

late, although, still we need a great extension of the principle of co-operation, and those of us who have been workers know how difficult it is to induce others without experience in co-operation to take the first step. The first step taken we soon realize all the advantages which come from loyal help and support and how much the discipline of co-operation assists us in our work and how our own character is developed as we learn to take as well as to give; to accept the will and the decision of those who have most experience and authority amongst us; to carry out loyally the decision of the majority. So this tendency towards co-operation and union has been shown in all the various directions of work, and hence the outcome is all these different societies and auxiliaries, and institutions which are managed by various committees. You here know well the benefits which such organizations have brought to your city. Take the instance of the King's Daughters, or the organization of noble work carried on by the convent of St. Joseph. That inclination is daily strengthened. Not only do we find that these societies exist but there is a tendency between those of a kindred character to unite; in fact, I think we realize that the work of the different societies resembles, to a great extent, the work of specialists in the medical profession. One medical man will take up the study of the eye, another that of the ear, and another that of some other portion of the body; but they all find the necessity of coming together now and again and taking into consideration the care of the general health of the body if success is to be insured. The women workers of the place take up the various forms of work; some for the care of little children, some for the aged and infirm, others for the sick, and again for various reforms, prison reform, rescue and preventive work, and so on. Each of these is everywhere the work of specialists and we know how engrossing such work becomes; how those who are the most eager and enthusiastic in the work become engrossed in the particular line to which they have devoted themselves and thus naturally lose the opportunity of knowing what is going on in other lines of work. But, if we are to carry on our own line of work

successfully, we must of necessity understand the general scope and the general wants of the lives to which we are devoting ourselves. If our work lies, for instance, specially among children we need to think of the various influences which tend to mould the child's life, and which will mould it in the future, as regards body, mind, soul; the different stages of its life. We need therefore to take a wide view to know more than our own particular line of work and so we feel from time to time that we need to come in touch with the general work which is being done by others. I think it is a feeling of this sort that has brought about these Councils for women, or, as they are called in England, Unions of Women Workers. I need not trouble you, I think, with any history as to how the Women's National Council of Canada came into existence. It is pretty well known now that it is practically the outcome of the Women's Congress at Chicago last year, where the women present were urged to form Councils in all their different countries. I will content myself with giving you a short account of its work. The plan has been to form local councils in any given centers of population. These local councils have been formed by various societies and institutions, organizations of all sorts being represented in a central common body. Each society which federates is represented on a central committee by its own president. These form the executive of the Council to which are added a few officers. This central body is then able to carry out whatever is needed to promote the objects of the council. I will read to you the preamble of the National Council which, I think, will give you its aims: "We, women of Canada, sincerely believing that the best good of our homes and nation will be advanced by our own greater unity of thought, sympathy, and purpose, and that an organized movement of women will best conserve the highest good of the Family and the State, do hereby band ourselves together to further the application of the Golden Rule to society, custom and law."

I think that preamble really contains the whole gist of the matter. That is greater unity and the furtherance of the Golden Rule in all the relations of life. You will ask how this end is to be ac-

complished. tee of whic Council get to time to or confere ties which give in a s particular paper or who have special sut the comm the mere of work be ferent sec before the to this ur and purp speaking. the publ of the we will kno parativel unaware different Surely ti benefit should pathy; i know of accomp against had sor faith if learn fro is a we it send know E divers It give ties for forwar ial hel the me some c not ye are sti being to be gener some of the and shall taker such chief ticula ment you whic