

From Lola Francis  
Executive Secretary National Council of Women

**Hand-Book**  
OF THE  
**National Council of Women**  
**of Canada.**

Head Office 204 Plaza Building, Ottawa, Ont.

HAND-BOOK  
OF THE  
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN  
OF CANADA.

(Federated to the International Council of Women in 1897)

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TO BE HAD FREE  
ON APPLICATION TO THE CENTRAL OFFICE.

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JANUARY, 1914

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The Reports of the Annual Meetings, including the reports of Local  
Councils and Nationally Organized Societies, can be  
had on application to the Central Office,

PRICE 25 CENTS

# The National Council of Women of Canada

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## WHAT IT IS.

This Council is a federation of Societies and Associations of Women interested in Philanthropy, Religion, Education, Literature, Art, and Social Reform banded together for the furtherance of the Golden Rule.

## GENERAL POLICY.

This Council is organized in the interest of no one propaganda, and has no power over the organizations which constitute it beyond that of suggestion and sympathy; therefore no Society voting to enter this Council shall render itself liable to be interfered with in respect to its complete organic unity, independence, or methods of work, or be committed to any principle or method of any other Society, or to any act or utterance of the Council itself, beyond compliance with the terms of the Constitution.

## THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL.

This Council is one of twenty National Councils which, federated together, form the International Council of Women.

## HOW THE COUNCIL WORKS.

Work is carried on through eighteen standing Committees, the Convener of each Committee being elected by the National Council as special need for any line of new work arises, each Local Council (federations of local Societies) and each Nationally Organized Society in Federation appointing a member to the same.

## SOME OF THE COUNCIL ACHIEVEMENTS.

Work initiated by the National Council is sometimes taken over by a special organization, as, for example, the Victorian Order of Nurses, Supervised Playgrounds, Organized Charities, etc. The Local Councils also do a great deal of most useful local work in the various cities and towns, accounts of which may be read in their annual reports published in the Year Book.

It obtained the introduction of Manual Training and Instruction in Domestic Science into the Public Schools of Ontario and Nova Scotia, and the training of teachers so that they may be able to give instructions in these arts. It has also given an emphasis to the same movement in other Provinces.

It has obtained the appointment of Women Factory Inspectors for factories and workshops where women are employed, in the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario.

It has obtained the extension of the provisions of the Factory Act to shops and factories in Ontario as regards the supervision of women workers.

It has obtained the appointment of women on the Boards of School Trustees in New Brunswick, and the amendment of the School Act so that they may be elected in British Columbia and Alberta. It also compiled a report on the regulations and methods of electing members of School Boards in all the seven Provinces, in which much variety exists.

It has brought about very desirable changes in the arrangements for women prisoners in various places.

It has organized in various centres Boards of Associated Charities, or other systems of co-operation in the relief of distress, and has circulated a valuable paper on the problem of the unemployed.

Through its Local Councils it has established Hospitals in some of its smaller centres.

It originated the idea of the Victorian Order of Nurses, and has taken a leading part in its establishment in different centres.

It has helped to organize classes of Domestic Science.

It has spread sanitary knowledge, especially by means of Health Talks for Mothers given by physicians, and has formed Mothers' Clubs in some places.

It has held an inquiry all over the country into the circulation of impure literature, and has been able to do something to lessen it, as well as to warn parents and teachers as to the very great danger that exists in this direction. It has secured legislation on the subject and has encouraged the circulation of healthy and interesting literature.

It instituted inquiries into the conditions surrounding working women in several centres, and urged on its members various methods of working for their amelioration.

It conducted an inquiry in all the Provinces into the Laws for the Protection of Women and Children, and laid certain recommendations before the Ministers of Justice, which they adopted when bringing in amendments to the Criminal Code.

It is earnestly concerning itself in the care and treatment

of the feeble-minded, and urged the establishment of special classes for defective children.

It calls on all its members to unite in efforts for the protection of animal and bird life from useless destruction in the interests of fashion.

It endeavors to plan for the better care and wiser distribution of women immigrants. In the case of the Doukhoborts it raised a loan fund for providing the women with materials for drawn work and embroidery and gave them much needed assistance in securing sale for the same during their first winter in Canada.

One of the Local Councils secured the passing of a by-law authorizing the establishment of a filtration plant for the city. The daily press unanimously agreed that the passing of this by-law was due to the hard and untiring work of the women of the Council.

It is pledged to co-operate with the medical authorities in urging measures to be taken to check the ever increasing ravages of tuberculosis in this country; to spread a knowledge of the subject, and to bring responsibility home to individuals.

It works for the promotion of health through its Standing Committees.

On several occasions the pressing needs of the women and children of a city, partially destroyed by sudden fire, have been relieved at a few hours notice by the combined action of a Council of Women in a neighboring city, whose organization gave it the opportunity to render prompt and efficient help.

At the desire of the Red Cross Society, it assisted in organizing Branches of this Society all over Canada for the relief of sufferers during the War in South Africa.

At the request, and at the expense, of the Dominion Government, it compiled a Handbook of information on matters relating to Canadian women and their work, primarily for publication and distribution by the Government at the Paris and other Exhibitions.

At the instigation of the Kingston Local Council, and with the co-operation of the other Local Councils, it petitioned the Ontario Government for the restoration of the monument to Lord Sydenham, which was destroyed by fire when the Kingston Cathedral was burnt. The Provincial Government not only acquiesced, but placed the sum of \$500.00 in the hands of the Kingston Local Council, requesting them to supervise this undertaking.

Some of the Local Councils have established and carried on Pure Milk Stations where pure milk is provided for poor children.

One of the Local Councils has established a "Rest Room" for the benefit of women from the country, and others, coming to the town for a few hours.

Some of the Local Councils have secured the appointment of Police Women, and one Local Council has secured the establishment of a Women's Police Court.

The Council has worked for the establishment of Juvenile Courts in many places.

It has worked for the promotion of Agriculture as an employment for women.

It has assisted the Trained Nurses in their effort to secure Government Registration.

It has drawn the attention of the Government to the need of a change in the law concerning chattel mortgages, on behalf of the poor.

Through some of the Local Councils it has worked for and secured Medical Inspection in Schools.

It has promoted the cause of a Compulsory Education Law in Provinces where such does not exist.

It has tried to secure Dominion Registration for Teachers.

It has published a pamphlet containing the laws, both Provincial and Dominion, that affect Women and Children.

It has worked for the Suppression of the White Slave Traffic, and has tried to warn parents of the dangers of the same.

It has worked for Jail Reform, especially for the prevention of even the temporary incarceration of the Insane in Jails.

It has through its Standing Committee tried to advance the cause of Peace and Arbitration.

It has drawn the attention of the authorities to the unsanitary condition of many railway trains and stations.

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The following is a list of the principal Resolutions passed and papers, addresses and reports given at the Annual Meetings since the Council was formed in 1893 to 1913 inclusive, which are published in the Year Books. These twenty volumes may be had from the Corresponding Secretary, or may be seen in most of the Public Libraries.

Resolutions passed at Annual Meetings by the  
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I.—RELATING TO THE CONSTITUTION:

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