

file court were considered. Dr. Kelso, Superintendent of the Children's Department of the Ontario Government, addressed the Council by invitation, upon the care of dependent and destitute children. The Council then suggested and succeeded in forming a committee of citizens who tried to secure amendments to the laws affecting dependent children and to form a Children's Aid Society. These efforts failed and it was clear that a desire for co-operation in relief work must be cultivated. A few years later the question was reopened by the Council, and through the National Council, support was given to the Dominion "Juvenile Delinquent's Act." The Children's Aid Society in Montreal was, however, formed by the Women's Club in 1908.

An investigation of Maternity Boarding Houses was made in 1899 and, as a result, the registration of births was made obligatory.

In co-operation with the Prisoner's Aid Society and other bodies, police matrons were placed in charge of women in the police stations.

In 1895, an enquiry into conditions in jails and reformatories was made and visits were paid regularly to the woman's jail. It was, at once, seen that the classification of the inmates and educative employment were necessary. Although the Council failed to obtain these reforms, certain hygienic improvements, including the erection of open galleries, were secured. In 1908, the Council again took up the work, a special committee with Lady Drummond as convener and Mrs. Chipman as Secretary, being formed. The necessity for action was emphasized by the Rev. Arthur French's endeavours to promote social purity. A report was made to the Executive in December, and the Reformatory Committee was instructed to co-operate with other bodies and with individuals in efforts to secure a home of detention and training for young women brought before the Recorders. At the same time a resolution was passed in which the Council expressed its readiness, by every means in its power, to forward the movement initiated by Mr. French.

The committee later met with His Lordship, the Bishop of Montreal, Dr. Johnston, the President of the Protestant Ministerial Association, and Mr. French. It having been decided that further information was necessary, the Local Council undertook to secure it. Mrs. Chipman wrote to the superintendents of a large number of women's jails and reformatories in Canada, the United States and England, and epitomized the information thus gathered in an exceedingly practical and helpful paper, which was read at a meeting of the committee. The consensus of opinion was that it would be necessary to ask the Provincial Government to build and maintain an industrial school which would be quite distinct from the jail, and a fitting home where first offenders could be trained to lead useful,