THE WOMEN WHO DID NOT GET IN.

THE

# WOMAN'S LEADER

### AND THE COMMON CAUSE

REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER.

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#### NOTES AND NEWS.

#### Labour's Victory Meeting.

Whether one is a member of the Labour Party, or, as Mr. Lansbury said, one of those "who came to see what sort of creatures we are," it was impossible not to feel impressed by the enthusiasm and idealism of the Labour "Victory Meeting" at the Albert Hall on Tuesday night. Speech after speech recehoed the note of hope and of high endeavour. Mr. Ramsay MacDonald's speech showed deep feeling combined with moderation and a happy absence of cant and of clichés. Peace in Europe, help for the unemployed, and "houses, houses, houses," were the keynotes of his speech. Margaret Bondfield, whose welcome was one of the most enthusiastic of the evening, pleaded for "life more abundant," especially for the young boy and girl helplessly searching for work. George Lansbury, again one of the best loved of the speakers, made a speech of particular interest to the readers of this paper, in that he quoted the work of the women of the Suffrage Movement as an example for Labour to-day. He referred to the large numbers of women, rich and poor, caring not for their own advancement, but willing to give time, work, and, in fact, themselves, for the sake of the cause.

#### War Pensions.

We welcome the new decision of the Ministry of Pensions in respect of claims to pensions by widows of men disabled in the Great War whose deaths take place more than seven years after discharge or removal from duty. In the future there is to be no time limit whatever for the grant of pensions to a widow of any pensioner, whose death is either directly or indirectly due to war service. A point which requires watching by members of Pensions Committees is the forfeiting of pensions by war widows who are accused of immorality. Such accusations are sometimes made anonymously and the special Grants Committee decides whether the pension shall be forfeited or not. It has been pointed out that the forfeiture of a pension say of 20s. a week for the rest of her life may amount to a fine of well over £1,000—a punishment surely out of proportion to the offence, even if proved.

#### Widows' Pensions.

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald has referred to Widows' Pensions as part of the legislation Labour Government would try to carry its first session. This is good hearing, indeed, and is in accordance with our own views, often put forward in these columns, that the time has arrived when this reform has become really practical politics. All three parties have accepted the principle, and although any actual scheme is bound to be a target for criticism, and in spite of the real difficulty of finding the money, still few social reforms would be more warmly welcomed by the country. Unfortunately the census figures dealing with the number of widows with dependent children are not yet complete, but it is possible to arrive at some, admittedly rough, estimate. The National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship has estimated that a scheme giving a pension of 16s. for the widow and 6s. 6d. for each child under school leaving age (including also orphans who have lost both parents)—figures approximating to the Statutory Minimum below which war pensions cannot fall—would work out at £15,500,000. Particulars as to the scheme and as to the need for widows' pensions will be given in an article by Miss E. F. Rathbone next week.

The Churches and International Relationships.

The churches are sometimes attacked on their indifference to the cause of Peace, and we do not think the work of the World Alliance (or Promoting International Friendship through the Churches) is so well known as it ought to be. Our readers will be interested to learn that Sir Willoughby Dickinson is the British Honorary Secretary of this Alliance. We are gratified to see that women are not excluded from this great movement, two women, Mrs. Creighton and Lady Parmoor, having places among the British representatives of the International Committee. In our next issue the Rev. Dr. Alexander Ramsay, the Organization Secretary for Europe, will give an account of the work of the Alliance.

The Synagogue Franchise for Jewish Women.

The Union of Jewish Women has for some years past taken active measures to obtain the Synagogue franchise for the women members of the orthodox synagogues of the Metropolis, which are under the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the Chief Rabbi. These form a group known as the United Synagogue and the wardens and representatives of each of the Constituent Synagogues form a Council bearing the name of the United Synagogue Council. This body has recently appointed a Committee to inquire into various suggestions for reforms and changes, with a view to determining whether they are admissible under the United Synagogue's Act and Deed of Foundation and Trust. Amongst the most hotly debated reforms was the demand of the Union of Jewish Women for the woman Seatholder to have equal voting rights and to sit on the boards of management attached to each synagogue.

The Union has for years past done much to stir general interest in the question and has moreover succeeded in having resolutions on the subject put at meetings of male members of all the Constituent Synagogues. The net result showed considerable majorities for the resolutions, and it was generally felt that "Votes for the Woman Seatholder" would meet with but little opposition when the Special Committee would bring it to the notice of the Council of the United Synagogue.

All the greater was the indignation and disappointment of Jewish women when they learned that their reasonable demands had been rejected by a considerable majority at a recent meeting of the Council. The injustice and shortsightedness of this policy is in marked contrast to the treatment of the womanworshipper in the Reform and Liberal Jewish Synagogues. In both these Congregations women enjoy full rights of membership and in the latter they allow the pulpit to be occupied by a woman preacher. It is, of course, only a matter of time before the orthodox section, as represented by the United Synagogue Council, will realize that it makes for the strength and honour of the Jewish Community for its women to have a direct voice in the administration of the Synagogue.

#### Indians and Arabs.

On 4th January it was reported from Nairobi that the new Kenya Colony Constitution had been adopted. This Constitution embodies the much disputed decision of the British Government that the franchise shall be exercised by communities voting separately. Thus the Europeans elect eleven members to the Legislative Council, the Indians five, the Arabs one, and the exact nature of the franchise has been determined separately by the separate communities concerned. It is interesting to note that the Indians have demanded and secured adult suffrage without restrictive qualifications, and including both men and women. The Arabs, on the other hand, have chosen to limit the franchise to persons who have resided at least two years in the colony and are able to read and write. Women are expressly excluded. It would be interesting to know something of the

relative position of women in the Indian and Arab communities. Meanwhile, we continue to look forward to the day when a complete political equality of the sexes shall prevail under the British flag.

#### Health and Knowledge.

All persons interested in the development of public health activities will welcome the action of the Wesleyan and General Assurance Society in opening a health service bureau for propaganda and research on the subject of health. We understand that the activities of the new department will include the study of health statistics and the carrying through of periodical health surveys, and what is of even greater importance, the propagandist diffusion of knowledge concerning personal and social hygiene and the prevention of sickness. We congratulate the Wesleyan and General Assurance Society upon its enterprising step, and we both hope and believe that the expenses of the new bureau will be covered, and more than covered, by the diminution of sickness among its members. Such efforts are part and parcel of the crusade which must be waged against our population's misplaced patience with intermittent ill-health. And there is little doubt that the female of the species is the worst offender in this respect.

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.

#### THE WILL TO GO ON WORKING.

Last week the National Union of Women Teachers concluded its conference at Nottingham. In the course of its deliberations an interesting though truitless discussion cropped up on the question of the retiring age. Miss Tetlow, of Rochdale, moved that teachers should be allowed to retire with full pension rights at the age of 55. This proposition was hotly challenged by the Hon. Treasurer, Miss Hewitt, who contended that it was dangerous to suggest that the mental and physical disabilities of women were such as to prevent them from rendering efficient service after that age. After some further discussion the previous question was put and carried. The motion was accordingly dropped, to the general satisfaction of the assembled delegates, who had more pressing and immediately practical issues to deal with.

Nevertheless, looking back upon this brief controversy, a number of interesting considerations arise. It is no doubt true, as one of the speakers remarked, that to have served the State up to the age of 55 should entitle a woman to retire. Thirty-five years or so of physical and mental routine work in the teaching profession strikes one at first sight as a pretty adequate slice of a life whose normal span is three-score years and ten. And there seems nothing extortionate in the claim to "depart in peace after making such a contribution to the common weal. And yet we are inclined to believe that most women (or men for that matter) of 55, engaged in a professional career, would retire very reluctantly from the scene of their life's work. Leisure in the intervals of work, the continuous opportunity to "utilise its by-products", is a physical, mental, and spiritual necessity to the normal individual. But the complete uninterrupted leisure of the retired worker is a gift from which one individual in a hundred—or shall we say at a milder venture, one in tencan draw real happiness. It is a dangerous gift, as innumerable mothers of grown-up families or crphaned daughters of aged and impotent parents have found to their cost.

But there is a more important, or at any rate an equally important aspect of the question than the happiness of the individual worker: the quality of the work done. "Can women teachers give efficient service after that age?" was a question raised by one of the speakers in the aforementioned discussion, and dismissed by her with an implied affirmative. The answer is, of course, complicated by the fact that it depends not merely upon the peculiarities of each individual, but upon the peculiarities of each occupation. In the purely manual occupations, clearly the ideal retiring age is set by the declining capacity of the human muscular system; and the maximum intensity of labour should probably be relaxed somewhere in the neighbourhood of the late forties or early fifties. But there are a whole group of occupations, prominent among them, the writing of poetry and the composition of music, in which the adventurousness of youth counts for more than either learning or experience. There are essentially young men's jobs. How many of the world's greatest lyrical poets and musical composers have touched the highest peaks of their art in the twenties or early thirties? Most of them, we venture to think. But when we move among doctors, clergymen, administrators, and politicians, the peak of the efficiency curve is pushed rapidly backwards, and the late fifties, the sixties, and even the early seventies acquire a new significance. We see the man who (as we go to press) holds the office of Prime Minister of Great Britain as a young man for his job. And the towering, but bent figures of Palmerstone, Gladstone, Disraeli, Salisbury, Morley, and a host of other sixty- or seventy-year-olds become the protagonists of our stage. In the world of science and learning, too, the white heads and the bald heads are doing their full share, and more than their share, of the hard thinking. All of which (if we cut out the learned persons whose peculiar efficiency depends so largely upon the reading of many books) goes to prove that it is in those occupations which flourish by digested personal experience of the ways of human beings, that the peak of the efficiency curve is pushed furthest back.

How then are we to plot the efficiency curve of the teacher? She must have in her something of that adventurousness of youth which goes to the making of a first-rate lyrical poet—for she is dealing with youth. She must have in her something of the digested personal experience of the first-rate physician or administrator, for she is continuously in touch with the devious ways of human beings. And we are inclined to suspect that her efficiency curve is a long even sweep, in shape somewhat like the outworks of an ancient Roman camp, and that its downdrop comes well on the far side of the early sixties, when the decline of physical capacity begins to make headway against

the further accumulation of worldly wisdom. But all that may be poor comfort to the tired teacher approaching the end of her thirty-five years' grind; and indeed we can only meet her case by moving from the realm of what is to the realm of what ought to be. No job ought to be so ordered that the person who performs it can only secure by retirement the amount of leisure for which the normal human being craves. No job involving the continuous, observant, and delicate handling of human beings should be so ordeed as to drain away the "cheer" (we picked up that word from an Aristolelian) which makes it seem worth doing through all eternity. Some day, no doubt, man's growing knowledge of his own glandular system will enable him to grasp the secret of eternal physical youth. We would prefer to see that secret grasped by the method recommended by Bernard Shaw in his masterpiece Back to Methuselah—the method of creative evolution and the will to live three hundred years; for it is desirable that the will to live and work longer should precede the capacity to do so. Therefore let us see to it that the teacher's job is so ordered that the possibility of performing it for very much longer than thirtyfive years shall not appear wholly nauseating.

# WOMEN CANDIDATES FOR PARLIAMENT, 1918-23.

The success of eight women candidates for Parliament has given rise to so much satisfaction that the achievements of those whose efforts were not crowned with success have been to some extent overlooked in estimating the progress that has been made in the country with regard to women in Parliament. Before the election of December, 1923, becomes relegated to past history, it may perhaps be a profitable exercise for our readers to consider the advance that has been made since a gallant little band of fifteen women came forward as candidates in the General Election of 1918, when women exercised their new privileges of citizenship for the first time. On that occasion Miss Christabel Pankhurst, Coalition Candidate for Smethwick, stood highest with a poll of 8,614 votes. Only four others polled over 4,000; Miss Mary Macarthur, Mrs. Despard, Miss Violet Markham, and Miss Alison Garland. The average number of votes per candidate was 3,462. The circumstances of this particular election were such that a wholesale defeat of the women candidates was not surprising, but in our congratulation over the victory of eight women Members to-day we cannot fail to recall with admiration and gratitude the spirited efforts of the pioneer fifteen.

The General Election of 1922 was, however, a very different affair. The ice had been broken; two women had already occupied seats in the House of Commons and there was consequently much disappointment that none of the other thirty-two women who stood were returned to reinforce Lady Astor and Mrs. Wintringham. From a statistical point of view, the record was much more satisfactory. The average vote polled per candidate was 7,188, as compared to 3,462 in 1918. Votes secured by five candidates ran into five figures, and nine polled over 9,000 votes. Closer examination showed that though circumstances were much more propitious than in 1918, there were obvious enough reasons to account for the lack of success in every case apart from the supposed handicap of their sex. Out of the thirty-two defeated candidates only one contested a seat previously held by her Party, and in this one case the electorate

reverted to its former political colour. When we turn to the election which is just over, we find that once again the circumstances were abnormal, and fears were entertained that women candidates would fare badly in an election rushed on the country and concerned with one dominant issue on which women were by no means unanimous. Such fears proved to be groundless, and there is great rejoicing that eight women will find places in the House this week. Apart from this there is cause for encouragement in the conspicuous improvement in the polls secured by many candidates who were not actually successful, as compared with previous occasions. The average vote has risen from 7.188 to 8.346, and several candidates, quite new in the field, after a very brief campaign secured figures which indicate very clearly that sex is no longer an unsurmountable barrier to political attainment. Miss E Pilkington, standing as a Conservative, polled 16,108; Miss Ursula Williams, the youngest candidate, too young to use her vote, was not too youthful to impress the electorate to the extent of 14,619 votes. Mrs. Folland, the only woman candidate in Wales, totalled 10,219, and Miss Violet Robertson achieved 9,204 votes in Glasgow. In 1923 as in the year before it is noteworthy that with the exception of the three women who had already taken their seats, not a single one stood for a seat previously held by her party. This fact adds lustre to the victory of the five women who were successful in gaining seats for their respective parties. This brings us to the regrettable feature of the recent election which was touched on by X. Y. Z. in a recent issue of this paper, that women who have marked qualifications for Parliament and who, moreover, have rendered conspicuous service to their political parties as workers, speakers, even as Parliamentary candidates in the past, women, some of whom would certainly be returned to Parliament if the respect and admiration of those who know their work could send them there, were only offered seats "where the chances of a win were

practically nil."

Nevertheless, when we remember that on 6th February we celebrate the sixth anniversary of the first great instalment of the enfranchisement of women, this record of attainment in a reform which is the natural corollary of votes for women is not discreditable, on the whole, as the result of six short years of political power.

HATS OFF!

The opening day of the Session was marked by an important development of Parliamentary etiquette. The three Labour women M.P.s removed their hats. Thus an established tradition has been strangled at birth. In future, women M.P.s will be able to exercise their discretion in the matter without any effort of moral courage—which is all to the good. Meanwhile, there is the incidental advantage that the new fashion will help to differentiate the House of Commons from a consecrated edifice in which privileged persons preach sermons to tongue-tied and reverently disposed hearers.

# THE HOLY SEE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS.

The ideal which Catholics set before themselves in the many difficult questions which arise for them in their national and international responsibilities is that of the now well-known expression of His Holiness, The Peace of Christ in the Kingdom of Christ. For us this Christian Peace will never come out of any arrangements between a group or groups of secular states, however ingenious may be the machinery. Much to avoid actual warfare may doubtless be done, and many suitable political settlements which are neither very religious nor very secular. may be made. Thus the question as to the ownership of certain disputed tracts of land to which two countries could fairly lay an historical claim, or the rights and wrongs as to the setting up of a new sovereign state, unless some flagrant denial of justice or morality were concerned, is not primarily a matter of interest to the Holy See. On the other hand, no settlement of the future of Palestine nor of the Christian minorities in the Near East, in which the Holy Father was debarred from having a voice, could be acceptable to any Catholic.

Each sovereign state is a perfect community in itself, and yet is a part of the whole humanity; much trouble has arisen from regarding the state as a person with a code of morality wholly apart from that required from individuals; this is the theory of the omnicompetent personified state, as conceived by the sixteenth century civilians, which has always been condemned by the Holy See as incompatible with human liberty.

The Kingdom of Christwhich the Pope seeks to establish is a supernatural kingdom whose citizens must lead a supernatural life.

The inherent weakness of a body such as the League of Nations lies in this: it presupposes the power of nations, which have no existence apart from the individuals who compose them, to behave with brotherly love and justice towards each other. Whoever asks us to believe that unaided human nature is capable of attaining to perfection asks us to repudiate our faith and to abandon our position as Catholics. So far the League and, indeed, all the powers and weaknesses which won the late war, emphatically—I will not say rudely, though the treatment of Benedict XV came near to it—refused to allow the Holy See the slightest voice in the settlement of Europe, and are surprised that the Pope cannot bestow unmitigated praise on their work. Catholics are studying the arguments for and against the League, and we may hold what opinions we like; Rome has not yet pronounced.

We may, I think, say that just as the International Catholic Students' Federation, Pax Romana, which has the particular favour of His Holiness, was founded by the Pope's express order, on the understanding that there must be no conqueror or conquered, but all Catholics, so to gain any real approval the League must be a true League of all nations. Nations are nothing to the Pope, but the individuals who compose them are without distinction of equal value in his eyes, because he is the Head of all Christians <sup>2</sup> by divine appointment. It is true that millions repudiate his jurisdiction, but that does not alter the fact, and this idea, at present perhaps only sentiment, is being realized, if only by the criticism of the Vatican; each country seems to want the Pope to be on its side, and so, in a way, the nations are realizing that the Pope is something more than the head of an important body of Christians.

The Pope cannot ask the League to let him in, rather must the League appeal to him for help, and on his own terms and conditions. The Holy See is not neutral, but impartial, not an arbitrator, but a judge, who will decide impartially and without prejudices the questions which may be submitted to him. Spiritualis (potestas) dijudicat omnia et ipse a nemine judicatur. (Hugh of St. Victor, early thirteenth century.)

MAURICE WILKINSON.

at Reading. See full account, Tablet, 20th October, 1923.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Papa universalis monarcha totius populi Christiani et de jure totius mundi. Alvarius Pelagius, 1332.

<sup>2</sup> A conference on this and kindred subjects was held early last October

#### WHAT I REMEMBER. XVIII.

#### By MILLICENT GARRETT FAWCETT, J.P., LL.D.

#### VISITS TO IRELAND.

One of the immediate results of these events in our own personal life was a visit to Dublin and other parts of Ireland in order to enable my husband to have consultations with Dr. Lloyd, the Provost of Trinity College, Dublin, and other University authorities. It was our first visit to Ireland, but I went there repeatedly in later years, visiting friends in connection with Suffrage work. On our first visit we stayed in lodgings in Dublin for about a fortnight, and met many most interesting people, among them Dr. Lloyd, Dr. Ingram, Mrs. Rowan Hamilton, and Sir Robert Kane, a man of science and Commissioner of Irish Education. We mingled for a time in a most delightful society, and I think I never in any other place had seen, in social gatherings, so much beauty and such distinguished and charming men and women. In our lodgings we had a very clever and nimble-minded little maid. When the last day of our visit approached and we were occupied in preparing for our departure we told her that we were too busy to receive visitors. But presently we heard our bell, and the little girl ran into our room with important intelligence on every feature. "It's Sir Robert Kane," she said, "I know y'said y'didn't want to see anybody; but I know you and the master like him, so I told him I wasn't quite certain whether y'were in or whether y'were out. Now are y'in or are y'out?" This was so clever

and so Irish that we never forgot it.

Before returning to England we paid a visit in the south-west to Mr. Townsend Trench, Lord Lansdowne's agent in Kerry. Mr. Trench's house was in a very lovely situation with the broad Kenmare River, almost an arm of the sea, in one direction, and the Kerry mountains in the other. I think we owed this very attractive invitation from Mr. Trench to Lord Edmund Fitzmaurice, Lord Lansdowne's brother, who was an intimate friend of ours. We had a most interesting visit, Mr. Trench keeping up a continuous stream of Irish stories, inimitably told, which we both thoroughly enjoyed. Before our visit came to an end Mr. Trench turned on me and said he knew I hadn't believed one word he had said since I had been there. It hadn't occurred to me either to believe or disbelieve his anecdotes. They were among the things that were good in themselves,

whether true or untrue.

Mr. Trench gave us the opportunity of seeing some of the Irish social customs, and very different they were to anything with which we were familiar at home. When the eldest son of a tenant on the estate was of an age to marry and had selected a bride, the farm was transferred from the father to the son, who then had to make a settlement in favour of his parents. But this transaction necessitated a most tremendous amount of bargaining, because the son about to become the tenant had to settle upon his parents, perhaps a cow and four pigs, with enough land for their feed, in order to enable the dispossessed tenant and his wife to live. It was this settlement by the son upon his father which caused such vehement and prolonged conversation. The vehemence and the length were all the more pronounced because the bride-to-be and her parents were also present and took an active part in the proceedings. What appeared an ample and handsome settlement to the one side was resented as miserable parsimony on the other. We were invited to be present at one of these marriage settlement discussions. It was the most curious thing I had ever heard. We were, of course, merely silent auditors, but Mr. Trench took a part, generally, so far as we could judge, a friendly and fairminded part, tending towards a peaceful solution of the tremendous difficulties involved. In these discussions the mother of the bride was referred to as "the supposed mother-in-law," for, of course, the marriage did not take place till these business affairs had been settled. Coming away, Mr. Trench told us that he was frequently consulted by young men on the Lansdowne estate when they were contemplating marriage as to the direction in which they should allow their affections to flow; for instance, a young fellow would come to tell Mr. Trench that he had practically a choice between two girls, one had a cow and two pigs; on the other hand the one he liked best had a cow and one pig; and he sought Mr. Trench's advice upon the final casting of the die. Mr. Trench did not hesitate for a moment, but said 'Why marry the girl with the cow and two pigs; there's not

the difference of a pig between any two women in the world." I have since seen this story in various forms, but I think Mr. Trench was entitled to claim it as his own.

The office on the Lansdowne property was in a little building standing apart from any other and some way from the house. It might once have been a lodge. In a conspicuous position on one of the desks was a huge piece of silver plate which had been presented by former tenants on some occasion such as the coming of age or the marriage of an heir to the title and property. When Mr. Trench left the office with us in his company he first turned the key in the lock and dropped it in his pocket. I asked him if it was safe to leave the big piece of presentation silver there where it could be so easily stolen. "Perfectly safe," he said, "why, what can anyone want with it?" This seemed to me a very obvious and a very delightful reply to my enquiry, but was a great testimony to the honesty of the people.

When at Kenmare I heard many terrible stories of the Irish famine. The shopkeepers when they took down their shutters in the morning very frequently found dead bodies lying in the street, "mountainy" folk who had held out against starvation so long that they only had strength enough to stagger down the mountain side into the main street of Kenmare and die there. It was anguish to think of what they must have suffered, and I wondered more than ever at the hundredweight or so of silver lying quite safe in the unprotected office. It is true, as economists point out, that no one can eat silver or gold, but they do enable the possessor to get food in most cases.

I made many subsequent visits to Ireland, where I formed warm friendships. On one occasion my route led me from Tralee to Limerick, where the trade once flourishing on the splendid river had wasted to nothing. I also visited county Clare, then

the centre of a very violent land agitation.

When I was in Tralee driving up the long straggling street I observed that almost every house was licensed to sell spirits, and I was told that magistrates for the most part never refused an application for a spirit license: they were terrorised into granting it, no matter how great the number already in existence. I heard a good deal of the ill-effects of this system, through which the owner of every draper's, grocer's, or shoemaker's shop was licensed to sell spirits, because women, making the most necessary household purchases, were constantly tempted to drink before a bargain was clinched. On another occasion I was driven about for a whole day by Mr. Sam Hussey, a well-known land-agent and as witty a man as could be found even in Ireland. Our whole expedition seemed to be for the purpose of showing me the terrain of innumerable crimes. Gruesome, my readers may be thinking; not at all, every stricken field was enlivened by Mr. Sam Hussey's jokes. "This is where the man stood that was shot, and that is where the man stood that shot 'um,' 'said Mr. Hussey. And I, like little Wilhelmine in Southey's verses, was asking, "Why did they do it? What was it all about? Was it agrarian?" and Mr. Hussey replied, No, no, nothing agrarian at all, merely a friendly affair.'

#### NURSERY SCHOOLS.

On 5th January Miss Margaret Macmillan addressed a meeting at University College, Gower Street, on the need for more nursery schools. The meeting was held under the auspices of the recently formed Nursery School Association, whose main object is the effective carrying out of that clause in the Fisher Education Act which authorizes the establishment of nursery schools by local education authorities. We have always thought-and we continue to think—that the best day-to-day environment for a child under elementary school age is a healthy and reasonably spacious home. The majority of homes in this country are, however, neither healthy nor reasonably spacious. They are not fit for any civilized human being to live in continuously, least of all children of that peculiarly significant and susceptible age which precedes school life. Nor are conditions likely to become very generally more tolerable for some years to come. In view of this fact, therefore, and of Sir George Newman's verdict (recently discussed in these columns) concerning the appalling wastage of health among children of pre-school age, we welcome the activities of the Nursery School Association, and hope that they will bear fruit throughout the urban areas of this country.

#### CONCERNING ANNE ASKEW.

#### Born 1520, daughter of Sir William Askew, Knight, of Kelsay in Lincolnshire.

Sir William Askew's elder girl had been going to marry the son of a neighbour called Kyme, but she died, and Sir William forced his second daughter to carry out the engagement entered into by her sister, because such an alliance offered pecuniary advantages and additional land to the Askew property.

Although Anne married Kyme under protest and most unwillingly, yet she seems to have been a "dutiful wife" and the mother of two children, but unfortunately for herself she was also a woman of intelligence, and so, though she had been brought up as a Roman Catholic, she became interested in the Reformation, which was occupying many of the best minds of that day, and this led her to a study of the Bible and other theological works, with the result that she became convinced of the truth of the Reformers' doctrines.

That any woman should dare to hold opinions not permitted by her husband was, of course, unheard of, so at the Priest's instigation, or possibly because he had tired of Anne, Kyme

drove her out of his house with ignominy.

Anne thereupon determined to sue for a separation, and travelled to London for this purpose. She was received favourably by Queen Catherine Parr, at whose court she had many friends. But her husband and the Priest accused her to Henry VIII who, strangely enough, was especially dogmatic on the subject of the "Real Presence." The sex and youth of the "heretic" seem to have intensified the rage of men who could not understand a woman having the insolence to oppose their theories by reason and argument.

In March, 1545, Anne was arrested and imprisoned. She was twice subjected to lengthy examinations by the Lord Mayor and others as to her faith, transubstantiation, mass for departed souls, etc. Her answers were too sensible to be pleasing to her inquisitors, and this is a sample of the sort of question and reply which goes on for pages and must have occupied hours:—

Lord Mayor. Thou foolish woman. Sayest thou that the Priests cannot make the Body of Christ?

Anne. I say so my Lord. For I have read that God made man, but that man made God I never yet read.

Lord Mayor. No, thou foolish woman? yet after the words of consecration is it not the Lord's Body?

Anne. No. It is but consecrated bread.

Lord Mayor. What if a mouse eat it after consecration? What shall become of the mouse? What sayest thou, foolish woman?

Anne. What shall become of her say you my Lord? Lord Mayor. I say that mouse is damned.

Anne. Alack! poor mouse!

The particulars of her interrogations were written by herself, and published after her death. This was fortunate because, though many suffered death for their opinions, few there were to preserve details of such trials in those troublous times. Witnesses were scarce, or afraid for their own lives, and many of the martyrs were people who had not received as good an education as Anne, and they reserved what energy they had to praying for courage rather than to setting forth their need of it.

But in Anne's case we also have long dissertations on her trial from the pen of John Bale, Bishop of Ossory, and the following is a condensed account of the proceedings:—

Anne was summoned before the King's Council at Greenwich and was examined by Chancellor Wriothesley, the Bishop of Winchester and others. She replied to all their inquiries with patient dignity "notwithstanding she was extremely ill at the time." She was then remanded to Newgate for eleven days, and allowed to see none but a wily priest sent to lure her into dangerous speech. None other was permitted access to her. Not even Dr. Latimer, though she prayed she might have a visit from him. Her request was denied, and this same Latimer was burnt at Oxford in 1555. Anne also wrote to the King and the Chancellor explaining her opinions, but her learning only caused her to appear the more dangerous to them, so she was transferred to the Tower. . . .

was transferred to the Tower. . . .

"Then the Bishop said I should be burned. I answered that I had searched all the Scriptures, yet could I never find there that either Christ or His Apostles put any creature to death. . . .

"They said to me that I was an heretic and condemned by the Law if I would stand in my opinion. "I said as for that ye call your God it is but a piece of Bread, and for a more proof thereof, mark it when ye list, let it lie in the box but three months and it will be mould. Whereupon I am persuaded that it cannot be God. God is a Spirit, and will be worshipped in spirit and in truth."

Then they demanded, "Will you plainly deny Christ to be in the Sacrament?" I answered that I believed faithfully the Eternal Son of God not to dwell there. Concluding thus, "I neither wish Death nor yet Fear it. God have the praise

thereof with thanks."

She was then interrogated as to her patrons at Court, her persecutors suggesting the names of many ladies of title, but she replied that she knew nothing of their opinions. "Then they said there were of the Council that did maintain me, and I said 'No."

Thereupon she was "led down into a dungeon where Sir Anthony Knevet commanded his gaoler to rack me, and they did bind me on the rack because I confessed no ladies or gentlewomen to be of my opinion. And thereon they kept me a long while." Finding they could get no information from her the Lord Chancellor commanded the lieutenant of the Tower to increase the strain. This official appears to have hesitated at murdering the woman outright, so "because I lay still my Lord Chancellor and Mr. Rich threw off their gowns and took pains to rack me in their own hands, first asking if I were with child, but I said "ye shall not need to spare me for that" so they racked me till I was nigh dead."

(Here John Bale, Bishop of Ossory, in his account of the proceedings, breaks out:—"See how madly in their raging furies men forget themselves and lose their right wits. A King's Counsellor, a judge over life and death, yea, a Lord Chancellor of a most noble realm is now become a most vile slave for anti-Christ and a most cruel tormenter, without honesty or manhood, he casteth off his gown and taketh now upon him the most vile office of an hangman and pulleth at the rack. What devil of hell bewitched you to execute upon a poor condemned woman so prodigious a kind of tyranny? She suffered your utmost violence till her sinews were broken, and the strings of her eyes perished in her head. Think not, therefore, but that Christ hath suffered in her and so mightily showed his power.")

Anne was not released till every limb was dislocated and her "bones and joints were almost pluckt asunder." She was unconscious for a time, but "they recovered me again and then I lay two hours reasoning with my Lord Chancellor upon the bare floor where he persuaded me to leave my opinions. But my Lord God gave me grace to persevere and will do, I hope, to the very end, for I would rather die than break my faith."

The Lord Chancellor's brain being no match for Anne's, even under these circumstances, and also perhaps because his lordship felt a desire for dinner after his day's exertion, he put an end to their discussion by remarking that if she could not have her opinions she should forthwith to Newgate and so be burned. To the which she replied assuring him that he worshipped an "abominable Idol" (and as men are known by their works who shall deny the truth of her words?), adding proudly ere he left her, "My God will not be eaten with teeth, neither dieth he again, and upon these words which I have now spoken will I suffer death."

She was carried back to her cell and life and pardon offered her if she recanted, but she refused and was condemned to the stake. Although unable to stand she drew up a confession of her Faith and concluded it by a prayer for fortitude and for the forgiveness of the "Blind of Heart."

"There be some that do say that I deny the eucharist or thanksgiving, but those people do untruly report of me, for I both say and believe that if it were ordered like as Christ instituted it a most singular comfort were it unto us all. But as concerning your mass as it is now used, I do believe it to be the most abominable Idol.

"The Lord open the eyes of their blind hearts. Farewell, dear Friend, and Pray, Pray, Pray.

"Fight thou Lord, in my stead, for on Thee I cast my care." Even when tied to the stake, Shaxton, an apostate, was set to harangue the martyrs before death, to the which Anne, listening attentively, "commended him when he spoke well. When otherwise she told him he spake amiss." Thus said

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This article is one of a series which will extend over several months.

Mr. Loud, an eye-witness of her execution, adding that "Her face was like unto that of an Angel, notwithstanding her body was mangled and disjointed in such a manner that she could not stand, but had to be supported by two sergeants.

Then a message was read to her from the Lord Chancellor promising the King's pardon if she recanted. But she answered, I came not hither to deny my Lord." The same offer was made to the other four martyrs who were to suffer on that occasion, but not one acepted it. "Whereupon the Lord Mayor cried out with a loud voice, 'Fiat Justitia,' and fire was put

Thus they died in the flames July 16th, 1546, Anne being in

the 25th year of her age.

May we value our English liberties for the dear sakes of the many who died to win them.

RUTH CAVENDISH BENTINCK.

#### A BILL TO PREVENT PROSTITUTION ON SHIPS IN PORT.

A correspondent writes :-

"It will be remembered that when the Joint Select Committee of both Houses sat in 1920 to consider the three Criminal Law Amendment Bills that had been referred by the House of Commons there was a proposal before the Committee to extend the Brothel Act in order to include ships in port when they were used for purposes of prostitution. Until the evidence then laid before the Committee was published, the general public were unaware of the existence of this evil. Fortunately, the attention that was drawn to the position at that time has done much to reduce the extent of the evil, and several of the large port towns have enacted bye-laws which enable the police to prevent the access of women to ships. But even at the present time it occurs in certain ports that women are taken on board ships lying in harbour, very often foreign ships, sometimes with the connivance and knowledge of the officers of the ship and remain in the men's quarters, in some cases for two or three days at a time. The condition of the women and the result on the health of the men may be imagined. A case has been recently cited where an infected woman remained in the forecastle of a small ship with a crew of fifteen for 48 hours; on arrival at the next port two of these men had immediately to proceed to hospital. It is unknown how many of the remainder of the crew were infected. Another case has been cited where all the members of the crew of one small ship were infected in a similar manner. The depths of degradation involved in such a condition of affairs are such that from the public health, social, and humanitarian motives it is urgently necessary that steps should be taken to prevent the continuance of this evil. The problem is a very difficult one to deal with, as there is no wish to penalize in any way the wives and relatives of the officers and crew visiting the ships. The question has been under consideration by the Seafarers' Joint Council, by representative shipowners, and the Parliamentary Committee of the National Council for Combating Venereal Diseases. All are in agreement that the evil should be checked, and although it is realized that the Single Clause Bill which will place ships in port under certain circumstances under the Brothel Act will by no means completely meet the difficulty. it will be a step in the right direction. We feel sure we can rely on women to give their support to such a measure, and we hope that those that are resident in port areas will do what is possible from the social side to improve the conditions for the members of the Mercantile Marine.'

The need for the improvement in the conditions of ships in port is clear, but it is very doubtful whether the evil can be remedied by legislation such as is proposed. A brothel comes under the law either as a public nuisance or because those responsible are exploiting the immorality of its inmates for gain. Responsibility is easy to fix. A ship, however, could not come under any such definition. Nor would it be easy to hold the captain responsible. We agree, however, that it is essential that shipowners and others should bring pressure to bear on individual captains to see that conditions on their ships are sound, healthy, and that the particular evil referred to by our correspondent is

#### THE LAW AT WORK. THE PRISON REPORT.

JANUARY 11, 1924.

The main fact disclosed by the Report of the Prison Commissioners which has just been issued is that while crime has not increased during the year there has been an increase in the number of prisoners. This is not due to a greater severity of punishment, but to the prevalence of unemployment. The increase in the number of receptions into prison has been from 56,922 to 66,832, and of this additional 3,910 no less than 3,728 were debtors. The debtors have increased from 1,830 in 1918 to the huge total of 12,995 last year. A very large number also -15,861—were imprisoned in default of paying a fine, and no doubt much crime was due to the demoralization or poverty due to unemployment.

To return to the debtors. They are composed for the most part of men who owe money under Orders for wife maintenance or affiliation and not of civil debtors. The number is so great as seriously to disturb the Governors of the Prisons who draw attention in their Reports to the futility of the present system by which some men go to prison again and again under these Orders. Sometimes they fall into arrears when out of work, and directly they start work again they are arrested and brought to Court. In other cases the man has a grievance against the woman in whose favour the Order has been made and is determined not to pay. Others are mere loafers who do not try to earn; others again never pay until they are committed

to prison and then they promptly find the money.

This is the reverse side of a problem which has long troubled the readers of this paper. They are mainly concerned with the position of the unfortunate women and their children, who fail so signally to get their rights under the law, and who struggle along in starvation equally if the man is sent to prison and if he is not. All this elaborate process of serving a warrant and fetching the man from one part of the country to another, and escorting him to and from prison and maintaining him while he is there does not put one penny of money into the pocket of the woman. It is interesting to note that the Governors suggest that where a man is earning money an attachment of some part of his earnings in favour of the woman might be made, or alternatively that he might be put to some compulsory work until the debt could be paid. This last would be an admirable plan provided that sufficiently lucrative work could be found which was at the same time within the man's powers to perform.

The rest of the report follows somewhat familiar lines. There is the usual tale of Recidivism, 59 per cent. of the men received into prison and 84 per cent. of the women having been previously convicted. In fact, nearly one woman in three had received over 20 previous convictions. The number of persons remanded in custody without being granted bail is still very large. We are not given the exact figure, but it is significant that no less than 11,158 who were sent to prison on remand did not return after their trial. This is an increase of 2,000 over last year, and the number is said to be partly due to an ignorance on the part of prisoners as to how to get bail.

There is a big drop in the number of girls under 21 sent to prison—only 383 during the year—but of these 156 were first offenders. The number of lads so treated is much greater. reaching to nearly 3,000, many of them for comparatively trivial offences. There has been a great increase in the number of short sentences—that is for a fortnight or less. This gives the impression that imprisonment is being increasingly used for minor offences which could be much better dealt with by a fine or binding over. There are not two opinions as to the damaging effect of prison on a youthful or a first offender, but this is far from being generally realized.

The Report contains much that is of the greatest interest on the subject of Prison Reform and on what has actually taken place in the prisons during the year, and to this we hope to return

#### NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE.

Next week we shall resume our News from Westminster. In addition we shall publish an article by Dr. Alexander Ramsay on the Churches and International Relationships, and an account of recent International Labour Office activities by our League of Nations Correspondent. We regret that the signature of Miss Eleanor Rathbone was omitted from her article "On Being Ourselves"

#### NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

President: Miss Eleanor Rathbone, C.C., J.P. Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. Soddy. Hon. Secretary: Miss E. Macadam. Parliamentary Secretary: Mrs. Hubback.

Offices: 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1. Telephone: Victoria 6188.

# ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING, Church House, Great Smith Street, Westminster, 26th, 27th, 28th March.

Owing to difficulties in connection with the arrangements for a Hall the dates announced last week have had to be changed. The new dates are 26th, 27th, and 28th March. Full particulars as to dates for sending in resolutions, etc., have been circularized to our Societies, and may be had on application to Headquarters. In view of the political situation it is expected that this Council will be a particularly interesting one, and we hope there will be a large attendance of delegates.

Visitors' tickets may be had at a charge of 3s. for three days,

Every effort will be made to find hospitality for those requiring it. Delegates are asked to apply to the Secretary, N.U.S.E.C., 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1, at the earliest possible date.

#### PUBLIC LUNCHEON, Thursday, 27th March.

A public luncheon will be held on Thursday, 27th March, at which the eight women Members of Parliament and other Members of both Houses who have rendered signal service to our cause during the year will be invited as guests of honour

An Evening Reception will be held of which particulars will be announced later.

# CONFERENCE ON THE RETURN OF MORE WOMEN TO PARLIAMENT, 3 p.m. RECEPTION TO WOMEN MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT, 4.30 p.m., Church House, Great Smith Street, S.W., 23rd January.

Members of the N.U.S.E.C. desiring to attend the Reception or the Conference, or both, are requested to apply for cards of admission. A large number of women candidates for Parliament at recent Elections will be present, and the following women Members of Parliament have accepted invitations: Lady Astor, The Duchess of Atholl, Miss Susan Lawrence, Lady Terrington, Mrs. Wintringham. Other visitors may also apply for cards.

#### PENSIONS FOR WIDOWS WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN.

We are glad to hear from several of our Societies that they are organizing meetings on this subject. We hope that all our Societies will arrange either to hold such meetings or to pass resolutions calling upon the Government when it assumes office to carry out this reform as soon as possible. Resolutions should be sent to the leaders of the three political parties, the Minister of Health, and your Member or Members of Parliament. Miss R. Hardy, who is engaged in organizing the campaign at Headquarters, is speaking at Roehampton W.C.A., on 22nd January, and will be available for speaking engagements on the subject during January, and in or near London after January for evening meetings. Applications should be made to Headquarters as soon as possible.

#### MATINEE IN AID OF THE FUNDS OF THE N.U.S.E.C.

The Matinee Entertainment in aid of our funds will be held at 2.30 on 5th February, at 25 Park Lane, by kind permission of Sir Philip Sassoon. Sybil, Lady Brassey has consented to act as hostess. An exhibition of Children's Dancing and a Children's Dress Parade are among the attractions of the programme. Dame May Whitty and Mr. Ben Webster will give a duologue, Miss Athene Seyler and Mr. Nicholas Hannen have promised a short play, and Miss Gertrude Kingston and Miss Peggy Whitty will recite. Preliminary bills will be sent on application to any member who will help us in advertising the entertainment. Applications for tickets should be made the Ticket Secretary, N.U.S.E.C., 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

#### WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE, 55 Gower Street, W.C. 1.

A private letter just received from a German gives an interesting account of events at Aix. It says: "The English Consul at Aix-la-Chapelle has been of great comfort and help to the terrorized population in my native town, and it is specially due to his influence that the Belgians turned the Sonderbündler (separatists) out at last. The old town hall has suffered a great deal by all the shooting: the famous frescoes by Rethel were

badly hurt. Aix-la-Chapelle being delivered from all these criminals the English Consul was triumphantly carried on people's shoulders through the streets to the town hall. Perhaps it will do you good to know that Englishmen will always try to be fair to a population whose protection they promised to hold up in times of their occupying the land." It is with very mingled feelings one reads these words: pride and pleasure that some of our representatives in Germany have earned for us such a reputation: sorrow and shame that our national action in regard to fair play for the vanquished has fallen so far short of their individual effort. The future is still ours.

#### OBITUARY. KATE TERRY.

On Sunday, 6th January, Kate Terry (Mrs. Lewis) died in her 80th year. She was the eldest of the three Terry sisters, of whom the greatest is Ellen Terry. To the younger generation of to-day Kate Terry is hardly even a known name, since her official stage career ended in triumph so many years ago—with her marriage at the age of 23 indeed, in the year 1867. But since then she has appeared in public from time to time, and her name has always been spoken in the same breath as the names of her two more famous sisters. Her last stage appearance was in 1906, when the three appeared together in a scene from "Much ado about Nothing," played at Ellen Terry's jubilee benefit performance in Drury Lane Theatre. That was the memorable occasion when a queue assembled for a long night vigil outside the pit entrance on the afternoon preceding the day of the performance. Kate Terry was a very gracious lady, every inch a Terry, and she lived out her active life in close association with the leading players in one of the finest closed chapters of English stage history.

#### CORRESPONDENCE. FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE.

MADAM,—I do not know whether an opinion regarding the outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease is a suitable topic for your paper; but surely a matter affecting so greatly our meat and milk supply—consequently the public health—to say nothing of the great monetary losses entailed, may not be entirely inappropriate. Many causes have been put forward as to the origin of these outbreaks: infection in sacks of hay and straw, infection carried by cattle from abroad, etc., but I have never once seen the suggestion of the mischief being caused by the eating of cattle cakes. These latter are known to be largely composed of potatoes which are diseased and not fit for human consumption. Would it not be well to investigate this as a possible source of infection?

E. A. R.

#### THE LAW WITHOUT TEARS.

THE LAW WITHOUT TEARS.

Madam.—On the passage of the Sex Disqualification Removal Bill into law in 1919, the Lord Chancellor, in a speech made in the House of Lords, concluded that a number of representative women would be added to the Commission of the Peace, and that women would be chosen from those who had either distinguished themselves in the Public Service or by the possession of exceptional private gifts.

I have seen a circular to-day bringing to the notice of Women Magistrates a treatise by John Rose, a Metropolitan magistrate who resigned in 1912, entitled "Light on Law for Lady Magistrates: A small volume to aid Lady Magistrates in the administration of Criminal Law by explaining the principles, reasons and terms of it in simple conversational tanguage."

The notice interested me for two reasons: (1) Are women magistrates to administer the law in a different manner to their male colleagues, or (2) Are their intellects of an inferior calibre, their educational qualifications poorer, or their social knowledge less profound? There is no record, so far as I know, for special provision for any other category of magistrates, e.g., deaf or senile magistrates!

I would suggest to women magistrates that they should go for guidance

I would suggest to women magistrates that they should go for guidance I would suggest to women magistrates that they should go for guidance and instruction rather to one of the more modern exponents of the law who have had personal experience of their work, of their powers and of their limitations and they will get from many of the present Metropolitan magistrates the education and help which they wish so earnestly to obtain to enable them to qualify for this amazingly interesting form of social service.

A Constant Reader.

## DELICIOUS FRENCH COFFEE RED WHITE & BLUE

For Breakfast & after Dinner

In making, use LESS QUANTITY it being much stronger than ORDINARY COFFEE

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Under the direction of Mrs. C. D. Rackham, J.P., Miss S. Margery Fry, J.P., with Mrs. Crofts, M.A., LL.B., as Hon. Solicitor.

#### COMING EVENTS.

FEB. 4. 3 to 4.30 p.m. The Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Cinematograph Lecture on the World's Children, Mrs. Downer ("Save the Children Fund"); Mrs. Hitchcock will sing Folk Songs.

INTERNATIONAL HOUSE CLUB, 55 GOWER STREET, W.C.1.

#### NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

JAN. 23. 3 p.m. Church House, Great Smith Street, Westminster. Conference on "The Return of More Women to Parliament." 4.30 p.m. Church House. Reception to Women Candidates and Members of Parliament.

FEB. 5. 2.30 p.m. 25 Park Lane, S.W. Matinée entertainment in aid of funds of N.U.S.E.C. ROEHAMPTON W.C.A. JAN. 22. 2.30 p.m. Bowling Green House, Putney Heath. "Widows' Pensions." Speaker: Miss Hardy.

CHESTER W.C.A. JAN. 29. 8 p.m. King's School. Miss Macadam. LEEDS S.E.C. FEB. 4. 5.30 p.m. 18 Park Row, Rev. H. Bowman (Vicar of St. Mark's, Woodhouse).

#### WOMEN'S LOCAL GOVERNMENT SOCIETY.

JAN. 16 and 17. Board Room, Metropolitan Asylums Board, Victoria Embankment, E.C. 4. Conference of Women Councillors, Guardians, and Magistrates.

#### LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNION, WESTMINSTER BRANCH.

JAN. 17. 8 p.m. Caxton Hall. "The Assembly at Geneva, 1923." Speaker: Mr. H. Wilson Harris (Special Correspondent for Daily News at the Fourth Assembly). "The League and the Whole World." Speaker: Mr. Chao-Hsin Chu (Charge d'Affaires at the Chinese Legation, Delegate for China at the Fourth Assembly). Chairman: The Right Hon. Lord Charnwood.

#### TYPEWRITING AND PRINTING, Etc.

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#### WHERE TO LIVE.

ISIS CLUB, 79 Fitzjohn's Avenue; two minutes Hampstead Tube Station. Magnificent reception rooms, central heating, sunny bedrooms; sandy soil; lectures, dancing, listening-in. Telephone: Hampstead 2869.

L ONDON, S.W.—LADIES' RESIDENTIAL CLUB has holiday vacancies during December and January. Good cooking; unlimited hot water; 2 minutes from Tube and Underground. Single rooms, with partial board, 35s. to 38s.—Apply, Miss Day, 15 Trebovir Road, Earl's Court.

#### TO LET.

E ALING.—Suit business ladies, students or nurses; first-floor BED-SITTING-ROOM, two beds; slot-meter gas-fire; slight attendance, meals by arrangement; near railway stations, buses, parks, tennis, etc.; moderate terms.—Box 1,037, Woman's Leader, 15 Dean's Yard, West-minster, S.W. 1.

BED-SITTING-ROOM, with use of kitchen, in lady's house, S.W. 11; terms moderate.—Box 1,038, Woman's Leader, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

LARGE unfurnished south ROOM, with partial board; also smaller, furnished. Ladies' Residential Club, 15 Kensington Park Gardens, Notting Hill Gate, W. 11. Miss FireSimon and Miss Scott.

CONVENIENT small HOUSE, Berks, 30 miles London. Wanted, one or two ladies as caretaker-tenants during owner's absence abroad, Feb.-May. Part of house only, and only nominal rent wanted.—Box 1,039, Woman's Leader, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

#### PROFESSIONAL.

44 MORE MONEY TO SPEND" (Income Tax Recovery and Adjustment).—Send postcard for particulars and scale of charges to the Women Taxpayers' Agency, Hampden House, 84 Kingsway, W.C. 2. Phone, Central 6049. Estab'd 1908.

LEARN TO KEEP ACCOUNTS.—There are especially good lessons in book-keeping at Miss Blakeney's School of Typewriting and Shorthand, Wentworth House, Mauresa Road, Chelsea, S. W. 3, "I learnt more there in a week," says an old pupil, "than I learnt elsewhere in a month." Pupils prepared for every kind of secretarial post.

#### FOR SALE AND WANTED.

K ITCHEN CLOTHS.—Bundles of Kitchen and Lavatory cloths, strong durable quality. 12 cloths in a bundle, no kitchen and 2 lavatory. Only 7s. 5d. per bundle. Write for Winter Sale Catalogue.—HUTTON'S, 41 Main Street, Larne, Ireland.

SECOND-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.

#### DRESS.

MISS MALCOLM'S DRESS ASSOCIATION, 239 Fulham Road, London, S.W. 3. Bargain Gowns, Evening and Afternoon, at 2ts.

"FROCKLETS." Mrs. Elborough, o Lower Regent Street, W. 1, 4th floor (Lift). Tel. Gerrard 903. Children's Dresses of original and practical design, Coats, Caps, etc., etc. Smocks a speciality. Fancy Dresses. Open daily (Saturdays excepted) to a.m.-4p.m., or by appointment.

#### PUBLIC SPEAKING.

PUBLIC SPEAKING.—Will those wishing to follow Marion McCarthy's Special Course write at once to 16 Hallam Street, Portland Place, W. 1.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE.— Secretary, Miss Philippa Strachey. For information about employment and vocational training, write or call, Interviews 10-1 (Saturdays excepted).—Wellington House, Buckingham Gate, Westminster.

THE PIONEER CLUB has reopened at 12 Cavendish Place. Town Members £55s.; Country and Professional Members £44s. Entrance fee in abeyance (pro. tem.).

THE FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Eccleston Guild House, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Sunday, 13th January, 6,30, Miss Maude Royden: "Our Christian Faith: The Mind of God."

LONELY? Then send stamped addressed envelope to Secretary, U.C.C., 16L, Cambridge Street, S.W. 1.

JOIN INTERNATIONAL HOUSE CLUB, 55 Gower Street, W.C.r. Subscription, 7s. 6d. per annum. Luncheons, and Teas in the Cafetaria and in the garden. Thursday Club Suppers and Discussion Meetings re-opened in September. 17th January, 8 p.m., Miss K. D. Courtney: "My Visit to the Ruhr."

#### HOUSE ASSISTANTS' CENTRE

510 King's Road, Chelsea, S.W. 10.

On and after December 14th, 1923, the Employment Registers of the Centre will be closed and work will be concentrated on its second and third objects;

"(2) To encourage training and interest in Domestic occupations."

"(3) To do everything possible to raise the status of Domestic Service, as Florence Nightingale did that of Sick-Nursing."

"(3) Four of the Community of the American Home Economics Service, as Florence Nighting will entail much outside work the office will only be open for interviews once a week—on Fridays from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m., except by special appointment.

ANN POPE, Hon. Secretary.

(Member of the American Home Economics Association.)

THE WOMAN'S LEADER can be supplied direct from this Office for 12d. including postage. Send 6/6 to the Manager, WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1, and the paper will be sent to you at any address for a whole year. Persuade your friends to do the same.

Please send THE WOMAN'S LEADER to me for twelve months. I enclose 6/6.

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