurses: President, Miss Bowman, City Hospital.

UNCLASSIFIED.

Wentworth Historical Society: President, Mrs. W. E. Sanford, Jackson St. West.

1896-97.

*in charge of Mrs. Burns, Wesleyan Ladies' College,
King St. East*

THIRD ANNUAL MEETING.

ABSTRACT OF MINUTES.

The Third Annual Meeting of the Hamilton Local Council of Women was held in the Wesleyan Ladies' College, at 7.30 p. m., on Tuesday, November 17th, 1896.

The President, Mrs. Lyle, in the chair.

The meeting having opened with prayer, the roll was called and 17 delegates responded.

Owing to pressure of business, the minutes of the last annual meeting were taken as read.

The Reports of the Recording and Corresponding Secretaries and Treasurer were read and adopted.

The President then read her address.

The Report of the Executive Committee was read and adopted.

It was moved by Mrs. Galbreath, seconded by Miss Harris, that this Local Council adopt in place of its present Constitution and By-laws, the Constitution and Standing Orders recommended by the National Council for the use of Local Councils, and Standing Orders recommended for use of Executive Committees, subject to subsequent amendments when required. Carried.

Mrs. Lyle then stated her inability to stand for re-election as President.

Moved by Mrs. Burns, seconded by Mrs. Hoodless, that this Local Council desire to place on record their regret at the withdrawal of Mrs. Lyle from the office of President, and to express to her their thanks for her services to the Council, trusting at the same time that she will still continue her connection therewith. Carried unanimously.

A standing vote of thanks, proposed by Mrs. Calder, was then tendered to Mrs. Lyle.

The following officers for the ensuing year were unanimously elected:

President—MRS. W. E. SANFORD.

1st Vice-President—MRS. J. M. GIBSON.

2nd Vice-President—MRS. LYLE.

3rd Vice-President—MRS. A. BURNS.

4th Vice-President—MRS. LEVY.

Recording Secretary—MISS COUNSELL.

Corresponding Secretary—MISS MACDONALD.

Corresponding Secretary pro tem—MISS HARRIS.

Treasurer—MRS. W. H. BALLARD.

Mrs. Freed and Miss G. Smith were appointed Auditors.

The Committees appointed to collate facts for the National Council and otherwise to further its work, then reported as to the progress they had made.

Miss Bowman, Lady Superintendent of the City Hospital, then

read an able and interesting paper on "Nursing and Emergencies," wherein she referred to the noble calling of the nurse—the stern discipline enforced during the term of probation, the advisability of an early commencement in the course of study, and the *sine qua non* of good physical health; the paper also contained many useful hints as to action in cases of emergency. At its conclusion a hearty vote of thanks was tendered to Miss Bowman.

During the evening songs were kindly contributed by Mrs. Muir and Miss Craney.

A collection was taken up in the course of the evening.

After the customary votes of thanks had been passed, the meeting closed by singing the National Anthem.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

LADIES: At the close of our year's work it is fitting we should glance backward and see what this Council has accomplished.

In obedience to the wish of the National Council, committees to enquire into the following subjects were formed: "The Length of Working Hours for Women and Children," "Laws for the Better Protection of Women and Children," "To What Extent Impure Literature is Being Circulated in Our City," "To ask that Women be appointed to preside at Departmental Examinations."

These committees have been and still are working most faithfully; their reports you will hear later.

The extent to which bad literature was circulated has been a revelation to many, and has awakened thoughtful mothers to the necessity for closer supervision of the reading matter put into the hands of their children. The Literature Committee brought to the notice of the railway authorities the pernicious books and pamphlets sold on railway cars, and we are happy to state the sale has been stopped.

As you are aware the National Council, through Her Excellency's efforts, petitioned the government for some needed changes in the Criminal Code. Through the kindness of the late Minister of Justice three changes were embodied in his amendments, but owing to the Government going out of office, the Council will have to apply again.

The Committee on Manual Training had several interviews with the Honorable George Ross, and after a thorough investigation of the whole subject, the Minister brought the matter before the Government, which authorized the introduction of Manual Training in the Public Schools. The Province of Quebec followed, and now in the cities of Quebec and Montreal three classes have been established and are a practical success. Although Hamilton, through the earnest endeavor of one of our members, was the first to introduce this matter in Canada, I am sorry to say our city is evidently to be almost last in taking advantage of the Bill, nevertheless a large number of our citizens strongly favor "Technical Training."* Our Trades and Labor Council

*Since the Annual Meeting the City School Board has decided to make provision for Instruction in Domestic Science to be given a number of pupils, for a time, as a test.

has endorsed it heartily, and has sent a petition to Mr. Ross on this subject.

In February last, Dr. Adams, Dentist, Toronto, asked to be allowed to lay before you his views "on the rapid decay of the teeth of children." His address was listened to with attention, and the seriousness of the situation recognized. A member suggested that the Board of Health should take it up; accordingly your Council petitioned the Board of Health for Ontario. After earnest consideration that Board took action and has endorsed the appointment of Dental Inspectors.

Later the matter of a Sanitarium in Muskoka for consumptive patients was brought to our notice by Mr. Gage, of Toronto, and this Council promised to aid him in circulating information on the question, hoping in the near future there may be a "Hamilton Cottage."

The meeting of the National Executive here in March afforded many of our women an opportunity of becoming acquainted with the working of the larger society, also of meeting Her Excellency, whom, with her committee, we had the honor of entertaining at luncheon. The members of the Art Association also entertained Her Excellency at afternoon tea in their studio.

There are three committees added this year: One, "Investigation of the effects of the importation of pauper children into Canada;" one, "To inquire into the preventable causes of the present increase of insanity;" and one to form Home Reading Circles in connection with the Canadian Branch of the "National Home Reading Union." I am glad to say circles have been already commenced. The course is excellent and well calculated to keep our young people in touch with pure, good literature.

In October a branch of the "Aberdeen Association" was formed through the efforts of Miss Malloch. She has enlisted the services of a number of young ladies, and a most hopeful beginning has been made. The aim of the Association is to provide literature for settlers in the North-west and British Columbia, many of whom never see a book nor a periodical for months.

The appointment of a Woman Factory Inspector continues to give satisfaction; already Miss Carlyle has been able to procure better sanitation in small factories and stores.

In these days of multiplicity of organizations, many, no doubt, wonder why there should be a "Women's Council." Those of us who have worked here can bear testimony to the help it has been to us. A Council made up of representatives from so many Charitable, Philanthropic, Art and Educational Societies cannot meet together, and hear of the great work being done in our city for our sisters and brothers, without having our views enlarged and our sympathies widened. We see many different phases of work, and are kept in touch with all that noble-minded men and women are doing over the world, and are learning to recognize good in organizations other than those with which we are personally identified. I trust the members of this Council will be even more united in the future than in the past; that

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they will work heartily together for the common good, and that it may be said of each and all, "She hath done what she could."

"God has sounded forth His Trumpet which shall never call retreat,
 "He is sifting out the hearts of men before his judgment seat,
 "Oh be swift my soul, to answer Him, be jubilant, my feet,
 "For God is marching on.

ELIZABETH LYLE,
President.

RECORDING SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Your Recording Secretary begs to report as follows:

The number of societies at present affiliated with the Council is 20, classified as follows: Philanthropic, Religious, Temperance, Education, Literature and Art, Nursing.

During the past year four meetings of the Council, including the Annual, have been held, and seven of the Executive Committee.

The attention of the Council has been given to various matters during the year.

Dr. J. G. Adams, of Toronto, having brought before the Executive Committee of the National Council the need of inspection of the teeth of school children and free dentistry for the poor, was invited by this Local Council to address their quarterly meeting of January 28th on the subject; subsequently this Council memorialized the Provincial Board of Health with reference to the appointment of Dental Inspectors; partly upon the representation of this Local Council the Provincial Board of Health has decided to take action in the matter, with a view to ameliorating the conditions described by Dr. Adams.

The introduction of Manual Training into Public Schools has also received further attention during the past year, a memorial having been sent from this Council to the Internal Management Committee of the City Board of Education, recommending the teaching of Domestic Science in the Public Schools.

The City Hospital Committee was memorialized by this Local Council, with reference to the appointment of women on the Board of Governors; a clause was provided in the By-law, giving the option of such appointment.

The Hon. G. W. Ross was interviewed by a Committee and subsequently by Mrs. Lyle, with reference to lady teachers presiding at High School Examinations, and hopes are entertained of future concessions in the matter.

During the past year, through the agency of the Council, three circles of the National Home Reading Union have been organized, and one individual member obtained.

Since the meeting of the National Council in May, committees have been appointed to gather information as to Shorter Working Hours in Factories, Suppression of Impure Reading Matter, Immigration of Pauper Children, Care of School Children's Teeth, Commitment of

Insane, the Criminal Code, Manual Training, and to form circles and obtain members of the National Home Reading Union.

At the Council Meetings interesting reports and papers have been read.

In March the Executive of this Local Council had the honor of entertaining at luncheon Her Excellency the Countess of Aberdeen and her Executive of the National Council, on the occasion of their meeting in Hamilton.

Delegates from this Council attended the Annual Meeting of the National Council in Montreal, and brought back interesting reports of what they had seen and heard.

Mesdames Lyle and Sanford attended meetings of the National Executive.

At one quarterly meeting the President of the Brandon Local Council was present, and gave a sketch of their work in the North-west.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

G. C. COUNSELL
Recording Secretary.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Since the last Annual Meeting of the Local Council of Women of Hamilton there have been 87 letters written. As Miss Macdonald resigned in June, I have had only six letters to write since then.

Aside from the numerous letters regarding reports of meetings, moneys collected, hospitality received and extended, enquiries regarding the Local Council and so forth, there are those addressing men representing public institutions or offices, as follows: To the Board of Health, regarding the appointment of Dental Inspectors in Schools; to the Hospital Committee, recommending that Women be appointed members of the Governing Board of the Hospital; to the Minister of Education, requesting that Women be allowed to preside at Examinations. A memorial was also sent to the Board of Education, desiring that Manual Training be introduced into our Schools. Our Provincial Secretary was petitioned regarding a Female Inspector in Public Institutions. The Police Commissioners were requested to enforce more strictly the law prohibiting the sale of tobacco to minors.

Letters to the Women's Protestant Immigration Society and to the Consumptive Hospital Committee, stating that the Council would be unable to join them in their work. A letter refusing to petition the City Council for a grant of \$200 to the Rescue Home. Miss Machar was also thanked for her kindness in presenting to the Council a copy of her book.

Respectfully submitted.

ALEDA A. BURNS,
Corresponding Secretary.

1895.
Nov. 2

April
June 1

1896.

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TREASURER'S STATEMENT

for year ending November 17th, 1896.

DETAILED STATEMENT.

1895.		RECEIPTS.		
Nov.	20,	To Balance on hand.....		\$11 79
		“ Twenty Affiliation Fees, viz:		
		Teachers' Association, 4 sections.....	8 00	
		W. C. T. U., 2 unions.....	4 00	
		Church Associations, 3.....	6 00	
		Art Associations, 2.....	4 00	
		Charitable Associations, 4.....	8 00	
		Other Associations, 5.....	10 00	
April		“ Balance of Banquet Fund.....	4 00	
June	11,	“ Collections.....	2 60	
				\$58 39
1896.		DISBURSEMENTS.		
Jan.	15,	By Mrs. Lyle.....	\$20 00	
	15,	“ National Council.....	5 00	
	21,	“ Miss Macdonald.....	1 30	
Feb.	8,	“ Herald Printing Co.....	4 20	
Mar.	9,	“ Times	4 20	
	9,	“ Spectator	4 00	
	9,	“ Cook & Reid.....	5 05	
May	17,	“ Corresponding Secretary, postage.....	2 00	
	18,	“ Eastwood & Co.....	1 55	
June	8,	“.....	55	
	8,	“ Miss Macdonald.....	1 24	
	8,	“ Miss A. E. Jones.....	40	
Oct.	3,	“ Mrs. Lyle.....	5 00	
	13,	“ Spectator Printing Co.....	1 00	
	13,	“ Times	1 00	
	13,	“ Herald	1 00	
Nov.	7,	“ Postage.....	71	
	16,	“ Balance on hand.....	19	
				\$58 39

SUMMARIZED STATEMENT.

RECEIPTS.		
To Balance on hand from previous year.....		\$11 79
“ Fees from Twenty Affiliated Societies.....	40 00	
“ Banquet Fund.....	4 00	
“ Collections.....	2 60	
		\$58 39
DISBURSEMENTS.		
By President's Expenses.....	\$25 00	
“ Advertising in City Papers.....	15 40	
“ Fee to National Council.....	5 00	
“ Stationery, Postage and Printing.....	12 80	
“ Balance on hand.....	19	
		\$58 39

Respectfully submitted,

E. J. BALLARD,
Treasurer.

APPENDIX.

THE NATIONAL HOME READING UNION.

ITS AIMS AND METHODS.

The National Home Reading Union, having its headquarters in London, England, is an organization for encouraging systematic reading among all classes. With this end in view it outlines a course of reading divided into three sections—one for young people, especially those who have just left school, one for general readers, and a third for those who desire special subjects. The subjects on the young people's course include History and Biography, Literature, Romance and Travel, etc.; the general readers' section embraces Economic and Social Science, History, Biography, Science, Literature, Travel, etc.; the special course is a very comprehensive one, and contains a variety of subjects, such as History, English and General Literature, French, German, Music, Botany. The idea is that members should form circles of five or more, who meet and discuss what they have read. Those who prefer may become individual members. Lists of books on the various subjects are furnished by the Union to its members. These books are carefully chosen, and are excellent works, and not too expensive.

The Union publishes a monthly magazine in each of the three sections, containing articles on the books and suggestions as to reading them, etc. The magazines are included in the annual fee, which, for circles of the special course, is 90c., for those of the general course, 40c., and for the young people's, 30c., the individual members paying 10c. more in all sections.

The Secretary of the Canadian Branch is Miss Skelton, 183 Mansfield Street, Montreal.

THE ABERDEEN ASSOCIATION.

The object of this Association is to distribute reading matter among the settlers of Manitoba and the North-west, where books and periodicals are few and far between. Her Excellency the Countess of Aberdeen dropped the seed from which it sprung. Winnipeg was the parent stem, and branches are now flourishing in Halifax, Ottawa, Calgary, Vancouver and Hamilton. The work is carried on very methodically. Lists are kept and names supplied. The Postmaster-General allows the Association free transmission of parcels of literature through the mail.

The Report of 1895 contains, from those who have received parcels of reading matter, extracts from letters, which go to prove the need of and the goodness of the work which is being undertaken. Those wishing to help can do so by donating literature in the shape of magazines (if possible in consecutive numbers), good novels, children's papers and books, and good general reading matter.

The Secretary of the Hamilton Branch is Miss Malloch, 301 Bay Street South, Hamilton.