

place at which they are presented, and so to that extent we place restrictions on the Local Councils. But otherwise they are perfectly free to act as they think best.

We do our work mainly through eighteen standing committees, the most recently formed of which is that on Conservation. It is for that reason that you were kind enough to invite me to be present to-day to represent the National Council of Women. We feel that, as we are just starting this work, we should like to follow the best possible lines. Believing as we do, that in this work co-operation is more desirable than competition, I have been commissioned to be with you here to-day to learn on what lines you are working, and, if possible, to carry back some ideas as to how best to mould the policy of this new committee which we have organized.

**Co-operation with
Commission** For a number of reasons we thought we might be able to co-operate with you in your work. First of all, I would say the aim that you have and the aim that we have are very much the same, namely, the general welfare of the public. Your Assistant to the Chairman, Mr. White, said recently, that practically every branch of human endeavour was included in the work of your Commission. From another point of view, ours is almost the same field. We have standing committees on almost all the things on which you have standing committees and a great many others besides. We are like a large commission of women dealing with the many interests which touch the lives of women.

**Public Health
Work of National
Council** We have, therefore, a large number of standing committees. For instance, we have a standing committee on public health, one of the most active and the oldest of all our committees. It is obvious that public health is a matter of national concern. It is also obvious that it concerns first of all and chiefly the women of the country, because it is on them that the stress of caring for the sick generally falls, and because it is they who find in their own homes the disabilities that are brought on them by such things as Dr. Hodgetts has just been speaking of to you. Again, you have heard Dr. Hodgetts' reference to town planning. We have been working along the very lines of which he has been speaking, through our standing committee on public health.

**Agriculture and
Women** Then in agriculture we believe that there is a large and unworked field for women. Many branches of agriculture are now being opened up for women's work. For example, in connection with fruit picking and packing there seems to be work in which women can be very