

THE
WOMAN'S LEADER

IN POLITICS
 IN THE HOME
 IN INDUSTRY

IN LITERATURE AND ART
 IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT
 IN THE PROFESSIONS

AND

THE COMMON CAUSE

VOL. XII. No. 39.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER, 29, 1920.

PRICE 3D.
 Registered as a Newspaper.

Contents :

	PAGE
<i>"The Woman's Leader" in Politics :</i>	
THE POWER OF PARLIAMENT	837
NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER	836
BURNING QUESTIONS: "Unemployment"	838
THE CHILDREN OF GERMANY. By H. C. Shawcross ...	839
DIARY OF WORK. By Sir Leo Chiozza Money	843
<i>In Education :</i>	
AN INTERNATIONAL VIEW OF ADULT EDUCATION. By A. Mansbridge	840
THE WORKING WOMEN'S COLLEGE OF THE Y.W.C.A.	840
<i>In the Home :</i>	
HOW SHALL SHE LIVE? By E. A. Browning	841
<i>In Industry :</i>	
THE EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN	841
<i>In Literature and Art :</i>	
THE EMANCIPATION OF INÉ. By Grace James	844
REVIEWS: "The Romance of Home Life"; "A Day Continuation School at Work"	846
DRAMA: "Priscilla and the Profligate"; "The Romantic Age"	845
<i>Work of Organisations :</i>	
THE MENTAL AFTER-CARE ASSOCIATION	842
THE PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS WORKERS' HOSPITAL LEAGUE	849
<i>Correspondence :</i>	847

THE COMMON CAUSE PUBLISHING CO. LTD., 62, OXFORD STREET LONDON W.1

and all Bookstalls and Newsagents.

THE WOMAN'S LEADER

AND
COMMON CAUSE.

POLICY—The sole policy of "The Woman's Leader" is to advocate a real equality of liberties, status and opportunities between men and women. So far as space permits, however, it will offer an impartial platform for topics not directly included in the objects of the women's movement, but of special interest to women. Articles on these subjects will always be signed, at least by initials or a pseudonym, and for the opinions expressed in them the Editor accepts no responsibility.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION.—British Isles, 17s. 6d. per annum, post free; Abroad, 17s. 6d. Subscriptions should be sent direct to the Manager, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 62, Oxford Street. Increased rate payable on renewal of Subscription.

CONTRIBUTIONS should be addressed to the Editor, who, however, accepts no responsibility for unsolicited matter. MSS. not used will be returned if accompanied by a stamped envelope.

CORRESPONDENCE should reach the Editor not later than the first post on Monday. The Editor's decision is final.

PROSPECTUS.—The Common Cause Publishing Co. is issuing new £1 shares to the value of £10,000. Prospectus and all information to be obtained from the Manager, Common Cause Publishing Co., 62, Oxford Street, W. 1. Telephone: Museum 2702.

NOTES AND NEWS.

Ireland.

The death of the Lord Mayor of Cork adds, of course, to the continued strife in Ireland. The discussion in the House of Commons did not accomplish much, but at least it served to throw some light on actual events, and further knowledge reaches this country every day. In Manchester, this week, a large meeting in the Free Trade Hall listened to the reports of the women sent to Ireland by the Women's International League to get first hand information of what was happening. The stories of murders told by the Government, and of reprisals told by the women's mission are all horrible in the extreme.

The Matrimonial Causes Bill.

Lord Buckmaster's Bill embodying the recommendations of the Majority Report of the Divorce Commission is dead, and there are 2,500 divorce cases on the roll for the coming legal term. The Matrimonial Causes Bill had passed the House of Lords, some of its most important provisions were directed to establishing that equality between the sexes which has long been recognised as a tenet of the Christian religion, and is now incorporated in the British Constitution. Some of the reforms, such as that making desertion without accompanying breaches of marital obligations a ground for divorce, have been a part of Scottish law for 350 years. The legitimisation of children by the subsequent marriage of their parents is the practice of all civilised nations except our own. Yet the House of Commons has no time to give its attention to this matter, affecting to believe (despite those 2,500 pending actions) that our marriage laws do very well as they are. And every day while the Courts are sitting sees relief given to couples who agree to a little easy lying and refused to persons of high principle whose lives are made intolerable by the cruelty, unfaithfulness, crime, or insanity of husband or wife. So many persons are divorced by subverting the process of the law that our legislators dare not risk the addition of a few more who have adequate grounds.

Policewomen.

Answering a question of Sir J. D. Rees in the House of Commons last week, as to the probability of a discussion on the Report of the Committee on the employment of women on police duties, the Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department thought that there was no general desire for a discussion on the subject. Sir J. D. Rees' final question, "Are we to understand that the House is committed to this extravagant eccentricity?" was treated with the silent contempt it deserved. Mr. Lyle, however, returned to the subject the following day, and asked what the exact intentions of the authorities were; whether, if the body of policewomen is placed upon a statutory footing, the right of arrest will be conferred

upon it, and whether sufficient time has elapsed to enable it to be said with certainty that the male police force is inadequate to discharge its varied duties. Mr. Shortt answered that he was not in a position to say how far all the recommendations in the Report can be carried out, and that the question of arrest by women police required further consideration. The question of the inadequacy of the men police does not arise, but there are certain branches of their work in which the women police could give them valuable assistance. Mr. Shortt, replying to Sir J. D. Rees' unanswered query of the preceding day, said the Government was committed to nothing, and that he saw no reason to call it an "expensive experiment." Mrs. Sophia Stanley, superintendent of the Women's Patrols Division of the Metropolitan Police, in giving evidence before the Joint Committee on the Criminal Law Amendment Bill, spoke of the difficulties of policewomen in relation to street women. The policewomen have no power to give them institutional treatment or to keep them in a home; they had not even behind them the power of arrest, and she felt that their work would be greatly improved if they had greater compulsory powers behind them. Of course, Mrs. Stanley is right, and Mr. Lyle and Sir J. D. Rees are wrong.

The Need for a Remand Home for Girls

Mr. Cecil Chapman, the Metropolitan Police Court Magistrate, gave evidence last week before the Joint Committee which is considering the Criminal Law Amendment Bill. He urged the need of remand homes where girls could be sent who had not been convicted, or who were convicted for the first time, while enquiries were being made about them. At present there is no proper place for them, and sending them to prison does no good, indeed, almost certainly does harm. The treatment of young offenders and all prisoners on remand are matters of urgent importance, and it is to be hoped that the present unsatisfactory state of affairs may soon be remedied.

Prison Reforms in Austria.

The public is to be given wider control over the execution of penal sentences in Austria by the formation of commissions which, in an advisory capacity, will assist the officials in the management of prisons. The municipal authorities are to appoint laymen on these commissions, chosen from amongst men and women who, through their professions or charitable work, have some knowledge of prison life. They will have the right to visit prisoners, to hear their requests and complaints, and generally supervise their food and accommodation. It seems more than probable that this humanising element may become a powerful instrument for good in a preventive penal system.

Women Teachers.

The Second Report of the Burnham Committee on Teachers' Salaries just issued is not likely to remove the women's resentment at the Government's unfair treatment of them, nor will it encourage the right kind of woman, so urgently needed, to enter the depleted ranks of certificated teachers. That women should be counted as four-fifths of the value of men in this, of all professions, shows a lack of psychological knowledge as well as a reactionary spirit. Teaching comes much more instinctively to women than to men and, since not even the most reactionary opponent of equal pay for equal work can urge that woman's purely physical disabilities handicap her in the teaching profession, there seems to be no reason for refusing to acknowledge her full value to the State, except the old notion that women are worth less. The women teachers are organising a huge Equal Pay demonstration in London, on Saturday, November 6th, and this Report will add fuel to the flames.

Discharging the Women.

The Postmaster-General, in reply to a question in the House of Commons last week, said that instructions had been issued to the clerical departments of the Post Office that temporary women clerks not dependent on their earnings must be discharged to make way for ex-Service men. As regards the manipulative staff, an instruction was issued in January last that in arranging the discharge of temporary staff, the first to be discharged should be those not dependent on their earnings. Mr. A. Williams' question, whether, if women who are not dependent on their earnings are discharged, men who are not dependent on their earnings are also discharged to make way for ex-Service men, was left unanswered. It should be asked again and again, until some satisfactory answer is received for it is based on a fundamental principle which the country must recognise and accept. The Lytton Report definitely recommends this course of action; it is for public opinion to see that it is actually enforced.

The Women of Bombay.

At the end of September the Corporation of the City of Bombay, after a two hours' debate, decided, by a majority of twelve, that women could henceforth be elected as municipal councillors in the city of Bombay, thus removing the sex bar which has, up to now, been raised against them. We congratulate the women of Bombay who have received such a gratifying answer to their recent public meeting, demanding the removal of the sex disqualification, and pointing out that the time for such a change was opportune since the constitution of the Bombay Municipality was about to be liberalised. We hope that other Indian cities will follow Bombay's good example.

Women's Share in the Austrian Elections.

Women played an important part in the Austrian elections, which have resulted in a victory for the Christian Reformers who have gained 15 seats and now hold 78 out of the total of 160. Women voted in greater numbers than men and the result is said to be due to their discontent during the Social Democratic régime, at the great increase in the cost of living.

Children in Film Acting.

The Actors' Association is to be thanked for giving publicity to the evil conditions under which young children, sometimes mere babies, pose for cinema films. The long waiting, sometimes for hours, in scanty clothing and unwholesome surroundings, the association when they are forming part of a "cinema crowd" with riff-raff swept in from the streets, all the dangers of the stage without its safeguards or its training—these are the circumstances under which an extraordinarily rich commercial undertaking employs children who, for their undoing, are possessed of what the cinema trade considers talent or attraction. Employment of children as "mannequins" for the display of fashions is open to objections less obvious but undoubted, and we are glad to see that a magistrate imposed a fine on a firm which so employed two children of school age, though he described the offence as "not serious." Personal display divorced from even the shreds of association with art boasted by cinema acting must be deteriorating to young children, and should disgust instead of attract the onlookers at a fashion parade.

Gas Prices.

The Gas Regulation Act, which substitutes for the present sliding-scale price based on thermal units may sound highly technical, but its effect will be that we pay for gas not according to its volume, but its heating qualities. Companies will no longer be able to call a gaseous substance "gas" and, as the sailors say, "make it so"; it must be able to do a specified amount of heating before it makes good its claim to the name and price. But consumers will not necessarily benefit financially to any great extent, since cost of production, especially that part of it which depends on labour, has enormously increased since 1913. The South Metropolitan Gas Company's labour bill has almost trebled. Consumers should note that if and when cost of production goes down the price of gas may be revised. Local authorities, or any body of more than twenty consumers, may apply to the Board of Trade for a reduction of price. This will be a more fruitful expenditure of energy than merely complaining to the man who comes to read the meter.

Communal Hot Water Supply.

The supply of hot water to blocks of flats or rows of houses is generally looked upon as a convenient but relatively expensive luxury, since it does not relieve any tenant of the necessity of keeping up a kitchen fire. But the investigations of the Fuel Research Board show that the ordinary kitchen boiler, fixed at the back of the range, is responsible for about half the consumption of coal in the kitchen. The saving of not having to heat water whenever the fire is lighted, whether water is required or no, is then so material that the communal supply of hot water presents itself in a very attractive light. We are glad to learn that a type of kitchen grate, tested for economy by the Board, is to be provided for some at least of the houses built under the various housing schemes. If it lives up to its reputation, is properly fixed and not used with a back boiler, it should enable the tenants to cut down their coal bills enough to compensate for the enhanced price of fuel. Women on local authorities should see that tested types of grate are used wherever possible in the new houses, and that where a central supply of hot water is available no back boilers should be tolerated.

Levelling Up.

One man's meat is another man's poison, and the new statistical evidence at last available as to how far we have already travelled on the road to socialism will be considered with varying feelings by women interested in public affairs. Until this year the Government return of the amount spent on social legislation under the head of Public Assistance has not concerned itself with money obtained from rates, and has not informed us of the number of persons benefiting from Old Age Pensions, National Health Insurance, Unemployed Insurance, Poor Law Education, Provision of Meals, and other forms of assistance to the less prosperous members of the community. The sum spent in these and similar ways in 1919 was at least £172,813,293. In the current year there will be added another ten millions for the increased Old Age Pensions, six millions for Health Insurance, more than seventy-two millions for war pensions, besides other heavy charges, making a total expenditure for this year of £312,000,000 on this levelling-up of life's inequalities. The beneficiaries (making allowance for persons who may be receiving assistance in more than one way) number twenty-eight million. Since more than half the population is assisted and the sum expended exceeds £13 per head of these, we are seen to be far removed from that imaginary world of which we hear on political platforms, and which was the Manchester Schools Utopia, where each citizen subsists by his individual effort.

An Innovation in Hospital Management.

In these days, when the financing of hospitals is such a serious problem, any new departure is to be welcomed, and the experiment at Enfield will be watched with interest. The local Cottage Hospital was in financial difficulties and was in danger of closing down until some Labour members of the District Council took the matter in hand and suggested a new scheme. Until the crisis the hospital was, as is usual, run by private enterprise, and its difficulties attracted little public notice. Now, however, the management committee is to be reorganised so as to include representatives of all the public interests of Enfield, and a minimum of £20 per representative must be paid by the

various bodies if they wish to retain representation. It is not so much the minimum subscription which is the hopeful part of the scheme, but the feeling that where nearly every person in the district can feel he or she has an effective voice in the management, there will be little chance of such a vital institution being allowed to fail for lack of support.

French Children in England.

The French War Charities Society of Manchester, with the help of several other northern towns, has given six weeks' holiday to shell-shocked children from the devastated districts of France. The travelling expenses of close upon £800 were paid entirely by voluntary subscription, and together with board and lodging for six weeks were provided by Manchester, Baweell, Blackburn, Blackpool, Keighley, New Brighton, Preston, and Southport. Manchester took the lead in the movement for "adopting" French towns which have suffered during the war, and her example as to holiday guests might well be followed by towns which cannot afford to undertake the responsibilities of adoption. The holiday season is over, but for sick children living in imperfectly repaired houses, and where means of obtaining warmth and light are still imperfect and terribly costly, a winter holiday might be even more beneficial than a change of air in the summer. Cold and semi-darkness are always depressing to young things, but when darkness has such associations as it has for these children, accustomed from babyhood to the terror that walks in darkness, they are especially to be dreaded. This will be a hard winter for France, much harder than for us, and that would make even the devastated districts more desolate than they are to-day.

Joint Canteens.

Many employers of labour who would be glad to establish canteens are prevented by lack of space. That this obstacle can be surmounted is evident from reports from Edinburgh and the surrounding district, where employees from adjoining factories have been allowed to use the canteen of an iron foundry, and other firms are arranging for a joint canteen in a central position.

Diamonds.

Doubtless it is the duty of everyone to be economical, even if they are new-rich or pre-war millionaires. But not all extravagance is equally bad for the country. If a rich woman feels that she must buy herself presents, let her buy diamonds. Though luxuries they are not perishable luxuries, for they are easily disposed of and quite indestructible. The diamond-cutting industry is a new one in Great Britain, and is mainly in the hands of disabled men. The diamond-cutting works at Brighton, started in 1917, are already the largest in the world, and the work done there by ex-soldiers competes on equal terms with that of Amsterdam and Antwerp. The men receive maintenance during a six-months' training, and thereafter a minimum of £2. After two years the average earnings are £5 weekly, and it is possible to earn as much as £7 10s. Other works, smaller but equally successful, are at Fort William, Wrexham, and Cambridge.

Women and Domestic Service.

The Employment Exchanges report that more women are willing to enter domestic service, although the demand is still far greater than the supply. The greatest difficulty is the placing of girls who, during the war, flocked into Government offices to do unskilled work. Now, thrown on the labour market without any of the necessary qualifications for commercial life, they look on domestic service as beneath them, and do not realise that with the improved conditions, wholesome food and more frequent outings they are in a far better position than if they were earning a precarious livelihood and living on insufficient food in some dreary lodgings. We trust that the day will soon come when domestic work will be admittedly as truly real and honourable work as anything else; but we suspect that it will not arrive until we have secured some financial recognition of the unpaid domestic work of the wife and mother. So long as half the profession is carried on for nothing but board and lodging, the other half is likely to be despised. And yet the work of home making is one of the noblest (as well as the hardest) in the world.

NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER.

BY OUR PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT.

The only bright spot in a wasted week was Mr. Bonar Law's promise to give a day for the discussion of the Orders in Council. Otherwise, of the three great subjects which Parliament discussed, it advanced the solution of none.

Tuesday, as was to be expected, was given to Coal. Neither side came out of the discussion with credit. The Government made their case for resisting the two shillings advance, but failed to make their case for the datum line. Mr. Brace destroyed the datum line, but made no case for the two shillings. That there should be payment by results is generally agreed; but the particular method of securing this was somewhat roughly handled in the debate, and emerged considerably the worse for wear. In a dispute of this sort—indeed, in all disputes with Labour—it behoves the Government to be right all along the line, and in this dispute they are not.

The actual debate was on a high level. Sir Robert Horne was good, Mr. Brace excellent. Mr. Brace is developing into a fine debater. He is astute and persuasive, with a pleasing sense of humour; in tone and temper his speech was admirable. The Prime Minister was weighty and convincing. The rest of the debate calls for little comment, for though there were many good speeches the settlement of the dispute was not advanced. In fact, the prophecy made in these notes last week that the discussion would leave us very much as we were has proved true to the letter. Negotiations are continuing whilst these words are being written. The result is uncertain, but at any rate the shadow of a general strike, which hung heavy over us last week, seems to be passing away.

On Wednesday, Ireland: Ireland and reprisals. You can apply to the elucidation of Parliamentary debates the same phraseology as Freud and his disciples use for the interpretation of dreams, for both have their obvious and their hidden meaning, their manifest content and their latent content. On the surface the Government, and Sir Hamar Greenwood in particular, scored a crushing victory. There was only one side in it, for Mr. Henderson was feeble and Mr. Asquith unconvincing, whilst the Irish Secretary was forcible and carried all before him. Rarely has the House been so unanimous: the cheering was all on one side, and the figures in the division list overwhelming.

But when members had gone home and thought it over, perhaps the debate assumed another colour. Are the Government, or are they not, encouraging reprisals? Is pacification so near as the vehement optimism of Sir Hamar Greenwood leads one to suppose? Those of us whose memories go back to the 'eighties can recall many a time when Ministers have said that unrest in Ireland was the work of a few men, and, if these were laid by the heels, all would be well. W. E. Forster said it in a well-remembered phrase. Mr. Arthur Balfour, be it noted, never said it, and probably never thought it. Is the present Administration wiser than those which we now know to have been blind in the past? When we see them doing the same things, defending them by the same arguments, and using almost the same words, it is not to be wondered at that some of us turn cold at heart. And about reprisals too: are the Government putting them down, or are they not? They say they are. They do not defend them. Time will show. That men should be tried beyond endurance by the organised and cowardly murders of their comrades everyone understands: that they should be driven to take the law into their own hands everyone excuses. But reprisals cannot be a principle of Government, and it is time that this was made clear beyond doubt.

But, as has been said, the debate went all one way. The House approved of the Government, of the Chief Secretary, and of the police; and it remains to be seen whether the emphatic promises of early peace, which were so freely made, will be fulfilled.

The remaining day, Thursday, was equally wasted. Dr. Macnamara failed to impress the House that he either understands, or can deal with, unemployment.

Ireland came up again on Friday, when the finance of the Home Rule Bill was debated. Here again, on the surface, the Government had a summer sea and a favouring breeze. Colonel Walter Guinness and his friends tried once again to turn the Bill into a Dominion one. He himself has never spoken better, and clearly impressed the House. But all to no purpose: the Government went on their course, supported by the few members who troubled to turn up, and their path was serene and smooth.

THE POWER OF PARLIAMENT.

In these days when the troubles in Ireland are so grave, and when industrial disputes are so acute, it is important to notice what is the power and position of the House of Commons. During the whole of the war Parliament has been in a position of comparative unimportance; and now, with these difficult problems before us, it seems impotent still. We do not know whether it could at any time have dealt effectively with a strike, but there was certainly a day when Ireland was its problem, but that day seems to be past.

It is not only in these urgent national problems that Parliament is losing its power. Even the ordinary domestic legislation is being swept more and more out of its control. On the first day of the session the Government commandeered all Parliamentary time, and by the end of the first week it was clear that effective Parliamentary control of the doings of the Executive was an increasingly difficult affair.

In one particular, however, the House of Commons has still kept control, and it is to be hoped that it will be able to maintain it. We refer to the question of the Civil Service. Our readers will remember that the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act lays down that neither sex nor marriage shall be a bar to any profession. It does, however, allow special regulations to be made regarding the conditions of admission and employment of women in the Home Civil Service, and their total exclusion from some of the services overseas. To safeguard this rather general power, and as was said in debate, "so that the House and the country may know exactly what is in the mind of the Executive as regards the carrying out of the terms of the Act," a clause was inserted in the Act providing that these special exemptions and regulations should be laid upon the table as Orders in Council. The Solicitor-General, who was in charge of the Bill, in agreeing to lay the Orders in Council before the House, said: "The Orders in Council, both as to the foreign service and as to the home service, will be laid upon the table of the House. . . . I am prepared to submit the whole of these regulations to the treatment of the House by means of Orders in Council." This was in October, 1919.

During the winter the National Whitley Council adopted a scheme for the reorganisation of the Civil Service which, in so far as it applies to women, has been rejected by the whole of the organised women of the country. Protests of all sorts and from every quarter reached the Government. The Federation of Women Civil Servants left the National Whitley Council on account of it. The Government, however, adopted the Report. On August 19th, Major J. W. Hills moved a resolution in the House condemning the principles on which the Report is based, and, in particular, the proposal to admit men to the higher grades by competitive examination and women by selection. This resolution was passed without a division. The Government, however, still officially upheld the Report and paid no attention at all to the decision of the House.

At the very end of last session the long-expected Orders in Council required under the Act made their appearance. They do not even specify what the Whitley Council proposes, so that the House can judge of it, but simply authorise the Civil Service Commissioners and the Treasury to make what regulations they please.

This is a clear evasion of the intention of that clause of the Act, just as the programme the Treasury proposes to put into effect is a clear evasion of the equality of opportunity laid down in the Act. In these circumstances there was no avenue open except another appeal to the House of Commons. The Joint

Committee on Women in the Civil Service, which had carried on the war against the National Whitley Council's Report, decided to try to secure a petition for time from M.P.'s to the Government. This Committee represents the following societies:— Association of Post Office Sorting Assistants, Association of Headmistresses, Association of Senior Women Officers in Ministry of Labour, Association of Women Clerks and Secretaries, Association of Women Superintendents and Principal Clerks, Civil Service Typists Assistants, Federation of University Women, Federation of Women Civil Servants, London Society for Women's Service, National Council of Women, National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, Women Sanitary Inspectors' and Health Visitors' Association, Writing Assistants' Association, Committee of Women in Higher Branches in Civil Service, Association of Temporary Staff Assistants. It was thus able to appeal in the name of all the organised women of the country, and particularly of all the women's organisations within the Civil Service. Members were deluged with letters and postcards, and when the House met they were approached in person and asked for their signatures to the memorial. It was a difficult matter to press this point while such great issues as Ireland and the coal strike were under discussion; but equality is a great matter, too. By Thursday night a hundred and thirty-one Members had signed the petition, and on Friday Mr. Bonar Law in answer to a question by Sir Donald Maclean announced that the Government would find the time.

Now, then, we have a second chance of testing the power of the House of Commons against the permanent officials. We have no shadow of doubt as to what the Members themselves will say. They do not want inequality of treatment in the Civil Service; they do not like the idea of admitting women by selection and men by examination; they hold no brief for the reorganisation Report, and have no concern for the subtleties of the old departments. They will plump this time, as they did in October, 1919, and in May, 1920, for the free field and the fair chance. But the question is, will anything further come of it?

The outcome is not only important on its merits; it is important to Parliament, too. To be flouted once, and then again, and then a third time, would be no credit to its reputation. To see the Orders in Council annulled and others exactly the same substituted for them, would be no edifying spectacle. And yet it is more than likely to take place unless Members watch the situation very carefully indeed. For the Treasury takes a lot of beating. They may withdraw these orders and replace them by nothing at all, acting meanwhile according to their own sweet will; or they may replace them by the National Whitley Council's Report sufficiently or insufficiently disguised; or they may think of some third way round, too ingenious for our feminine subtlety, and trust that Parliament will at last let this tiresome matter lie. But we hope and intend that this shall not take place. For, indeed, if it does, not only will the employment of women have suffered the severest blow, but we shall know also without any shadow of doubt that the power of Parliament has departed from it.

As we go to press we learn that the Government has undertaken to produce detailed regulations on the admission of women to the Civil Service, and to give the House of Commons an opportunity of discussing and amending them. This is a real victory for the House of Commons as well as for the women Civil Servants.

BURNING QUESTIONS.

We call the attention of our readers to the fact that in the topical and controversial matters which we treat under the heading of "Burning Questions" we endeavour to present the principal views on each question held by differing groups of political thinkers. We do not ourselves express an editorial opinion, beyond this, that it is each woman's business first to be well-informed and then to come to her own opinion.

UNEMPLOYMENT.

THE REAL TROUBLE: HOW TO SOLVE IT.

In the month of August of this year 154,000 persons were officially registered as out of work at the Employment Exchanges. In September 160,315; at the beginning of October 173,642; by now, owing to the result of the coal strike, 25,000 or 30,000 more must be added to this appalling total, and there is every indication, even if the strike is settled, that the increase will continue through the winter months.

This bald statistical statement means that the country is faced with one of the most serious of domestic problems. It means, too, that the amount of misery and suffering, of cold, hunger, and despair that lie before the people of this country this winter is greater than any Government should allow.

It is no wonder that the third day of the Parliamentary session was devoted to the problem of unemployment, or that rioting on the subject broke out in Whitehall. The wonder is that anyone tolerates this state of affairs.

On the one hand, we have thousands of men and women out of work, and private enterprise unable or unwilling to cope with the situation. Employers seem to be taking advantage of every opportunity to close down their works, using the excess profits duty as an excuse for turning off hands, and instead of standing by their workpeople through the shortage caused by strikes in other trades, making use of the situation to make political capital out of unemployment. On the other hand, we see the Government selling its workshops and factories, dispersing its plant, and deliberately leaving idle and neglected vast opportunities of sound and productive employment that lay ready to hand in the national factories. It does not make a comforting picture.

The Government seems to have realised at last that the problem of unemployment is a national one, and it announces a big new programme of insurance and of work. But when we look into this programme we see that the remedy that it now offers is partial in the extreme. It is true that the out-of-work insurance is being extended, but it is not doles of money, but work, that people are asking for. And, indeed, it is not the wholesale expenditure of taxation but the wholesale increase of production which is necessary before we can arrive at a stable economic position. Besides the payment of out-of-work donations, the only other thing that the Government seems to have thought of is to employ the out-of-work men upon the making of roads. This in itself might be a useful thing, and might help to tide over a period of difficulty, but, as suggested, it will only touch the fringe of unemployment, if it even does that. For the finance of the scheme is entirely dependent upon the co-operation of local authorities, and no one with any experience of these matters imagines for a moment that the local authorities will hurry forward to spend the rates upon such works. All that seems to have happened is that the Government has set out another window-dressing scheme, and, if it does not materialise, will slip the blame off on to the local authorities, in the same way that it slips the blame in the matter of housing upon the building Trades Unions.

This is not the way for a responsible Government to act. The truth of the matter is that we are face to face with a problem which is national in scope, and nothing but nationalised employment will solve it. The capitalist system is now proved to be incapable of providing for an emergency such as this. Indeed, it seems to depend for its health upon the existence of a large floating out-of-work population at the bottom of the industrial

ladder. Our modern conscience does not tolerate this state of affairs, and it looks as if the system of private ownership must be upset before unemployment can be really satisfactorily solved. That the establishment of national factories is a blow at the capitalist system is true enough, but let us deal that blow if there is no other way out of the misery and hardship of the unemployed. D. S. S.

THE GOVERNMENT PLANS: HOW TO HELP.

On October 19th Mr. Lloyd George outlined in the House of Commons the Cabinet's proposals for dealing with the unemployment problem. These include the employment of large numbers of ex-Service men on the Government's Housing programme, a large scheme of new arterial roads for London and other parts of the country, and the admission of additional men into the foundry, iron puddling and railway waggon building trades, in which there is a serious shortage of skilled labour. The successful carrying out of these suggestions depends upon the co-operation of the trade unions concerned, and it is upon them that the chief responsibility rests for the mass of unemployment at the present moment. It is not reasonable to expect that the normal apprenticeship system, which was broken off short by the years of the war, can be applied to-day, and a very serious responsibility rests upon those working men who are obstinately refusing to allow their fellows to work in the trades to which they might have belonged had they not fought for their country. The Government is asking the Unions to relax their rules, and the small success with which this request has been met is one of the most important factors in the problem.

Difficulties, however, in finding work for the ex-soldiers and other unemployed persons do not only come from the Labour side. Employers at the present moment are not in a position to carry over their industries during times of depression. The margin of profits, cut off as it is by the high rate of taxation, is not now enough to allow for any periods of depression, and it is inevitable at the present day that the shortage of material or shortage of transport reacts immediately upon the unemployment figures. Still more so is this the case when all the industries of the country are shaken to their foundations by the existing coal strike and the threat of the complete breakdown of transport and communications. Only the most prosperous and long established businesses can survive such difficulties, and on all hands we see small concerns breaking up and caution taking the place of enterprise and development. Never in the industrial history of this country has there been so serious a time. Mr. Lloyd George calls upon the patriotism and generosity of all sections of the community; he calls for the co-operation of employers and employed; for the vigilance of local authorities, the sympathy of Trade Unions and the money of employers. And unless the whole public responds, not only a winter of unemployment but financial ruin stares us in the face. This is not the time to talk of theories; it is the time for practical help, and unless the working people and the employing people both realise this fact, the coming winter will be appalling.

The only way, then, to help in this matter is to co-operate with the Government plan. Let every employer keep on every man and woman that he can. Let everyone who can help others to work—whether he be a Trade Unionist or even a Bolshevik—let him do it. Let every local authority realise its responsibility, and let us make the Government know that the whole people will unite to carry us through our resettlement time. P. M.

THE CHILDREN OF GERMANY.

By H. C. SHAWCROSS.

I have lately returned from a visit to Germany, and the terrible sufferings of the children there are still very fresh in my mind. These sufferings are on so vast a scale, and have already endured so long, that it is useless to hope that they can be entirely relieved, or their effects permanently eradicated; but it is equally certain that we can do a great deal to alleviate them, and one of the chief reasons why so little has already been done is, I am persuaded, because the facts are so imperfectly realised. The women of England are second to none in their love and understanding of children, and they cannot hear with unconcern of the desperate plight of so many thousands of little ones, innocent as they are.

In Heidelberg I spoke to Dr. Rohrhorst, Director of Education, who has given his best energies to the welfare of the poor children of the district, and his appeal was a very moving one. He implored us to do what we could to save the children; they, he said, are the worst sufferers, and it is to them that life means most. "To us who have lived through the last fearful years it matters little when we are called away; indeed, we shall welcome the day when our task is ended; but the children, handicapped as they are, with years of suffering and privation before them, what is to be their fate? As long as they live they will bear the marks of these terrible days, and be unwilling witnesses of the folly and callousness which have brought them to pass. We were told that the peace was to end war and the loss of life; but when you look at these children's faces, you feel that the war is still raging."

And indeed, as one examined these wan, pathetic faces, one could not but feel that the peace, of which after eighteen months this was in great measure the outcome, was proving almost as effective an instrument of destruction as war. We are perhaps too apt to forget that the privations of the war by no means ceased with the signing of the armistice. The prolongation of the blockade by the Allies has carried on the devastating effects of the four years of war, and has reduced a great part of the population to a condition of permanent weakness. Most heavily, of course, it has told on the aged and the children. In older people it has so reduced the resisting power as to render existence a misery; they feel doubly the harassing ailments of age, and often die of what are usually considered trifling complaints. The small comforts which mean so much to those in advanced years are inevitably denied them. Its effects on the children you read in their stunted forms, their listless and apathetic demeanour, in the absence of all the eager and animated movements of childhood, the shouting and laughter, and in the set and serious expression on their countenances. Then there are grave signs of physical deterioration; many children cannot retain the nourishing food which they are sometimes lucky enough to get; many, if they chance to fall, have not the strength to lift themselves up again. Yet the worst of the story is only revealed under medical examination, which too often discloses the presence or near danger of formidable ills, of distorted limbs and distended stomachs, ulcers, and the itch; of dysentery, tuberculosis and syphilitic conditions.

At the daily dinners provided for children in Frankfurt by the American Society of Friends, I spoke to some of the parents. One mother, who brought four children, assured me that this dinner, consisting of a few platefuls of nourishing soup, was the only substantial (?) meal her children had. Breakfast was a cup of coffee substitute (a dark liquid tasting of burnt beans), with slices of black bread made of rye and maize. For supper, if circumstances permitted, she prepared a hot vegetable soup made of spinach or dandelion boiled in water. For these children there is no margarine or butter, no lard, practically no meat, and (if they are over five years of age) no milk. As for other commodities, the prices below will show how impossible it is for the majority of families to partake of them in anything like sufficient quantities.

Milk 1s. 8d. a qt.
Oatmeal 4s. 6d. a lb.
Lentils 6s. 6d. a lb.
Condensed milk 11s. 6d. a lb.
Beans 3s. 9d. a lb.
Bread 4s. a lb. (3½ lbs. per head per week).
Cocoa 3os. a lb.
Potatoes 2s. a lb.

Rice 8s. a lb.
Sultanas 28s. a lb.
Soap (small piece) 4s. 6d. a lb.
Bean or barley coffee 9s. 6d. a lb.

These prices vary in different districts and from week to week, but the above may be taken as fairly representative. Wages, of course, have risen also, but whereas they are only three times what they were before the war, the cost of living is twelve times as great. It is estimated that whereas 2,000 calories should be consumed daily by each individual to keep him in health, the average person in Germany consumes only 1,200.

The impression of comparative plenty which some visitors to Germany carry away with them, and spread in their own country, are of course quite misleading. In the larger hotels sufficient food, and food of a good quality, can be obtained, but it is only procured by illicit means, and sold at prices which are quite beyond the reach of all save the millionaire and foreigners who profit by the abnormal state of the exchange. To tax the millionaire seems at first sight the natural remedy; but he is probably already as highly taxed as is compatible with political stability.

And other causes add to the susceptibility to illness. The lack of soap and its prohibitive price make cleanliness impossible; the lack of garments, especially of underwear, does the same. For the poor it is practically out of the question to purchase clothing; a suit of clothes costs from £30 to £100, stockings 23s. a pair, babies' cotton vests 8s., and handkerchiefs 2s. Boots are absolute luxuries, and it is a common thing to see children, even of the better class, going about bare-footed, a practice which often leads to flat-foot. In the streets you may see hawkers selling a kind of glue, which is used for holding old shoes together. All these conditions tend to bodily dirtiness; dirt in its turn breeds vermin, and vermin are the carriers of disease. Should epidemics come, they must thus spread rapidly among the enfeebled population, and cannot be confined within the borders of Germany.

However persistently we may contend that Germany has brought her troubles upon herself, this excuse for inaction cannot be extended to the children. For who can maintain that they too are righteously punished, or that we are justified in watching their sufferings without putting out a hand to relieve them? In point of fact, our passive attitude is too often rooted in carelessness or indifference. The protracted horrors of the war have deadened our imaginations and blunted our sympathies; the long campaign of hate propaganda has clouded our judgments and alienated our hearts. To counteract this evil influence it is necessary to awaken once more the spirit of generosity and humanity, to stir our slumbering imaginations by bringing the facts as near as possible, and (since the motive of self-interest cannot be ignored) to emphasise as strongly as we may the danger to Europe and ourselves of leaving this centre of misery and corruption in our midst.

One thing is necessary above all. Only the sympathy which comes with a change of heart can raise the fallen world again and bind its members in mutual toleration and goodwill. And the first earnest of this change will be that the peoples of the allied nations call for a revision of the crippling terms of the treaty, which violate every profession which our rulers made and which their followers believed.

When, six years ago, Germany ignored her treaty obligations and invaded Belgium, a storm of indignation broke forth throughout the world. The wrongfulness of this deed has been acknowledged by the Germans, both in their own country and publicly (as by their Church in an International Congress, and at the second International Congress lately held at Geneva), and they have repudiated the authors of the crime. Are we to wait till the voice of general and indignant protest is heard again, at the breaking of another promise, and the maltreatment of those to whom it was made?

Let us act before it is too late. Let the men and women of England determine that this condition of things shall endure no longer, and that Government shall apply the only remedy which can permanently avail. But, while bringing pressure to bear upon Government, let them also do all they are able by personal and private effort to make life tolerable to this stricken people, to kindle some slight ray of hope in their hearts, and so help to avert an irremediable calamity.

THE CHANGING WORLD OF EDUCATION.

In no department of life are movements of change at present more marked than in education; and in scarcely any other can such movements be of so much interest to women. On the whole, the tendency of the experiments now being made in every part of the world is towards replacing command and inhibition by freedom, spontaneity, and self-government. To some observers these experiments seem to offer the greatest possible promise for the world's future; to others they appear deplorable examples of "soft pedagogy." Here, as always, the only sure plan is to read, examine, ponder, and judge for oneself.

AN INTERNATIONAL VIEW OF ADULT EDUCATION.

By A. MANSBRIDGE.

It was suggested not long since that there can be no adult education without a good foundation of school education; but that is a fallacy, because every adult must of necessity think and reach out for knowledge. It is the duty of the community in which he lives to endeavour to see that his efforts are directed towards objectives which will enrich and increase the power of his personality.

There is little doubt that the law of diversity of gifts existing among individuals also obtains among nations. Those who desire unity in the world are impressed by the need that every nation should have opportunity to develop its power to the fullest extent and, by so doing, bring its gifts into the common treasure house of humanity.

The necessity of every race being encouraged to develop its gifts in the interests of its own existence having once been admitted, the next step is to concentrate upon those aspects of education with which the expert may reasonably be concerned, for example, the provision of study circles, lectures, classes, libraries, and the rest.

The present contribution of England to this aspect of the question largely consists in its discovery that the highest possible results depend upon co-operation between the scholar and the worker. The most notable example of such co-operation is to be found in the Workers' Educational Association, where scholars as such and working people as such have fused their spirit and also their knowledge—of books on the one hand and of life and practice on the other. To instance only one result of this fusion, the study of social science has taken on a new aspect in the Universities themselves. Before the success of these experiments it was held impossible to get universities and trade unions to work together, but they frequently do so in English education to-day.

Again, the force of English adult education has been manifestly spiritual. This was what struck observers from Germany before the war. The W.E.A. seemed to them to be religious in the best sense of the word, and its members were a brotherhood secure in fellowship.

If the contributions which each nation makes to adult education are of importance to the rest, it becomes urgently necessary to establish definite means of securing co-operation of one with the other. This consideration led to the formation of the World Association for Adult Education (13, John Street, Adelphi, W.C.2), which in its first year enrolled members representing twenty-six different countries and in its second year is proceeding deliberately and steadily towards provision for joint action. The ideal of the World Association was well expressed at the outset by Professor Zimmern in the following words:—

"The purpose of the World Association for Adult Education is to dispel the melancholy belief that grown men and women have nothing left to learn, and to diffuse throughout all countries, and in every section of society, the sense of wonder and curiosity and the gift of mutual sympathy and companionship which adds so much to the meaning of life."

"It pursues this purpose by seeking to establish contact between all those, whoever and wherever they be, who hold fast to the belief that the true purpose of education, for young and old, is the understanding and enjoyment of life, and that the uneducated man is not he who cannot read or write or count or spell, but he who walks unseeing and unhearing, unaccompanied and unhappy, through the busy streets and glorious open spaces of life's infinite pilgrimage."

The Council is gradually being enlarged in order to make it representative of the nations of the world. The President of the Association is Dr. T. G. Masaryk, President of Czecho-Slovakia. In 1923, it is hoped, with the co-operation of the League of Nations, to hold the first great International Conference at Geneva.

In addition to disseminating interest about education

through the central bureau, the Association published quarterly bulletins, which at present have dealt with work in France, Norway, Spain, &c.

Thanks to the Association, many who have common beliefs in different countries are conscious of friendly co-operation one with another and this in itself is a step towards the right development of the world.

There are those who hold that the most fruitful basis for world co-operation lies in adult education. Upon this one thing the best people in every nation will find complete unity. It expresses the need of every person as he develops. In particular the World Association has found this to be true—that its message has been understood by men of all countries.

It is ready to help any other effort of like kind and has no desire to place any limits upon the aspirations of those who participate in its work. It stands for a spiritual conception of adult education in the broadest sense of the word. If there be any who doubt the international characteristics of adult education, let them for a moment think of the great teachers of the world who represent no one nationality but minister to the needs of all people at all time.

Finally, internationalism is not something superimposed upon nationalism. It is a deeper and more fundamental force, knitting the nations and peoples of the world together in a closer fellowship through the growing knowledge of kindred tasks and kindred ideals.

THE WORKING WOMEN'S COLLEGE OF THE Y.W.C.A.

By CLEMENTINA BLACK.

The impression left by a visit to the Working Women's College of the Young Women's Christian Association at Beckenham is of a little community thoroughly alive. Its home is a cheerful, oldish house, with plenty of space; its ample garden is cheerful and not too formal; its students look alert, happy, and not at all scholastic. In short, one breathes the atmosphere of a place where people come to learn—so different from that of a place to which people are sent to learn.

At present there are thirteen students, varying in age from eighteen to five-and-thirty, and they learn, under various headings:—

- To see the world around them—which so many of us wander through unseeing;
- To understand what people have done, are doing, and are;
- To discover and express the thoughts of their own minds. Thus they accumulate materials for perceiving, and some of them certainly come to perceive, where and how these various forms of life are linked into one comprehensive whole. It is difficult to imagine any position in which a woman would not be better, happier, and more useful for having passed through such a course.

Neither examinations nor technical training form part of it, although some students prepare for special examinations and some have in view particular employments for which they are consciously making themselves ready.

The fee, generally defrayed by something in the nature of a scholarship, is £80 a year, and not only board, lodging, and tuition, but also laundry and stationery—no trifling item nowadays—are provided. Some part of the housework is done by the students, but this, carefully planned and divided, is evidently no real burden, and plenty of time is free for private study, so necessary to adult learners. Of course the fees do not cover the expenses. What the College really needs is endowment by wealthy well-wishers; and there are not many ways in which money could be spent with so full an assurance of doing nothing but good.

EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN.

Employment of children in the United Kingdom is regulated by the various Factory Acts, the Employment of Children Act, the Prevention of Cruelty to Children Act, the Education Act of 1918, and the bye-laws which have been or shall be made by local authorities under these Acts. Regulations have differed very much in different parts of the country, and even when the most recent Education Act comes into force next year, this want of uniformity will still exist. But in several respects limitations formerly enforced only by the most enlightened authorities will become universal. No child under twelve years of age will be employed in wage-earning. No child will be employed for more than one hour before nine o'clock on a school-day, and if employed during this morning hour he shall not work more than one hour in the afternoon. All half-time employment of children in factories will be abolished, and children of an age to attend continuation schools must be given not only free time for this purpose, but a period of not more than two hours daily during working-hours for purposes of recreation or rest. The regulations for the employment of children will then be applicable to boys and girls between twelve and fourteen. Under that age they will be debarred from wage-earning employment either on school-days or holidays, and after fourteen they are considered to be "young persons."

Public attention has been directed to this question during the last few days by the Home Office enquiry on the proposed bye-laws which have been submitted by the London County Council for confirmation. These bye-laws, though in some respects very drastic, do not go anything like so far in prohibiting child-labour as is possible under the Acts. For example, instead of forbidding the employment of a child before the closing of school on any school-day, as set out in the Education Act, they permit the delivery of newspapers or performance of light domestic work between 7 and 8, and an hour's work in the evening between 5.30 and 6.30. Instead of forbidding all Sunday labour (as was done by Leeds in 1912) the L.C.C. nominally permits it between the hours of 8 and 10, but expressly excludes from the permission all occupations now carried on by children within those hours. This curious form of prohibition is likely to be challenged by the Home Office, when the L.C.C. may either have the courage of its convictions and explicitly forbid all wage-earning or exclude from its list of forbidden employments one of the less important. The effect of its example on other authorities will be more valuable if it discards all subterfuge.

On the question of work on Saturday the Education Act is silent, but the L.C.C. provides for its limitation to three hours between 9 a.m. and mid-day, except for the delivery of newspapers and light household work, occupations allowed between 7 and 8 a.m. The intention is to afford leisure for children to join in school games, but it is said in some districts that these take place before 12, and that where this is the case, an hour's work in the late afternoon would better attain the desired object. At the present time child labour on Saturdays is practically unlimited, and even restrictive bye-laws allowed eight, ten, or twelve hours work on a school holiday, without excluding Saturdays during term-time. One must hope that the Home Office will in future refuse to sanction such schemes.

The L.C.C. proposes to carry out the regulation that child labour shall be permitted only if it is not prejudicial to health or physical development, nor calculated to prevent benefit from education by requiring a certificate from its medical officer before it gives a work certificate to any school child. The Education Act expressly allows evidence of injury to be presented by other persons than the medical officer, a provision which may be very useful.

What scope is still left for over-employment of school children? Unhappily, a very wide one. It will still be possible for children to work during their holidays a twelve-hour day at industrial work carried on elsewhere than in a factory. And no attempt is made to attack the perhaps insoluble problem of the little girl who drudges at home during all the hours of daylight when she is out of school, and often far into the night. Acts of Parliament and bye-laws, far-sighted and judicious though they may be, cannot cover the whole ground. The employer, the parent, the social reformer, still retain their individual responsibility. No one can even pretend to think that acts or bye-laws are the last word in reason or justice or that to observe them is to fulfil the whole duty of a citizen.

HOW SHALL SHE LIVE?

By E. A. BROWNING.

The housing of the self-dependent woman worker is a problem which is urgently crying out for consideration at the present moment.

It was the lot of one woman quite recently to have to find herself a place to live in. She began by replying to advertisements which offered rooms or part of a flat; these replies of hers brought back no response. Evidently the advertiser was overwhelmed by applicants. She then tried residential clubs advertising accommodation at reasonable terms—here she was met with the one reply from them all, "No vacant rooms at present. Shall we put your name on our waiting list?" As to figure on a waiting list in no way met her urgent need for house and home, she rejoiced to hear that a large hostel had recently been opened for demobilised Service women officers, and she hurried to take a room there. Joy—a room was available. A bedroom in another house some streets away, with use of the hostel common rooms—very uncomfortable—still, what did that signify! "But," queried the proprietress, turning a searching gaze on the weary applicant, "are you over forty—we take no one over forty!"

No need to rehearse this home seeker's other depressing experiences; finally she got a gloomy room for "£1 a week and no attendance, and cook your own meals on a gas-ring, if you want any." She is—she supposes—grateful for a roof over her head, but the question forces itself daily upon her, "Does such a 'home' present the possibilities of a life worth working for?"

Hundreds of working women are similarly placed to-day, specially those who are no longer in their youth, as hostels count youth. It is true that in the general shortage of houses thrust on us owing to the war and other causes, the condition of the woman worker in this respect is not to be wondered at; yet in pre-war days, even when women workers were not as numerous as they are now, the accommodation available was tight enough.

Private enterprise and charitable enterprise did a great deal in the way of providing hostels, but one big authority which should have been the first to extend hospitality to the women who were working within her borders, and presumably for her good, neglected these workers entirely—the London County Council. Three big hostels or homes were built by the L.C.C. for the convenience and comfort of men who had no homes. There is one in Kingsway—Bruce House—and to all appearance it provides admirable accommodation for 750 men. There are good cubicles and bedrooms, excellent arrangements for men to cook their own meals (the steak and onions and tomatoes being fried on the hot-plate would make anyone feel hungry), or to buy them ready cooked; generously fitted up lavatories, where footbaths were much appreciated and always available; well-equipped bathrooms, a laundry which enabled sheets and blankets to be kept in good condition; a flat roof furnished with garden seats—a good laying place for a summer evening—all these amenities go to the making of a hostel which would cater for the needs of women as well as men. But no L.C.C. hostels have been built for women.

Certainly Bruce House would be rough in many ways for some of the women who can only afford the prices paid there—7s. weekly for a cubicle; but it is quite possible there are women workers who need just such accommodation as could be supplied in such a hostel. Were this class provided for by the L.C.C., private enterprise would be relieved of one arduous kind of undertaking. And, again, there is no doubt that once a duty in this respect was admitted, the L.C.C. could establish hostels on a smaller scale that would be suitable for an enormous class of women workers, and hostels that could be run without loss. All club and hostel superintendents have the same story—how those women to whom they can offer nothing better than a place on the waiting list, "tell pitiable tales of weary searching for accommodation of any sort, especially where they can get an evening meal."

It ought not to be difficult to persuade the L.C.C. of their responsibility in respect of housing facilities for the self-dependent woman worker.

THE MENTAL AFTER-CARE ASSOCIATION.

Of all the ills to which the flesh is heir, it would probably be safe to conclude that none are more dreaded by the average man or woman than those which are connected with diseases of the brain. And this dread is experienced, not by the patient alone, but by his relations and friends also.

The origin of this state of affairs may be traced to ignorance in the past, when the peculiar or strange symptoms exhibited by those suffering from mental sicknesses were taken as evidence that the unfortunate sufferer was under the direct influence of the Evil One or his confederates—the practitioner of Black Magic, or the Witch Doctor.

That an almost unreasonable dread in this connection still haunts the minds of sensible people to-day is largely due to lack of enlightenment on the subject, for the majority of those belonging to the lower middle or working classes are on such matters quite uneducated. They still incline to the belief that insanity carries with it a stigma of disgrace. The public at large do not realise that mental disorder is so largely the result of bodily conditions; that there are often a combination of physical causes which may lead to, or be associated with, mental disturbance; so that in the early stages of the ill-health the cure or removal of one of the physical causes may arrest the development of actual mental disorder. In cases of the hysterical, neurasthenic and hypochondriac type developing mental fears and obsessions, the treatment of the mental specialist is often remarkably successful when the patient has obtained a period of rest—sudden recoveries appearing almost miraculous. In very many cases rest is necessary to confirm the recovery and to prevent relapse. To provide this aid is one of the objects of the Mental After-Care Association, the range of whose activities forms the subject of the present article.

A very great affliction all diseases of the mind undoubtedly are, but whether the sufferer is, in all cases, more to be pitied than the victim of other prevalent social or racial diseases is, perhaps, an open question. If it were more generally recognised that the inmate of a mental hospital, like the patient in any other special hospital, is there in order to obtain the treatment applicable to his case, and oftentimes may reasonably be expected to recover and to resume his place in society, much unnecessary anxiety and useless misery would be avoided.

But the fact remains that, be the causes what they may, the relations or guardians of an insane person do frequently find themselves in a quandary. The charges in nearly all private mental homes, or hospitals, are prohibitive to those who possess but a moderate income. And so it sometimes happens that patients whose condition is not so acute as to render incarceration in a public institution imperative are perforce obliged to enter them, because their friends are unable, or unsuited, to look after them at home, and there is no other place where they can be received at a reasonable charge. And who that has experienced it can ever forget the agony of hearing the key turn in the lock as one went away, leaving a relation or a friend in the charge of a public authority? It is simply heartbreaking, and only too often the door of Hope is barred at the same time.

But suppose the patient, as an ever-increasing number do, to improve under the treatment received at such an institution, many of which are excellent (and in the above remarks no disparagement is intended—they are made merely from the point of view of the sufferer and his friends), and, in due course, to be

discharged as cured. The day arrives on which notice is received in the home of the middle-class or poor person, that "so-and-so" is fit to leave the institution and must be removed on a certain date. However unsuitable the house, its accommodation, or its surroundings, there is no choice, so far as the parents or guardians are aware, but to bring the absentee once more into the family circle. The result is often a retarded convalescence, or a second attack of illness; for it is generally admitted that, however desirous to help one's "own people" may be, they are usually the last on whom should devolve the task of looking after a case of mental or nerve breakdown.

That the need of help and advice were often urgently needed in cases of this kind, was recognised as long ago as 1879, when a society in aid was founded by the late Rev. H. Hawkins, sometime chaplain to the Sussex County and London County Asylums. It commenced mental work as the Mental After-Care Association in 1886, under the Presidency of the first Earl of Shaftesbury, and since that time has rendered continuous assistance to poor persons discharged from mental hospitals. But, like so many associations of a kindred nature, its rôle has been to work and not to talk, and, therefore, the scope and the far-reaching influence of the work carried on by the Association are but little known to the general public, many of whom are ignorant even of its existence.

The primary object of the Association is to "facilitate the re-admission into social life of poor persons discharged recovered, or on probation, from mental hospitals."

1. By friendly visits, sympathy and advice, and by keeping in touch with them so long as they need help in any way.
2. By boarding them out for a few weeks in the country, under proper care.
3. By placing them in various institutions in London or other large towns until work can be found.
4. By finding them suitable employment.
5. By giving grants, in kind or in money, towards maintenance while seeking work, and by redeeming or procuring tools when work is found.
6. By residence in cottage homes belonging to the Association.

The number of persons discharged annually from mental hospitals is about 6,000. Of these a large proportion are not well off—many are very poor, while scarcely one is capable of finding suitable employment for his or herself. An attempt is usually made to conceal the fact of the mental disorder, and a situation, if found, is generally lost should this become known. The Association always informs employers of this disability, but is generally able to find suitable work on favourable terms. Great care is taken in the investigation of each case before it is brought to the consideration of the Council. This involves much correspondence and many visits to all parts of the country, but that the expense and trouble are well worth while are evidenced by the fact that the situations found are often kept for many years, and those who have received assistance frequently volunteer to pay back as much as they can afford of the money that has been expended on their behalf. When work is found the kindly interest continues, and many a relapse is probably prevented by the personal interest of the staff through sympathy, guidance, and friendly advice in difficulties and troubles. During 1919, applications on behalf of 736 persons were received and dealt with. In 1915 the number was 379—so it is easy to see that the work and usefulness of the Association are increasing with rapid strides. Local branches have been formed in

many districts, and it is hoped that many others may be established in the near future.

The help afforded before the discharge of patients from mental hospitals is an important function of the Association. Enquiries and reports on the suitability of the home conditions are made, and supervision is given during the period on trial. Suitable cases are received into one of the Cottage Homes, which play such a splendid part in the work of the Mental After-Care Association. There are twelve of these where four guests are received at a time by a "friendly" hostess. The surroundings are home-like, the individual care and attention are greatly appreciated, and the average of twenty-five guests at a time is often exceeded.

Until recently the Association, which is the only one engaged in this special branch of social service, was dependent entirely on voluntary subscriptions. The Board of Control has officially recognised its value and generously supported it, and the L.C.C. Asylums Board has authorised the sub-committees of mental hospitals to make money allowances (under Section 283, Lunacy Act) to any patient who is allowed to be absent on trial in the care of the Mental Care Association; and in the case of those discharged recovered, who are placed under its supervision, it suggests that grants in aid from the Queen Adelaide Fund might be given approximate to the expense incurred in connection with the care of the patient. Such help, though exceedingly welcome, is but a drop in the ocean, and funds are urgently needed, for the work grows daily, and the present staff will not always be sufficient to cope with it.

During and since the war valuable work has been done amongst air-raid and shell-shock patients, and, believing that prevention is better than cure, the Association carries on a great deal of preventive work amongst the out-patients at the mental departments of several large general hospitals—Guy's, St. Thomas's, and St. Bartholomew's, to wit. Many of these persons have never been certified, and owing to the timely help they receive at the crucial moment, it may never be necessary for them to be so. After treatment many are in need of convalescence in a home, under a competent matron, and this the Association is able to provide for them.

Mental specialists give their services free in any case requiring their help, and the names of many eminent men in this branch of the profession are to be found on the list of Vice-Presidents or Members of the Council.

Miss Vickers, the Organising Secretary (to whose untiring efforts the success of the Mental After-Care Association is largely due), will, on behalf of the Council, give advice as to the formation of a local branch in any suitable district. To her, at Church House, Dean's Yard, Westminster, contributions may be sent, and from her further particulars and information of the work of the Association be obtained.

M. E. B.

DIARY OF WORK.

By SIR LEO CHIOZZA MONEY.

THE WELCOME FALL IN PRICES.

The fall in prices will continue for some considerable but uncertain time yet. The boom was unprecedented in degree, but familiar enough in kind. The shopkeepers who declared that never, never would prices fall, merely uttered what they desired, in defiance of economic history. They will now find themselves the holders of depreciating stocks. The slump is not a matter for sorrow. The profiteers have their ill-gotten gains to carry them through the difficulty which they themselves helped to make. Here and there undeserved misfortune will be encountered, the penalty of an obsolete commercial system which has made no advance whatever in six hundred years.

EXCESS PROFITS DUTY AND THE SLUMP.

The commercial gentlemen are using the fall as a stick with which to beat Mr. Austen Chamberlain. What nonsense it is to suggest that the Excess Profits Duty has caused the trade slump. Prices began to fall in America before the slump began here, and the fall in America has been greater than here. Ford has marked down his cars to pre-war rates. As Mr. Chamberlain's taxes do not run in the States our commercial magnates must try again. Why not take a student's course of economics or a little reading of industrial history? There was a big slump after the price boom of the Franco-German war. Mr. Austen Chamberlain had not then, I fancy, been born.

WOMEN GOVERNMENT CLERKS.

The senseless newspaper press attacks on Government offices have had a melancholy result for many women workers discharged by the State. They are sometimes insulted and turned away by commercial employers because they last worked in Government Departments. The other day, a poor girl seeking employment was bullied by a business cad before his entire staff and shown the door. "I wonder you have the cheek to come here," he said. "This is a house of business where they work, not a Government Department where they drink tea all day." The real truth is, of course, that Civil Servants work much more continuously and conscientiously than business men. I have known both spheres of work intimately for many years, and speak with knowledge.

THE WAY TO PLENTY OF HOUSES.

If the Government were in earnest about houses and not afraid of trusts it would deal with houses in peace as it dealt with shells in the war. It would commandeer all brick works, cement works, suitable iron foundries, timber yards, &c., just as it commandeered machinery, plant, and materials for shell-making. Thus it could build as many houses as it pleased in double quick time in concert with the building workers organised locally in guilds. It is, of course, much easier to build houses than to make munitions, and the success of munition-making is an illuminating contrast to the failure of house-building. Let us be fair. I am quite sure that Dr. Addison does his best, and that he is in deadly earnest, but he has not the powers, as Minister of Health, which he possessed when Minister of Munitions.

THE LIBELLING OF WORKMEN.

Those who believe that British workmen are the idlers and wasters they are usually represented to be by middle-class writers, should walk down Oxford Street and take observation of the good, clever, and rapid work there being accomplished in the re-making of the roadway. A curious social contrast is offered by the workers, the shops, and the shoppers. That so much arduous and honest labour should never be rewarded by any of the goods in the adjacent shops! That the cream of work should be for those who never work! That our press should publish sneering paragraphs whenever it hears of a worker buying anything worth having! How long?

THE ARTIST AND THE SOAP.

Mr. Augustus John, who paints, is cross with Lord Leverhulme, who makes soap. Mr. John painted his conception of the soap magnate, and the soap magnate, apparently not relishing his counterfeit presentment, cut the head off the offending canvas and returned the remains to the painter. It is a pretty quarrel, and it has two sides to it. My sympathy would be with the painter, save for the all-important fact that he spent his genius upon the soap-magnate. Why not have painted one of the jolly soap-girls, or an old woman in the act of paying tribute to the soap-trust? In that case a later generation, if not this one, would have been better pleased with Mr. Augustus John. After all, if great artists accept commissions from soap-works they must expect certain consequences.

Soap, by the way, is very easily and cheaply made. Why not make it for ourselves? This would solve the difficulty of Mr. John.

THE EMANCIPATION OF INÉ.

By GRACE JAMES.

She was called Iné—which, if I should say it in English, is green rice, in the ear. But the five words have not the magic of the one, nor is it possible, thus, by substitute, to convey the exactly desired sensation of pale grace and fruitfulness combined which makes the exquisite in the Japanese woman's name. Iné, fresh as a child, slender as a maiden, and as full of mysterious promise.

She was born of gentle parents, and the ancestors to whom she prayed her earliest prattling prayers, were all of noble samurai blood, and the line of them extended very far back indeed. As soon as she could speak, Iné was taught to lisp their names. But she did not call them by those that they had borne in their lives—names of warriors, names of poets, names of renowned ladies. She spoke to them by the new names, given to them after death, and every morning, she liked to watch her grandmother, who served the food of the dead in tiny lacquer vessels. But in the evening, the dainties lay untouched. So Iné said: "Strange it is, but the August Ones are not very hungry . . ." And the grandmother told her: "The Blessed Ones do not eat as we do, biting with teeth and swallowing, only with the rising vapours, from the dishes, are the Gods nourished." And other things—oh, many other things—the grandmother told Iné of the ancestors, and of the Gods and heroes, and of the Sun's August Child, the Emperor, and she taught Iné to dance after the ancient manner of Yamato's daughters.

Now once, in the cold winter time, the frost touched Iné's small foot by the heel, and the pain of it burnt, so that the child touched the place and cried. Then the grandmother caused her to be dressed in a robe of scarlet and gold, embroidered on the breast and on the sleeves with the sacred pine tree; and her cheeks and her neck and her forehead were made white, and there was *beni*² painted upon her lips, and the little wounded foot was encased in a *tabi*³ of white silk. And three serving maids of the household took each of them a *samisen*⁴, and a *bira*⁵, and a drum, and made music. And Iné danced before her father's guests, and at the end, the red blood from her heel soaked through the silken *tabi*, and stained the white mats, but she said nothing. And the grandmother said it was befitting a samurai's daughter. . . . And that spring, the grandmother died. And afterwards, Iné was seven years old.

Now was the time of the parting ways. Many wise people thought that a change should come. And they said: "Let us have the teaching—the new teaching and wisdom from the West. We are tired of the old wisdom of the Gods."

And Iné's father and mother went to travel in strange countries, and Iné they brought to Tokio to live with English people, and to go to a school where there were English teachers and English children.

I saw Iné many times at the house of the good missionary where she lived, and at the school where she went every day. The first time she was strange, in a queer little print frock, and newly crimped and ribboned hair. She sat shrinking at the missionary's table, among his hearty boisterous boys and girls, sipping milk and water delicately, and producing a slip of white paper for a handkerchief. She smiled patiently, almost all the time I was there, but the Japanese nurse told me that she cried at night.

A week later a highly coloured square of cotton, pinned to her pinafore had taken the place of the white paper, and she was holding her own with great determination in the division of a round ice cake. She finally sucked the sugar from her allotted portion with a sigh of joy, very expressive, but something lacking in the restraint to be expected from a samurai's daughter.

It was not long before Iné went to school on a bicycle, accompanied by the missionary's scapegrace boys, a noisy, merry crew. At school she soon wrote better, read better, did her sums more quickly, and tied her hair ribbon more smartly than the Western children. She dominated them, she took the lead and directed the games, she became more English than the little exiles her companions. Her voice, losing its curiously dreamy intonation, took on a high, clear, delicately clipping accent, which could be heard from end to end of the playground, and distinguished, when she sang nursery rhymes with the others, or when she sang hymns, as she did very heartily, in the Sunday school. She wore smocked frocks and buttoned boots, she liked cheese to eat, and when she was older she had a confession album and a mandolin.

One day she came to church dressed all in white, looking very solemn, and, after the service, the Bishop himself baptised her.

And I wondered. . . .

And my mind misgave me for Iné. The missionary's eldest son left Oxford and came to Tokio to help his father in the conversion of the heathen. He was a fine, fair, well set up young fellow, with a case full of silver cups, the reward of prowess by field and river, and a high-handed determination anent the errors of *Shinto* and Buddhism.

I saw them, on an evening, Iné and the boy, in the compound near the missionary's garden, walking through the long and flowering grass. Their backs were towards me, and their faces looked to the setting sun. On they walked, the two of them, and heeded nothing. . . . On they walked, through the long and flowering grass.

When she was seventeen Iné's father and mother took her home. They lived in a *Yashiki*⁶ outside Tokio, a place of soft mats, and smooth polished woods, subdued tints and whispering voices, with a garden of ancient pine trees and a high bamboo fence.

I was leaving Tokio then for some time, and Iné came to say good-bye to me, very smiling, in a Paris hat and many frills, her hair dressed in what I believe is technically known as a door knocker plait, decorated with enormous bows.

I said: "Iné, are you going to be a Japanese girl now, or an English girl?"

Then she was grave for a moment and said slowly: "I cannot tell."

A year later, when I returned to Tokio, someone said: "Do you know, Iné is married? . . . Oh yes, to a young Count. The whole affair was in the strictest Japanese style—except the wedding dress, by the way. . . . Little Miss Iné would have her chiffons from Paris, otherwise, she had not much to say in the matter, poor child, it was all arranged by parents and go-betweens, in the usual manner. Count G— is received into the family as adopted heir, they all live together at the *Yashiki*. . . ."

Iné came to see me. Her kimono was of fine crepe, a faint moonlight grey, lined with green silk, like a young bamboo shoot. Her hair was dressed with corals and with tortoise shell, her face was whitened, there was *beni* painted upon her lips and she smiled, the Japanese smile of patience and restraint. Behind her was a serving maid, bearing a babe, unimaginably small—Iné's daughter.

The visit, I found, was purely of ceremony. Iné enquired after my honourable health and my august household. She knelt upon the thick mats, and bowed herself between each phrase. She had brought her unworthy child. Would I excuse her foolishness? Hearing of my wished for return, she had hastened to greet me, and to offer an absurd gift, an *inro*⁷ of gold lacquer, and a branch of cherry, in flower.

She looked pathetically slender in her trailing embroidered robes, and *obi* of stiff brocade. The work of art that was her hair seemed to weigh her down, and, in walking, she slightly dragged her sandalled feet. "*Sayonara*⁸. . ." she whispered at the door, and two tears were in her eyes, which, daughter of samurai, and wife of samurai, she might never shed.

The cherry blossoms faded and the iris and the lotus, and the flower that is called the glory of the morning, and the chrysanthemum bloomed, and passed away; and always when I made a pilgrimage to the *Yashiki*, said the kneeling maid, at the door: "*Okusama skoshi bioki*. . ." (The lady is a little unwell.) And I never saw Iné. Only, when the cherry blossoms came again, her second baby was born. Then Iné died. And all her maidens mourned round her bier of flowers. She lay clothed from chin to feet in shimmering white, her wedding dress—the young Count, her husband, looking on her face, had so ordered it. Thus they bore her, housed in pure white wood, and carried shoulder high, chanted by priests, guarded by immemorial emblems and pillars of flowers, to the tomb of her ancestors, the samurai. And one of her maidens carried to the grave a cage of white doves, where she broke the bars. And the birds spread their wings and flew away.

¹ An honourable rank, under the old régime. ² The ancient name for Japan. ³ A red and gold salve, for the lips. ⁴ The white socks worn by Japanese. ⁵ A musical instrument. ⁶ A musical instrument, somewhat of the banjo shape. ⁷ House belonging to people of rank. ⁸ A small medicine cabinet, often of value. ⁹ Good-bye.

DRAMA.

"Priscilla and the Profligate" at the Duke of York's.

The title of this play illustrates the danger of alliteration. The writer having decided to call her heroine Priscilla, apparently looked round for another word beginning with "p." She might have said "parliament," "pork pie," "pigs," or "prostitute," but for some reason she chose "profligate." It makes a good title. So would any of the others. It is true that there are none of these things in the play. But neither is there a profligate.

The hero of the play is a "most particularly pure young man"—indeed, he is almost too pure for Priscilla. His purity would have brought them both to grief if Priscilla had not known how to deal with it. Bensley Stuart Gore had pursued an actress with honourable offers of marriage for two years. The wedding-day was fixed, when at the last moment she threw him over and married an old and repulsive millionaire. An ordinary profligate would have seen that the situation, though gloomy, still contained some gleams of hope. Not so Ben—his one thought was suicide. An ordinary profligate intending to commit suicide does it with a revolver, poison, or some other direct and simple means. Not so Ben. That would have been wrong, and would have hurt the feelings of his friends and relations. So he sets off at two days' notice for the most unhealthy parts of Central Africa, hoping to meet his death by the act of God. The first care of an ordinary profligate going to Central Africa would have been to make himself comfortable. Ben's first thought was how his going to Central Africa to meet his death could be made to do some good to somebody. He suddenly remembered that he had a penniless ward at a boarding school on the south coast. Here was his opportunity. He would marry the girl and leave her all his money. She would then be provided for for life, and in a few months a rich widow. So he ran down to Eastbourne by the ten o'clock train and was married to a very pretty and charming girl of sixteen. After all she was his lawful wife, and some profligates might have been tempted to pursue the acquaintance a little. Not so Ben. His one thought was to get safely off to Central Africa, and he left Eastbourne by the afternoon train.

It is a well-known fact that death avoids those who seek it too openly. So death avoided Ben. He was like the wandering Jew. Try as he would he could not die. At last he began to forget about Cynthia, the wicked actress, and give up trying. He returned to Europe and took up his quarters in a hotel on Lake Maggiore. Needless to say, the first person he met there was his wife. Needless to say, also, he did not recognise her. She had put away her wedding ring and was travelling as Miss Pinkie. She knew him, however, and indeed he did not look a day older after his six years in the Tropics. Of course, Ben fell violently in love with Miss Pinkie. When the profligate's eyes fell on Miss Pinkie his first thought was "marriage," his second, "I am married already," his third, "a divorce." Now Ben knew that the proper way to get a divorce is by desertion and adultery. Desertion was easy—but adultery! This would not have been much of a difficulty to an ordinary profligate, but to our pure hero it seemed insuperable. Suddenly fate showed him a way out. Cynthia and her millionaire arrived at the hotel. Cynthia was by this time very much out of love with her husband and very ready to be in love with Ben. They arranged to elope. The idea was repugnant to Ben. Cynthia was still young and very beautiful, but such was the profligate's love for Miss Pinkie that he could hardly bear to look at her. He braced himself up for the elopement as for a visit to the dentist. Here, for the first time, I think Ben's conduct was not quite right. It is true that he was acting from the highest motives. It was an error of judgment, but still an error. It was hardly fair to use Cynthia in this way, even though she had treated him badly in the past. What was to happen to her when she had been divorced by the millionaire, and Ben had married Miss Pinkie? It really would have been better for once to act against the dictates of his pure nature, and have taken up for a very short time with some woman whose profession it was to do that kind of thing. It would have been unpleasant for him, of course—but kinder to

Cynthia. Anyhow, he was saved from his mistake by Miss Pinkie. She got wind of his plans and frustrated them. Incidentally she was obliged to get herself locked up alone in a tower with Ben. The horror of our profligate at finding himself locked in was unspeakable. She made violent love to him—and so great was his terror of laying a finger on a girl whom he was not able to marry at the moment that he nearly threw himself from the window. However, he was finally persuaded to wait—and at last they were unlocked and the whole story was cleared up. Ben carried off his adored Pinkie with a clear conscience. Was she not his lawful, long-lost wife? Then they call him a profligate!

The acting throughout was marked by that briskness, finish, and concentration which is to be expected in a play produced by Mr. Hawtrey. The chief figure was, of course, Miss Iris Hoey as Priscilla. She acted with her usual dash and high spirits. She is at times, I think, noisy, and often monotonous, but she is always interesting and always shows that she has brains. Mr. Cyril Raymond was a good looking, conventional, rather dull young hero. Mr. Frank Denton as the hero's friend, Jimmy Forde, put more into the part than the author had done, and was a really odd and amusing figure. Miss Madeline Seymour as Cynthia Rush was so beautiful that it was difficult to believe that under any circumstances it could be a real hardship to run away with her. Mr. H. de Lange, as the millionaire, gave one of those very small, very good character studies which one does sometimes come across unexpectedly.

"The Romantic Age" at the Comedy.

It is an unfortunate accident for Mr. Milne that the Spanish comedy of the "Romantic Young Lady" happens to be in London at the same time as his new play. If Mr. Milne has been to the Royalty during the last month he must surely have felt how extremely odious comparisons are. The theme of the two plays is practically identical. A young lady disgusted with her own prosaic surroundings longs for the love of a hero of romance. A very ordinary man comes to her under extraordinary and romantic circumstances. She accepts him for a hero of romance only to find that he forms part of the commonplace scheme of things which she has rejected. She discovers at the same time, however, that this scheme forms as suitable a background for a romance as any other. That romance lies deep in the relations of men and women and is independent of dress, calling, or the wishes of parents. The theme in each play is the same, but how differently treated. The Spanish comedy is so exquisite, so humorous, so rich and delicate in its details that one hardly notices how familiar yet fantastic is the story.

The same cannot be said of Mr. Milne's play. He cannot disguise that his story is commonplace and improbable. It is also extremely sentimental. As for the humour—a taste for Mr. Milne's humour is almost as widely spread as a taste for Sir James Barrie's. One feels respectfully that there must be something in it. To me, however, it is not amusing. There is something restless, uneasy, and not quite natural about it. Such remarks as "If anyone wants to kiss the top of my head, tell them they'll find it in the library," does not ring true and makes one ashamed of oneself.

The person who is inordinately amusing and whose humour is above suspicion is Lottie Venne. It is she rather than Mr. Milne who keeps the audience in almost continuous laughter throughout the first act. She has but to say "Where's my handkerchief," "In five minutes, Jane," or "Dr. Anderson says . . ." to make one really laugh.

Her humour and Miss Barbara Hoffe's beauty are the things which make this play a delightful entertainment. For the rest, Mr. Davenant is a competent father, Miss Tetley a shrill and monotonous young lady. As for Mr. Arthur Wontner, the hero—those who like Mr. Milne will doubtless like Mr. Wontner. The two seem made for each other.

D. H.

REVIEWS.

THE DAUGHTER IN THE HOME.

The Romance of Home Life. By Emily Heath. (Wells, Gardner, Darton & Co. 5s.)

This book comes to us as a reminiscence of a bygone time. It seems almost as remote from modern life as the treatises on "Duties of the Female Sex," which may sometimes be discovered, elegantly bound, among the furniture of a surviving early Victorian house. Yet it is only just published and has, it seems, been written during the last few years. It is addressed to "the single woman living at home"; the woman is evidently a middle-class woman, and by "home" the author means the home of her parents. An attempt, we are told, has been made "to show the glory of her vocation," and also to "demonstrate" its "romance." The attempt is not very successful, probably because glory cannot be shown by writing about it, and romance is impossible to demonstrate.

"The Daughter in the Home" was a product of the Victorian age. It is true that even in pre-Victorian times some women did not marry and continued to live in the house of their parents till well on into middle life, but it was a much rarer occurrence than it became later. This may have been partly because there was less discrepancy in the numbers of the two sexes, but it was also because parents were much more strongly and openly convinced that it was their duty to arrange marriages for their daughters, and, above all, because intercourse between the sexes was freer in the earlier than in the later period. To be convinced of this we have only to compare the life described by Jane Austen, with that described by Charlotte Yonge. The Miss Bennets were not very well brought up, but Jane and Elizabeth were discreet, as well as high-principled and charming, and we must, therefore, take it that they did nothing unusual when they walked and talked freely with young men. Margaret May, on the other hand, felt that it was incumbent on her to give up a country walk with her brothers and sisters and an elderly governess directly an eligible young man who was staying with her parents, and whom they all liked exceedingly, expressed his intention of joining it. "Maidenliness" was a Victorian virtue often so exaggerated that it became little better than excessive sex-consciousness, very unfavourable to right understanding between young people of different sexes, and a distinct hindrance to marriage. Parents, moreover, began to take the duty of finding mates for their daughters who might not find mates for themselves less seriously, and even to revolt from it altogether, while, at the same time, very few of them were prepared to give their daughters free opportunities for careers other than marriage. The late Victorian parent had ceased to think that the care of a husband and the rearing of children was every woman's destiny, but had not learned that women's destinies might, and should, be as varied as those of men. Hence Daughters in the Home were multiplied and many of them led unsatisfactory lives, spending a quite undue proportion of them in arranging flowers, writing notes, paying calls, dusting ornaments, and other occupations which should never be more than a side issue for anyone. They were not duller or more useless than many married women of the same class; some of them, indeed, had as much glory and romance in their lives as any adventurer—for glory and romance depend on character and emotion rather than on circumstance—but they were, in many cases, human beings on whom undue restrictions had been laid, and who were not getting their fair chance.

I cannot, therefore, lament that the kind of woman in the home "for, and on behalf of whom" this book is written, is gradually dying out. By this we do not mean that we do not wish unmarried women—or married ones, or sons, for the matter of that—to continue to live with their parents. The tie between parents and children may be, and often is, the dearest of earthly affections, and the more people who love each other can live

together and put their affections in practice the better it must be for them and for the world. But we do think that living with one's parents should not be regarded as an occupation in itself, still less as a "vocation." When parents are ill, or very old, taking care of them may become one of the chief duties of life; it may become the chief duty. Then there will be plenty of occupation in it, but it will not, any more than the care of children, permanently excuse those who undertake it from other duties to other people unconnected with their own homes. As time goes on and social relations improve, I believe that daughters and mothers both will feel more and more strongly that the claims of the home are of deep and abiding importance, but that they vary with the amount of work there is to do there, and should not take up the whole of anybody's energies for more than a bit of life. This is the trend of the age; we could not change it even if we would. I feel, therefore, that Miss Heath's little book, sincere and deeply felt, as it evidently is, will appeal only to a limited circle, especially as it seems to be addressed solely to members of the Church of England.

I. B. O'M.

A Day Continuation School at Work. Papers by Twelve Contributors. Edited by W. J. Wray, M.A. and R. W. Ferguson, B.Sc., A.R.C.S. (Longmans. 8s. 6d.)

Of the many objections to continuation schools run in connection with a single employer's business, far the most serious is that a penalty upon changing work is set up. It is not right that the education of a worker should depend upon his employer's decision to dismiss him or his own decision to change his employment. The difficulty seems to have been avoided in the two schools—for lads and girls—established by the Birmingham Education Committee with the co-operation of Messrs. Cadbury Brothers and Messrs. Morland & Impey.

To epitomize the already concise reports here presented would be to offer a mere lifeless catalogue; the book deserves to be read and the illustrations of it to be studied. Its whole effect is to confirm the opinion that talent abounds among the young people in this country, and that the one thing needed is to arouse and hold their interest. Nearly all the pupils began by coming reluctantly; the school was confronted by "the mental inertia of the average adolescent worker" and by "an attitude of definite unwillingness towards mental exertion and a strong antagonism towards any conditions which call it forth," as well as by a lamentably low standard of knowledge. The first natural comment of an attentive reader is that a recasting of elementary education is urgently required and that the task of the continuation schools described must have been Herculean. Yet a large measure of success has evidently been achieved and the methods followed will, it may be hoped, serve as a model to the many other continuation schools now beginning or soon to begin their new work. The method was to choose the best possible teachers and in the choice to rate personality, initiative and power of influence highly. Students straight from a University seem to have been found often suitable. Freshness of mind is clearly of great value. No doubt one part of the secret is that the teacher should be interested in his subject and retain a living outlook upon it. Furthermore, classes are small, teaching "intensive" and the spirit of experiment encouraged. By one means or another attention is won and held; minds are awakened, personality is developed, and the standard of interior life rises. Many of these young people—perhaps most—are lifted out of their pit of mental inertia. But why should they ever have been in it? Why should elementary education thus have quenched the spark which its duty was to have fostered? If the teaching during the years up to fourteen had been of the same kind as that in this continuation school, its pupils at nineteen would have been in the truest sense of the words educated people. Continuation schools should be continuations; it should not be necessary for them to be so largely substitutes for a real early education that has not been given.

C. B.

CORRESPONDENCE.

WOMEN ON JURIES.

MADAM,—With reference to your note on Women on Juries in your issue of October 22nd and as one of the jury (women) chosen for last quarter sessions I should like to state that we were not consulted as to our willingness to sit on the jury on the occasion referred to; but within a few minutes of our arrival were practically shown the door. We had not had a moment to consult each other, and it seemed to me compulsory to leave the court. One remembers the story of the Judge ordering the court to be cleared of ladies, and on asking if this had been done and being told only two ladies remained, said "all ladies have left the court." However, after we had had a chance of consulting together on Friday three of us agreed to listen to the summing up on Saturday.

We all felt that our withdrawal—or rather dismissal—on Friday had been a mistake.

I should like, however, as a gentlewoman, to add that I appreciate the chivalry of the Recorder in his being anxious to spare us so unpleasant an ordeal. But we do wish to do our duty as citizens and we must face such unpleasantness when it is our turn to do so.

I must also state that I in no way wish this letter to seem a criticism on the verdict given.

On Saturday nine of us were chosen with three men to form the jury.

H. R. WOOD.

WOMEN TEACHERS' SALARIES.

MADAM,—The Second Report of the Burnham Committee on Teachers' Salaries, just issued, is not likely to contribute anything to the peaceful solution of this question, because it consistently appraises the worth of a woman teacher as four-fifths of that of a man of the same professional status. This seems incredible, but unfortunately it is true.

Naturally, this has aroused the indignation of every woman teacher with any professional pride, and a Procession and Demonstration in Trafalgar Square to protest against the obsolete findings of the Burnham Committee, and to support the principle of Equal Pay, will be held on Saturday afternoon, November 6th.

Then the public may be able to gauge something of the discontent which these official pronouncements on the inferior economic value of women as teachers arouse in the ranks of all women workers.

A. G. HEWITT, L.L.A.

President of the National Union of Women Teachers.

SHOULD THE COLLEGE GIRL TRAIN AS A NURSE?

MADAM,—I am sure that many of your readers must, like myself, have read with great interest the excellent article on "Should the College Girl Train as a Nurse?" I sincerely hope that some of the bullies one meets in hospital are readers of THE WOMAN'S LEADER.

One cannot but agree with the writer in most things and certainly that the best type of women and the most educated ones are needed in the nursing profession; they would help greatly to raise the present standard of nursing.

How is it that so many V.A.D.s, now that the excitement of war nursing is over, do not take up the nursing profession? Is it that they have the same opinion as your last week's correspondent: that the present generation of nurses belong to the domestic servant class?—rather a sweeping statement to make.

Surely, even as late as the twentieth century, women of lofty aims and fine character have entered the nursing profession, not many with college training, but certainly many with high school education.

ANGLO-ROUMANIAN NURSE.

POOR LAW RELIEF.

MADAM,—Recently I pointed out, in your columns, the right of a "Destitute" or "Necessitous" Married Woman to apply herself for Poor Law relief, though I said that it was very desirable that the husband should, if possible, make the application.

Will you allow me now to supplement my remarks by indicating briefly the husband's responsibilities with regard to Poor Law relief given to his wife?

(1) He is liable to be made to repay the cost.
(2) If being able wholly or in part to maintain his wife by work or other means, he wilfully refuses or neglects to do so, by which refusal or neglect she becomes chargeable, he is punishable as an "idle and disorderly person."

(3) If he "runs away," leaving her chargeable, or whereby she becomes chargeable, he is punishable as "a rogue and a vagabond."

The practical result of this is, that if the husband can provide for his wife it is very much to his interest to do so; and that if a wife applies herself, Relieving Officers will often make very careful enquiries.

It may be of interest to mention at the present time that the law as to relief to strikers, their wives and children, is laid down by the Judges of the Court of Appeal in *Attorney-General v. Guardians of Merthyr Tydvil*, Law Reports [1900] Chancery 516; 82 Law Times Reports 662.

J. THEODORE DODD.

BAD LANDLORDS AND THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

MADAM,—Your correspondents may make their minds easy. There will be fewer and fewer landlords of working class houses. Such houses cannot be built to pay under present conditions.

Instead of crying out for more State control of a vanishing class, they should turn their minds to consider how to replace them. The present scheme of Government house building has few admirers.

But houses we must have. The old ones are wearing out. Who is to build us new ones?

MAUD SELBORNE.

AN INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY.

MADAM,—The deplorable materialisation of sexual life has brought the nations to a state of deep moral distress. The physical and moral health of the individual as well as of the family and the State, have been undermined by this ever-increasing avalanche of immorality. It ought to be the aim of every righteous and earnest man to oppose a mighty barrier to such widespread depravity. In the first place, family life must be restored to its original power and godliness, so as to become the starting-point and source of happiness and welfare, not only of the individual, but of humanity at large. This struggle against immorality must begin by removing the causes of the evil, which in its divers forms is internationally organised and in possession of enormous funds.

In order to take effective measures, it is essential that the various associations for the promotion of public morality should get into touch with each other. They should meet from time to time to exchange ideas, and fix a plan for co-operation through mutual, material, and moral assistance.

It is therefore proposed that:

An international society should be formed without delay.

Details about the wording of this scheme could be fixed as soon as the various associations concerned had declared their readiness to co-operate, by signing this appeal and sending it to one of the subscribers. This involves no further obligation. We beg you to favour us with the addresses of associations likely to join us, unless you prefer to induce them to send in their names at once, giving also the name of the chairman or president.

The complete list of associations taking part in this scheme will be sent to you after the last of December, 1920. We shall be grateful for any proposal for furthering the success of the scheme.

Dr. JOHANN UDE.

Director of "Osterreichs Völkerwacht," Graz (Austria).

[An International Society such as Dr. Ude proposes already exists in the International Abolitionist Federation, with offices at 3, Rue de Vieux-College, Geneva, and we understand that Dr. Ude has now affiliated his Society to that Federation.—ED.]

THE CHURCH CONGRESS AT SOUTHEND.

Women are gradually coming into their own in the Church as in other spheres of life. It is no longer a surprise to see women on the platform speaking at Church Congresses; it is now an accepted fact that on such occasions the audience may feel assured that women do not speak unless they have something to say very much to the point. Consequently the women speakers were listened to with interested attention.

At a mass meeting for women, held before the Congress commenced, the Bishop of Chelmsford, in his opening remarks, spoke of the widening sphere of influence that women were exercising in the political sphere since the passing of the Representation of the People Act and urged his hearers to educate themselves in the use of the vote. Mrs. Knight Bruce, who spoke on Women and the Home, emphasised the need that the family should be the unit to be considered in legislation rather than the individual.

Among the speakers at the "official" meetings were Miss F. Street, Dr. Eleanor Reed, Miss Underhill (Mrs. Stuart Moore), Miss Sybil Thorndike, Miss Gertrude Tuckwell, J.P., who spoke on Women and the State and Women in Industry, Mrs. Cyril Bailey, who read a paper on Women and the Home, Miss Picton-Turbervill, O.B.E., who presented a case for the extension of the sphere of women's work in the Church in her paper on Woman and the Church, and Miss Maude Royden, who spoke on the Restatement of the Evangelistic Message in terms of to-day.

Miss Picton-Turbervill pleaded for the open mind ready for the leading of the Holy Spirit into new truths, and by an apt illustration from Lewis Carroll's "Through the Looking-Glass" showed that in thought one must be prepared to "run twice as fast" if one would keep up with the needs of to-day. She pointed out that the Lambeth Resolutions might become a dead letter unless Church people bestirred themselves to help incorporate the recommendations of the Bishops into the normal life of the Church.

Canon Goudge spoke against women's sphere of influence in the Church being extended. He said that men were superior to women in the matter of rule, and thought that if women were allowed to preach regularly they would become nervous wrecks. Such remarks seemed an echo of the past and it was almost with surprise that one heard these archaic arguments brought forward with such seriousness and evident sincerity.

Miss Royden pleaded for sincerity and truth and intellectual honesty in the presentation of the Evangelistic message, and pointed to the false ideas taught about the nature and character of God as an instance of why many people alienated from organised Christianity.

An important and packed meeting, not on the official programme, was

*Verbatim Report to be published shortly by the L.C.M., Church House, Westminster.

that organised by the League of the Church Militant*, when Miss Royden again spoke. On this occasion her subject was the Lambeth Resolutions on the Ministry of Women. While welcoming the report, she sharply criticised certain aspects of it, speaking of the sex taboos of primitive races which seem still to exist in the minds of many Church people. Miss Picton-Turbervill, Miss Helen Ward, Miss Cockle, Mrs. Acres, and others, took part in the discussion in support of Miss Royden's speech, but opposition was not wanting from speakers, who were supported by a certain section of the audience. Many of the audience who had heard Miss Royden the previous day expressed gratitude at the further opportunity given them of hearing her again. It was a successful and closely packed meeting.

E. LOUIE ACRES.

WOMEN'S LUNCHEON TO MEN.

The luncheon given by 100 representative women to 100 representative men at Fishmongers' Hall last week in support of the London (Royal Free Hospital) School of Medicine for Women was a unique and interesting ceremony. The Suffrage hostesses were Mrs. Despard and Mrs. Fawcett and the Chair was taken by Sir Alan Garrett Anderson, K.B.E., who, in his appeal for support of the Hospital, claimed that it was the only Medical School admitting women to its teaching staff. The authorities desired, he said, that women should have a chance of the same posts as men, for although the future prospects of women in medicine were bright, every effort is necessary to secure the best possible professional education for them.

CONFERENCE OF WOMEN MAGISTRATES.

On October 18th a Conference of the Women Magistrates of Glamorgan-shire (both County and Borough) was held at Cadoxton Lodge by invitation of Mrs. Coombe Tennant, J.P., to meet Miss S. M. Fry, M.A., Hon. Sec. of the Penal Reform League. The following details are given in the hope that similar gatherings may be arranged in parts of the country distant from London, it having been the unanimous opinion of those present that the Conference in question achieved valuable results.

The proceedings began with lunch and the first session for discussion lasted from 2 to 5 p.m. An interval of three-quarters of an hour followed, to allow for tea, and the second session of discussion lasted from 5.45 to 7 p.m. Those present then had supper and travelled by evening trains to their homes.

The subjects under discussion were those of great importance to women taking up this new work. Miss Fry opened the first session with a short account of the general theory of criminal administration. Police Court work was then considered, Juvenile Courts and juvenile delinquents, the working of the probation system, cases specially affecting women and children, the question of accommodation for persons detained on remand, and opportunities for useful work likely to arise immediately for Women Justices.

The second session was devoted chiefly to the consideration of the working of our Penal System as it is, to the subject of Prisons and Prisoners, Borstal Institutions and Reformatory Schools, and of suggested reforms making for the more effective treatment of delinquents.

SOCIETY FOR TRAINING SERBIAN WOMEN.

A well-attended meeting was held at the Mansion House on October 21st under the auspices of the Lord and Lady Mayoress, in aid of the Society for Training Serbian Women. The Society was founded in 1917 by a group of English and Serbian women, who felt that the greatest moral and spiritual need of Serbia is the training of women. The splendid work of our women in Serbia during the war in hospitals, canteens, refuge camps, &c., won the whole-hearted admiration of the Serbs, and many educated Serbs desired that their womenfolk should be trained in the same way. As the Lord Mayor, who presided, pointed out, this was the only Anglo-Serb Society of women for women: In the unavoidable absence of Dame Florence Leach, G.B.E., Miss Wylie explained the object and aims of the Society. She maintained that the Serbs urgently desired education along British lines, the war had brought our own and the Serbian nation very close together and the link forged during those dark years would be strengthened by the work of the Society. The Serbian women had always played a heroic part in the life of the nation, but now that the Turkish night was past, if their civilisation was to advance the Serbian women must gain a broad outlook that could only come from contact with the outside world. The aim of the Society is to so train a certain number of Serbian women that they may return to their own country and there train their fellow-countrywomen, thus introducing Western ideas and ideals in a natural manner, by which they will be modified to suit the needs of the country. In this way Serbia will take what she requires from Western civilisation, incorporating it with her own institutions and methods easily and naturally, without forcing and without compulsion.

The Hon. Sec., Miss Murray, said the Society had now eleven girls under its care. Schools have joined wholeheartedly in the scheme, often taking the girls for nothing, or for very reduced fees, but in many cases the girls of a school subscribe to maintain their Serbian schoolfellows. Private families have generously come forward and offered homes for the girls during the holidays. In this way the cost of a girl is about £50 a year. The funds of the Society are raised entirely by private subscription and an effort is now being made to extend help to the daughters of Serbian officers who fell in the war. Miss Murray said she had recently been in Serbia to see the conditions of Higher Education of women there; there is no possibility of any such education for several years to come. Until normal conditions are restored, which cannot be for several years, girls must be sent out of Serbia for their training. In spite of the present impoverished state of the country, many Serbs are so alive to the advantages of English training that they are willing to contribute part of the expenses of their daughter's education if the rest can be made up here. The Serbian Government also realises this fact so keenly that it has promised this Society a grant of money.

THE "CITY" PAGE AND HOW TO READ IT.—II.

The Money Market is either dealt with first, heading the column of the money article, or it has a separate section of the page allotted to it; this is because the condition of this market affects and dominates all the others, showing as it does the plentifulness or the scarcity of money here and its relative value abroad. For instance, a little while ago, the Money Market in the day's paper had as sub-title "Wild Exchange Movements," and went on to say that the situation in Poland was assumed to be responsible for the general disorganization, the main features of which were a sharp fall in New York, a jump in the value of the German mark, and a collapse on the French Exchange. According as money for lending purposes is plentiful or scarce, so will it be possible to obtain loans for a day, a week or month, or for longer periods at a low or high rate. Supply and demand are the main factors here, as in every other market, but political conditions and the stability or instability of foreign markets are powerful disturbing influences. If gold is flowing out more freely than it is coming in the price for loans will rise; if the demand is small and supply abundant, rates will be easy. When money is wanted on loan for a short or long period securities have to be deposited by the borrower, and the most usual form of security are bills which fall due for payment at the end of the period. Some of these bills are "nest bills" or "bank bills" backed by financial houses whose credit is sound, others are "trade" bills and considered speculative, and the rate will therefore be dearer for these than for bank bills. At certain times of the year there is a stiffening of the "discount" or loan market because Government is taking money to pay out dividends on its own borrowings—on the Funds, War Loans, Exchequer Bonds, and so on; but when these payments have been made and the money comes back to be reinvested there is again a plentiful supply ready for borrowers and rates are eased. Pay-day on the Stock Exchange will also take a good deal of money temporarily off the market, and when the settlement is over it will flow back again. But all these influences on the Money Market are slight compared with that of the exchange rates abroad. When rates abroad are high our money tends to flow where it can find more profitable investment; of late there has been no standard to go by, the pound sterling has had a fictitious value in one place and has been much depreciated in another. In pre-war days we paid our foreign indebtedness in gold and still do so to a large extent, keeping paper currency for internal use.

The weekly return of the Bank of England, published every Thursday, is watched to see how the reserve of gold and notes corresponds with the amount issued, but the daily statement made by the Bank every afternoon shows the amount withdrawn for foreign shipment or received from abroad during the day. As all the banks place their reserves with the Bank of England it is, as far as the Money Market is concerned, the one bank of the country, and that explains why the weekly return is so anxiously studied. The decision to raise or lower the bank rate is made at Thursday's meeting of the directors and is flashed to the Stock Exchange at once. Briefly, to raise the bank rate—the rate at which the bank itself will discount the best bills—is to raise the value of money throughout the country and to attract foreign gold to this centre; if the rate is lowered it is a sure sign that the reserve is satisfactory and gold is flowing in. In a time of national anxiety the bank rate is raised as a precautionary measure, whether necessary or not.

While the Money Market is not a market at all in the same sense as other stock markets are, that is to say confined to areas of their own, it is still correctly described as such because it represents the buying and selling of loans and credits, and its heart and centre is the Bank of England, but it extends through Lombard Street and includes many discount houses and bill-brokers' offices outside this area. The other stock markets, however, have their definite place in the Stock Exchange, and the jobbers stand about in these areas waiting for buyers or sellers, for the jobber is ready either to buy or sell; he is the middleman, getting his profit on each transaction. Some people have described this kind of marketing as "the buying and selling of things which have no existence" but that is a superficial description. Nothing may pass from hand to hand even although thousands of pounds have been "turned over," and the only visible sign of dealing may be a note-book and pencil, yet such is the high reputation of members for honour that it is the rarest thing for a bargain to be repudiated. The rules of

the Stock Exchange are strict against brokers attempting to act as jobbers and jobbers acting as brokers. The investor must go to the broker's office and ask him to buy or sell for him a certain number of shares of a certain kind—railway, mining, industrial, as the case may be, and he will, if wise, leave it to the broker to judge of the most suitable time to buy or to sell. The broker who is watching the rise and fall of prices goes into the market and asks one or another jobber there to quote him a price—without divulging whether he is a buyer or a seller. The jobber at once quotes two prices, one at which he is prepared to buy, the other at which he will sell the same security, and that explains why prices of securities when printed are almost always "double prices." This method of dealing is all to the advantage of the customer since if his shares were offered for sale the jobber who knew he wanted to sell would be tempted to lower the price he would give, or raise it if he knew for a fact that the broker had been commissioned to buy. Occasionally, when markets are in a nervous condition the margin between the prices will be what is considered "wide," but as a rule it is very narrow, merely a fractional figure, wide prices only occurring in securities which are but rarely dealt in. The margin is the jobber's "turn" or profit. The broker's profit is a commission on the transaction which his client pays. Where the money article gives only one price, on account of space, that is to be taken as the middle price, and selling would be below that, buying something above. The double method of quotation is the most satisfactory, for then the reader sees the exact selling and exact buying price, also by the width of the margin between the two he is able to judge whether there is much or little dealing in that particular stock or security.

PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS WOMEN'S HOSPITAL LEAGUE.

The League was founded in 1913, to provide treatment in a private ward of a hospital for professional and business women. Such women frequently live alone or in hostels, and in neither case is there accommodation for sickness, and severe suffering and injury to health is often caused by the lack of skilled attention.

The object of the League is to place the patient in a private ward, where she will receive the treatment necessary for the complaint. Only women who actually work for their living are eligible for benefits, but sympathisers can become Hon. members, and donations are most welcome.

If a member becomes ill she applies to the Secretary of the League, who, in the case of great urgency, can get her admitted at once. All arrangements must be made through the Secretary. In the case of members who either live in the provinces, or who cannot travel to one of the hospitals in which the League has beds, special grants of money are made.

Many workers have a horror of illness, not because of the medical fees, but because they have nowhere to go and no one to nurse them. Doctors and surgeons are more than good to working women, and the latter often gratefully say that fees have been remitted or reduced; the real fear is that, living in one room, dependent on the chance kindness of neighbours, they shall suffer miseries from lack of food and nursing. The League relieves its members of this fear, and, if necessary, a member has the right to four weeks treatment in a private ward during the year. It has been noticed that this relief has the additional blessing of improving the health of the patient during treatment, owing to her freedom from money worries.

The financial position of the League is sound, though it is not a wealthy organisation. In order to safeguard its position it is registered as a Friendly Society, and one of the Trustees is the Public Trustee. It is a young organisation, but it grows considerably every year. The Viscountess St. Cyres, whose social work is so widely known, is the President. The first year's subscription is 5s. 6d., but members who join between July 1st and December 31st can pay a reduced subscription of 4s. No member can claim benefits until they have been members six months.

All information can be obtained from the Secretary, Miss Mildred Ransom, 197, Edgware Road, London, W. 2.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

President: MISS ELEANOR F. RATHBONE.

Hon. Secretaries: Miss Macadam. Miss Rosamond Smith. Parliamentary and Information Bureau Secretary: Mrs. F. W. Hubback. Hon. Treasurer: Miss H. C. Deneke. General Secretary: Miss Stack. Mrs. Hubback.

Offices: Evelyn House, 62, Oxford Street, London, W. 1. Telephone: Museum 6910.
Telegraphic Address: Voiceless, Westcent, London.

NEWS FROM HEADQUARTERS AND SOCIETIES.

AUTUMN LECTURES: ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE OF WOMEN IN THE HOME AND IN THE LABOUR MARKET.

Second lecture, Tuesday, November 2nd, at 5.30 p.m., at the Women's Institute, 92, Victoria Street, S.W. 1. "Proposed Immediate Changes in the Status of Wives and Mothers." By Mrs. F. W. Hubback, Chairman: Colonel Greig, C.B., M.P. This lecture will deal with Bills at present before the House which are intended to remedy inequalities pointed out by Miss Smith in this week's lecture.

Mrs. Fawcett presided over a large audience on the occasion of the first lecture. A fuller report will be given in next week's issue.

INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

The Board of Officers will meet in London during the week beginning November 22nd. This will mean that Mrs. Chapman Catt, the President of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance and of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, as well as women from various European countries will be our guests, and it is hoped to mark the occasion by entertaining them in some suitable way. The Executive Committee of the N.U.S.E.C. and the Catholic Women Suffrage Society, both National Societies affiliated to the I.W.S.A., are inviting other societies which stand for political and economic equality to co-operate with them in the organisation of a large public meeting which will serve the double object of celebrating the recent American victory and giving an opportunity of hearing our guests from other countries. The date proposed for this meeting is November 24th. Fuller particulars will be given next week.

EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK.

The attention of our members is drawn to the fact that the National Union of Women Teachers is organising a procession and demonstration in Trafalgar Square on Saturday, November 6th, 1920, to ask for Equal Opportunities and Equal Pay for Equal Work. The N.U.W.T. is being supported by the N.U.S.E.C. and by many other women's organisations. The N.U.S.E.C. will be sending banners and is anxious to receive the names of volunteers to act as banner bearers. The following is the time table of the procession:—

Line up 2 p.m. (Northumberland Avenue end of Embankment).

March off 2.30 p.m. sharp.

Arrive Trafalgar Square, where the demonstration is to be held, 3.30 p.m.

CONFERENCE OF WOMEN MAGISTRATES.

The Conference of Women Magistrates convened by the N.U.S.E.C., which it was originally proposed to hold at the Summer School in Oxford, and which was postponed until the autumn, has been fixed for Tuesday and Wednesday, November 30th and December 1st. A provisional notice has been sent to all women magistrates in England and Wales (Women Magistrates in Scotland have recently held a separate conference). The agenda will include discussions on procedure, probation work, penal reform. It is desirable to have the names of all able to attend as early as possible, in order that suitable arrangements may be made. Hospitality will be provided, if desired, for a limited number. A nominal charge of 5s. will be made to cover expenses. Fuller particulars will be given next week.

AN S.O.S. FROM HEADQUARTERS.

For some months the unpleasant subject of our financial position has not been mentioned on this page, and now the time has come to remind our friends, both inside and outside our Societies, that we cannot carry on our work with the necessary energy and efficiency without increased funds. An unexpected munificent gift from an old friend of the Suffrage Movement, in addition to the increased generosity of some of our Societies and

friends, has carried us through the year with rigid economy, but we are now face to face with a critical situation. There have been equally critical situations, however, in the past, and our friends have always come generously to the rescue in time, and we feel confident that this will be the case in the present crisis. An appeal will shortly be issued, but it will enormously cheer and encourage us in our work at headquarters if those who really understand the value of the Parliamentary and Educational work that is being carried on, and who are in a position to help us financially, will not wait for the appeal, but acting on the principle that "he gives twice who gives quickly," send at once.

Our work does not make a popular appeal, but it does appeal to those who are far-sighted enough to see that to relax our efforts now, when the door leading to a real equality of liberties, status and opportunities between men and women has just been unlocked, would be impossible.

The officers do very earnestly ask our friends who read this to respond according to their ability without waiting for further appeals for help.

NEWS FROM SOCIETIES.

SHANKLIN W.C.A.—The Shanklin W.C.A. held their first monthly meeting of the Autumn and Winter Season on the 6th October. There was a very fair attendance, and those present followed with great interest and attention Miss Macadam's address on "Women and Politics." Many of her suggestions were most helpful and practical. Questions were asked at the close of the meeting, and six new members joined.

CARDIFF S.E.C.—On October 15th a well-attended meeting was held at the City Hall under the joint auspices of the National Council of Women and the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship. The Chair was taken by Sir William Seager, M.P., who was supported on the platform by a number of representative men and women.

An interesting address was given by Miss Helen Fraser on the "Need for Women in Parliament," and a resolution urging that need was carried unanimously.

NEWPORT (MON.) W.C.A.—The Newport W.C.A. held its Annual Meeting at the Town Hall Assembly Rooms, on October 11th. The Honorary Secretary, in presenting the Report, mentioned the gratifying recognition of the Association as an important factor in the life of the town. In addition to many public and members' meetings held on "Women's Part in Reconstruction," "Proportional Representation," "Housing," "Purity of Food and Milk," "Cinemas for Children," "Widows' Pensions," there had been a class in public speaking, over which Professor Barbara Foxley had presided. Some members of the W.C.A. had regularly attended the gallery of the Council Chamber at the monthly meetings of the Town Council, and several resolutions had been sent up to that body. Parliamentary work had not been neglected, vigorous support of various Bills being recorded. Much interest was evinced in the report of the work of the Police Court rota, and Save the Children Clothes Depot. Owing to the splendid work of the Entertainments Sub-Committee the Association was able to go ahead during the present year without financial anxiety.

STAFFORD W.C.A.—Stafford W.C.A. is putting forward an independent woman candidate for the Borough Council for each of the two wards in the town. There are nine candidates in each ward for four seats, so the contest will probably be an interesting one.

COMING EVENTS.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNION.

The following meetings on League of Nations subjects will be held:—

OCTOBER 29.	
At Southampton, the Coliseum.	8 p.m.
Speaker: Rt. Hon. G. N. Barnes, M.P.	
At Battersea Polytechnic.	6.30 p.m.
Speaker: S. Sherman, B.A.	
At Scarborough.	Evening.
Speaker: Frederick Whelan, Esq.	
OCTOBER 30.	
At Derby.	
Speaker: Canon Bickersteth Otley.	
OCTOBER 31.	
At Southampton, the Coliseum.	
Speaker: Rt. Hon. G. N. Barnes, M.P.	3 p.m.
At Surbiton, 22, Catherine Road.	
Speaker: S. Sherman, B.A.	6.30 p.m.
At 1, Chapel Street, Lamb's Conduit Street, W.C.1.	
Speaker: Miss M. Currey, O.B.E.	
NOVEMBER 1.	
At Westbourne Park Church, Westbourne Park Villas.	7.30 p.m.
Speaker: Mrs. Beatty.	
NOVEMBER 2.	
At Unlarian Women's League, Islington.	
Speaker: Miss Ruth Young.	7.30 p.m.
NOVEMBER 3.	
At 13, Russell Square, W.C.1.	
Speaker: Capt. Reginald Berkeley.	
NOVEMBER 4.	
At Royal College of Nursing.	
Speaker: Miss Currey, O.B.E.	8 p.m.
At Clyde Hall, Addison, Croydon.	
Speaker: Canon Bickersteth Otley.	8 p.m.
At American Women's Club, 41, Hertford Street, Mayfair.	
Speaker: Miss M. Currey, O.B.E.	
At Kensington Congregational Church.	
Speaker: Lady Gladstone.	8.30 p.m.

WOMEN'S NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO SECURE STATE PURCHASE AND CONTROL OF THE LIQUOR TRADE.

NOVEMBER 1.	
At National Women Citizens' Association, Eaton Square, S.W.	
Subject: "Licensing Regulations and the Liquor Trade."	
Speaker: Miss M. Cotterell, O.B.E.	5 p.m.
NOVEMBER 2.	
At Women's Co-operative Guild, Bolton.	
Subject: "State Purchase of the Liquor Trade."	
Speaker: Mr. G. B. Batty.	7 p.m.
NOVEMBER 3.	
At Malvern, National Council of Women.	
Debate: "State Purchase v. Local Option Without Purchase."	
Speakers: Mrs. Renton v. Miss Hessel.	8 p.m.
At Victoria Docks, Mothers' Union Meeting.	
Subject: "State Purchase a Solution of the Temperance Problem."	
Speaker: Miss M. Cotterell.	2.30 p.m.
NOVEMBER 4.	
At National Council of Women, Sheffield.	
Debate: "State Purchase v. Local Option Without Purchase."	
Speakers: Mrs. Boyd Dawson v. Lady Horsley.	5 p.m.
NOVEMBER 5.	
At United Societies' Club, 6, Harrington Gardens, S.W.	
Debate: "State Purchase v. Local Option Without Purchase."	
Speakers: Miss B. Pilon-Turberville v. Mr. G. B. Wilson.	5 p.m.

THE FEMINIST LEAGUE.

A Meeting for Women will be held at the Caxton Hall, on Wednesday, November 3rd, at 8 p.m., to demand Women's Industrial Emancipation and Right to Free Choice of Work. Miss Abadam will be in the Chair, and the Speakers will include Miss Agnes Dawson (President, National Federation of Women Teachers), Miss Lind Al Hagley (Hon. Sec., Animal Defence League), and Miss Christine Maguire (Org. Sec., Women Clerks' Association). Admission free.

BRITISH WOMEN'S PATRIOTIC LEAGUE.

A Series of Four Lectures, entitled "Economics and Patriotism," will be given as follows:—Nos. 1 and 4, at Room 1, Caxton Hall; Nos. 2 and 3, at South Lodge, Rutland Gate.

OCTOBER 25.

Speaker: Sir William Schooling, K.B.E.

Subject: "Problems of Expenditure and Consumption."

3 p.m.

NOVEMBER 8.

Speaker: Lady Askwith, O.B.E.

Subject: "The Cost of Living."

3 p.m.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

The following public meetings will be held at the Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn, W.C.

OCTOBER 27.

Speaker: Miss Lind-al-Hagley.

Subject: "Should Women Citizens Pursue Special Politics?"

3 p.m.

NOVEMBER 1.

A Halloween Party. Admission, 1s.

7 p.m.

NOVEMBER 3.

Speaker: Councillor Margaret Hodge.

Subject: "Popular Fallacies."

3 p.m.

BRITISH DOMINIONS' WOMEN CITIZENS' UNION.

Members and Friends "At Home" at the Minerva Café, High Holborn, on Thursday, November 4th, 3.30-6 p.m., to meet Mrs. Jinarajadasa, Hon. Sec., Women's Indian Association, who will give an account of the Women's Movement in India. Admission, 1s., including tea.

YORKSHIRE COUNCIL FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

At 18, Park Row, Leeds.

Subject: "Votes for Women under Thirty."

Speaker: Miss K. D. Courtney.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

At the Women's Institute, 92, Victoria Street, S.W.1.

Speaker: Mrs. F. W. Hubback.

Subject: "Proposed Immediate Changes in Status of Wives and Mothers."

4.45 p.m.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FRANCHISE CLUB LTD.

(For Men and Women).

At 9, Grafton Street, Piccadilly, W.1.

Subject: "The Injustice of the Laws dealing with Sexual Crime and their Administration (Scotland)."

Speaker: Mrs. Hamilton More Nisbet.

Chairman: Miss M. P. Grant.

8.15 p.m.

Small private advertisements—Ladies' Wants, Apartments, Situations, Professional, etc., when inserted in "The Woman's Leader" are always effective. The charge for these small advertisements is 1d. per word each insertion. Box Nos. 6d. extra. Advertisers should be careful to send P.O.s or stamps with advertisements to cover the cost of all insertions ordered. All matters relating to advertisements are dealt with at

The Advertisement Dept.,
Woman's Leader,
170, Fleet St.
E.C.4.

GARDENING, Etc.

GARDENING FOR WOMEN at Heden College (formerly Udmore). Practical, comprehensive training. Individual consideration. Gardening year begins mid-September; work will include remaking rose garden, greenhouse erection, &c.—Peake-Ridley, Kingstone, near Canterbury.

APPOINTMENT VACANT.

BOROUGH HOSPITAL, BOSCOMBE, BOURNEMOUTH.
Vacancy for young lady as Probationer. Salary, £20, rising to £25; uniform provided. Short Courses arranged for intending Health Visitors, Children's Nurses, or Nurses wishing for some fever experience.

TO LET AND WANTED.

COMFORTABLY FURNISHED ROOMS, suit two or three ladies; good cooking and attendance; terms moderate; winter months; good references; vacant now.—Box 4,470, WOMAN'S LEADER, 170, Fleet-street, E.C.4.

UNFURNISHED FIRST FLOOR, consisting large front room, smaller back; gas ring; cupboard, with sink, water. Will be redecorated. Private house overlooking pleasant square off Holland Park Avenue. Rent, 61 per week to lady out during day.—Write Box 4,475, WOMAN'S LEADER, 170, Fleet-street, E.C.4.

WANTED, a small unfurnished flat, or a large room, by business lady, within 21, ride of Piccadilly; about 25s.—Box H., WOMAN'S LEADER, 170, Fleet-street, E.C.4.

BOOKS.

THE WORKS OF MRS. FRANCES SWINEY can be obtained from Sandford Lawn, Cheltenham, including "The Literature of the League of Isis," "The Awakening of Women," "The Bar of Isis," Women and Natural Law," "The Law of Continence," &c.

TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION

DOUBLE BEDROOM VACANT for two gentlewomen; breakfast only; gas stove.—Miss Kemp, 10, Endsleigh-street, W.C.1.

THE FEMINIST LEAGUE (Non-Party), will hold a Meeting for Women at the Caxton Hall, at 8 p.m., on Wednesday, November 3rd, 1920, to demand Women's Industrial Emancipation and Right to Free Choice of Work. Chair: Miss Abadam (President of the League). Speakers: Miss Agnes Dawson (President, Nat. Fed. Women Teachers); Miss Lind Al Hagley (Hon. Sec., Animal Defence League); Miss Christine Maguire (Org. Sec., Women Clerks' Association). Admission Free. Protest Against the Barring of Trade Doors to Women.

SICKNESS AND ILL HEALTH.

WHY BE ANXIOUS ABOUT YOUR HEALTH?

If you are working in a profession or in business join the PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS WOMEN'S HOSPITAL LEAGUE. All particulars from The Secretary, 197, Edgware Road, W.2.

DRESS.

COSTUMES, coats, furs, underwear, gentlemen's and children's clothing, house furnishings, Wanted. Specially good prices given.—Hélène, 361, New King's-road, Fulham, S.W. 6.

Real HARRIS, LEWIS, and SHETLAND HOMESPUNS

Direct from the Makers. Special light weights for Ladies' wear—all shades Patterns and Prices on Application. S. A. NEWALL & SONS, Stornoway Scotland. State shade desired and whether for Gents' or Ladies' wear

A THEENIC Scotch-Woven UNDERWEAR. All sizes supplied in finest Wool, A silk and Wool, and Merino. GUARANTEED UNSHRINKABLE. Write Makers DIRECT for patterns and prices.—Dept. 10, Atheenic Mills, Hawick, Scotland.

P ROBATIONER'S UNIFORM FOR SALE; 3 dresses, 12 aprons, caps, &c.; cost £9; quite new.—Vallis, 9, Brettell-street, Walworth.

L ACE, all kinds, mended and cleaned. Many testimonials. Embroidery undertaken. Lace purchased.—"Beatrice," WOMAN'S LEADER Office.

PROFESSIONAL.

M ADAME FLORA EDWARDS, TEACHER OF SINGING (Italian method), 8, Haycroft-road, Brixton Hill, S.W. 2.

"M ORE MONEY TO SPEND" (Income Tax Recovery and Adjustment).—Send postcard for this booklet to Mrs. Ayres Purdie, Women Taxpayers' Agency, Hampden House, 3, Kingsway. Phone, Central 6049.

TYPEWRITING AND PRINTING.

M. McLACHLAN and N. WHITTHAM—TYPESTERS.—4, Chapel Walks, Manchester. Tel: 3402 City.

T he Misses NEAL & TUCKER undertake every description of Typewriting and Secretarial work, reporting meetings, &c. First-class training for ladies as secretaries.—Walter House, 52, Bedford-street, Strand (Gerrard 1472).

TEMPLAR PRINTING WORKS, BIRMINGHAM.

ENQUIRIES SOLICITED. R. CROMBIEHOLME, General Manager.

T YPEWRITING.—Testimonials, Plays, Poems, &c., and all Duplicating Work.—Miss M. F. Clapham, The Bungalow, Beeston-road, Sheringham.

WHERE TO LIVE.

B ROOKLYN PRIVATE HOTEL.—Earl's-court-square, S.W. 5 (Warwick-road corner), finest centre all parts; 12 minutes' Piccadilly; quiet, separate tables; write or call for tariff; strictly inclusive terms; unequalled for comfort and attention; own private garage. B. and B., 6s. 6d. Tel.: Western 344.

H OTEL for Lady Workers; terms, bed and breakfast, from 4s. 6d. per night; from 16s. 6d. weekly; convenient for all parts.—Mrs. Wilkinson, 59, Alban-street, Regent's-park (Portland-road Station). Telephone: Museum 5486.

PUBLIC SPEAKING.

M ARION McCARTHY, 16, Hallam Street, Portland Place, W. 1. Gerrard 8736. PUBLIC SPEAKING. Interesting lessons for all occasions. PRACTICE DEBATES. Write for appointment.

FOR SALE AND WANTED.

WHY KEEP USELESS JEWELLERY ?

The large London Market enables ROBINSON Bros. of 5 & 7, Hampstead Rd., W. & 127, Fenchurch St., E.C. To give best prices for OLD GOLD and SILVER JEWELLERY, GOLD, SILVER, PLATINUM, DIAMONDS, PEARLS, EMERALDS, SILVER PLATE ANTIQUES, &c., in any form, condition, or quantity. Licensed valuers and appraisers. Telephone, Museum 2036. ALL PARCELS receive offer or cash, by return post.

S ECOND-HAND CLOTHING wanted to buy for cash; costumes, skirts, boots, underclothes, curtains, lounge suits, trousers, and children's clothing of every description; parcels sent will be valued, and cash sent by return.—Mrs. Russell, 100, Raby-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

MEDICAL, Etc.

ISLINGTON DENTAL SURGERY, 69, Upper Street, N. MR. CHODWICK BROWN, Surgeon Dentist. FREDK. G. BOUCHER, Asst. Dental Surgeon. Estd. 35 Years.

Gas Administered Daily by Qualified Medical Man. Nurse in attendance. Mechanical Work in all its Branches. Send Post Card for Pamphlet. N.B.—No show case at door.. CONSULTATION FREE. Telephone: North 3795.

E LECTROLYSIS for removal of superfluous hair, moles, &c. Face Massage and Electrical Hair Treatment. Lessons given and Certificates granted. Address, Miss Theakston, 54, Devonshire-street, W. 1.

FOR REST AND HOLIDAYS.

H ILLSIDE Holiday Guest House; charmingly situated on the Cotswold Hills, 800 ft. above sea level; sheltered from cold winds; G.W.R. Motor Bus Service.—Apply prospectus, Manageress, Hillside, Pitchcombe, near Stroud, Glos.

SWITZERLAND. WINTER SPORTS.

Z WEISIMMEN.—Excellent centre for Skiing, Skating, Bobbing. Long hours of Sunshine. Write to Hotel Terminus for most moderate prices of comfortable, well-heated rooms and excellent cuisine

B OGNOR.—Sunny bed-sitting-room, with board if required, offered by vegetarians; terms moderate; suit lady doing literary or artistic work; short or long periods; quiet, bright environments; bracing air; good cycling.—Box 4,473, WOMAN'S LEADER Office, 170, Fleet-street, E.C. 4.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

K ENSINGTON TOWN HALL.—Fellowship Services. 6.30, Miss Maude Royden.

A SET OF SIX LECTURES on The Business of Life, will be given on Mondays at 8.30 p.m., at 10, Scarsdale Villas, Kensington, beginning on Monday, October 4th. Admission Free.

LONDON (ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL) SCHOOL OF MEDICINE FOR WOMEN.

(UNIVERSITY OF LONDON) HUNTER STREET, BRUNSWICK SQUARE, W.C. 1.

F ULL Courses of Study for Medical Degrees and Diplomas are arranged for women students.

Post-Graduate appointments are available at the School and at the Hospitals connected with it. Scholarships and Bursaries are awarded annually. Students' Service Chambers are attached to the School. Special Courses for Post-Graduate students, Primary Fellowship students, and Dental students.—Information can be obtained from Miss L. M. Brooks, Warden and Secretary.—Louise B Aldrich-Blake, M.S., M.D., Dean.

THE WOMAN'S LEADER 1s. ADVERTISEMENT FORM.

12 words cost 1s. ; 1d. should be added for each word beyond 12. The advertisement must be received on Tuesday to appear the same week.

Box Office No. 6d. extra each insertion.

YOUR ANNOUNCEMENT PRINTED IN "THE WOMAN'S LEADER" FOR ONE PENNY PER WORD, EACH INSERTION.

To the Advertisement Manager, "Woman's Leader," 170, Fleet St., London, E.C.4 Please insert the following in your next.....issues. I enclose

Signed _____ P.O. or _____ Address _____

Table with 4 columns and 3 rows for advertisement details.

[Tear this form out and post it as above.]