

trially it is one which the women in any country should assist one another to solve. It is too large a subject to enter into at any length now, but it is one of those subjects which will have much light thrown upon it by these councils and by the coming together of wise, experienced, loving and sympathetic women. (Hear, hear.)

But springing up from these home duties come our social duties, which come to every woman—her duties to society. We sometimes lament the low tone of society, but if there is that low tone anywhere, whose fault is it? Is it not that of the women of the place? And is not a very grave responsibility lying upon us? and especially now in these days when every opportunity is given to woman for thorough education and for the use of her influence for the heightening of the whole tone of society. If we see the young people in our midst making pleasure the main object of life, whose fault is that? If there are two standards of morality expected, one for man and the other for woman; one for Sundays and the other for week days; one for religion and the other for business; whose fault is it? Is it not the fault of those who set the tone in the home and in the social life? In these matters also can we not unite in our conferences those of all churches and sections of thought who desire a lofty standard of morality, whether from the secular or religious point of view.

Can we not help one another to lift higher the ideal of life? whether in the home or social life, or the life of the country? (Applause.) Does it not depend upon us women, and especially upon those whom God has called to be mothers, to see that the children grow up with a high ideal of public life, that they should deem it to be a high privilege that they belong to this country, deem it a high honor to be trained to serve their country any way however humble. These matters come home to us mothers although I am not sure that the women of any country have realized the duty incumbent upon them to bring up their children with a distinct idea of what that service means. That brings us again to the further thought of a woman's duty to her country and to mankind at large; to that wider idea of duty to which women are called in these days. The call comes to all of us in one way or another. There are few who can shroud themselves in the privacy of their homes without hearing

in their hearts the summons to serve their fellow creatures in some way or another. It is a most holy call and a high vocation this call which comes to women, but we must remember that one of the great essentials for its success is to carry into our work the element of true womanliness; and what does that quality involve? How has it been brought into being? Is it not the pressure of home duties and family life that has taught women in a greater or less degree that they must live for others? Is it not a fact that woman must learn this lesson through her children's needs, through the discipline of the home, if she is to rightly perform in any measure her duties as wife, daughter and mother? And it is in that spirit of self-sacrifice that we are called to go forth to the wider work to which women are being called now-a-days, and it is that spirit which only, our Lord has taught us, can regenerate the world. (Applause.)

I cannot suggest what the particular general work for the good of the community may be which the Victoria council, if it is formed, would be likely to take up, but I can indicate what the other councils have taken up and, by the way, I should tell you where local councils have been formed, namely at Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa, London, Hamilton, Quebec, St. John, Halifax, Yarmouth, Port Arthur, Fort William, Winnipeg, Edmonton. Councils are likely to be formed at Vancouver, Regina, Calgary and Medicine Hat. The Ontario councils are much interested now in pushing a movement for manual training in their schools, and this indicates what, perhaps you could do here.

Col Baker is inaugurating this most useful reform in your schools, but if it is to be successful it must be backed by public opinion, and who can form that public opinion so well as the wives and mothers? If a paper were prepared showing the advantages of technical education for children and if a discussion ensued it would probably take public opinion one great step on this subject. (Hear, hear.) Montreal, again, is trying to arrange a scheme of associated charities, so very likely will Ottawa. Toronto dealt with the distress last year, being instrumental in the starting of an employment bureau. Quebec is to try to start a plan for training servants, and others are anxious to secure the appointment of police matrons to look after women newly arrested. It is wonderful how soon