

none have been more successful than the Victorian Order of Nurses.

In 1894, Mrs. Tilley of London, Ont., had suggested the establishment of nursing homes, and at the Annual Meeting of the National Council in Montreal, in 1896, the Vancouver Local Council presented the need of providing trained nurses for the North West Territories and outlying districts of Canada. It was resolved to study conditions and lay practical schemes before the Executive Committee. Soon the Halifax Local Council suggested that the women of Canada make a jubilee offering to Queen Victoria. From these propositions, Lady Aberdeen, the President of the National Council, in consultation with her Executive Committee and Local Councils in Montreal and other cities, developed the idea of the Victorian Order of Nurses. Finally there was prepared a constitution which was endorsed at the National Council meeting in Halifax, in 1897. The Order was finally started as an independent organization of men and women in Ottawa, in 1898. Montreal formed one of the first local branches, many of the officers and members of the Executive Committee being active workers in the Council, which had taken the preliminary steps in the work of organization.

Frequently the Council has prepared the way for reforms finally obtained by other organizations. One may be mentioned in this connection. Consideration was first given in 1897 to the necessity of the medical inspection of the public schools of Montreal, and several conferences were held then and in subsequent years. In 1901, a large public meeting addressed by Dr. Wyatt Johnston showed sympathy with the movement. A scheme was finally prepared for presentation to the authorities, but further action was rendered unnecessary by the success which met the efforts of one of the Council's affiliated societies, the Montreal Women's Club, to secure the appointment of Medical School Inspectors, in 1906.

In 1901, at a meeting of the National Council in London, Ont., a paper by Miss Peters of St. John, N.B., urged the organization of "Vacation Schools and Supervised Playgrounds." The suggestion was endorsed and Local Councils were asked to take action along the lines indicated. The President of the Montreal Local Council at that time was Mrs. Cox, who had long been keenly interested in the preservation and development of the parks and open spaces of the city. She at once brought the matter before the Local Council. In consequence, it was arranged for a mass meeting at which Miss Ellen Tower of Boston gave an address upon "Supervised Playgrounds." Instead of forming a new organization, it was then resolved to ask a small body of women, called the "Parks Protective Association," which had been in existence since 1895, to enlarge its scope and add men to the Executive Committee, so as to form a "Parks and Playgrounds Associations." Mrs. Cox, Mrs. Walton and