

# Making Criminals of "Coming Canadians"

The evening session of the W.C.T.U. two-day convention, opened with a piano solo by Miss Helen Montgomery, after which Rev. E. McGougan led in prayer. Miss Robb played a violin solo which was greatly appreciated.

Mr. Cecil E. Race gave a very interesting talk on "The Coming Canadian" not referring, as one might infer, to the rising generation, but to the foreign element, which is being assimilated with the nation.

The work the Y. M. C. A. is doing among these "coming Canadians" in Edmonton was outlined by Mr. Race. Three years ago the effort had reached over three hundred people; last year, five hundred, and this year at least five hundred would profit by this work. According to Y. M. C. A. statistics Edmonton is the twelfth city on the continent of North America in reaching these people. He spoke of the demoralizing influences which these workers found, and which had to be eliminated before the foreigner could be transformed into the better class of Canadian citizen. Segregation of nations, congestion in rooming houses, drinking customs, were among these evils.

We are making criminals of these people, he stated, by the way in which we permit them to house by themselves, and do not permit them to associate with our people, and according to social statistics the second generation is much worse than the first. Mr. Race referred to the difficulties which had to be contended with in the country. "The people are easily got at if they get to know that you are going with an idea of helping them," he said, "and will welcome you if you can disarm their suspicion, and make them feel that you have no ulterior motive."

A solo by Madam Duggan "The Lost Chord" was enthusiastically encored, and she responded by singing "The Perfect Day."

Mrs. E. L. Hill spoke on "The Extension of the Franchise," and sketched the status of women and the progress of the franchise for the past hundred

years. The Reform act of 1832, which meant so much to the men of England, was the first time that women were definitely excluded from the franchise. Previously to that time there were places where women had elected their own representatives. As a nun she might engage in practically all the professions; with the abolition of guilds and convents, there was no occupation left for women but mar-

riage. "Women," Mrs. Hill stated, "are conservative, and dislike breaking away from a custom which has become established; the greatest opposition women have to face is their own conservatism."

The Metropolitan male quartette sang two selections which were well received, and the session was brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem.

## Lambton County "At Home"

The Lambton County (Ontario) association held an At Home in the Crescent Tea room when about 135 guests, all from Lambton county, attended. The picture guessing contest caused much amusement, and prizes were won by Mrs. Bert Bentley, 1st, and Miss Bertha English, 2nd.

Mr. S. A. G. Barnes president of the association acted as chairman and announced an enjoyable program. Miss Marshall, a Forest (Ont.) girl, who won the medal for soprano singing in the first Alberta Musical festival. A violin duet was given by the Misses McDonald. A reading by Miss Laura Marshall, a piano solo by Mrs. Brake and Miss Sharp, were much enjoyed.

Refreshments were then served and an address given by Mr. S. A. G. Barnes, who reviewed the history of the society since its organization.

He explained that the County ASSO-

ciation was a branch of the Western Ontario association that comprises eight adjoining counties.

The Hon. J. R. Boyle, minister of Education, whose former home was in Hamilton County, was present and stated that he came from the best county in Western Ontario, and he now was an old timer in Alberta. He said that when he first came to Edmonton he thought every one from Lambton county was from Sarnia, but now he concluded they were all from Forest.

Mr. L. D. Farney and Mr. S. E. Cornell followed with brief addresses and the program concluded with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne."



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