

Civic Address of Welcome

THE City of Brantford is indeed highly honored at this time in being privileged to welcome the delegates to this Annual Convention of the National Council of Women of Canada.

At no time in the past have the women of Canada occupied quite the position in the life of the nation that they have now attained. The great crisis through which Canada, with other portions of our beloved Empire, is now passing, has served to awaken a larger and truer appreciation of the noble-hearted women of our land.

Many of our leading statesmen in Great Britain and in Canada have, in former times, paid tribute to the help and inspiration they have received either from mother, wife, or sister; and now, after four years of the severest testing, we find that the whole nation is unstintingly paying homage to all its women. The women of Canada have abundantly proven themselves by their work, their sacrifices and their never-failing helpfulness. To-day the men of this country may well uncover their heads and "thank God that they are brothers to such sisters."

Canada has need of the continued help of her women, not alone during the present struggle, but in the reconstruction time to follow. Now that the ballot has been secured, the women will be called upon to take a more active part than ever before in all activities of the nation, and surely "women's intuition" can be depended upon to see that her part is an intelligent one. Canada is truly a land of unlimited possibilities, and now that it is being sanctified to us by the blood of our bravest and best, let us all resolve to keep it now and henceforth a glorious free democracy in all that the word implies.

We trust that your visit to Brantford may be a pleasant one in all respects, and that your deliberations may be fruitful of results.

M. MACBRIDE, Mayor.