

referred back to the Executive Committee for consideration, and will be taken up at the first meeting of that Committee to be held in October in Toronto. In comparing the finances of the past with those of the preceding year, it must be remembered that the past year was one of only nine months, while the preceding one covered a period of seventeen months, and sums were included in the financial statement for 1898 which properly belonged to the statement for 1899. This shows the necessity of having a fixed date when the financial year shall close. It seems inadvisable to set any exact time for the holding of the Annual Meeting, as the place of meeting must in some degree determine the time most suitable, but this need not prevent the closing of the financial year, may I say, on the first of May, and then Local Councils and Federated Societies would know that returns must always be made before that date. During the discussion on finance, a request was made that I should call attention to the fact that Mrs. Edward Griffin, of Ottawa, was Treasurer of the Guarantee Fund, which is quite separate and distinct from the Council Aid Fund, having been raised by Lady Aberdeen to cover two items of expenditure, the salary of the Secretary and the rent of the office. This fund is only provided for three years, it being hoped that by that time the Council may be able to meet all necessary expenditure.

Fifteen names have been added to the list of Life Members by Local Councils under the privilege given them of naming a Life Member for every \$25 paid into the Council Funds. In addition to these we had the pleasure of receiving Mrs. Robson, of Victoria, as a Life Member at her own request, and the Lieut.-Governor, Sir Henri Joly, as an Annual Patron, also Miss Ross, of Toronto, as an Annual Patron.

Thirteen designs for Life Membership certificates were submitted, and after prolonged examination and discussion, a ballot was taken which resulted in the choice of two designs by A. H. Howard, of Toronto, one for the use of the National Council and one for Local Councils. It was also decided that the Publication Committee should make the necessary arrangements for their reproduction and that Local Councils be required to pay the cost of the Local Certificates used by them.

The resolutions on the Agenda making amendments to the Constitution were carried; the first, which made Lady Aberdeen Advisory President of the National Council for life, by a very enthusiastic standing vote, and the second, providing that conveners of Standing Committees be ex-officio members of Executive,