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Report

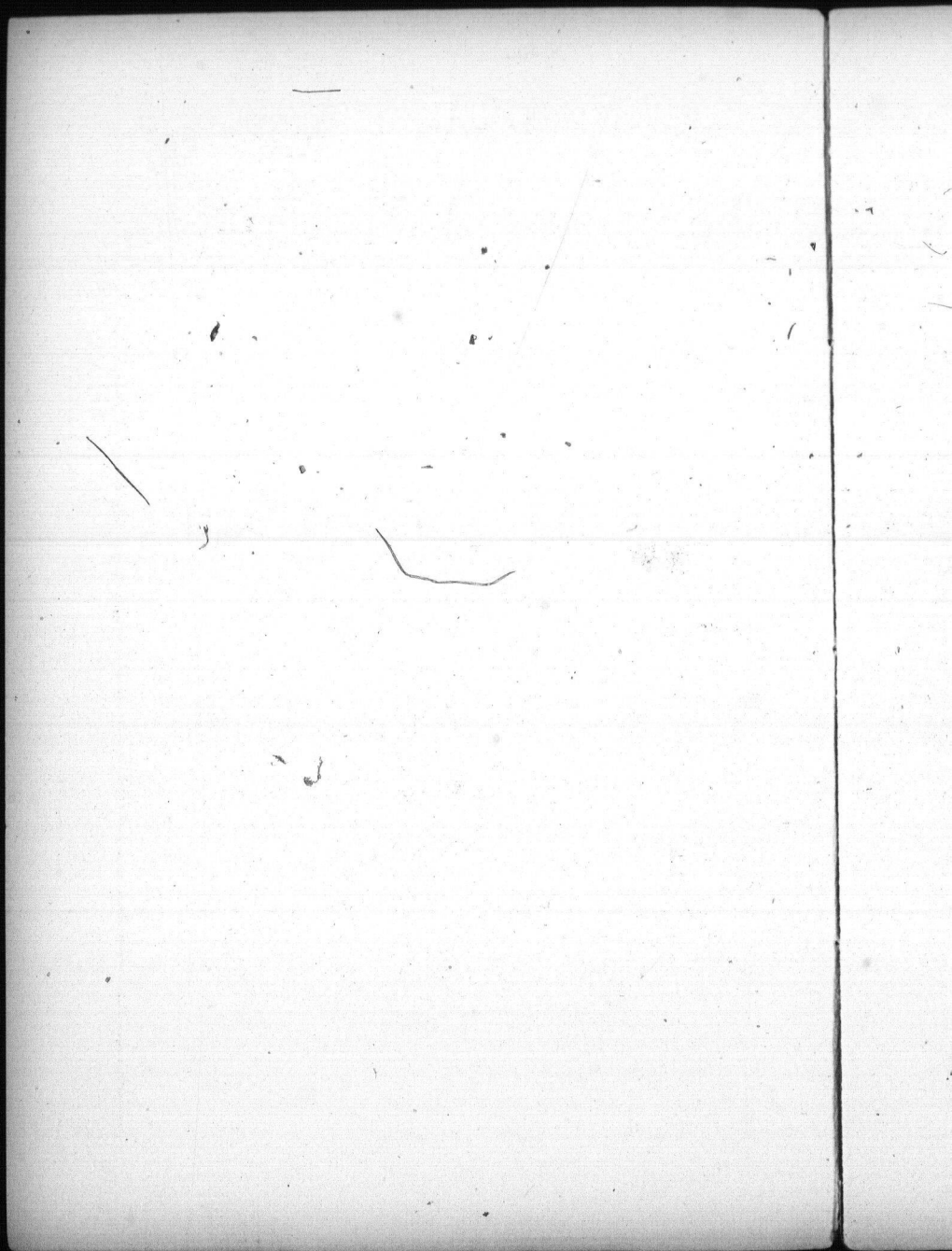
-OF-

Industrial Room

1888-89

IN CONNECTION WITH

TORONTO RELIEF SOCIETY



A decorative border composed of multiple parallel wavy lines, forming a large rectangular frame. At the top and bottom corners, the lines curve outwards and end in a series of radiating lines, resembling stylized hair or a sunburst.

Report
OF
Industrial Room*

IN CONNECTION
WITH
Toronto Relief Society

Printed by **APTED BROS.**,
40 Colborne St., Toronto

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Report of Industrial Room

.. 1889 ..

THE INDUSTRIAL ROOM was opened in 1883, the convenor and a few other ladies deeply interested in the difficult question of helping the poor of our city, had come to the conclusion that the only true way to do so was by supplying them with work, for which a fair and right price would be paid, thus, they would be enabled to retain their own independence and self-respect and prove to those from whom they asked assistance that their case was either one of worthlessness or misfortune. As several of these ladies belonged to the Relief Society the question was brought up before this Society, they kindly responded and then decided to take the Industrial Room as a branch of their own work. A Committee was formed, consisting of Convenor, Treasurer, Secretary and a representative from each Division, the Society loaning the Committee \$100 to begin their new work.

For the first winter the Committee met in two small rooms on Breadalbane Street, where every week the Convenor, Miss Stark, and her Committee worked most earnestly trying to supply each applicant with sewing or

knitting. Only those who were constantly at these weekly meetings can appreciate their zeal and fully understand the efforts they made. From that time the work has gone on steadily increasing; for the last three years we have rented a room in the Girls' Institute, corner Richmond and Sheppard Streets.

To those to whom the Industrial Room is new a short account of the way the work is carried on may be interesting.

The cutting out and preparing the work is of great importance; each department is undertaken by one of the committee who does all the cutting at her own home, sending the articles to the room ready to be entered in the books and then given to the women. For instance, the cutting of the night shirts is the work of one lady, the aprons of one or two others, two or three devote themselves to the children's clothing and so on through the list of articles, each lady being at the room on Thursdays to superintend the giving out of and to inspect the work as it is brought in. This certainly involves an immense amount of labor on the part of these ladies but it has been found more satisfactory than any plan we have yet tried. By and bye we hope to have a paid matron who will be at the room all the time to sell or to take orders, and who will be able to do, at all events a greater part of the cutting out. An applicant coming for

work for the first time must bring a voucher or note from a member of the Relief Society, or from some reliable person known to one of the Committee, saying that the bearer is known to them, or has been visited and is in need of work.

On Thursday the women arrive very early, many being there before 9 o'clock. At 9.30 the business of the day commences. Each woman has a number given to her as she arrives, and comes up in her turn, her work is examined, she is paid for it in money, receives her work for the next week, and goes away to make room for others. In the waiting room the women are kept busy in various ways, sometimes earning a little extra by cutting and sewing the clippings of the cotton, which at the end of the season are woven into carpetings and sold. Two or three of the Committee devote themselves to this part of the work, and are always in the waiting room ready with kind words and good advice. Sometimes also they have a little music or an address, and each woman in the room at noon has a bowl of soup given to her. This they thoroughly enjoy, as many of them have had a long walk. In many cases the distance they had to come was so great and the amount received so small that it seemed as if they might think it hardly worth while to come, but the gratitude expressed by many prove that they were only too glad to get the work to do, and amply repaid

the Committee for the trouble and hard work they had undergone. In some cases work was taken to the women by members of the Committee, and in the eleventh Division the representative had the work sent to her depository and given out from there.

During the winter 154 have obtained work from the Rooms, between 70 and 80 weekly, but of these 100 have not applied for work more than four times during the 9 weeks that the rooms were opened. This year the season was a little shorter than usual. Generally work is given out from January to April, as these are the months most trying for the poor.

As we aim at giving each one work to the amount of from 50 to 75 cents per week, it will readily be understood how rapidly the stock accumulates. As will be seen by the treasurer's statement, \$214.60 worth of clothing was sold at the Rooms during the year, not including special sales, notwithstanding which there was \$1,100 worth of clothing on hand for our sixth annual sale, which was held at Association Hall on the 27th, 28th and 29th of March last. The proceeds of these sales go to carry on next winter's work, to buy material, pay the women, etc., etc.

The improvement in sewing, and also in cleanliness is most noticeable and very encouraging, and the number of unsaleable articles wonderfully small considering

that no one applying is refused work, no matter how small her knowledge of sewing may be.

The Committee would like to be able to give the women more work each week, as 50 or 75 cents is a very small amount, but until the public more fully realize the importance of this work and come to our assistance by purchasing these garments when made, we are unable to do more.

Although a large part of the underclothing is of finer material, there is a great deal of factory cotton suitable for Hospitals, Homes, North-west Missions, and for giving to the poor, and we heartily recommend it to the charitably disposed, begging them to consider that by seconding our efforts in this way they are not only sending clothing where it will be thankfully received, but will enable us to extend our branch of the work.

L. W. GREIG, Secretary.



The Committee acknowledge with most hearty thanks the following donations:

Quilts and pieces of material,	Mrs. Elliott
Table and Directory,	Miss Jarvis
Cups and Saucers,	Mr. H. Kent

Also subscriptions at time of sale.

Printing 500 post cards,	Presbyterian Pub. Co.
Paper, Twine and Paper Boxes,	Mr. R. Kilgour
Paper for covering tables,	Mr. Staunton
Paper,	Messrs. Howorth & Co.
Paper,	Messrs. Brown Bros.
Tea and Coffee,	Mr. Thos. Williamson
Tongue and Beef,	Mr. Davies
Jellied Turkey,	Miss Jarvis
Jellied Chicken,	Mrs. Williams
Chickens,	Mrs. Thomson
Box Biscuits,	Mr. Scott
Candy, Nuts, Dates, etc.	Mr. J. Lumbers
Bread,	Miss Stark, Mrs. Barnett, Mrs. Mowat
Butter,	Mrs. McCallum
Cream,	Mrs. Langton, Miss Proudfoot,
	Mrs. Greig, Mrs. Burton
Sugar,	Mrs. Lillie, Mrs. Byrne
Cocoa,	Mrs. Williams

CAKE—

Mrs. Williamson	Mrs. Thomson
“ H. Williamson	“ Bendelari
“ Oldright	“ Edwards
“ R. Brown	“ Littlejohn
“ Boyce Thomson	“ Lash
“ Lennox	“ Dewart
“ McLauchin	“ Fairclough
“ James	“ Barnett
Miss Watson	Miss Ewart
“ Williamson	“ Elliott

Jelly, - - -	Miss Stark
Charlotte Russe,	Mrs. Miller
Candy, - - -	Miss Watson, Miss Boyd
Maple Sugar, -	Mrs. Barnett
Marmalade, -	Mrs. McDonogh

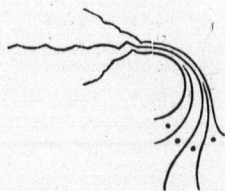
FLOWERS—

Mrs. MacLennan	Miss McKenzie (Dundas)
“ John Hoskin	Mrs. Patterson,
“ John Macdonald	Chestnut Park

Loan of tube for gas stove, Mr. Harry Webb

IN MONEY—

Mrs. Ewing Buchan	Mrs. Postlethwaite
" Nasmith	" Gilchrist
" J. Stark	" Johnstone
" C. Stark	Mrs. Bostwick
" Eby	" Kilgour
" Kerr	" Cockshutt
" Creelman	Miss Burton
" Caldecott	" Ogden
" T. C. Thomson	" Mickle
" Mowat	" Beard
" Maltby	



TREASURER'S STATEMENT OF INDUSTRIAL ROOM

FOR YEAR ENDING MAY 1, 1889.

To Balance on hand, May 1st, 1888	\$496 32	By Amount paid for Material	...	\$ 551 35
" Grant from City Council	200 00	" " paid women for Sewing	400 47	
" Subscriptions, etc	103 75	" Printing and Advertising	25 37	
" Sales during the year	214 60	" Stationery and Postage	6 07	
" Proceeds of Special Sale	736 96	" Loan returned to Relief Society	30 00	
" " of 5 o'clock Tea at Sale	78 17	" Rent of Room, Girl's Institute	50 00	
" Interest on Deposit	8 50	" Rent of Room at Association Hall (for Sale)	15 00	
		" Paid for Soup for Women	10 26	
		" Balance on hand	749 78	
	<u>\$1,838 30</u>			<u>\$1,838 30</u>

C. H. BARNETT, *Treasurer.*

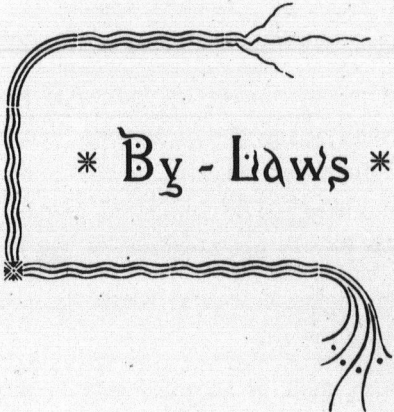
I have examined above Statement and find same to be correct.

DOUGLAS SIMPSON,
Auditor

TORONTO, MAY 4, 1889

SUBSCRIPTIONS—

Miss Dick	..	..	..	\$10 00
Mrs. James Lesslie	..	..	..	15 00
Mrs. Shortiss	..	..	..	5 00
Mr. Justice Proudfoot	..	..	..	10 00
Mrs. Sills	..	..	..	5 00
Mrs. Thomson	..	..	..	3 50
A Friend	..	..	..	2 00
Miss Lesslie (Dundas)	..	..	..	15 00
A Client of John Stark	..	..	..	20 00
Mrs. Elliott	..	..	..	3 00
Mr. J. W. L. Forster	..	..	..	2 00
Friends towards printing	..	..	..	2 00
Mrs. Haight	..	..	..	1 00
Special contributions towards Soup for				
Women	..	..	..	10 25
Total	..	..	..	\$103 75

A decorative border made of three parallel wavy lines. It starts at the top left, goes right, then curves down and left, then goes right again, and finally curves down and right, ending in a small flourish of several lines.

* By - Laws *

... By-laws of the Industrial Room ...

1. The Committee, after its appointment each season, shall appoint from among its members a Secretary and a Treasurer. It shall appoint the time of its own meetings, and three members shall form a quorum.

2. All moneys raised by Industrial Room and all donations shall be the special property of the Industrial Room, and disbursed according to direction of Industrial Room Committee. The Industrial Room shall be responsible for its own indebtedness.

3. The rooms shall be as nearly as possible in the central part of the city.

4. Work shall be supplied only to those who are really destitute, and each applicant for work must bring a voucher as to need from some member of the Board in the Division to which she belongs. The Industrial Room may have its own Visiting Committee, and may give occasional work to women whose names may not be on the books of the Relief Society, on recommendation of the said Visiting Committee.

5. A scale of prices for work shall be fixed by the Committee of the Industrial Room.

6. As each Depository Committee will insist, when practicable, on some work being done by all applicants for assistance, the Industrial Committee shall not refuse work to inferior workers.

7. The Committee shall be at liberty to make any further By-Laws for its own guidance, so long as they do not interfere with the above or with the Constitution or By-Laws of the parent Society.

8. The By-Laws may be altered or amended at any meeting of the Committee by a two-thirds vote of those present, notice having been given in writing one month previously.

