

erest was displayed in the reports presented at the annual meeting last month in Port Arthur. Women from all parts of Canada, who devote their time and talents to the cause of womanhood and the betterment of the conditions of the less fortunate members of their sex, were present to discuss the progress of their order since their meeting last year in Halifax, and plan a campaign of legislative, educational and uplift work for the future. Discussions were held with a view to placing the various projects upon such a basis that application might be made to the Provincial Legislatures and the Federal Parliament for the introduction of new laws, or the modification of old laws, in keeping with the progressive aims of the National Council and for the welfare of women and children generally.

There are in Canada 25 Local Councils, each of which was entitled to send six delegates to the convention besides which the many affiliated societies, including the Women's Art Association, the Girls' Friendly Society, the Dominion Order of King's Daughters, and the Victorian Order of Nurses were entitled to two delegates each.

There are National Councils also in the United States, Germany, Sweden, Great Britain, Denmark, the Netherlands, Tasmania, New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Queensland, Italy, France, Argentina, Switzerland, Austria, Hungary, Norway, Belgium, Greece and Bulgaria, and representatives in Russia, Finland and Turkey.

These National Councils are federated and form the International Council, which was formed in Washington in 1888, and meets every five years. The first Quinquennial was held in Chicago in 1893, the second in London, England, in 1899, the third in Berlin, Germany, in 1904, and the fourth in Toronto, Canada, in 1909. The executive committee also meets twice between the quinquennial meetings.

The National Council of Women came into existence in 1893, under the auspices of the Countess of Aberdeen, the wife of our then Governor-General, and she became its first president. It was formed on the same lines as the National Council of the United States and the Council of Women Workers of Great Britain, namely, as a federation of women's societies. It represents all the provinces of the Domin-

ion. It is non-political, for women of all parties belong to its ranks. It is not attached to any particular creed, for members of all the Protestant churches and of the Roman Catholic church work together in the Council, as do also the adherents of the Jewish faith.

Twenty-five Local Councils, from Nova Scotia in the extreme east, to Vancouver Island in the extreme west, belong to the federation, and these Local Councils have in affiliation over 300 societies and institutions formed for every conceivable object. Fourteen nationally organized societies, including Women's Institutes, also belong. Once a year representatives meet in one or other of the principal cities of the Dominion to receive reports, to confer on subjects suggested by its executive or by the federated associations, in order to decide on any combined national action that may be deemed desirable, and to recommend lines of work or inquiry by the federated associations in their several provinces.

In this connection, the following part of an address by the late Lady Edgar is of interest:

"The Minister of Education in 1897 stated that the introduction of domestic science and manual training into our schools was entirely due to the efforts of the National Council of Women.

"Not in a spirit of vain-glory, but because I want to inform you as to the aims and work of this council, I will give you a resume of some of its other achievements.

"It has obtained the appointment of women on the Boards of School Trustees, and of women inspectors in the factories and workshops where women are employed, in the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario.

"It has obtained the extension of the provisions of the Factory Act to the Shop Act in Ontario as regards the supervision of women workers.

"It has obtained the appointment of women on the Boards of School Trustees in New Brunswick, and the amendment of the School Act so that they may be elected in British Columbia.

"It has brought about very desirable changes in the arrangements for women prisoners in various places.

"It has organized in several centres Boards of Associated Charities or other