

FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
National Council of Women of Canada.

OTTAWA, MAY 17TH, 1898.

Your Excellency, Members of the Council:

As we meet together for the Fifth time in Council Conference our thoughts turn naturally to the many pleasant recollections of our First Council meeting, because then, as now, the place of assemblage was the Capital City of the Dominion. As we look back to that time we realize first of all how this Council has grown and spread, for then it consisted of seven Local Councils, of which four were in the Province of Ontario, two in the Province of Quebec and one in the Province of Manitoba, while to-day our Local Councils, nineteen in number, the Council in Yarmouth having suspended work for a time, are in all the Provinces of the Dominion, from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean, the formation of the Local Council of Charlottetown, in Prince Edward Island, last winter having completed the chain from East to West across the continent. Then, only three naturally organized Societies had affiliated with the Council, while now there are five.

Other signs of quiet growth and steady progress are also very noticeable, as will be seen in the reports of the Local Councils and National Societies, proving that the spirit and aim of the Council is being better understood and more fully appreciated by its members as well as by thinking men and women in all parts of the Dominion.

The good the Council has done in bringing into close touch the women of the East with those of the West, making each understand the needs and endeavors of the other whose Common Citizenship with herself had been hardly realized before except in