

The following resolutions in connection with the election of Officers were also passed :—

“ That in carrying into effect the resolution passed at Halifax, appointing the Countess of Aberdeen on her retirement from the Presidency, to be Past President with a vote on the Executive Committee, it shall be amended by the substitution of the word ‘Advisory’ for the word ‘Past’ President, and that her name be printed after that of the President on the list of Officers ”

“ Resolved that the following ladies residing in Ottawa be a Committee to wait upon Her Excellency the Countess of Minto after her return from England to ask her to be Honorary President of the National Council, namely, Lady Laurier, Lady Ritchie, Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. Hutton, Mrs. Edward Griffin and Miss Wilson.”

I think that all the members of the National Council are aware of the strong opinion which I have held for a long time and which I have expressed several times, that the President of the National Council of Women of Canada should be a Canadian woman living in Canada, and one who has had personal experience of Council work.

Our Council is too real an organization to have as President one who can occupy this office in name only, and it is with great reluctance that I have continued to fill the post since my departure from Canada pending the selection of my successor.

We are deeply indebted to Lady Edgar for the interest and personal work she devoted to the Council whilst serving as Acting President, and we had hoped to see her accept the place of President at this Annual Meeting. Sir James Edgar’s lamented death has made this impossible. We can but tender her our respectful and heartfelt sympathy and our grateful thanks, and at the same time cherish the hope that she will keep in touch with us.

It was with deep regret that we received the intimation that Mrs. George Drummond, of Montreal, was unable to accept the nomination for the Presidency on account of uncertain health.

But when Lady Taylor, wife of Sir Thomas Taylor, Chief Justice of Manitoba, was induced, after strong persuasion, to reconsider her refusal to be nominated, I felt that our difficulties were solved. To our great loss Lady Taylor has hitherto been prevented from attending the Annual Meetings, much to her own regret, but she has been intimately connected with the Winnipeg Local Council ever since its formation, and as its President, steered it with great wisdom through more than one difficult crisis. Her association with many other philanthropic movements has also given her experience of a kind which peculiarly fits her for the post to which she has now been elected, and her personal touch with both the West and the East will enable her to be that link