

their history, their present position with all information as to their capacity for giving remunerative employment, and so on.

The Association has also a general registry office; they have started schools for industrial training and for cooking; they have encouraged the training of women gardeners, and they carry on lectures and classes of instruction for the women of the working classes, who have a keen thirst for knowledge, and who belong to the Union as individual members paying a small yearly fee. This is their difficulty in forming themselves into a National Council because they are not a union of societies. This difficulty will doubtless be easily got over, as the Association is exceedingly anxious to put itself in touch with the movement which is taking root all over the civilized world, and to form an integral part of the great International Council of Women.

The President and moving spirit of all this work has been the Baroness Alexandria Gripenberg, a Swede by descent, who has thrown herself into the national movement, who has taught herself Finnish in order to edit a most successful Finnish woman's paper, and whose noble efforts are unwearying to promote the welfare of her country.

Miss Gripenberg (for the title is not used in ordinary conversation) was at the meeting of the United States Council at Washington some years ago, and from there brought away ideas which resulted in the formation of the Association just described to you. She is one of those characters which combine sweetness and strength—a great power of affection along with force of will and commanding intellect. I am looking forward to the time when she will meet with other members of other National Councils, for there is little doubt but that all will be as greatly attracted to her as I was during my two days stay in Helsingfors, where I received such a splendid and hearty welcome.

Miss Gripenberg has a thorough command of English, and there were but few of the many charming ladies who accorded me such a gracious reception with whom I could not interchange some ideas.

SWEDEN.

In Sweden also there is not as yet a Council formed, but great anxiety was evinced that there should be one.

We had many consultations on the best ways and means of accomplishing this, for here also there is a large and flourishing woman's society doing "Council" work and carrying out the "Council" idea, without the direct constitutional basis. This Society is called the Fredrika Bremer Forbundet, so named after the great Swedish pioneer of the woman's movement there. It was formed by two ladies, who had given themselves up to the work—the Baroness Aldersparre Leijonhufvud and Madame Olivecrona. It has for objects: To make known the rights and duties of women socially and legally, to work for educational reforms, to induce the principle of self-help, to enlarge the labor market for women, and to take up moral and social questions concerning them.