(6) We have already discussed the paramount necessity of Interest securing and retaining the interest of the Federated Societies. Societies They must not be allowed to look upon the Local Council to which they belong as something outside themselves, and with whose business they have little or nothing to do; they must be brought to feel that to be in touch with it is a necessity to them, that through it they can bring their own needs before a large public and promote their own work, and that at the same time its enlarging influence on their workers is helpful, to a larger conception of their work. What is needed in all these directions is not only earnestness and enthusiasm, but good organization and good leadership. And the fact that our Local Councils have flourished as they have done point to the possession of these qualities by Canadian women, to a very high degree.

Sometimes people are foolish enough to suggest that this Readiness for Council will not continue to flourish as it has done. Such remarks show that those who make them know but little of either the history or the constitution of the Council. One of the reasons why the Council has grown and developed as it has done is because it has met the desire which exists everywhere for Leadership—wise Leadership—It has proved a centre in every place round which workers can rally for common work—everything is ready for the emergency when it arises.

Take one instance—last year Canada was shocked one Monday by hearing that the town of Windsor, in Nova Scotia, had been totally destroyed by fire and that thousands of its inhabitants were homeless. Next day it learnt that in addition to the measures being taken by Provincial and other authorities for the relief of the sufferers, that a number of ladies from New Brunswick were already on the spot with supplies of food and clothing. Why were they there? Just because the President of the Local Council of St. John, Lady Tilley, whom we rejoice to see amongst us, summoned the Local Council immediately she heard the sad news. The Local