

the New Brunswick delegate succeed in blocking the proposition? No appeal to fairness could have done it. No force of argument could have done it. No; it was because the Institutes had been organized in many French districts of New Brunswick, and their delegate could speak at the meeting with the influence of a Province behind her. It was organization that did it.

One lesson is especially this. Those Institutes of women organized in French districts of New Brunswick may not know or realize what power they wielded in Toronto. Similarly the Catholics of some parts of Canada do not know, cannot know, what weakness they inflict upon Catholic interests in other parts of Canada by their racial quarrels.

Still another lesson is an evident inference from the facts herein stated. It is that Catholic men and women must become more active and take their part in all such societies. They are not forbidden societies. On the contrary, they are useful societies. We need many exclusively Catholic societies in Canada; but we cannot avoid being associated with non-Catholics also in some societies which cannot be called Catholic. The Dominion of Canada is one such society. So is the Royal Society of Canada. So is the Red Cross Society. And similarly, the Women's Institutes are a form of association which Catholics cannot afford to ignore. Where all the people are Catholic in a district the Institute becomes a Catholic society in its local activities. In any case, these Institutes are becoming a great force in the social life of Canada, and the only way to prevent them from engaging in anti-Catholic activities is to make them conscious that very many members are Catholics.

During the past few years the governments of many countries have called into consultation representative men and women who are members of important organizations. Sometimes the purpose is to get advice in disputed questions, such as that of labor and capital. Sometimes it is to get the cooperation of organizations in formulating and regulating some practical measure, such as immigration, for instance. Twice during this year an inquiry went out from Government Departments asking the name of some nation-wide Catholic organization of women. The purpose was to invite representative members of a Catholic organization to Ottawa. Both