

Quinquennial Congress

JUNE 24th to 30th, 1909.

THURSDAY, JUNE 24TH, 10 A.M.

CONVOCATION HALL, UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO.

CHAIRMAN, LADY EDGAR.

President National Council of Women of Canada.

FORMAL OPENING OF THE CONGRESS.

The Chairman, Lady Edgar, gave the following address:—

Your Excellency, President, and Members of the International Council of Women:

One week of hard work has passed, and although Council affairs have not yet been concluded (there are two more meetings), the Quinquennial Congress of Women, under the auspices of the National Council of Women of Canada, opens to-day.

A royal treat is offered, as will be seen by consulting the hand-book. The nine sections are so full of interest that it will be hard indeed to choose which one to attend. There is no lack of variety in the programme, and questions of vital interest to the world at large, the country and the home, will be discussed.

There are depths to be visited, there are heights to be climbed, in this Congress of Women. The meetings will be of supreme interest to thoughtful workers in many fields, who realize their responsibilities as parents, teachers, social reformers and professional women. It is an ideal occasion when women from so many different countries are present to give us their ideas as to the solving of problems and the overcoming of difficulties that in varying degrees are the same all over the world.

We are honoured to-day by the presence on the platform of our Honorary President, the Countess Grey, and our Advisory President, the Countess of Aberdeen, and I now have the pleasure of calling upon Her Excellency to give us an address.

An address was given by Her Excellency, the Countess Grey, Honorary President of the Council, as follows:—

“Ladies,—As Hon. President of the Canadian National Council of Women, it is my privilege to associate myself with Lady