



THE
CATHOLIC CITIZEN

VOLUME XXVI 1940



ST. JOAN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ALLIANCE
55 BERNERS STREET, LONDON, W.1.

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Silver Jubilee Number

THE

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Daughter of the ancient Eve,
We know the gifts ye gave and give;
Who knows the gifts which you shall give,
Daughter of the Newer Eve?

—Francis Thompson.

A Glance Back

By JOSEPH CLAYTON

Not to be resisted is the impulse to take the backward glance; to mark the length of road travelled, recount the adventures and count our blessings. Twenty-five years appears but a small span in the history of a nation, yet in that twenty-five years how much may have happened that is of vital interest; how many things been done that for good—and for evil—help, or hinder, our pilgrimage on this earth. For it is as a pilgrimage we see this journey, with difficulties inevitable to be overcome; with lasting strife that cannot destroy the peace within. The very title CATHOLIC CITIZEN of a paper that monthly records valiant service to pilgrims is reminder that our citizenship beginning on earth is in heaven; that here we have no abiding city.

Strife with sloth, apathy, ignorance, lust of power and all other troublesome frailties of human nature is, after all, our appointed destiny. As St. Thomas More observed there's "no getting to heaven on a feather-bed." We are called to the struggle to our share in the age long strife. ("For the battle of freedom is never done, the field never quiet"). The notion that men and women, peoples and nations, instinctively as by some natural process of evolution get better and better every day; grow wiser, kindlier and more neighbourly by simply growing older, finds no substantial witness to its favour in the history of mankind. Through strife and struggle is what we recognise as progress achieved. In the struggle with forces of evil, in strife with the powers of darkness we move to better things. Striving "for the cause that lacks assistance, 'gainst the wrongs that need

resistance" some positive injustice gets removed, with here and there a prejudice uprooted and the way opened to a fuller knowledge of the will of God.

It seems to have been so all through the centuries, the slow eradication of the incomplete and therefore erroneous persuasion that whatever is is best. Nowhere perhaps more hardly to be eradicated this persuasion than in the human relations of male and female. What a business it was to get the Christian and Catholic doctrine of holy matrimony accepted in medieval Europe by teutonic kings holding stubbornly to the dowry as the essential in marriage, by Roman nobility as stubbornly convinced that paternal consent was the one thing necessary for a true marriage, by feudal lords who would have no tampering with their "rights" over vassals. How long it took in those turbulent middle ages to establish the supremacy of the Christian law of marriage, the law of willing and equal consent to life-long union; male and female alike co-partners for better for worse, through sickness and health, in the profound adventure of Christian marriage. Acceptable it never was, in the seats of the mighty, save to the few, this high doctrine. Challenged repeatedly, often denied, often violated, the divinely constituted order stands. Its permanence is assured—for Catholics at least—while time endures.

So through the centuries has the struggle for what we call social justice persisted; the struggle to end enslavement of men and women by the power of the sword, of servitude enforced by the power of money. The cry of the labourer defrauded of his wages rises to heaven

WOMEN'S SERVICE
FILE COPY
NOT TO BE TAKEN AWAY

now in this land, now in that in every age. Falling on deaf ears too commonly this cry on earth, but not unheard by men and women seeking the kingdom of God and His justice; men and women of good will and saving knowledge, resolute of purpose, warmly affectioned, prepared to "build a heaven in hell's despair."

Looking back over the past twenty-five years the pages of the CATHOLIC CITIZEN tell of consistent effort to defeat the irrational in political, social and economic relations of men and women; with none of the effort wasted, for all the present disorders that seem to mock at social progress, and deride the sanity of moral law. (But the very "seem" is false. Neighbourly conduct through Red Cross agencies and numerous international organisations is conspicuous throughout the world). But little more than five and twenty years since other irrational exclusions than political citizenship, earned by the courage and intelligence of women, Catholic women among them, who would not be denied, are seen abolished; incredible to this generation exclusion of women from the practice of medicine and surgery; from special training as nurses; from the work of lawyers and magistrates. St. Joan's Alliance from its modest beginnings as a Catholic Women's Suffrage Society has borne steady witness against the dull stupidities that wall disastrously "whatever is best."

After all we take the backward glance but to look forward; facing the future with hope renewed, faith strengthened, with charity more ardent. Conscious of good work done, conscious but not appalled at the weight of present tasks, at the dangers, the changes and chances that lie ahead on our pilgrim road. We take the road, the old road, the pilgrim's road in good company, recalling the great souls, lovers of justice and haters of iniquity, who have taken the same road before us; their names emblazoned on history's roll of honour. (Others we recall, now fallen on sleep—God rest their souls!—of whom the world was not worthy, whom fame never tarnished, who were content with the wages of going on). We must needs pursue the road till Last Post—haunting and beautiful the notes—sounds; as sound it must for each one of us; and at the summons we pass hence and are no more seen.

WOMEN'S LAND ARMY

In a letter to the *Daily Telegraph*, a correspondent, M. E. Gwynne Holford, criticises the Women's Land Army as regards the occupations for which it trains its members and its general organisation. The dictum that

women's work on the land should be limited to "dairying, fruit and vegetable growing, poultry and pig keeping and seasonal work in the fields" has been effectively answered by Sir Reginald Dorman-Smith, the Minister for Agriculture, who has stated that "women are already doing excellent work as drivers of tractors, although it was widely thought that this job would be too heavy for them." But M. E. Gwynne Holford's strictures on the organisation of the Land Army are less easily refuted. According to the *Catholic Worker*, 25,000 girls have been trained for land work and jobs have been found for less than two thousand of them. M. E. Gwynne Holford states that the army was recruited on no proper selective principle and, moreover, that it costs the country £43,000 a year—for the work of 2,000 women—and has neglected an available supply of voluntary labour. The *Catholic Worker* alleges that many girls "have been trained only to have to go on the dole because they cannot be found work." If these indictments be well founded, they are serious. Miss S. C. Hamlyn, the well known West of England agriculturist, is reported to have resigned from her position as organiser of the Land Army because the chairman of its committee in Devon has refused to allow criticism. "Miss Hamlyn," says the *Catholic Worker*, "feels that she was deluded into persuading girls to leave their homes on the promise of jobs that were not available for them."

LIVERPOOL & DISTRICT BRANCH

Chairman: Mrs. McCann, 25 Croxteth Road, Liverpool 8.

The Branch is represented on the Liverpool Women's Organisations Committee recently set up to deal with matters affecting women arising out of war conditions, e.g., evacuation problems; allowances for wives and families of men serving in the forces; women house property managers; etc.

We greatly miss our hon. secretary, Miss Bowden, who is in the country in charge of evacuated children. We hope she will soon be back to continue her good work for the Branch.

Subscriptions to the Alliance and to the "Catholic Citizen" are now due. We beg all our friends to send their subscriptions without delay, and thus save extra work and expense at the Office. Subscription to the "Catholic Citizen" 2s. 6d., minimum annual subscription to the Alliance 1s. At the same time we remind members that 1s. does not cover even the expense of sending notices, and we ask them to increase their subscriptions if possible.

Notes and Comments

We have used the word *Jubilate* in this number of the CATHOLIC CITIZEN because we feel strongly that the Silver Jubilee of the CATHOLIC CITIZEN is pre-eminently an occasion of joy and thanksgiving. We rejoice because, in spite of having started at the beginning of the last war, we were enabled to continue right through that tribulation until to-day and have now high hopes of withstanding the present war. We have seen the victory of Votes for Women in England, after sixty years of gallant strife, so that from being the CATHOLIC SUFFRAGIST we have become the CATHOLIC CITIZEN. There is no need to dwell further on our history—Miss Christopher St. John has dealt ably with this in her article.

This is an occasion of joy and thankfulness for our first Editor, Leonora de Alberti, for her militant articles the glory of so many numbers of the CATHOLIC CITIZEN; of thankfulness to all our splendid contributors who with unflinching devotion and ability have served us so well; to our subscribers who have supported and cheered us through every adversity; to our advertisers who have given us their trust; not least to our valiant paper-sellers who, inspired by the brave Suffragettes, the pioneers of outdoor propaganda paper selling, have sold in all weathers, exposed to derision and ridicule or (almost worse) indifference. We are thankful, too, to our patient Business Manager and to our persevering Advertisement Manager.

Our paper has always stood for justice. It is curious that in the psalms rejoicing is so often linked with justice: "Light is risen to the just: and joy to the right of heart. Rejoice, ye just, in the Lord."

* * * *

There is a very considerable amount of unemployment among the state registered nurses, in other words among the fully trained professional nurses, and at the same time a number of paid posts in hospitals and on first-aid stations are occupied by hastily trained auxiliary nurses, who in peacetime have other occupations or lead lives of leisure. This is not only an injustice but also an extravagant and foolhardy mistake. A deputation, representing all the nurses' associations in the country, which recently put its grievances before Miss Florence Horsbrugh, parliamentary secretary to the Ministry of Health, did not receive a satisfactory answer from her. Yet the wise and just organisation of the nursing profession is now a matter of urgent concern.

St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance was much honoured when recently Mgr. Kiwanuka, Titular Bishop of Thibica and Vicar Apostolic of Masaka (Uganda), visited the office with Father Howell, Superior of the White Fathers at Heston, and accepted tea. Monsignor Kiwanuka, talking to officers of the Alliance, was very interesting, and very sympathetic about the position of the women of his vicariate. Mgr. Kiwanuka came to this country for a few weeks following his consecration with twelve other missionary bishops. Of African race, on his mother's side he is descended from the famous Uganda martyrs.

* * * *

On December 6th MISS CAZALET (U. Islington, E.) asked the Home Secretary whether he contemplates imposing by administrative action some limitation upon the right of the wife of a subject of a State at war with His Majesty who was, at birth, a British subject, to make an application for the grant of a certificate of naturalisation under Section 10 (6) of the British Nationality and Status of Aliens Act, 1914?

SIR JOHN ANDERSON: No, Sir. In the statement which I made in reply to the hon. Lady's question on the 23rd November I thought it right to give some indication of the general lines on which I propose to exercise my discretion in dealing with applications under this Section. In order to avoid misunderstandings I made it clear that certain classes of applicants might expect favourable consideration; but I do not seek to limit in any way the right of other persons to apply, and their applications would of course be considered on their merits.

In view of the ambiguity of Sir John Anderson's earlier statement of November 23rd we are glad to have this assurance that he recognises the right of all British-born wives of enemy aliens to apply to regain British nationality.

* * * *

With reference to a note in our November issue regarding the detention of women "enemy aliens" in Holloway prison we are glad to report that we have received a letter on this subject from the Home Office stating that "steps have already been taken to repatriate about fifty of the women in question who were anxious to return to their homes. A number of others have been released and the cases of the remainder are being reviewed as rapidly as possible. In the meantime all possible steps have been taken to ameliorate the condition of their detention at Holloway and the Secretary of State is informed that the Swiss Legation, Special Division, which is entrusted with German interests in this country, is satisfied that the women have no ground for complaint."

ST. JOAN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ALLIANCE,

AND

Editorial Office of "Catholic Citizen":

55 BERNERS STREET, LONDON, W.1. Tel. Museum 4181

Signed articles do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Society.

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MISS CHRISTINE SPENDER, *Hon. Editor.*

We Will Remember Them

The Jubilee number of this paper appears, like the first, within a few months of the outbreak of war, a coincidence which makes a passage in an article contributed to that memorable first number by the great Catholic poet Alice Meynell still apposite. "The production in war time of a new paper, dedicated to the cause of 'Votes for Women,' should remind us that though thousands are suffering acutely, splendidly and conspicuously, millions are suffering chronically, inconspicuously, and with little hope, evils against which the whole Suffrage movement has set its face." The fact that some of the evils, notably the exclusion of women from citizenship, have since been remedied, does not warrant any complacency about the situation of women in this country to-day. They are not so defenceless as when they were voteless, but they still suffer "chronically and inconspicuously" from laws and customs which discriminate unfairly between men and women. We can hardly praise enough the foresight of those women reformers who kept the suffrage societies in existence after the object for which they were founded had been attained, and re-organized them for a struggle to secure women equality of opportunity with men in every walk of life. It was rightly guessed that the opposition to this would be even harder to overcome than the opposition to political enfranchisement. The struggle has gone on for years, and only minor victories have been achieved. Is it to be interrupted during the war? There is always a danger in war time of our losing interest in any struggle except the one in which the country is engaged. Reforming zeal grows cold while patriotic zeal grows hot.

The resolution of members of St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance to be faithful to the cause to which it is dedicated, not to cease from mental fight for it at any rate, however much occupied with national service, should be

stiffened by the example of their predecessors in the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society. In the year 1914 the Committee reminded members in the Annual Report that "no calamity, national or international, can detract from the importance of the woman's movement. On the contrary the appalling events happening on the continent make it doubly important that women should have power to help in the rebuilding of civilisation." The founders of this paper showed their faith in the truth of this by refusing to drop their project of giving the Society an organ of its own until the war was over. The history of the Society might have been very different if they had been persuaded that it would be wiser to defer its publication. *The Catholic Suffragist*, as our paper was called until 1918, when the People's Representation Act made it necessary to substitute "Citizen" for "Suffragist," was from the first a great asset to the Society, which in 1915 was still regarded with suspicion, distrust, contempt and derision by many Catholics. The idea that its activities were contrary to Catholic doctrine was stultified by the unimpeachable orthodoxy of the paper in which they were recorded and explained. In every number one could read something which vindicated the Catholic Suffragists. "Is it not then a wonder that all Christian women, and therefore all Catholic women, are not in the forefront of such a movement?" That question put by Mrs. Meynell occurred to many Catholic women for the first time when a copy of *The Catholic Suffragist*, perhaps bought with reluctance, came their way, through the zeal and persistence of the band of voluntary sellers of the paper, on whom its circulation depended. We will remember them.

In the history of the Society we read of two memorable conversations. The first took place on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception 1910 between two young Catholic girls, wait-

ing outside Holloway Gaol to welcome some Suffrage prisoners who were to be released that day. I do not know whether it was Gabrielle Jeffery or May Kendall who first broached during that conversation the idea of founding a Catholic Women's Suffrage Society to enable Catholic women to contribute special work to the Suffrage movement. I do know that both realised that before the idea could become a fact, hard work, great faith, and great courage were imperative. Brahms once wrote to a young composer who told him he had a fine idea: "Remember that between the idea and the fact is the whole difference of art." The pioneers of this Society remembered a similar gift, and so did the pioneers of this paper a few years later. This conversation took place in the Society's office while they were scrubbing the floor. "The Society needs a paper of its own," said Beatrice Gadsby. Leonora de Alberti, to whom the remark was addressed, has put on record that she questioned the possibility of raising the necessary funds. Miss Gadsby, disposed of her doubts, averring that the money would be forthcoming. But first they must find an Editor—"You are the person for that job." Miss de Alberti was startled, as she had had no journalistic experience. Perhaps she remembered that Joan of Arc had no military experience when she undertook her mission of raising and leading an army. Anyhow she took on the job; and we know what a success she made of it. During the nineteen years of her editorship the influence of the paper steadily grew. For all its modest size it became of international importance. It carried the message of what the woman's movement stood for to all parts of the earth. The paper became so closely identified with its editor, owing to the signed articles she contributed to it, that the fear it might not survive her was excusable. But since her death in 1934, her successor, Miss Christine Spender, has carried on her work with great ability. The CATHOLIC CITIZEN is as fearless as ever in demonstrating "where prejudice has usurped the voice of authority in Catholic circles," in not hesitating to cross swords with opponents of woman's freedom "however highly placed." It is a source of great pride to me that I have been invited to contribute a few words to the Jubilee number of a paper to which I owe so much. How many reasons it has given me to support my faith that "the difficult and arduous work of the women reformers is essentially and fundamentally a moral work."

CHRISTOPHER ST. JOHN.

Forced Marriages of African Girls Letter from Colonial Office

12th December, 1939.

Madam,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary MacDonald to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23rd November on the subject of forced marriages of African girls, and to say that this question is still engaging the attention of the Governors of the British East African Dependencies, to whom it was referred earlier this year, subsequent to the meeting with representatives of the St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance which was held on the 10th January, 1939. The attention of the Governors was recently again drawn to the matter, and Mr. Macdonald has now written further to the Secretary to the East African Governors' Conference, communicating your observations on the subject of the Decree of the French Government and other matters referred to in your letter under reply.

2. The attention of the Acting Governor of Kenya is being drawn to the two further cases of forced marriages of African girls mentioned in paragraph 1 of your letter.

3. Mr. MacDonald proposes to give further consideration to the question of forced marriages when he has received the observations of the Governors on the matters which have been referred to them.

4. I am to add, with reference to the last paragraph of your letter, that consideration of the appointment of a woman Assistant Director of Education in Uganda has been deferred in the circumstances arising from the outbreak of war. Mr. MacDonald hopes, however, that it will be resumed at an early opportunity. The post of Supervisor of Female Education in Tanganyika has been filled by the appointment of Miss M. F. E. Pelham-Johnson.

G. F. SEEL (Signed.)

We are gratified to know that the Colonial Office is continuing to give its attention to this question and we shall eagerly await the results of its further consideration of the matter.

Lord Hailey has informed us that the recent French Decree governing native marriage was fully discussed at the Mandates Commission by Miss Dannevig and the Accredited Representative for the British Cameroons and Togoland.

Annual Meeting

for Members only

The Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, March 16th. Nominations for Committee and resolutions for the Agenda must reach the Secretary not later than February 10th.

We remind members that nominations must be duly proposed and seconded and the consent of the candidate obtained.

Jubilate Deo

Some Tributes to the "Catholic Citizen"

His Lordship the Bishop of Pella

The CATHOLIC CITIZEN has been ably and vigorously conducted ever since it started twenty-five years ago. Besides pressing the claim for equal suffrage it has ventilated many questions affecting women and girls and has helped to secure many reforms. May it live long and prosper.

WILLIAM F. BROWN (Bishop of Pella).

The Rt. Rev. Monsignor Duchemin

It is no slight achievement to continue publishing a paper for 25 years, and to maintain enthusiasm for a cause throughout that time.

It must have been very soon after its inception that I was introduced to it by a memorable character, a retired Civil Servant—Miss Kate O'Halloran. She rose to a position of authority not by servile acquiescence but by the force of her personality. She never disguised her Faith, but instead of expressing it by pious phrases, she depended on the double note of technical efficiency in her work, and a sympathetic interest in her colleagues, mostly women, especially those under her charge.

At the time her views might have been considered strong but they have been proved right. The CATHOLIC CITIZEN has stood for that same robust character among women, and it must have helped many to keep abreast with the times in the sphere of the Woman's Movement, while holding them fast to those Catholic principles that are at the base of the true nobility of women.

The Rt. Rev. Monsignor Filmer

I am very honoured to be allowed to join in what must surely be a big chorus of congratulation on the celebration of your Jubilee of the CATHOLIC CITIZEN. It is no small achievement, and must have invoked much labour and many struggles.

May the Holy Warrior Maid enable your magazine to continue for many years to come, its fight for the right, and for the alleviation of hardship, more vigorously than ever.

The Very Rev. Dom Gilbert Higgins, C.R.L.

We are deeply grateful at being able to include the following message sent at Christmas by our dear friend, Dom Gilbert Higgins, C.R.L. He writes that he is tired after 90 years and six months of life—"but I remember St. Joan's Alliance always. Here's a trifling

offering with best wishes for a holy Christmas and a happy successful New Year." He ends: "Give me an Ave sometimes," and adds the postscript: "Nought that is joyless can endure."

Rev. Henry Davis, S.J.

I have been a constant reader of this admirable monthly magazine almost from its beginning and still read it with great interest and profit. It has derived its inspiration from the great Encyclical Letters of Pope Pius XI, and even before those on Christian Marriage and Christian Education of Youth, its spirit was one of fearless championship of the natural and the Christian rights of woman.

The particular benefit which the present writer has received from the constant perusal of the pages of the CATHOLIC CITIZEN is an extended knowledge of the status of woman, adult and young, in various parts of the world. The contributors to its pages have, over and over again, taken up the cause of enslaved woman in pagan countries, and not, we believe, without success in alleviating the lot of those unhappy women who are the victims of man's cruelty, not to mention anything worse. To achieve even a modest success in this matter is to shed the light and love of Christianity over dark and loveless lands. We do not, of course, forget the work done in this country.

The CATHOLIC CITIZEN has had its difficulties, but thanks to its competent editors and to those who have given it unstinted support, it has come through those early stages, which must have been sorely trying to its founders and promoters, and has achieved a position that is very gratifying to all who have at heart the continued growth of Christian ideals at home and abroad, in domestic and social life.

We believe that the CATHOLIC CITIZEN is now indispensable; we certainly hope that it is. Its present strong position is surely a good augury for its continued influence.

The Very Rev. Vincent McNabb, O.P.

Every one of your fellow Catholics in this land of Our Lady's Dowry is glad you are keeping a Silver Jubilee. The five and twenty years you have seen have had few parallels since.

Adam delved and Eve Span. During your short time almost every doubt that could dethrone God from the mind and heart and



LEONORA DE ALBERTI

Editor January 1915—March 1934

deeds of mankind has been delivered by the enemy of mankind.

So delicate a work of defending Eve in her daughters, was undertaken by the CATHOLIC CITIZEN that error and failure threatened it at every turn.

But Catholic you began, Catholic you thought and fought; and, after twenty-five years of thinking and struggling, Catholic you remain.

May you remain with us in its fulness of faith for a jubilee of golden jubilees.

Rev. Dr. W. E. Orchard

Hearty congratulations and every good wish for the Silver Jubilee of the CATHOLIC CITIZEN. May it continue to witness for the practical application in every department of life for the Scriptural principle that there is neither male nor female, Jew nor Greek, bond nor free, but all are one in Christ Jesus.

Miss Gabrielle Jeffery, co-founder of the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society.

All congratulations to our Editor who is so ably and zealously upholding the tradition of the CATHOLIC CITIZEN in its uncompromising

feminism and unswerving loyalty to Holy Mother Church.

Here's for a new subscriber!

Australia (Miss M. M. Flynn, Hon. Secretary, Australian Section St. Joan's Alliance)

Congratulations on the Silver Jubilee of our little paper.

It is the link which binds the far-flung sections to the Mother organisation.

Its articles and international news, written as they are, from the Catholic woman's standpoint, are much appreciated by subscribers in the Southern hemisphere.

May its next quarter of a century be as fruitful of good works for Womankind as its first, and may St. Joan ever guide its policy in the interests of equality, fraternity, justice and peace for humanity.

France (Mademoiselle Lenôel, Hon. Secretary, French Section of St. Joan's Alliance)

Quelques lignes pour le Jubilé d'argent du CATHOLIC CITIZEN. Voilà bien des choses à résumer en peu de mots et je compte sur les fidèles lectrices du bulletin pour amplifier à la mesure de notre estime et de notre reconnaissance chaque note trop brève.

Je parle ici de ce qui est notre sentiment à toutes j'en suis sûre, mais plus particulièrement au nom de la Section Française puisque c'est au bulletin directement et sans intermédiaire que la Section Française doit son existence.

Il y a quelque 15 ans celle qui devait devenir la fondatrice de la Section demandait au siège social de St. Joan's S.P.A. les deux nombres spécimens annoncés par une autre feuille féministe. Puis les ayant lus et médités; mais alors seulement elle entra en rapports avec les dirigeantes de l'Association alors absolument inconnues d'elle.

Combien d'autres sont venues ainsi attirées par le même aimant, combien ont été soutenues dans leur tâche quotidienne par notre cher bulletin? Il y aurait là une enquête à faire dans tous les pays du monde. Le Citizen se trouve aujourd'hui sur la table de toutes les vraies féministes, catholiques ou non. Sans défaillance même en temps de guerre, dans la bonne ou dans la mauvaise fortune il a pris part à leurs luttes leur apportant non seulement toutes les informations nécessaires mais les plus justes commentaires dans l'esprit d'action réfléchi qui émane de ses pages simples, fermes, désintéressées, dédaigneuses des concessions qui rendent le succès facile.

C'est ici une ancienne coutume fidèlement suivie que de dire la vérité, de porter la lumière au centre des questions sans violence, sans réticence, et parfois avec la passion et la sainte colère qui la rendent plus pénétrante.

Les anciennes lectrices du bulletin reconnaîtront à ces mots, je le pense, la chère et noble figure de la première éditrice, Leonora de Alberti à laquelle je veux donner un souvenir avant de terminer. Un souvenir au passé en même temps qu'un sympathique éloge au présent si valeureusement fidèle aux traditions de la maison, et un souhait pour l'avenir si rempli semble-t-il d'heureuses promesses.

Belgium

Vous allez célébrer votre jubilé de 25 années de lutte pour la bonne cause féministe catholique. Au nom du *Féminisme Chrétien de Belgique*, je vous adresse nos sincères félicitations car nous savons la somme d'efforts que représente le maintien d'une publication spécialisée dans des questions austères.

Nous vous félicitons d'avoir réussi à réconcilier le concept religieux et le concept féministe si longtemps et si injustement opposés l'un à l'autre par les adversaires de notre cause. Nous vous souhaitons à vous et à vos vaillantes collaboratrices, de continuer longtemps à

défendre les intérêts féminins, à la lumière de l'Évangile.

LOUISE VAN DEN PLAS (Présidente).

Holland

We Dutch members of St. Joan's have the honour to offer most hearty congratulations to the Editor of the CATHOLIC CITIZEN on the occasion of its Silver Jubilee. During many years we have enjoyed monthly the most interesting articles, based on the high principles of our Catholic religion, together with news of the women's movement all over the world!

The CATHOLIC CITIZEN was started twenty-five years ago during the world war, to obtain votes for women. I am continually asking myself if the women who obtained the vote could not perhaps have prevented the present calamity if they had well appreciated the gift of the vote, and made good use of it.

Let us start anew, with new hope in our hearts and fresh courage, and before our eyes the valiant example of our holy patroness St. Joan!

Let us hope and pray fervently that soon better times may return and we may take up in a better world our interrupted international work for the ideals of Peace and Freedom for all the nations, great and small, in general and all its individuals in particular.

CATO. M. VAN DER PIJL, Dr. Med.

Ireland (Professor Mary Hayden, D.Litt.).

As a very old subscriber to St. Joan's Alliance paper and a keen appreciator of the good work done by both the Alliance itself and the CATHOLIC CITIZEN, I beg to offer my greetings for its Jubilee to the staff and the members and the subscribers. What I particularly admire about the Alliance and its organ is the sturdy independence which accompanies their complete Catholic orthodoxy. Would that as much could be said for all women's societies!

Norway. (Miss V. Dannevig, Member of Permanent Mandates Commission of the League of Nations).

I always read the CATHOLIC CITIZEN with great interest and am grateful for valuable information about the condition and status of native women and children whose welfare I am charged with looking after in the mandated territories.

Much work remains to be done to improve the situation of native women both in African territories and in the islands of the Pacific



CHRISTINE SPENDER

Editor since April 1934

under mandate. Evolution is slow and perhaps must be slower than we should wish because of the many difficult social and economic questions involved.

The French have, as you know, enacted laws in the Cameroons for the protection, of women and girls and it is to be hoped that the British will soon find the time ripe to do the same. However, I am glad to be able to state that there is everywhere a growing interest and understanding among officials and politicians of how important it is that as much care should be taken of the health and home conditions of women and children as of the well-being of workers in mines and on plantations, and that the education and development of native women should go hand in hand with that of men.

The ideal of colonisation is a content and active native population willing to co-operate with their European tutors for their common good; to reach that end the intelligent co-operation also of the women is of paramount

importance, and that is what we are all trying to contribute to.

Let us hope that the present tragic war will not retard or even destroy the good work which has begun!

In closing, may I congratulate you on the result of your devoted work and wish you every success in your future efforts.

South Africa

Congratulations to the CATHOLIC CITIZEN on attaining its Silver Jubilee! Twenty-five years ago an unknown benefactor sent me a specimen copy which won my admiration at sight. That first copy has won me some of my best friends and the CATHOLIC CITIZEN has been for twenty-five years a source of encouragement, help and unending pleasure; the passing years increasing the first appreciation it aroused. May it continue its fine work and be as helpful to others as it has been to me. *Ad multos annos!*

ANNIE L. P. DORMAN.

Switzerland

Pour les noces d'argent du CATHOLIC CITIZEN, le *Mouvement Féministe* de Genève, son frère un peu plus âgé, lui envoie ses vœux cordiaux de longue vie et de prospérité. Il y joint ses remerciements pour l'oeuvre excellente accomplie par le CATHOLIC CITIZEN parmi les femmes en défendant avec tant d'énergie et de savoir-faire les droits de celles qui, même lorsqu'elles ne sont plus des mineures politiques comme la plupart des lectrices du *Mouvement Féministe*, souffrent encore dans trop de cas d'une infériorité que rien ne justifie.

Le CATHOLIC CITIZEN s'est attiré tout spécialement notre reconnaissance par ses études sur la situation des femmes indigènes, et son courage tranquille à continuer son oeuvre malgré la guerre est un exemple pour toutes.

EMILIE GOURD, Editor.

U.S.A. (Professor Georgiana Putnam McEntee, Ph.D., Hunter College, New York City.)

Congratulations on the Silver Jubilee of the CATHOLIC CITIZEN. As an organ dedicated to the preservation of the highest ideals of our democratic and Christian society, it will have an increasingly important rôle to play in a world in which our most cherished institutions are being subjected to violent attack by the lords of force and the apostles of nihilism. The failure of St. Joan's Alliance would be symptomatic of the failure of Western European civilisation. Its success will presage the ultimate triumph of Christianity over barbarism, of reason over force. The CATHOLIC CITIZEN stands specifically for justice and equality for women in every phase of human life. But at this crisis in history, by reason of these very aims and the Catholic spirit which infuses them, it becomes likewise a symbol, a standard and a rallying cry. It must move forward, to ever widening achievement if "government of the people, by the people and for the people" is not to "perish from the earth."

"The Commonweal" (U.S.A.)

The Editors of *The Commonweal* congratulate the CATHOLIC CITIZEN on a quarter century of service to Christian ideals and wish for it a future commensurate with its past attainments. (Cablegram).

LYNSKEY.

"America" (U.S.A.)

America joins you in congratulations, and hopes that you may be able to carry on

successfully your great work in the face of the many difficulties which the war time imposes upon you. It may be of interest to you that America's librarian, Mr. H. C. Watts, is a former pupil of the father of your late Chairman.

Wishing you and your associates all blessings, and asking your own prayers for our work,

JOHN LAFARGE, S.J., Associated Editor.

"Interracial Review" (U.S.A.)

The staff and associates of the *Interracial Review* feel a distinct kinship with those persons associated with the CATHOLIC CITIZEN. We believe that we in some measure understand their problems and that they understand ours. Most of all, we all must drink at the same fountain of Divine Teaching and Divine Grace: the same Divine Master must guide and aid us all. We congratulate, therefore, our English brethren on their devoted work; and we sympathise with them in the heavy trials which they now experience in the midst of war. We assure them of our prayers and we ask prayers of them as well. May the CATHOLIC CITIZEN continue for many years to do its present excellent work!

GEORGE K. HUNTON (Editor).

International Alliance for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship

May I add my congratulations to the many that the CATHOLIC CITIZEN will receive from all quarters of the world and my warmest good wishes that it may extend its influence more and more during the next 50 years into any dark places that are left!

It is sad indeed to celebrate a Jubilee during a war but whatever the outcome we know we shall need more than ever the courage and loyalty of the CATHOLIC CITIZEN in our fight for equality. Women's sense of justice mercy and service will be desperately needed to rebuild a shattered world. Shall we be allowed to help?

MARGERY CORBETT ASHBY (President).

International Council of Women

On the occasion of the forthcoming Silver Jubilee of the CATHOLIC CITIZEN, the Editor of the Bulletin who for very many years has had the privilege of receiving your valuable publication in exchange for our own, would like to thank you for nearly two decades of co-operation for a common cause. In the name of the International Council of Women, I beg you to accept, with our sincere congratulations,

our best thanks for all your paper has done in defence of women's rights, in promoting their interests and in fighting wrongs with that courage and moderation which has always been a feature of the beneficial activities of St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance.

May the CATHOLIC CITIZEN grow and prosper in spite of the present restrictions which the war is imposing on organised women's activities, and may we all be allowed to help to build up a new world once the ordeal is over.

With the best of good wishes.

G. M. GUNTHER.

Open Door International

Greetings, congratulations and above all gratitude go from the Open Door International to the CATHOLIC CITIZEN on the occasion of its Silver Jubilee. For twenty-five years, with a succession of brilliant editors, it has given unswerving support to all those reforms, including reforms in the economic sphere, which are needed in order to secure a real equality of status and opportunity for women, not only in this country but all over the world. In its noble work for the women of African communities it has shown that truly catholic and universal spirit which should inspire the whole woman's movement. Ave!

ELIZABETH ABBOTT.

Association for Moral and Social Hygiene

The Association for Moral and Social Hygiene desires to record its respect and admiration for the present and past editors and those who have been responsible for the CATHOLIC CITIZEN: to express its sincere appreciation of the fact that the paper has always fearlessly upheld the unity of the moral law and the principle of the equal liberty and equal responsibility of men and women. The A.M.S.H. hopes the paper will continue and will have a widening circulation thus educating the personal opinion of all its readers.

ALISON NEILANS.

Catholic Social Guild

Hearty congratulations on the Silver Jubilee and on a record of 25 years of courageous and successful work.

LEO O'HEA, S.J.

"The Woman Teacher"

I congratulate the CATHOLIC CITIZEN on its splendid past and wish it continued and increasing success in the future. As a staunch supporter of the feminist cause, and a valiant supplier of ammunition for the fight against prejudice and reaction, it has earned the gratitude and admiration of the whole of the women's movement.

FLORENCE E. KEY.

Women's Freedom League

We most warmly congratulate the CATHOLIC CITIZEN on attaining its Jubilee, and wish it many, many more years of continued enlightened activity. We can always rely on its point of view in regard to the interests of women, and be certain that it will never be side-tracked into devious paths which often lead away from the equality of the sexes. We fully admire, too, its unswerving loyalty to an equal moral standard for men and women, and we most warmly appreciate its insistence on the dignity of womanhood, whatever the colour, race or creed of the woman.

Long may the CATHOLIC CITIZEN live and flourish.

FLORENCE A. UNDERWOOD (General Secretary).

Mrs. Belloc Lowndes

I am delighted to have an opportunity of saying what a high opinion I have of the CATHOLIC CITIZEN, and with what real admiration I read it.

What a wonderful thing to think that there is already a Jubilee Number of the CATHOLIC CITIZEN!

Miss Nina Boyle

That the CATHOLIC CITIZEN should be able to celebrate its Silver Jubilee is a matter for warm congratulation to St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance. Membership of St. Joan's is first and foremost a profession of Faith; but women of every faith owe them a debt of gratitude for the splendid way they have kept their flag flying and the sturdy fight they have put up for women of every race and creed. It is a privilege to be able to pay this tribute of respect and admiration to St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance, and I wish their organ long life—and the joy of chronicling many victories.

Mr. Ernest Oldmeadow, late Editor of the "Tablet"

You are gracious in asking me for a few words on the Silver Jubilee of the CATHOLIC CITIZEN. I criticized the doings and sayings of the Alliance more than once. With some Societies, as with some individuals, this would have got me a bad mark never to be rubbed out: but this is not the St. Joan's way. At all times, I knew that the Alliance could be frankly discussed in the spirit of the maxim: *in necessariis unitas, in dubiis libertas, in omnibus caritas.*

That other admirers will almost certainly say the same thing is no reason why I should not heartily wish your paper a Golden Jubilee, a Diamond Jubilee and (although this mineral has lately been "debunked") a Radium Jubilee.

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