

WOMEN'S SERVICE  
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# THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S NEWS

## JUS SUFFRAGII

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#### IN MEMORIAM: INGEBORG WALIN.

The Swedish women's movement has suffered an irreparable loss. Miss Ingeborg Walin died on March 27th at her home in Stockholm at the age of 67. It is hard to realise that she is no more. She was like a fir tree in the woods; tall and inflexible, and it always seemed as though she could weather any storm. Now she has left us for ever and we who have followed her achievements, who have admired and loved her, for us she will always be the fir in the woods, a symbol of unyielding integrity and unwavering steadfastness in all her deeds.

It was not on the beaten track that she had to pursue her life-work. After having passed through the Higher Training College for Women Teachers, she studied for some years at Stockholm University. Then she studied at Training Courses for Domestic Economy Teachers in Cassel, London and Edinburgh. She made several journeys to study the teaching of domestic economy in England, Scotland, Holland, Belgium, France, Germany and the Northern countries.

In Sweden, Ingeborg Walin was a pioneer in domestic economy. Her work as Director

of the State Seminary for 27 years had a special influence on education. As an expert and adviser on the Board of Education, with the same functions and responsibility as a Councillor, she performed work of great importance. She was appointed as an expert to many committees and educational commissions and represented the Government at international conventions for domestic science in Ghent and Paris.

Among the societies of which she was a peerlessly loyal and impartial president may be mentioned the Swedish Society for Domestic Economic Schools for Teachers, the Swedish Union of Women's Clubs, the Swedish Women's Society for Citizenship, the Open Door Group. Ingeborg Walin was also greatly appreciated on international boards such as that of the International Alliance, where her opinions always received great attention. We are many who mourn Ingeborg Walin, and we are also many who will always remember her as a wholehearted champion of our cause, as a noble and strong personality in whom there was no guile.

Ingeborg Walin's funeral at St. Clara's Church was an impressive





and solemn ceremony. There were numerous representatives of all the spheres in which her great capacity for work, her interest and her devotion have been called upon. Almost all that Stockholm owns of well-known men and women in education and social work were assembled to honour and show their gratitude to her. Not least impressive was the great number of young people, with a guard of honour of girl undergraduates at the head. An overwhelming mass of flowers had been sent to her bier. Many contributions were sent to a stipend fund to bear her name, and also to the International Alliance for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship. Ingeborg Walin will never be forgotten.

ELLEN HAGEN.

We regret to announce the death of Annie Leigh Browne, who died in March. Miss Leigh Browne spent her whole life in service to others, and principally to women. She was already a suffragist in 1868, she was closely connected with the work of Josephine Butler, and retained her interest in that work until her death. She was the founder of the Women's Local Government Society, and was indeed to be found playing some part in almost every movement which had for its object justice and liberty. For many years Miss Leigh Browne was a generous member of our Alliance.

We also announce with deep regret the death of Dr. J. Budzinska Tylicka, a pioneer feminist in Poland. Those of our readers who attended the Alliance Congresses in Rome, 1923, and Berlin, 1929, will no doubt remember her. As we go to press we learn with deep regret of the death of the Marquesa Del Ter, of Spain, a former member of the Alliance Board. Her loss will be felt by the whole women's movement.

#### AUSTRIA.

The I.C.W. Bulletin for April has an extremely interesting article on the results of an enquiry made by the National Council of Women of Austria among wage-earning women. Up to now about 1,600 answers have been received and collated, coming from very varied sources: teachers, social workers, women in the public service, lawyers, doctors, dressmakers, etc., etc. Of those who replied, 68.5% were unmarried, 22% married and 9.5% widows or divorced. Of the total number of these women working outside the home, 95% stress the fact that they are absolutely obliged to earn a living. Moreover, no less than 77% state that they have to support other persons entirely or partly. In reply to the question as to what would be the consequences of their being barred from exercising their profession or occupation, many tragic replies were received, indicating that suicide or slow starvation to many seemed all that would be left.

While many replies stated that if the economic necessity for earning money were lifted they would prefer to work in the home as housewife and mother, the majority made it clear that their work is a joy and an abiding interest in their lives.

#### BRAZIL.

The President of the Republic, who is a good feminist, recently received a deputation from the Brazilian Federation for the Advancement of Women, who asked for his collaboration in their new programme. Among the demands were: The inclusion of women delegates to all official International Conferences, especially Pan American; the inclusion of programmes for women, organised by the Federation, by the Government Broadcasting Station and in cinemas (short films, like trailers. The Government obliges cinemas to give a Brazilian film in each programme, mostly history

and geography); help in organising a Women's Bureau and Institute to draw up general principles for the education of women as mothers, home-makers, professional workers and citizens, and to disseminate such principles.

The new constitutional law provides General Councils of Citizens in connection with Government departments. The Governor of the State of Bahia has appointed two women to such Councils: Mrs. Edith da Gama e Abreu, President of the State branch of the Federation for the Advancement of Women, to the General Council of Education, and Miss Lily Tosta, Brazil's member of the International Alliance's Committee on Equal Morals, to the General Welfare Council.

#### BULGARIA.

The Bulgarian Council of Women has for four years organised a High School for girls and young women who have completed their studies at the Gymnasium. The course lasts for two years, and the curriculum is based on the model of the Geneva and Zurich Schools for Social Study and on that of Dr. Alice Saloman's Social Academy in Berlin. A number of the students who have completed the course are employed in social welfare work by the Municipality of Sofia. Others are sent to Prague for specialised training, as the Prague Public Welfare Service has placed free accommodation at their disposal.

In this High School for Social Work there took place in March a special course for political and public questions. Its aim was to teach women and girls what the rights of the family are and also to be able to claim and defend their own rights. This course had the same aims as that of the Czechoslovakian Women's Council as published recently in "Jus Suffragii." The following lectures were given:

1. The Economic Crisis and Unemployment.
2. Women's Work and its Limitation.
3. Motherhood and Profession.
4. School Education and its Reform.
5. The National Ideal in Bulgaria.
6. Emancipation as an Historical Epoch.
7. Democracy, Fascism and Bolshevism.
8. European Politics of the Present Day.
9. The Peace Movement as a Factor in World Politics.
10. Women and Economics (especially as regards Bulgaria).
11. Marriage and the Family.
12. Women Leaders as positive Factors in Political and Public Life.

After every lecture debates on the subject matter took place. The Course aroused a very lively interest and was regularly attended by a number of listeners.

D. IVANOVA.

#### DENMARK.

We take from the Women's Supplement to Labour and Socialist Information the following:

Soon Denmark will be one of the few countries where the paid employment of women will still be held in honour. Most of the professions, liberal and otherwise, are open to women and, according to the recent census, it has been found that about 30 women are managers of factories, 4 are first-class bricklayers, a number are important business women, 4 are bicycle mechanics, 8 are skilful shoemakers, whilst as for women engravers, bankers and brokers, they are innumerable. In Copenhagen there are 7 women butchers, 6 Government civil engineers and 31 admirable taxi drivers and drivers of other transport vehicles. There are also two women magistrates.

There are 14 women farmers. If, little by little, women are carving out for themselves a notable place in all the professions, one also meets in Denmark men who, in running a house, can vie with the most accomplished of housewives.

#### FINLAND.

This present year (1936) is of great importance to us. Parliamentary elections will take place on 1-2 July and municipal elections all over the country on the 3-4 December. Preparations will also be made for the election of the 300 electors who, in their turn, will elect the President of the Republic in March, 1937.

A certain political activity is already perceptible among different women's organisations. On the initiative of Mrs. Hedvig Gebhard, former M.P., President of Suomalainen Naisliitto (Finnish Women's Alliance) affiliated to the Alliance, a large women's meeting was held in the former House of Parliament on the 25th and 26th March. The call was signed by the Presidents of 21 women's societies having Finnish for their language, and one both Finnish and Swedish—the two languages of our country. The wife of the President of the Republic, Madame Svinhufvud, was invited as a guest of honour, and also Mrs. Tilma Hainari, President of the National Council of Women of Finland, as well as the former members of Parliament, Professor Lucina Hagman, Dr. Phil. Tekla Hultin and Miss Furuhejm. About 1,000 delegates were present and all through the meetings great enthusiasm prevailed. The subjects discussed were:

Women and the Church (Finnish women have not the right to be ordained); Women and Public Life (Mrs. Gebhard); Professional Training for Women; Women's responsibility for the defence of their country; Modern Tendencies in Social Legislation; a modern programme of Social Insurance; Women's Duties in Municipal Affairs; Women's Duty in raising the standard of Temperance and Morals; Protection of Mothers; Married Women's Right to gainful Employment.

All the lectures were of a high standard and an animated discussion followed nearly every lecture.

The Finlands Svenska Kvinnorforbund (Finland's Swedish Women's Alliance) held its annual meeting this year in the town of Wasa in March. The meeting was well attended with delegates from the 7 branches. Mrs. Lagerborg Stennes, an architect, gave a report on the activity of the association which is partly political. As Mrs. E. Ostenson, B.A., M.P., is resigning, the F.S.K. Forbund has already nominated two new candidates for the next parliamentary election, Mrs. Elsa Bonsdorff, Headmistress of the School for Domestic Economy of Higvalla, and Mrs. Ahlfild Holmberg, of Aabo. The Forbund is organising an active campaign on behalf of its candidates.

As far as I am aware only the Kansallinen Kokoomus Pualue (National Coalition Conservative Party) has nominated candidates (women?—Ed.) for these forthcoming elections. All of them are, or have been, M.P.'s. and Dr. Phil. Kaion Oksanen, Nurse Kyllikki Pohjala, Mrs. Maija Häkkinen and Miss Alli Kallioniemi, B.A. (Editor) are well-known names.

Some reforms of importance to women have lately been passed by Parliament. Up till now the income of husband and wife has been taxed together as a lump sum, the conjoint with the smaller income having the right to deduct 8,000 Finnish Marks (a little less than £40) from the joint income. As our Government tax is progressive this has been a heavy burden on the family income where both are wage-earners. Now married couples are taxed separately. Moreover, 2,500 F.M. are deducted from the income for each child up to the age of 18 instead of 1,200 F.M. as before. Decrease of population is making itself

felt in Finland as all over the world. The remedy is sought by facilitating the growth of families and by a "bachelor tax" of 20% on the income of all unmarried persons of both sexes from the age of 24, and also on childless married couples. A highly unpopular tax! Child production in our days means more than ever the production of cannon fodder.

Before closing this letter, I would note that Miss Jyrhämä, a jurist, has recently been appointed government secretary in the Ministry for Public Education, and that Miss Syrjälä has been elected by her colleagues as President of the Municipal Council of Lahtis. Municipal Councils all over the country are elected for three years by every citizen of the age of 21 (without any property qualification) who has been registered in the previous year in the community, whether town or country. So far it is a rare honour for a woman to preside over a Municipal Council.

ANNIE FURUHJELM,  
Helsingfors, April 11th, 1936.

#### GREAT BRITAIN.

The great event this month has undoubtedly been the Parliamentary debate on equal pay for women in the common classes in the Civil Service, that is for men and women who enter on the same terms and do the same work. As the procedure is complicated we gratefully take an account from "The Catholic Citizen" as follows:

Feminists feel the warmest gratitude to Miss Ellen Wilkinson (Jarrow, Labour) who on April 1st moved a resolution in the House of Commons on the Civil Service Estimates to the effect that women in "the common classes of the Civil Service" should receive equal pay for equal work. On this Resolution the Government was defeated by 156 votes to 148. Under the technicalities of Parliamentary procedure and after the Government whips had got to work, another vote was taken and this time the Government obtained 149 votes to 134. The Prime Minister attempted to treat the first vote, which was the real test, as unimportant, but was eventually compelled to adjourn the House. Afterwards he proposed to make the question a matter of confidence in the Government. That the Government was obliged to send out a "3 line whip" to its followers to support the vote of confidence on April 6th shows very clearly the wind is veering towards equal pay for equal work between men and women in the Civil Service. The Government obtained their vote by the enormous majority of 361 to 141, but as *The Times* says in a leader, "they obtained it for reasons more comprehensive than the merits of the question on which they asked for it, and there was an under-current of resentment among some of their supporters that they should have been asked to give a vote which might conceivably be taken to imply a refusal of equal pay for equal work in the Civil Service irrespective of the sex of the worker."

We strongly protest against the Government's refusal to carry out the decision of the House of Commons in favour of equal pay in the Civil Service—a decision reached not by a "snap" division but by the full deliberation of the House after four hours debate. Such action, besides being unjust, brings democracy and the Parliamentary system into disrepute.

#### INDIA.

The current issue of *Stri Dharma* has so many interesting items that it is difficult to summarise them in the little space at our disposal. A tribute is paid to Mrs. Rukmini Lakshmi pathi, Congress representative for Madras City in the Madras Legislative Council. She has won golden opinions and yet men still shrink from encouraging and pushing women forward as candidates.



On March 13th, by a unanimous vote, the Members of the Council of State accepted the Resolution of Sir Ramunni Menon that the existing sex disqualification should be removed for election and nomination to the Council of State in respect of women generally. Till now women have been eligible only to vote for members, but they will now be eligible to be elected or nominated as members themselves.

Despite women's protests, the Government Sub-Committee in Madras appointed to formulate a scheme for the introduction of compulsory education of all boys of school age in villages and towns with a population of 5,000 and upwards is meeting without a single woman member and with no change in its terms of reference. A note circulated in advance to the members by Mr. Champion, late Director of Public Instruction of Madras, spoke of "children" and alludes to girls as well as boys. Madras is still a benighted Presidency, cannot it follow the lead of Baroda or Cochin?

It is interesting to hear that the fisher-women in the State of Cochin recently held a Women's Conference and discussed the need for literacy, for equal rights of property and inheritance, for improving their fishing trade and raising wages and prices, and for getting their own women representatives on local bodies.

There are also interesting articles on Women in the New Constitution, which shows why women are dissatisfied with what has been offered them, and on the Dais (Midwives) Improvement Scheme in Sindh, organised by Miss R. Piggot and Miss Ward. It is a tale of difficulties overcome and of a wonderful change in the spirit of the Indian midwives, who are now showing themselves eager for instruction.

#### LUXEMBOURG.

Further details of the reform of the Divorce Law are given in the "Action Féminine." The old law laid down that if a wife obtained a separation from her husband on good grounds, he could at the end of three years, after demanding in vain that she return to the conditions she had already found impossible, obtain a divorce against her, whether she agreed or not. Now her consent is apparently necessary. A very important reform is that in future the legal domicile of a woman is no longer to be that of her husband. She will have her own personal legal domicile in the place where she actually lives and carries on her activities.

On divorce, both spouses resume their own names. The man is no longer to remain the administrator of his wife's property during the time legal proceedings are pending between them, as was formerly the case and sometimes with disastrous results for the wife's property. Separation in future leads to complete separation of property and the wife resumes full control of the administration of her property with full civil capacity.

The "Action Féminine" justifiably rejoices in this reform in which it has been largely instrumental and hopes that it may not be long before a thorough reform of the out-of-date Code Napoleon may be instituted.

#### NORWAY.

Dr. Qvam is able to send us good news, starting with an increase in the activity of women's organisations in regard to political and municipal affairs.

The Government itself introduced a Bill to give women the right to serve in all State offices. Since 1912 women have been excluded from serving as members of the King's Council (Cabinet?), as clergy in the State church, as members of the diplomatic and consular services, and in military and civil-military capacities. This Bill was adopted by the Lower House by a large majority and it is hoped that it will also be passed by the Upper House.

In regard to paragraph 25 of the proposed Bill for the security and welfare of workers (which proposed to give the Minister special powers for the prohibition of women's work under vague but dangerous conditions) we have good reason to believe that it will be cancelled. In the Committee there are 4 against 4, but it is believed that in Parliament the clause will be dropped.

But a new danger has arisen: two of the labour party in the Committee (one woman and one man) have proposed that women should be prohibited from night work. Their reason is that some women workers in the textile industry have demanded this prohibition. As, however, many of the labour party, the most numerous party in our Parliament, are against the prohibition of night work for women, it may be hoped that this proposal will be lost, as it has been every time it has previously been proposed in Norway.

#### SPAIN.

The recent elections in Spain saw the return of six women members: Margarita Nelkens (re-elected), Julia Alvarez Resano, whose husband was also elected, Victoria Kent, who was one of the first women M.P.s. in Spain, and was at one time Director of Prisons, Mathilde de la Torre (re-elected), Dolores Ibarruri and Angeles Gil Albarcellos. Three are members of the Popular Front and three of the Republican Left. One of the latter, Victoria Kent, has been elected Chairman of the Committee to examine whether any deputy holds a post incompatible with his service as a member of the Cortes.

#### THE EQUAL MORAL STANDARD.

On April 23rd and 24th, the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of its founder's great victory in Great Britain, namely, the repeal of the Contagious Diseases Acts. Josephine Butler lived to do much other great work in changing public opinion all over the world in regard to the iniquitous system of regulation of prostitution, but it was these Acts which first called her to fight and their repeal meant a victory for a principle which has had incalculable results throughout the years between 1886 and 1936.

A great Public Luncheon, under the Chairmanship of Dr. Maude Royden, in the unavoidable absence of Dame Rachel Crowley, was addressed by Mr. R. A. Butler, M.P., Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for India, by Professor Gilbert Murray and by Madame Pesson Depret, Secretary-General of the French Branch of the International Abolitionist Federation and President of the French Branch of St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance. Men and women worked together in this cause and rightly rejoiced together in memory of a great triumph for justice and for true morality. But women, and especially women who are feminists, have a special cause for thanksgiving. If at this day the crux of women's problems seems to be in the sphere of economics, it must always be true that the idea of the inequality of the sexes has arisen from tabus, misconceptions, sentimentalities and sheer beastliness in connection with woman's functions of sex or motherhood. Were not women for years referred to en masse as "The Sex?" If you can ever get down to the roots of a man's anti-feminism, are you not compelled to recognise traces of ancient tribal fears of woman's sex attributes? So every victory towards a juster and saner view of morals is a cause for double rejoicing and so the women felt who took part in this celebration.

The Public Meeting was specially concerned with "The Fight against Regulation in France," the speaker being Madame Pesson Depret. St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance was jointly responsible for this meeting.

There was also a largely attended Service of Thanksgiving in the Church of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, preacher, the Lord Bishop of Liverpool, and a Mass in thanksgiving at St. Dominic's Priory.

Perhaps we ought to explain that the Contagious Diseases Acts were an attempt to set up a system of State Regulation of Prostitution, and they are fully explained in a little leaflet published by the Association in connection with this Jubilee, together with a brief resumé of some of the beneficent results which repeal brought in its train.

#### NEWS IN BRIEF.

**Austria.** Marianne Hainisch, the founder of the Austrian National Council of Women, mother of the first President of the Austrian Republic, celebrated her 97th birthday in March.

**Australia.** In connection with the Centenary of the State of South Australia, a Women's Centenary Congress is being organised next September.

**France.** Mme. Louise Weiss has, we understand, been nominated as a candidate in one of the Paris constituencies for the forthcoming Parliamentary elections. Of course a woman is not eligible for election, but this is a splendid opportunity for propaganda, of which Mme. Weiss will surely take the fullest advantage.

**Lithuania.** Miss Helen Jackevicaite, the first woman judge, as reported many years ago in our paper, has been decorated with an Order rarely conferred on a woman.

**Norway.** Sigrid Undset, the well-known writer, whose portrait appeared on one of the Istanbul Congress stamps, as a winner of the Nobel Prize, is to be the first woman president of the Norwegian Writers Association.

**U.S.A.** The New York Court of Appeals by a majority decision has declared unconstitutional the Minimum Wage Law for Women. It is stated that orders to pay the minimum wage will not be issued pending appeal to the Supreme Court.

#### REVIEWS.

**THE AIMS, METHODS AND ACTIVITY OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.** Compiled by the Secretariat of the League and issued as an official document.

This book is a brief account of the origins, organisation and achievements of the League and is most clearly arranged so as to provide an easily grasped survey of the League and its work up to 1935. The first part is concerned with previous efforts at international co-operation, concluding with the setting up of the League itself. The nature and aims of the League are then set out, followed by an analysis of its different organs and the methods adopted to carry out its work.

The second section is devoted to a study of the principal pieces of work performed by the League in the political, legal and social spheres. Failures are recorded as well as successes and the reader gets a clear idea of the magnitude of the work done. The concluding section deals with the Permanent Court of International Justice and the International Labour Organisation. There are also useful annexes: the Covenant, Extracts from the Statute and Rules of the Court and of the Constitution of the I.L.O., concluding with a list of the States Members on December 31st, 1935.

This compact little book gives a clear picture of what the nations have done—and how much they have done—to provide a machine for enabling them to live in peace

and benefit by international co-operation. It has been a tremendous effort, shall all this work be thrown away?

**LES CHEMINS DE LA PAIX.** By Max Hébert. Editions Rieder, 108, Boulevard St. Germain, Paris.

This little book is also described as a short popular history of the League of Nations, designed by its author mainly for use in schools. It also gives a brief account of the origin and organs of the League, accompanied by a commentary and quotations from various sources to illustrate the actual working of the different institutions. Its prologue and the first chapter are definitely pacifist propaganda, based on recollections of the horrors of the great war. It must be useful for young people, not of course small children, to be reminded of those horrors. One certainly gets an impression that while the school generation of the years immediately following the war was pacifist and sensible of the futility of war, the present generation is not so fully conscious, doubtless because the sharp impression of what war really meant has also been dulled in the minds of its elders.

**HOUSEWIVES BUILD A NEW WORLD.** By Emmy Freundlich. Published by the International Co-operative Women's Guild, Stanfield House, Prince Arthur Road, London, N.W.3. Price 2/6.

While we have not seen a copy of this book, we gladly give a brief notice of its publication. It is the history of the International Co-operative Women's Guild in the form of Chapters on each national member Guild after that dealing with the International itself. The women's co-operative movement is a very interesting one because it reaches many women who are not easily touched by other movements—the housewife rather than the woman wage-earner. And at her best, the working housewife is one of the most practically wise people in the community.

**LA LUTTE CONTRE LA PROSTITUTION EN U.S.S.R., MOSCOW, 1936.** Published by the Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries (VOKS), by Professor V. M. Bronner.

This is an interesting account of the "history" of prostitution in Russia. The first chapter is devoted to an account of the appalling dimensions and conditions of prostitution under the former régime, with its iniquitous and totally inept system of regulation. The first years after the Revolution the problem hardly existed owing to the compulsory labour laws for women as well as men, but with the establishment of freer labour conditions, there came unemployment and some recrudescence of prostitution. The author gives a survey of measures adopted for the social and economic equality of women which he rightly regards as the first essential in the fight against prostitution. Then there is an account of the measures taken to fight against "the demand," which is certainly the logical next step. And lastly comes an account of the "prophylactoriums" and other measures designed to help the prostitute herself to return to a healthy existence and to earn a livelihood by decent means. These prophylactoriums are actually intended, in the first place, as treatment centres for unemployed women suffering from venereal diseases, and they exist in all the big towns. But their aim is also to educate and train their inmates for a livelihood. They are paid for their work at rates approximating to those paid to apprentices, and the inmates pay for their keep. So these establishments are not charities, and they are not places of detention, as women enter them of their own free will and are free to leave if they desire.

Prostitution still exists to some extent, either among remaining professional prostitutes, who have not sought a way out, or among women who, though earning a



living by other means, supplement their earnings in this way. For the latter, the remedy is seen to be such a raising of the material standard of life that it is no longer economically tempting, together with a raising of the cultural standard which would tend to diminish the tendency both of supply and demand. For these cases, however, as also for the professional prostitute, there is a hint that penal measures may be applied if they prove refractory to "voluntary" treatment and re-education.

#### IRAN.

##### Au Foyer Féminin.

Le but unique du Foyer Féminin se concentre à éclaircir la mentalité féminine, à aider au renforcement moral et physique de la femme.

Une bibliothèque a été créée pour faciliter à l'élément féminin l'étude et l'extension intellectuelle, et un terrain des sports a été préparé dans les annexes de l'immeuble de Foyer Féminin pour permettre la pratique de tous les sports.

Aussi nous attirons l'attention des membres du Foyer Féminin et de toutes les femmes intéressées au progrès féminin que selon une dernière décision à partir de dimanche 22 Farvardine 1315 (11 avril 1936) un des buts essentiels du Foyer Féminin, soit une large extension des sports pour les femmes entre en application. Les femmes peuvent à partir du 11 avril 1936 s'adonner au tennis, au wolley ball, au basket.

Il a été en effet décidé que trois jours par semaine, les samedis lundis et jeudis de 16 heures 30 à 18 heures 30 une maîtresse de sports, diplômée en Europe, sera régulièrement présente sur le terrain des sports du Foyer Féminin pour enseigner le tennis.

##### La bibliothèque du Foyer.

De même au cours de la semaine, exception faite des vendredis et des mardis la bibliothèque est ouverte chaque jour de 16 à 19 heures et les femmes peuvent profiter de la lecture des livres, des revues, des journaux.

Si les femmes désirent avoir des renseignements complémentaires à ce sujet elles peuvent s'adresser chaque jour de 16 à 19 heures au bureau du Foyer Féminin, Avenue Sepah.

##### Reunion generale du Foyer.

Afin que les membres adhérents du Foyer soient au courant de l'activité déployée et des progrès réalisés dans l'exécution du programme initial, et aussi pour une prise de contact suivie entre les membres du Foyer l'assemblée générale sera constituée une fois par mois.

La première réunion a été fixée à mardi 18 Farvardine (7 avril) à 17 heures.

Tous les membres adhérents sont invités à assister à l'Assemblée générale qui se réunira au jour ci-haut précisé.

##### L'Evolution féminine.

Afin de participer au splendide succès de l'évolution féminine à Racht, Madame Mariam Chafi Zadeh directrice de l'Ecole Tarbiat a donné une belle fête dans les grands salons de la Municipalité.

Plusieurs centaines d'invités assistaient à cette invitation.

Après le discours d'ouverture de la directrice remerciant les personnes présentes Madame Khorchid Abdi, première surveillante de l'Ecole, prit la parole relevant avec une grande délicatesse d'expression que ce bonheur de la femme iranienne en ce siècle de progrès devait se confirmer de plus en plus par la pureté et le sentiment des devoirs et de l'honneur.

Mademoiselle Sakineh Nassl Zaheri, élève de sixième classe de l'Ecole Tarbiat parla ensuite relevant que l'éducation féminine est l'un des meilleurs moyens de progrès d'une collectivité, car une mère éduquée donne toujours un enfant bien élevé.

Nous devons nous éduquer pour faciliter le relèvement, le progrès de notre race, de notre pays, de notre patrie.

Mademoiselle Mounès Kahan Sedegh fit ensuite une courte allocution rappelant tous les malheurs de la femme iranienne couverte par le tchadour qui cloitrait sa vie et l'empêchait de s'éduquer, et de progresser.

Aujourd'hui, dit l'oratrice, nous occupons une place égale à celle de nos sœurs des autres pays et nous devons nous incliner devant la Volonté Puissante de notre Grand Souverain qui a ouvert pour nous la porte du bonheur et du travail.

Tous ces courts discours furent accueillis par des applaudissements répétés et ensuite on joua une pièce de théâtre, suivie de danses.

— *Le Journal de Téhéran.*

#### IN MEMORIAM.

##### Mme. Marguerite Durand.

La mort de cette pionnière du féminisme constitue un véritable deuil pour beaucoup de féministes françaises, auxquelles nous tenons à exprimer à cette occasion toute notre sympathie. La fondatrice de la *Fronde*, Mme. Marguerite Durand s'était, vu son âge, et sa santé, peu à peu retirée de toute activité directe, à l'exception de celle qu'elle déployait encore dans la "bibliothèque féministe."

Avant de s'occuper de féminisme toutefois, Mme. Marguerite Durand s'était d'abord vouée au théâtre, et avait débuté à vingt ans à la Comédie Française, où sa beauté restée célèbre et son talent dramatique lui avaient valu de grands succès. Puis, après son mariage en 1886, avec un jeune député méridional, actif et ambitieux, Georges Laguerre, ce fut à la politique qu'elle se consacra, tenant un rôle en vue dans ces années troublées, notamment lors de l'épisode du général Boulanger, et surtout plus tard, lors de l'affaire Dreyfus. De toute son ardeur et de tout son talent, elle se lança dans la mêlée, et la *Fronde* qu'elle venait de fonder, fut certainement un des journaux qui combattit avec le plus de vigueur et le plus de conviction en faveur de l'innocent de l'île du Diable.

Mais la *Fronde* n'avait pas seulement un programme politique: ce fut, et c'est par ce côté-là qu'elle nous intéresse aussi tout spécialement, un des premiers journaux féministes, et en tout cas à notre connaissance le seul *quotidien* féministe qui ait existé. Dirigée, rédigée, composée, uniquement par des femmes, et cela aussi bien au point de vue de la typographie et de la manutention qu'à celui de son état-major de collaboratrices, elle réunissait autour de sa brillante directrice toute une pléiade de femmes de talent, telles Séverine, ou la célèbre Clémence Royer, telles encore pour citer celles qui sont encore au milieu de nous, Maria Vérone et Mme. Avril de Ste-Croix. A côté de son journal, Marguerite Durand mena une campagne d'action directe en faveur du vote des femmes, ne craignant pas de recourir à des méthodes tant soit peu "suffragettes": on discuta beaucoup, par exemple, la candidature qu'elle fit poser, lors d'une élection parlementaire, à un faible d'esprit, pour prouver de façon tangible l'absurdité qu'il y a à refuser dans ces conditions leur bulletin de vote à des femmes intelligentes et distinguées comme elle. Mais certainement, et c'est ce que l'on doit réaliser, c'est qu'il fallait du "cran" pour se déclarer féministe et suffragiste en ces temps où toute profession de foi de ce genre était considérée comme parfaitement grotesque, et pour s'attacher à cette cause si peu populaire. Les temps ont changé depuis lors — en France tout au moins chez nous? — mais les convictions de Marguerite Durand ne changèrent pas, et le succès de la toute récente campagne en faveur des femmes conseillères municipales lui a causé une grande joie. La dernière.

Le Mouvement Féministe — J. GUEYBAUD.

#### NOUVELLES BREVES DE TOUS PAYS.

**Autriche.** Marianne Hainisch, fondatrice du Conseil national des femmes autrichiennes, mère du 1er président de la République autrichienne a célébré son 97e anniversaire au mois de Mars.

Le Conseil national publie le résultat d'une enquête faite récemment parmi les femmes qui travaillent, et a collationné 1600 réponses. La proportion des travailleuses célibataires est de 68%, des femmes mariées 22%; 9% sont des veuves ou divorcées. 95% de ces femmes assurent qu'elles sont absolument forcées d'avoir un gagne-pain; 77% doivent subvenir à l'entretien d'autres personnes, soit complètement soit partiellement. Plusieurs réponses prouvent que certaines femmes préféreraient demeurer au foyer si la nécessité ne les obligeait à travailler au dehors, mais la plupart affirment que leur occupation est pour elles une source de joie et d'intérêt.

**Australie.** Un Congrès féministe sera organisé à l'occasion du Centenaire de l'Etat de l'Australie du Sud.

**France.** Madame Louise Weiss se présente, nous dit-on, comme candidate aux prochaines élections législatives dans une des circonscriptions de Paris. Bien qu'elle ne soit pas éligible, c'est là sûrement une bonne occasion de propagande.

**Lithuania.** Miss Helen Jackevicaite, la première femme à exercer les fonctions de Juge, vient d'être décorée.

**Norvège.** Sigrid Unset, lauréate du prix Nobel vient d'être élue Présidente de l'Association des Ecrivains norvégiens.

**Etats-Unis d'Amérique.** La Cour d'Appel de New York a décidé à la majorité que le "salaire minimum pour femmes" est illégal.

**Luxembourg.** L'Action féminine annonce qu'une nouvelle loi décreta qu'en cas de séparation prononcée au bénéfice de l'épouse, le divorce ne peut être obtenu par le mari, sans le consentement de la femme, même après la période de 3 ans. Légèrement, désormais, le domicile d'une femme mariée n'est pas nécessairement celui de son mari. Après le divorce les époux reprennent leurs noms respectifs. La séparation de corps entraîne désormais avec elle, l'absolue séparation de biens. L'Action féminine se réjouit de cette réforme pour laquelle elle a tant travaillé et espère que c'est là le prélude à une réforme radicale du Code Napoléon.

**Brésil.** Le Président de la République brésilienne, féministe convaincu, a reçu récemment une députation de la Fédération pour l'Avancement des Femmes qui lui a demandé sa collaboration pour favoriser l'inclusion de déléguées femmes dans toutes les conférences officielles, nationales et internationales, dans les Commissions du Cinéma, de la Radiodiffusion et dans l'organisation d'un Bureau et Institut féminin pour influencer l'éducation des femmes en matière domestique, politique et sociale.

Dans l'Etat de Bahia, le gouverneur a nommé Mme. Edith da Gama e Abreu, au Conseil général de l'Instruction publique, et Miss Lily Tosta au Conseil de l'Assistance.

**Bulgarie.** Le Conseil national des Femmes a depuis quatre ans organisé une Ecole de Hautes Etudes Sociales pour les jeunes filles ou jeunes femmes qui ont terminé leurs études. Le programme se modèle sur celui des Ecoles de Zurich et de Genève et sur l'Académie de Dr. Alice Saloman à Berlin. La Municipalité de Sofia a utilisé un certain nombre d'étudiantes dans son département de l'Assistance.

**Grande Bretagne.** Le gros événement du mois a été le Débat au Parlement sur le sujet du Salaire égal pour Travail égal des deux sexes,

dans les administrations d'Etat. Les féministes auront certainement de la gratitude pour Miss Ellen Wilkinson, M.P., qui, dans le débat sur le vote des crédits administratifs a fait approuver le principe de l'Egalité de salaire par 156 votes contre 148. Pris au dépourvu, le Premier Ministre, qui ne voulait pas accepter ce vote comme une défaite, a posé quelques jours après la question de confiance, qu'il a naturellement obtenue par 361 voix contre 141. Mais le fait reste que le principe de l'égalité de salaire a été reconnu par le Parlement.

**Finlande.** Cette année 1936 est de grande importance pour la Finlande. Les élections législatives auront lieu en Juillet et les élections municipales en Décembre. Puis viendront les élections au second degré des 300 membres qui éliront ensuite le Président de la République, au mois de mars 1937. Les organisations féminines ont déjà mis en branle leur activité politique, 1000 déléguées, venant de 20 associations finlandaises et d'une association finlando-suédoise ont tenu d'importantes réunions dans l'ancien Palais du Parlement, les 25 et 26 Mars. Les sujets débattus furent les suivants: Les Femmes et l'Eglise; les Femmes dans la vie Publique, les Professions, le Travail Social, l'Assistance, etc., le droit de la femme mariée au travail rétribué. L'Alliance des femmes suédoises a tenu sa Conférence cette année en Mars, dans la ville de Wasa. Mrs. Lagerborg Stennes, architecte, a présenté le rapport sur l'activité politique de l'association. Deux nouvelles candidates ont été désignées pour la prochaine élection; Mrs. Elsa Bonsdorff et Mrs. Alfhild Holmberg. Jusqu'ici le Parti national de Coalition est le seul qui ait désigné des femmes candidates pour la prochaine élection.

Des réformes importantes pour les femmes ont récemment été votées par le Parlement. Désormais les revenus des époux seront déclarés et taxés séparément. De plus 2500 marks seront déduits pour chaque enfant au-dessous de 18 ans, au lieu des 1200 marks d'aujourd'hui. La population finlandaise, comme celle du reste de tous les autres pays du monde, est en voie de régression. Comme remède, le gouvernement essaye de la taxe sur les célibataires et sur les couples sans enfants.

A noter que Miss Jyrhämä, docteur en droit a été nommée récemment Secrétaire de gouvernement au Ministère de l'Instruction Publique et que Miss Syrjälä a été élue par ses collègues Présidente du Conseil municipal de Lahtis, un honneur jusque là assez rare. d'après ANNIE FURUHJELM (Helsingfors).

**Norvège.** Le Gouvernement a introduit un projet de loi pour donner aux femmes le droit de servir dans tous les emplois d'état. Jusque là les fonctions de membres du Cabinet, du clergé, des services diplomatiques, consulaires, militaires leur étaient fermées. Ce projet a été approuvé par la Chambre Basse et on espère qu'il passera aussi à la Chambre Haute.

Quant au Paragraphe 25 du Projet de loi sur "la sécurité et le bien — être des ouvriers" qui donne au ministre des Pouvoirs spéciaux pour la prohibition du travail de nuit des femmes, nous avons de bonnes raisons de croire qu'il ne sera jamais mis en pratique. Dans le Parti travailliste il y a une certaine opposition, sporadique au principe d'égalité — mais la majorité du Parti, le plus fort du Parlement, est contre toute prohibition.

**Danemark.** Le Danemark sera bientôt l'une des rares contrées où le travail rétribué des femmes demeure intangible. La plupart des professions sont ouvertes aux femmes. D'après le dernier recensement on trouve 30 femmes directrices d'usines, 4 maçons, 4 cordonniers, 4 réparateurs de bicyclettes; quant aux femmes artistes, employées dans les affaires, banquiers, agents de change, elles sont innombrables.

A Copenhague, il y a 7 femmes bouchers, 6 ingénieurs civils et 31 chauffeuses de taxi. Il y a aussi 14 fermières



en titre, de sorte que, graduellement la femme se taille une place dans les affaires. D'autre part au Danemark, on rencontre souvent des hommes, qui pour le travail domestique, peuvent rivaliser avec une maîtresse de maison accomplie.

**Espagne.** Six femmes ont été élues, dans les dernières élections espagnoles; ce sont: Margarita Nelkens (réélue) Julia Alvarez Resano (élue avec son mari) Victoria Kent qui fut à un moment directeur des Prisons, Mathilde de la Torre (réélue), Dolorès Ibaruri et Angeles Gil Albarellas. Trois sont membres du Front Populaire et trois de la Gauche Républicaine.

**Egalité de la Morale.** Les 23 et 24 avril l'Association pour l'Hygiène morale et sociale a célébré le cinquantième anniversaire de la grande victoire de sa fondatrice, Joséphine Butler,

quand fut rapportée la Loi sur les Maladies Contagieuses autrement dit la Réglementation de la Prostitution. La Présidence fut assumée à la dernière minute par Dr. Maude Royden, Dame Rachel Crowdy ayant été appelée à Genève. Mr. R. A. Butler, M.P., Secretary of State pour l'Inde, petit neveu de Joséphine Butler, et Mr. Butler son petit-fils prononcèrent d'intéressants discours. Madame Pesson-Depret, Présidente de la Fédération abolitionniste en France et de la branche française de l'Alliance Ste Jeanne adressa la parole aux auditeurs, en anglais. (A. M. REES.)

**In Memoriam.** Nous regrettons d'annoncer la mort de notre dévouée et irremplaçable Ingeborg Walin à Stockholm, le 27 mars et aussi de Miss Annie Leigh Browne (Gde. Bretagne); de Mme. Budzinska-Tylicka (Pologne); et de Mme. la Marquise Del Ter (Espagne).

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