

conclusion. We therefore decided to request all the Local Councils to consider the question and embody their views in a report to be considered at the next annual meeting of the National Council. (Applause.)

2. The laws for the protection of women and children. It seems clear that some alteration ought to be made for this purpose, and this we hope to bring to the attention of the government.

3. Facts were brought before us at our last annual meeting showing that in various quarters there was an incursion of the most pernicious literature possible into the Dominion and that in spite of the law which had been made to prevent it—in spite of the best efforts of the Post Office and the Customs Departments in many cases literature of the most terrible description was being placed in the hands of our boys and girls. We have, therefore, asked all our Local Councils to most carefully investigate this subject, and we are very sure that we shall have the co-operation of all men and women throughout the Dominion to prevent this evil. Even if we only sound a note of warning we shall feel that our action in this matter has not been in vain. (Applause.)

So much for the actual work done. But I think—remembering that our National Council was only inaugurated two years ago last December—that we may truly thank God and take courage.

And, gentlemen, you who are here to-night—and we thank you for being here as showing your interest in this movement—may I ask you now whether you think that the work which I have endeavored to describe is likely to make women unwomanly and forgetful of their homes? The National Council of Women of Canada has much to be grateful for to the men of Canada—to the public men of Canada—whether of Church or State—for their approval, co-operation, support and encouragement, without which they can do nothing. They have much to be grateful for to-night. But, ladies and gentlemen, we cannot be unaware that there are still some men who are not quite sure of what this Council is going to come to—what it all means—what it is going to do, and I think some have visions of what are called “New Women” invading those homes and of homes being left desolate? I would like, if there are any such here to-night, let me make them one request. If they do think this is not merely a harmless fad, but one full of evil possibilities for the women of Canada, may I then ask them to come and watch our meetings, to read what literature we issue, and above all to watch the lives of those women who are moulding and leading this Council of Women of Canada. If you will do this, gentlemen, and will do it impartially, we are not afraid of your verdict. We cannot, of course, promise that every resolution that shall be brought up shall be exactly to your minds, but then perhaps the resolutions brought up in your City Council or even those brought up in Parliament on the hill yonder are not always in consonance with our ideas. (Laughter.)

But one thing I think we can say that at any rate up to the present