

FIRST REPORT

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National Council of Women of Canada.

OTTAWA, APRIL 11TH, 1894.

*Your Excellency, Members of the National Council of Women
of Canada :*

The Secretary's report for this, the first Annual Meeting of the National Council of Women, must of necessity touch upon some matters that preceded the formal organization of the Council, which took place at a meeting held in Toronto on Thursday, October 26th, 1893.

Going back then to the 22nd May preceding that date, mention should be made of a meeting held in the Palmer House, Chicago, by the foreign delegates, and visitors to the Woman's Congress that had just closed, when it was then decided unanimously that an effort should be made to organize a National Council of Women in every country in the World, the same to consist of a Federation of Women's Societies, with the object of promoting sympathy by a more intimate knowledge of one another's work, as well as to secure more effective action in all matters of general importance. These Councils in turn to be affiliated with an International Council of Women, of which Her Excellency, the Countess of Aberdeen, was elected President.

In order to carry out this idea, a provisional Vice-President and Secretary were appointed for each country in the world, who, it was hoped, would take the initiative in bringing the matter before the women of their respective countries. Such a National Council already existed in the United States, and a similar organization, under a different name, had done much good work in Great Britain.