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# THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SVFFRAGE NEWS



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## PEACE CONFERENCE, AMSTERDAM.



MRS CATT AND MEMBERS OF THE PEACE CONFERENCE ON THE STEPS OF THE  
COLONIAL INSTITUTE, AMSTERDAM.



### PROGRAMME OF THE CONFERENCE.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1927.

Reception at the Paviljoen Vondelpark, offered by the Vereeniging van Staatsburgeressen and the Unie voor Vrouwenbelangen to all delegates and visitors from abroad.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17th.

#### MORNING SESSION.

Chairman: Miss Ruth Morgan.

"Why the Alliance studies Peace" Mrs. Corbett Ashby  
President of the Alliance.

"The Aims of the Conference" Miss Ruth Morgan  
Chairman of the Committee for Peace and the League of Nations.

Report of the Secretary of the Committee for Peace and the League of Nations ..... Miss Rosa Manus

"The World Economic Conference" ..... M. Maurette  
Director of the Research Section of the International Labour Office.

"Political Exaggerations of Economic Realities"  
Prof. Thomas Parker Moon

Discussion.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

Chairman: Mlle. Emilie Gourd

"Economic War or Peace" Dr. Marie Elizabeth Lüders  
Member of the German Reichstag, Delegate to the Economic Conference.

Resolutions.

"Distribution of Raw Materials: possibility of international Control"

De Heer Jan Oudegeest, Vice President of the International Labour Office, Ex-Secretary of the International Federation of Trade Unions.

"Situation of World Credit" ..... Sir George Paish  
Discussion.

Reception and Buffet by the Nederlandsche Vrouwenclub (Lyceum Club), Keizersgracht 580.

#### OPEN MEETING.

Chairman: Mrs. Corbett Ashby

Addresses of welcome:

Miss Rosa Manus, Vice-President of the Alliance, on behalf of the Committee;

Mrs. Italic van Embden on behalf of the Vereeniging van Staatsburgeressen;

Miss Johanna Westerman M.P., on behalf of the Unie voor Vrouwenbelangen.

Speakers: Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, Honorary Chairman of the Committee for Peace and the League of Nations, on: One Open Door to Peace. Mme. Malaterre Sellier, Vice President of the Alliance; Dr. Ulich-Beil, Member of the Saxon Diet. The Viscountess Astor, M.P.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18th.

#### MORNING SESSION.

Chairman: Dr. C. C. Bakker van Bosse.

"Recent Developments in Arbitration" .. Dr. Klyver  
Technical Expert, Dutch Delegation the League Assembly.

"Settlement of disputes by Arbitration"  
Dr. Edgar Stern-Rubarth  
Director of Wolff's Agency.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

Chairman: Frau Adele Schreiber-Krieger.

International Security ..... Mrs. Moss  
Substitute delegate Australian delegation to the League Assembly.

Prof. Th. Ruyssen  
Secretary: Association Internationale por le Société des Nations.

Discussion.

Resolutions.

Delegates and visitors interested in the question of Women Police are invited to visit the office of the Children's Police, Kloveniersburgwal 72. Tram 9 from Colonial Institute.

Official dinner at Maison Couturier, Keizersgracht 674.  
Three minute speeches.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19th.

#### MORNING SESSION.

Chairman: Mme. Grinberg Aupourrain.

"Problems of Disarmament" .... M. de Madariaga  
Chief of the Disarmament Section of the League.

"Naval Disarmament" ..... Admiral Allen  
Discussion.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

Chairman: Miss Ruth Morgan.

"Disarmament" ..... Frau Emmy Freundlich  
M.P. Austria, Pres. Inter. Co-operative Women's Guild.

Discussion.

Resolutions, Votes of Thanks, Closing speech.

Reception to delegates and Speakers by the Mayor of Amsterdam, Burgemeester de Vlucht, Heerengracht 502.

### GREETINGS TO THE CONFERENCE.

Letter from M. BENES.

Ministère des Affaires Etrangères de la République de la Tchecoslovaquie.

Mesdames, Messieurs,

Ne pouvant à mon très grand regret participer personnellement aux travaux de votre conférence d'études, consacrée à la plus aiguë des questions de la vie d'après guerre en Europe, la question de la paix, permettez-moi de vous adresser par écrit mon salut au commencement de vos travaux et de vous exprimer tous mes vœux pour entière réussite de votre conférence. Je le fais d'autant plus sincèrement que je connais l'importance de la question qui est le point central de vos débats et que je me rends compte de la préoccupation qui vous anime dans votre tâche. Cette préoccupation est partagée après la guerre mondiale par tous les hommes à la raison éclairée et au cœur vivant et principalement par tous ceux qui, dans quelque direction que ce soit, assument la responsabilité du développement politique de l'humanité: cette préoccupation est inhérente à toutes les nations et, en premier lieu, petites nations qui ont tout récemment recouvré leur indépendance et leur liberté, comme la nation tchécoslovaque: c'est la préoccupation d'assurer la paix, la sécurité de l'Europe et du monde. J'estime, quant à moi, que vous abordez avec un esprit juste l'étude des questions qui sont l'objet des préoccupations que je viens d'énoncer, si vous commencez par l'examen des difficultés économiques et politiques, ainsi que les obstacles qui s'opposent à la paix; si vous déterminez d'après le caractère de ces difficultés les moyens et les voies pour l'assurer et la garantir. J'estime également que vous formulez avec beaucoup de justesse le caractère des obstacles politiques que rencontre la paix et les méthodes pour les écarter si, dans ce sens, vous posez pour premier objet de vos travaux les problèmes de la sécurité et de l'arbitrage. Effectivement, ces problèmes n'ont pas d'autre signification que de montrer, d'une part les plus grandes difficultés pour l'établissement de la paix résultant du système, qui existait hier encore et existe en partie aujourd'hui, des rapports internationaux reposant sur la défiance, l'intrigue et l'hostilité, et, d'autre part, la voie pouvant amener cet état; de montrer en outre la nécessité de l'établissement des rapports entre les peuples et les Etats basés sur la confiance mutuelle, le respect des engagements et des traités internationaux, la loyauté, la volonté

de résoudre par des traités d'amitié ou d'arbitrage tous les conflits et mécontentements éventuels, enfin la solidarité internationale dans la conservation de la paix et de la sécurité, comme la Société des Nations veut les incarner en réalité: en un mot la nécessité d'un nouveau statut juridique international.

Je suis persuadé qu'on ne doit pas juger d'une manière pessimiste les possibilités de ce nouveau système internationale en dépit de toutes les difficultés qui se sont présentées jusqu'à présent pour la solution de cette question en bloc et dans ses détails, comme nous en avons été témoin et y avons collaboré à la Société des Nations. Nous ne devons pas envisager l'éloignement qui nous sépare encore du but final que nous voulons atteindre, mais considérer et apprécier aussi les étapes des progrès accomplis dans cette voie. Nous n'avons pas réussi à mettre en pratique toute l'oeuvre élaborée il y a trois ans par la protocole de Genève et qui fortifiait les engagements pris par tous les membres de la Société en repoussant les guerres d'agression et en soulignant à nouveau l'obligation de l'arbitrage et de la solidarité, mais nous ne devons pas perdre de vue que les idées, sur lesquelles cette oeuvre était édifée, sont devenues plus vivantes et qu'elles s'ouvrent de plus en plus un chemin vers une politique pratique, comme le montre le nombre croissant de traités d'arbitrage et de garantie, conclus dans l'esprit et le cadre de la Société des Nations, et servant à assurer et consolider la paix. Il dépend d'ailleurs de nous, de la volonté et des facultés de tous ceux qui ont conscience de la signification fatale des questions de paix et de sécurité que ces idées triomphent dans la politique de tous les Etats européens. La démocratie, dont le développement dans une grande partie de l'Europe restera comme le résultat le plus précieux des années révolutionnaires d'après guerre, signifie que dans la grande majorité des Etats européens tous les individus depuis les ministres jusqu'aux ouvriers, sont responsables de la politique de leur gouvernement, des méthodes de leur politique extérieure, pour autant du moins qu'ils déterminent ensemble le milieu d'où émane la politique du peuple et de l'Etat et qu'ils peuvent exercer leur influence sur le développement et la réalisation des idées de paix et du nouveau statut juridique international dans les masses, si non directement dans les assemblées politiques de leurs pays.

Je suis du nombre de ceux qui apprécient pour cette raison la politique pacifique des gouvernements et des diplomates, de même que la volonté pacifique et le travail de tous ceux qui représentent, stimulent l'opinion publique nationale et internationale; du nombre de ceux qui approuvent d'autant plus l'oeuvre que dans l'intérêt de la paix, veut développer l'organisation qui provoque cette conférence; elle a bien compris que la revendication, pour compléter et perfectionner la démocratie, et l'octroi aux femmes du droit de vote et de l'égalité politique, là où cette revendication n'a pas encore été réalisée, sera acceptée d'une manière d'autant plus évidente et avec d'autant plus de joie si elles montrent qu'elles sont capables de se mettre au premier rang pour travailler en faveur de la paix et du nouveau statut juridique internationale, ainsi que de collaborer dans la mesure de leurs forces à la diffusion des idées de paix et à l'éloignement de toutes les difficultés que celles-ci rencontrent.

C'est dans cet esprit que j'adresse encore une fois mon salut aux membres de la Conférence.

DR. EDUARD BENES.

Telegram from M. Beelaerts,

S'Gravenhage 17. novembre 1927.

Je regrette que mes fonctions m'empêchent me rendre à l'aimable invitation pour assister à votre Congrès. Je formule mes meilleurs vœux pour le succès complet de vos travaux étant convaincu de l'influence bien-faisante que les femmes peuvent exercer en faveur de la paix. Je souhaite que la propagande active des différentes associations représentées à votre Congrès

puisse contribuer à créer la mentalité parmi les peuples qui doit former la base pour l'action des gouvernements pour atteindre les buts poursuivis par la Société des Nations.

Beelaerts, Ministre des Affaires Etrangères des Pays Bas.

From International Bodies.

Bureau International de la Paix.

Institut Universitaire des Hautes Etudes Internationales (Mantoux).

Bureau International pour la Défense des Indigènes.

Ligue Internationales des Femmes juives.

World's Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations.

Dame Rachel Crowdy.

(League of Nations).

Melle Mundt (I.L.O.)

From Women M.P.'s.

Rudel Zeynek, of Austria.

Anna Kethly, of Hungary.

and from many other Societies which space does not permit to us name.

### RESOLUTIONS.

#### ECONOMIC QUESTIONS.

1. We, the delegates from Societies of many countries, ardently desiring peace and the welfare of the race, note with satisfaction that the World Economic Conference, composed of members from all quarters of the globe and representing every class and every shade of economic opinion, has unanimously set forth some important principles of economic policy which the world ought to pursue in the interest alike of peace and prosperity.
2. We note that this policy, based on the fact that countries are economically interdependent to a greater or less degree, consists principally of a reduction of those trade barriers that at present unduly hamper international trade.
3. Recognizing that in the unanimous opinion of the Conference the adoption of this policy would result in a substantial improvement in world economic conditions, and in the end in an advance in the general standard of living and in reduction of prices and increase of employment; and also, recognising that the removal of those trade barriers, which are a cause not only of waste and loss but also of friction and ill-will, would substantially aid the cause of peace.
4. We declare our ideal to be the full and free intellectual and economic co-operation between the peoples of all nations, and return to our respective countries resolved to bring before our national societies of women the immediate need in the interests of world peace of using their political power to urge upon their respective governments to accept and put into practice in every possible way, both by separate national action and in collaboration with other countries, the recommendations of the Economic Conference.
5. This first Study Conference of the Peace Committee of the Alliance sends forward to the President and the individual members of the Council of the League its earnest conviction that the representation of consumers on the Economic Consultative Committee will not be complete without the inclusion of women, since in all countries women suffer equally with men from the high cost of living, from the grave financial situation and from unemployment, and inasmuch as they guide the expenditure of the family they are one of the most important economic factors.
6. In consequence of the extraordinary economic danger and serious menace to world peace arising from the indebtedness of European States, this Conference resolves to ask the auxiliaries of the



Alliance to propose to their respective Governments to submit to the League of Nations a proposal tending to the opening, with the collaboration of its competent organs, of a general investigation, on purely economic grounds, into international financial obligations resulting from the world war.

#### POLITICAL QUESTIONS.

This Conference:

1. notes with satisfaction that the 8th Assembly of the League of Nations has set up a Special Committee to study the Questions of arbitration and security;
2. expresses the hope that this Committee will pronounce in favour of an international agreement, formally interdicting all recourse to war;
3. begs all Governments to adhere to the Optional Clause of the Permanent Court of Justice and secondly to conclude treaties agreeing to submit their differences after the failure of conciliation or other peaceful methods of settlement, to arbitration or to the jurisdiction of the Court.
4. hopes that the Committee of Arbitration and Security will draft detail propositions which may be submitted to the Assembly of 1928;
5. (a) invites the auxiliaries to make those ideas of solidarity underlying the Pact better known which entail certain obligations towards States vic- of aggression.

The Conference:

6. convinced that the present state of armaments is in itself one of the causes of mutual distrust between nations, that it keeps alive a feeling of insecurity, and that it is therefore at once an effect and a cause of unrest and war;
7. convinced that even under the present conditions of security, a disarmament treaty covering progressive limitation in armaments is possible;
8. begs the Auxiliaries to examine the divergences of opinion which have been shown in the Preparatory Committee for Disarmament, and to urge upon their Governments to make such reciprocal concessions as may be necessary to bring about an international agreement.
9. Considering that effective disarmament can only be realised, when an atmosphere of mutual confidence between peoples has been created by moral disarmament, the Conference urges women and mothers to work to realise this moral disarmament by all means in their power, and especially by educating the younger generation in the spirit of Peace and international understanding.

#### VOEUX ECONOMIQUES.

Nous, déléguées d'associations de nombreux pays, désirant ardemment la Paix et le bonheur des Peuples,

1. Constatant avec satisfaction que la Conférence Economique Internationale composée de membres de toutes les parties du globe et représentant toutes les classes et toutes les nuances d'opinion économique, a établi à l'unanimité quelques principes importants de la politique économique que le monde devra poursuivre dans l'intérêt de la Paix et de la prospérité commune.
2. Constatant que cette politique, basée sur le fait que les Pays sont à des degrés différents économiquement interdépendants, consiste principalement dans la diminution des barrières qui entravent le commerce international.
3. Considérant que, dans l'opinion unanime de la Conférence, l'adoption de cette politique doit conduire à un progrès notable des conditions économiques mondiales et, finalement, à une amélioration du niveau général de la vie, à la diminution des prix et à une réduction du chômage.

Considérant aussi que la suppression de ces barrières commerciales, qui sont une cause non seulement de gaspillages mais de difficultés et de malentendus, aiderait considérablement la cause de la Paix.

4. Nous déclarons que notre Idéal doit être la pleine et libre co-opération intellectuelle et économique entre les peuples de toutes les Nations. Nous déclarons que nous retournerons dans nos pays respectifs, résolues à faire comprendre à nos Sociétés féminines nationales la nécessité immédiate, dans l'intérêt de la Paix du Monde, d'user de leur pouvoir politique sur leurs gouvernements respectifs afin que ceux-ci acceptent et mettent en pratique par tous les moyens, soit nationaux, soit en collaboration avec d'autres pays, les recommandations de la Conférence Economique Internationale.
5. La première Conférence d'Etude de la Commission de la Paix de l'Alliance exprime au Président et aux membres du Conseil de la Société des Nations sa ferme conviction que la représentation des consommateurs dans la Comité Economique Consultatif ne pourra être considérée comme complète si les femmes n'y ont leur place; car dans tous les pays, les femmes souffrent autant que les hommes de la cherté de la vie, de la crise des affaires et du chômage et, d'autre part, en dirigeant la consommation familiale elles constituent un des facteurs les plus importants de la vie économique.
6. Considérant le danger économique extraordinaire et la sérieuse menace pour la paix du monde, qui résulte des dettes des Etats européens, la Conférence engage les membres de l'Alliance à suggérer à leurs gouvernements respectifs de soumettre à la S.d.N. une proposition tendant à ouvrir, avec le concours de ses organes compétents, une enquête générale sur des bases purement économiques, au sujet des obligations financières qui résultent de la guerre mondiale.

#### QUESTIONS POLITIQUES.

La Conférence

1. constatant avec une vive satisfaction, que la 8ème Assemblée de la S.d.N. a décidé de faire étudier par un Comité spécial les questions d'arbitrage et de sécurité.
2. exprime le vœu que ce Comité se prononce en faveur d'un accord collectif interdisant d'une manière formelle tout recours à la guerre.
3. demande à tous les gouvernements d'adhérer à la clause facultative de la Cour Permanente de Justice, et, en second lieu, de conclure des traités par lesquels ils se déclarent d'accord pour soumettre leurs différends, après insuccès de conciliation ou d'autres méthodes pacifiques d'arrangement, à l'arbitrage ou à la juridiction de la Cour.
4. espère que le Comité d'Arbitrage et de Sécurité élaborera des propositions précises qui seront soumises à l'Assemblée de 1928.
5. invite les associations affiliées:
  - (a) à propager les idées de solidarité qui se trouvent à la base du Pacte et qui entraînent des obligations concernant l'assistance mutuelle aux Etats victimes d'une agression.
  - (b) à insister auprès des gouvernements pour qu'ils examinent quelles nouvelles obligations ils pourraient assumer pour augmenter la sécurité générale et faciliter le désarmement.

La Conférence

6. convaincu que l'état actuel des armements est une des causes de la méfiance mutuelle entre nations, en entretenant leurs sentiments d'insécurité et que, par conséquent, il est en même temps un des effets et une des causes de l'insécurité et des guerres.
7. convaincu que, déjà, dans les conditions actuelles de la sécurité, un traité de désarmement contenant

une limitation progressive des armements est possible.

8. prie les associations affiliées d'examiner les divergences de vue qui se sont manifestés dans la Commission Préparatoire du Désarmement, et d'insister après de leurs Gouvernements afin d'obtenir les concessions réciproques nécessaires pour aboutir à un accord international considérant que le désarmement effectif des Pays ne sera réalisable que si un désarmement moral crée une atmosphère de confiance entre les Peuples. Emet le vœu que les femmes et les mères travaillent à réaliser ce désarmement moral par tous les moyens en leur pouvoir et particulièrement par l'éducation des jeunes générations dans un esprit de paix et de compréhension internationale.

#### ENTSCHLIESSUNGEN ZU WIRTSCHAFTLICHEN FRAGEN.

1. Als Delegierte der Vereinigungen zahlreicher Länder und im Bestreben dem Frieden und der Wohlfahrt der Menschheit zu dienen, stellen wir mit Befriedigung fest, dass die Genfer Weltwirtschaftskonferenz, die sich aus Wirtschaftsvertretern aller Erdteile, aller Klassen, aller Meinungen zusammensetzte, übereinstimmend zu der Befürwortung einer Wirtschaftspolitik gelangte, die im Interesse des Friedens und des Wohlstandes der Welt gleichermassen befolgt werden müsste.
2. Diese Politik stützt sich auf die Tatsache, dass Länder wirtschaftlich in grösserem oder geringerem Umfange von einander abhängen, und erstrebt daher vor allem Abbau der Schranken, die gegenwärtig den Welthandel in unangemessener Weise hemmen.
3. Die Konferenz erkennt einmütig an, dass Befolgung der in Genf empfohlenen Wirtschaftspolitik eine erhebliche Verbesserung der Weltwirtschaftslage, damit Erhöhung der allgemeinen Lebenshaltung, Abbau der Preise und Vermehrung der Arbeitsmöglichkeiten herbeiführen würde. Sie erkennt ferner, dass Beseitigung der Handelschranken die nicht nur Vergeudung und Verlust, sondern auch gegenseitige Reibungen und Feindschaft mit sich bringen, die Sache des Friedens wesentlich fördern würde.
4. Wir bekennen uns zu dem Ideal des vollen und freien geistigen und wirtschaftlichen Austausches von Gedanken, Leistungen und Waren, zwischen allen Völkern und Nationen, und kehren in unsere Länder mit dem Entschluss zurück, unseren Frauenorganisationen vorzustellen, dass es für die Herbeiführung eines Weltfriedens unbedingt erforderlich ist, dass sie ihren Einfluss als Staatsbürgerinnen ihren Regierungen gegenüber dahin geltend machen, dass diese Regierungen die empfohlenen Massnahmen der Weltwirtschaftskonferenz annehmen und für sich in Zusammenarbeit mit anderen Regierungen in jeder möglichen Weise ausführen.
5. Die Konferenz spricht dem Vorsitzenden und den Einzelmitgliedern des Völkerbundes nachdrücklich ihre Meinung aus, dass die Vertretung der Verbraucher beim Comité Economique nicht als vollständig betrachtet werden kann, wenn sie nicht Frauen als Mitglieder umfasst; in allen Ländern sind es Frauen, die den Verbrauch der normalen Familie bestimmen; sie leiden ebenso wie die Männer unter hohen Bezugspreisen, Desorganisation des Handels und Arbeitslosigkeit.
6. Die Konferenz beschliesst im Hinblick auf die ausserordentliche Gefahr für Wirtschaft und dadurch Frieden der Welt, die durch die Verschuldung der Europäischen Staaten besteht, die Verbände des Weltbunds zu bitten, sich bei ihren Regierungen dafür einzusetzen, dass sie dem Völkerbund den Vorschlag unterbreiten, dass er unter Zusammenarbeit mit seinem

sachverständigen Organen eine allgemeine Untersuchung unter rein wirtschaftlichen Gesichtspunkten über die internationalen finanziellen Verpflichtungen einleitet, die sich aus dem Kriege ergeben haben.

#### ENTSCHLIESSUNGEN ZU POLITISCHEN FRAGEN.

1. Diese Konferenz:
  1. stellt mit Befriedigung fest, dass die achte Versammlung des Völkerbundes einen besonderen Ausschuss zum Studium der Fragen der Abrüstung und Sicherheit eingesetzt hat;
  2. sie gibt der Hoffnung Ausdruck, dass dieser Ausschuss sich zu Gunsten einer internationalen Uebereinkunft erklären wird, die formell verbieten wird zum Kriege zu schreiten;
  3. sie bittet alle Regierungen die fakultative Klausel des ständigen Internationalen Schieds-Gerichtshofs zu unterzeichnen und Verträge zu schliessen, durch die sie sich bereit erklären, alle ihre Streitfälle bei Versagen eines Vergleichsverfahrens dem Scheidungsgerichtsverfahren oder dem Urteil des Gerichtshofes zu unterwerfen;
  4. sie hofft, dass der Ausschuss für Schiedsgerichtsbarkeit und Sicherheit ausführliche Vorschläge ausarbeiten wird, die der Völkerbundversammlung von 1928 vorgelegt werden können,
  5. (a) sie fordert die angeschlossenen Verbände des Weltbundes auf, den Gedanken der Solidarität, der der Völkerbundsatzung innewohnt und die rechtliche Verpflichtungen sowie gegenseitige Unterstützung bedrängter Staaten mit sich bringt, zu verbreiten.
  - (b) sie ersucht die Regierungen dringend, Mittel und Wege zu suchen, die die allgemeine Sicherheit vergrössern und Abrüstung erleichtern; auch mögen die Regierungen untersuchen, welche neue Verpflichtungen in dieser Frage aufgenommen werden können;
- Die Konferenz:
  6. überzeugt, dass der gegenwärtige Zustand der Rüstungen eine Ursache an sich gegenseitigen Misstrauens zwischen den Nationen bedeutet, dass er die ständige Bedrohung des Gefühls der Sicherheit in sich trägt und dass er daher zugleich Wirkung und Ursach internationaler Beunruhigung und der Kriege ist;
  7. überzeugt, dass selbsts gegenwärtig ein Abrüstungsvertrag, der eine fortschreitende Begrenzung der Rüstungen vorsieht, möglich ist.
  8. bittet die angeschlossenen Verbände des Weltbunds, die Abweichungen der Ansichten, wie sie im vorbereitenden Abrüstungsausschuss zu Tage getreten sind, zu beachten und ihre Regierungen dringend zu ersuchen, solches gegenseitige Entgegenkommen zu zeigen, wie es für das Zustandekommen einer internationalen Uebereinkunft nötig ist.
  9. Die Konferenz:
    - in der Ueberzeugung, dass eine tatsächliche Abrüstung der Länder sich nur verwirklichen lässt, wenn eine moralische Abrüstung eine Atmosphäre des Vertrauens zwischen den Völkern geschaffen hat, spricht den dringenden Wunsch aus, dass die Frauen und Mütter an der Verwirklichung dieser moralischen Abrüstung mit allen ihnen zugänglichen Mitteln arbeiten mögen, namentlich durch die Erziehung der jungen Generation in Geiste des Friedens und des internationalen Verständnisses.

#### THE PEACE STUDY CONFERENCE IN AMSTERDAM.

We publish above the programme and Resolutions of the Conference which will doubtless in themselves give a certain picture of the Conference, but this first effort of the Alliance to carry out a new item on its programme



must have a few words of description beyond these bare facts.

#### The Delegates.

To the members of the Alliance one of the most delightful happenings of the Congress was the presence of Mrs. Chapman Catt. Mrs. Catt undertook the long journey from America just to be present at the Conference and the antecedent meeting of the Peace Committee—four days in Amsterdam! That was a wonderful tribute to her interest in the Alliance and its peace work and it was fully appreciated. She looked wonderfully well and it was a great joy to all to feel once more the inspiration of her presence. Then there was Miss Morgan, Chairman of the Committee and its quite indefatigable Secretary, Miss Rosa Manus who was the animating spirit of the Conference. The Board of the Alliance was well represented by the President, Mrs. Corbett Ashby, the First Vice President, Frau Adèle Schreiber, Mme. Malaterre Sellier, Senator Plaminkova, Mlle. Gourd, Miss Sterling, Mme. Grinberg, Mme. Charaoui Pacha, the Marquesa del Ter, Frau von Velsen and Miss Walin. The following Auxiliaries were represented: Australia, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, France, Germany, Great Britain, Holland, Hungary, Ireland, Roumania, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States. Most of the big women's international organisations appointed fraternal delegates, namely: the International Co-operative Women's Guild, the International Council of Nurses, the International Council of Women, the International Federation of University Women, the Women's International League of Peace and Freedom, the World Union of Women for International Concord and the World's Young Women's Christian Association.

#### The Speakers.

The programme shows who the speakers were, and space does not permit us to give any detailed account of what they said, for which the Report of the Conference, which will be ready very shortly, must be consulted. M. Maurette gave a masterly, witty and inclusive survey of the Economic situation; Professor Thomas Parker Moon, who is a Professor of the Columbia University, New York, now undertaking special research work in Paris, gave an address showing that economic needs are sometimes exaggerated for political purposes. Dr. Lüders, who needs no introduction to our readers, emphasised the basic need for economic adjustments in securing world peace, and Sir George Paish roused the Conference to an understanding of the immediate dangers to the world of a breakdown in world credits. We cannot recall the wisdom of each separate speaker, and will only note that Mrs. Klyuyver, of the Dutch Foreign Office, gave a lucid survey of the present situation as regards arbitration, and M. de Madariaga not only dealt with what has been done and is to be done for disarmament, but also succeeded in inspiring faith and hope in the future possibilities of achievement.

At the evening meeting, the speech of Mrs. Chapman Catt was necessarily the great event. She made a great speech, which while it did not fail to make an appeal to our idealism, also gave much shrewd matter for hard thought. With her measured tones, her infrequent and restrained gestures, she appeared as the inspired prophetess of the peace movement.

#### The Social Side.

The informal opening of the Congress took place on the Wednesday evening, when the two Dutch societies, the Staatsburgeressen and Unie voor Vrouwenbelangen, which form the Auxiliary of the Alliance in Holland gave a delightful reception which gave us all an opportunity of meeting each other. There was a charming and unexpected interlude when a troupe of young Dutch Girls came in and gave an old Dutch peasant dance in costume, being introduced by a "Commère"—in Dutch "Petronell"—who made an amusing speech addressed to Mrs. Catt recalling a similar occasion during the Alliance Congress in Amsterdam in 1908,

when she had also brought her "little family" to dance for the delight of suffragists, and who ended up with the presentation of a real Dutch cheese!

Then there was the official dinner, at which some 150 people were present, and when we were greeted in brief speeches by the chosen representative of each delegation. This was again followed by a pleasant "surprise" in the shape of a little film of the arrival of delegates at the Colonial Institute. It is always an interesting experience to see oneself as others see one, and there were cries of greeting and shouts of laughter as well-known figures were picked out.

The President of the Concertgebouw, the great Concert Hall of Amsterdam, most generously invited delegates to attend the Concert on Sunday Afternoon, November 20th, when the magnificent orchestra was presenting a specially attractive programme. After the Concert the President gave a little reception to the delegates who were glad to have this opportunity of expressing their appreciation of his kindness.

Then the Burgemeester of Amsterdam gave a reception at the close of the Conference in the typical old Amsterdam house which has recently been given for its Mayor's official residence.

The Nederlandsche Vrouwenclub—which is the Lyceum Club of Amsterdam, where many members of the Board were comfortably and conveniently housed, Miss Manus' office being there, also gave a reception attended by a crowd of delegates and visitors. Perhaps we may say here a word of thanks to the Committee and Directress of the Club, who allowed delegates the free use of the Club, and thus permitted to Committees and the Board which met there to have many enjoyable lunches and dinners in common.

Miss Manus had collected together a wonderful Hospitality Committee, which found accommodation in the hospitable homes of Amsterdam, for practically every delegate who desired it. The number of kind folk who thus took in the stranger and gave her every comfort and kindness she could need was remarkable, no less than the careful organisation which ensured that each knew exactly where she was to go, and how she could get most easily to the Conference Hall.

Last but not least comes Miss Manus herself, who arranged every day of the Conference luncheon at her sister's house close to the Colonial Institute for the speakers and members of the Board, etc., and who on two successive Sundays took large parties out for dinner at her parents' country house. It is a charming drive to Baarn, along the Canals and through picturesque little villages, and Mr. and Mrs. Manus with their sons and daughters offered a welcome so kind, so sincere and so hospitable that it left an unforgettable impression on the minds of all who had the good fortune to meet with it.

#### The Conference Itself.

The Colonial Institute is a very fine modern building, which includes a Museum and large administrative offices in addition to the Hall where the meetings were held. The accommodation is excellent, and the arrangements worked with wonderful smoothness. The members of the Dutch Reception Committee provided for an information Bureau, a stall for the purchase of stationery, chocolate and small mementos of Amsterdam, and a service of pages, who showed both intelligence and good nature, and were the quietest pages ever seen at a conference.

All this organisation depended upon Miss Manus, who not only worked herself all day and every day for many weeks before hand, but has the great gift of getting other people to work for and with her. It is really impossible to say just how much the Conference owed to her, and we all want her to know that her work was fully appreciated.

#### Report of the Conference.

Arrangements are already well forward for issuing the official Report of the Peace Study Conference. This will be a very valuable document both to those who were

present and who will, it is hoped, be speaking and writing on the Conference in their own countries; and also for those who were not able to attend, and who will find the Resolutions and a full record of the speeches. These will be given in most cases practically as they were delivered (an *absolutely* verbatim report was not possible), and will be followed by short summaries in either of the other two languages, English, French and German being the official languages employed.

Orders should be sent at once to: Miss Rosa Manus, 580 Keizersgracht, Amsterdam, and should be accompanied by an international money order, or other remittance, for 1.50 gulden (two shillings and sixpence in English money).

Many orders were received at the time of the Conference, and it is important to order early to avoid delay. It is hoped that all readers will do all they can to make the existence of the Report known as it should interest many societies and individuals outside our immediate circle of members.

### MEETINGS OF THE BOARD AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE IN AMSTERDAM.

The list of those present at the Peace Conference published above makes it unnecessary to repeat the names of those attending the meetings of the Board and the International Committee.

The item of most general interest which both these meetings considered was the place to be chosen for holding the next Congress of the Alliance in 1929. By a unanimous vote it was decided to accept the invitation of the German Auxiliary to go to Berlin to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the formal institution there of the Alliance in 1904. It was felt that apart from this desire that the Alliance should pay a tribute to the place of its christening, now that so many of its Auxiliaries are "enfranchised countries" it is but fair that they also should share in the interest attaching to the triennial Congresses.

Mlle. Gourd gave to each meeting her usual interesting Reports on her work in connection with the League of Nations, and a summary of the work accomplished by the temporary Headquarters in Geneva during the League Assembly. She made it very evident that this is a very valuable institution, and it is quite decided that it shall be an annual affair and that every effort shall be made to add to its importance.

Miss Sterling, as Treasurer, presented a Report on the Finances of the Alliance which shows that while the present position is satisfactory, the member societies will have to give serious consideration to the future. If the Leslie Commission has to cease its generous support in the future, then it will be necessary for the affiliated bodies to decide upon some way to supplement the regular income which is at present so largely derived from it. The next Congress must certainly see a Committee for "Ways and Means."

Mme. Grinberg reported on the steps taken to organise the new Bibliographical Bureau in Paris, and Dr. von Zahn-Harnack of the German Federation of University Women very kindly came to tell of the work in this line already undertaken in Berlin. It is hoped that the Alliance Bureau may be able to co-operate with this undertaking and so take advantage of the valuable work which has already been done and is being done there.

Reports were received from several of the International Standing Committees. The Police Committee held its first meeting in Amsterdam just before the opening of the Peace Conference, and its Chairman, Miss Manus, gave a report on the extremely interesting work it had discussed. It is hoped shortly to publish in this paper a summary of the Reports received from the different countries represented on the Committee, and so it is perhaps only necessary to say here that the

Board was very appreciative of the excellent work done by the Committee, and also of the fact that a special additional meeting had been organised at which members of the police from every part of Holland were present in order to have an informal occasion of discussing police problems with the international members.

Miss Macmillan sent a Report on Nationality, which dealt with the new French law, details of which we have already given, and gave a practical programme for the work to be done in connection with the League of Nations Committee for the Codification of International Law which has taken up this question.

Fru Arenholt, Chairman of the Committee on Like Conditions of Work for Men and Women, sent in a Report which dealt principally with the ever burning question of protective legislation for women as illustrated by the meeting of the International Trade Union Women's Conference held in Paris in July. In that Conference also the difference of opinion so familiar to the members of the Alliance was apparent to some extent, and the Board heard with interest the conclusions drawn by Fru Arenholt.

Other Chairmen explained that their work had not yet reached a point where a Report could usefully be prepared, but the collection of information is going steadily on.

The future of Jus Suffragii was also discussed. It was decided that regular monthly articles on the League of Nations would be a welcome feature, and also that it would add to the interest of the paper and keep members in closer touch with the actual work of the Alliance if a section were given up to reports on the work of the International Standing Committees. As a result, it is hoped that if not in this issue, which has been delayed unavoidably by the Editor's presence in Amsterdam, then beginning with the next, a series of Reports from the Police Committee, the Enfranchised Women's Committee, etc., will begin.

Other minor questions and matters of administration were also discussed, and of course the Board gave full consideration to the recent Peace Conference and the work of the Peace Committee for the future, about which we shall doubtless be able to give particulars later on when plans are more definitely made.

### INTERNATIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHICAL BUREAU

for social and political questions affecting women.

At the meeting of the Alliance Board in Prague this spring, it was decided on the proposal of the Dutch Auxiliary to organise a Bibliographical Bureau, in order to help those interested in the women's movement all over the world by the provision of such bibliographical information as would assist in research or other work. The matter collected will deal solely with political, legal and economic questions affecting women, and will not touch literary or artistic questions.

It was decided that the Bibliographical Bureau should be installed in Paris, and Madame Suzanne Grinberg-Aupourrain, a member of the Alliance Board, has been asked to undertake its organisation and general direction.

Mlle. Eugénie Saharoff, graduate of the American School of Librarians and who can correspond with our Auxiliaries in seven languages (French, English, German, Russian, Polish, Spanish and Italian) has been put in charge of the collection of documents.

To facilitate the work, and especially to obtain information as to recent publications, each Auxiliary is asked to appoint from their country a special correspondent for the Bureau, who is asked to send to the Secretary two copies of publishers' catalogues which contain names of recent works.

The Secretary will as far as possible send out on request any documents which she has been able to obtain.



In these cases, all expenses of despatch and postage will be charged to the recipient.

The Board of the Alliance trusts that the Auxiliaries will show their interest in this new Bureau both by sending and asking for information.

Please send all bulletins, papers and other publications of your Society to the Bureau in duplicate.

All correspondence should be addressed to: Mlle. Eugénie Saharoff, 52 Avenue des Ternes, XIIIe. Paris.

### BUREAU INTERNATIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHIQUE

#### pour les questions sociales et politiques féminines.

Lors de la réunion du Comité de l'Alliance à Prague en 1927, il a été décidé sur une proposition de l'Auxiliaire Hollandaise qu'un Bureau de documentation bibliographique serait constitué de manière que tous ceux ou celles qui s'intéressent au mouvement féministe mondial, puissent avoir des renseignements bibliographiques pour faciliter les recherches ou les travaux. La documentation se rapporterait exclusivement aux questions féminines d'ordre politique, civil et économique à l'exception de tous renseignements d'ordre littéraire ou artistique.

Il a été décidé que ce Bureau Bibliographique serait installé à Paris, et Madame Suzanne Grimberg-Aupourain, membre du Comité de l'Alliance, a été chargée de son organisation et de sa direction générale.

Mlle. Eugénie Saharoff, diplômée de l'Ecole Américaine de Bibliothécaires et qui peut correspondre avec nos Auxiliaires en 7 langues étrangères: français, anglais, allemand, russe, polonais, espagnol et italien, a reçu la charge du travail de documentation.

Pour faciliter ce travail et surtout pour être au courant des dernières publications parues, chaque Auxiliaire devra nommer dans son pays une correspondante du Bureau, dont la fonction consistera à faire parvenir à la Secrétaire de l'Office, en double exemplaire, les catalogues des librairies portant la nomenclature des derniers ouvrages parus.

La Secrétaire enverra sur demande et dans la mesure du possible les documents qu'elle pourra se procurer. Dans ce dernier cas, les frais de livraison et d'expédition seront à la charge des destinataires.

La Comité de l'Alliance espère que les Auxiliaires montreront l'intérêt qu'elles portent à ce nouveau Bureau soit en envoyant soit en demandant des renseignements.

Prière d'envoyer les bulletins, journaux et toutes publications des Auxiliaires au Bureau Bibliographique en 2 exemplaires.

Adresser toute la correspondance à: Mlle. Eugénie Saharoff, 52, Avenue des Ternes, XIIIe. Paris.

### GREAT BRITAIN.

At the recent bye-election in Southend, the Countess of Iveagh, the Conservative candidate, was elected to Parliament by a big majority. This election makes the seventh woman member of the British Parliament. Women's organisations will welcome the addition to the women's numbers.

### IRELAND.

The Ulster Parliament has rejected, by twenty-five votes to fourteen, a private Bill presented by Mr. J. Devlin, M.P., to extend the vote to women of twenty-one years.

Mr. Devlin contended that as women of twenty-one had the vote in the Free State there was no reason why it should not apply to Northern Ireland.

Lord Craigavon, the Premier, who moved the rejection of the Bill, said that it would be better to wait and see how the Imperial Parliament acted in regard to the proposal to extend votes to young women.

### AUSTRIA.

#### Women and the Bill for a New Penal Law.

Immediately after the summer vacations the Austrian Government put before Parliament the Bill for a New Penal Law. As the Austrian women's movement, represented by the National Council of Austrian Women, has for many years pointed out the necessity of a reform of the present Penal Law and has also made proposals for the improvement of those regulations, that are of special interest to women, it was a matter of course that women wished to state their opinion of the new Bill. By this Bill the Austrian Law will be adapted to the German one, the reform of which is also being prepared now. On the whole the demands of women have been fulfilled. For instance the new Bill provides that the elopement of a married woman of her own free will no longer be a punishable offence. Also adultery will not be punished, if the offended party wants to continue married life. The penalties for seduction and unchastity will be more exactly fixed and rape of a girl under 16 will be punished in any case.

However, the penalty for abortion is to be retained. While in the German Law a clause was admitted, declaring impunity for abortion in case of danger to the health of the mother—this case is called medical authority—the Austrian Government, striving to make clear its principle of refusing impunity for these offences, admits impunity only in a clause in case of need (Notstandsparagraph). This regulation is so uncertain and flexible that no physician will be found ready to perform abortion, even in urgent cases, as he would risk his honour and existence.

It is clear that Austrian women, so far as they are not bound by dogmatic views, must protest against this regulation. The social-democrat women have introduced this protest by an imposing mass-meeting, followed by smaller meetings in the different districts of Vienna and in the country. The National Council of Austrian Women and the Association of Austrian Women Citizens (Oesterreichischer Staatsbürgerinnenverband), the former suffrage association, are arranging together with the Society of Friends, at the time, when these lines are written, a series of lectures on the New Bill, held by notable authorities. The least that is demanded at the present moment is the introduction of medical authority in the new Law, according to the German regulation. But the other demands of these women's organisations, impunity for abortion in the case of rape and a certain social authority in the case, when the coming child would endanger the possibilities of rearing existing children, will also be discussed on this occasion.

It goes without saying that the National Council of Austrian Women presented in a petition their demands to Parliament.

#### Another feminist action.

Also a new regulation for instruction in secondary schools caused the National Council of Austrian Women and the Ständebund deutscher Frauen Oesterreichs, an association with many graduate women members, to protest against two clauses which are apt to make girls' education inferior to the boys' education. A mass-meeting took place, in order to fix the women's demands regarding the female education in secondary schools, on this occasion once again the nomination of women teachers in all secondary schools which are attended by boys and girls was demanded, and also the taking possession by the State of all existing private secondary schools for girls and the taking over of all women teachers in private secondary girls' schools as employees of the State.

#### A Viennese takes part in a flight across the Ocean.

The young Viennese, Lilly Dillenz is now on a flight across the Ocean. She started from Hamburg and is executing the flight in stages. She is the daughter of a

well known painter and wife of an architect. Thirty years old, she was active as an actress before she decided on her adventure.

#### A Distinction.

Dr. Alma Motzko, the only woman Town Councillor in Vienna, belonging to the Christian-socialist party, was decorated by the President of the Federal State of Austria with the Ehrenzeichen of the Republic in recognition of her work for the dismissed public officials.

#### A Viennese woman physician called to America.

Dr. Elisabeth Urbanitzky, a young physician, was nominated as Professor at the Peabody College in the United States of America. She worked at the children's hospital under the guidance of the famous Professor Dr. Pirquet, and later she was secondary physician in another Viennese children's hospital.

GISELA URBAN.

### BRAZIL.

With reference to the Report from Brazil given in the October issue, we are very glad to be able to report that we have received a telegram from Miss Bertha Lutz, the President of the Brazilian Auxiliary, reporting that Governor Lamartine, has just granted the suffrage to the women of the State of Rio Grande no Norte, this being the first suffrage victory in Brazil. All our readers will join with us in congratulating the women of Brazil and in expressing the hope that this example will soon be followed not only by the Governors of other States, but also by the Congress of Brazil so that women may have full political rights throughout the country.

N.B.—Auxiliaries are specially requested by the Board to send letters of congratulation to Governor Lamartine from their Societies. The capital of the State is Natal.

### CUBA.

With regard to a widely published report that the women of Cuba had been granted the suffrage, we are now able to report that this is unfortunately not the case. The report lacked confirmation from our Cuban Auxiliary and we therefore wrote to the President, Senor Mallen de Ostolaza, to ask for particulars. She has informed us that what has happened is that an amendment to the Constitution has been adopted which makes it possible for the Congress to give the franchise to women when and how it may be judged opportune to do so, without further amendment to the Constitution. This, of course, makes the way clearer for the women, but they have still a hard struggle before them as many members of the Congress are opposed to the Reform. The Board of the Alliance at its recent meeting agreed to send a letter to the Presidents of the two Chambers asking them in the name of the women of all nations to bring in a measure of woman suffrage, and we sincerely hope that before long this overdue reform may be granted.

#### REVIEW.

In the additions to the list of Feminist Papers which we publish this month, we have noted "*L'Action féminine*" of Luxembourg, and we should like to say a word of welcome to this new contemporary which appeared for the first time in October. It includes articles in both French and German, and is the organ of the feminist society "*L'Action féminine*" which was affiliated to the Alliance at the Paris Congress. The two numbers which have already appeared contain many interesting articles on various matters, and we thank the editor for that dealing with the Alliance. It is really only through such publicity given us by the papers published by our affiliated societies, that we can hope to make known our work to a widening circle.

We wish "*L'Action féminine*" the best of luck.

### GREAT BRITAIN.

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

##### Work on Equal Franchise.

Work for Equal Franchise is still holding the first place among the activities in which the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship is engaged. Our affiliated Societies and Headquarter's Organisers have been endeavouring to get every member of Parliament, who was either opposed to Equal Franchise at 21 or whose views were unknown, to pledge themselves to support the Prime Minister when he brings in the Government Measure on this subject next Session. As a result largely of this work 71 of the members of Parliament on the "Unknown Quantity" list can now be counted as supporters of Equal Franchise. Of the 395 Unionist members of Parliament there are still 150 whose views are still unknown, we hope that many of these will however shortly be taken off the list.

##### Deputation to the Home Secretary on the Age of Marriage.

A Deputation on the above subject was received by the Home Secretary on Tuesday, November 8th. The Deputation was organised by the N.U.S.E.C. and was supported by 19 other Associations. Miss Rathbone, in introducing the Deputation spoke of the strength of the demand that the age of marriage in this country should be raised from 12 for girls and 14 for boys to not less than 16. She pointed out that Great Britain was at present in the category of countries with the lowest minimum marriage age and urged the undesirability of this especially in view of the recent discussion with regard to India.

The Home Secretary received the Deputation very sympathetically, declaring that he was in favour of raising the age of marriage. He asked that the Deputation should appoint a small Committee to discuss with the Home Office some of the difficult points arising in connection with the proposed change in the Law.

##### Conference on "Mother India."

A Conference on Women's Organisations and others was called by the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship for Monday, November 21st, in order to consider the points raised in Miss Mayo's book "*Mother India*," with a view to seeing whether there were any ways in which women's organisations could help.

Delegates from 36 organisations interested in the matter and a large number of visitors were present. The following Resolution was carried unanimously:—

"That this Conference, composed of representatives of women's organisations and of others interested in the welfare of India, records its gratitude to all who are sincerely endeavouring to promote social reforms in India, whether by the emancipation of its women and especially of widows, the abolition of the evil of child marriage, the reduction of maternal and child mortality, the improvement of the services of health and education, the raising of the depressed classes, the protection of animals from unnecessary suffering, or in other ways.

This Conference further records its conviction that a responsibility rests upon all British citizens and not least upon British Women, to interest themselves in and study these problems and to assist, by every means in their power, those whether Indians, British, or of other races, who are working effectively for the social amelioration of India."

K.I.H.

#### THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

*Peace Study Conference.* Mrs. Bigland has very kindly represented the Women's Freedom League at the Peace Study Conference at Amsterdam and will speak



at meetings arranged by our Mid London and other branches on her impressions of that Conference and its findings.

**Equal Franchise.** With regard to the Prime Minister's promise of an Equal Franchise Bill we have passed resolutions urging that the promised measure should be a simple franchise Bill giving the Vote to women at the age of 21 and on the same terms as men and that it should be the first business of the Government next Session, so as to ensure that women shall vote at the same age and on the same terms as men at the next General Election. Our President, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, addressed big audiences at Portsmouth and Wallasey on Equal Franchise last month and we continue to hold open-air meetings in its support, and sent some of our members on a poster-parade round the Houses of Parliament on the day that Parliament re-assembled last month.

On the evening after Parliament opens for its next Session next February we shall join with the Equal Political Rights Campaign Committee in its Mass Meeting to consider the announcement about Equal Franchise in the King's Speech.

**Tea and Politics up-to-date.** In London while Parliament is in Session we have arranged Wednesday afternoon meetings of members and friends to discuss questions and subjects raised in Parliament which are of special interest to women.

**Indian Statutory Commission.** We have written to the Prime Minister urging the inclusion of at least one woman on the Indian Statutory Commission, on the grounds that (1) women both in this Country and in India are taking an active part in the political life of their respective Countries, (2) the question of reforms in the Government of India is of as much interest to the women of this Country as it is to the men; and concerns the women of India equally with the men of India; and (3) since in some quarters the question of the present position of Indian women has been urged against any extension of the Reforms Act, we consider that it is of vital importance that a woman should be on this Commission of Inquiry.

**Raising the Age of Marriage and the Departmental Report on Sexual Offences Against Young Persons.** Dr. Elizabeth Knight, Hon. Treasurer of the Women's Freedom League represented us on the deputation to the Home Secretary arranged by the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship. With regard to the matter of Sexual Offences against Young Persons she urged that it should be compulsory on Watch Committees to appoint women police as well as men; that legal aid should be available for prosecutors in these cases and that the Director of Prosecutions should include upon his staff women Counsel and women solicitors to deal with them.

F. A. UNDERWOOD.

### IN MEMORIAM OF VILMA GLÜCKLICH.

A touching and highly impressive meeting was held on Sunday, the 16th of October at the headquarters of the "Feminist Association" in commemoration of their deceased President, Vilma Glücklich. The hall, which was decorated with lugubrious pomp could not hold the crowd of members and visitors, so that a great many people had to turn back, the lecture-room and the other rooms of the headquarters being crammed even to the entrance door of the hall. It was noticeable that all the audience was driven there by sincere sympathy, grief and respect and when by the artistic play of Master Wehner the plaintive tones of the harmonium sounded, accompanied by the sobbing tones of George Garay's violin, all eyes filled with tears and were not to become dry again during all the celebration.

The Extraordinary General Meeting was opened by Mrs. Melanie Vámbéry, who sorrowfully excused Mrs. Irma Szirmai on whose behalf she read her introductory speech as follows:

"Vilma Glücklich may be compared to Antigone, who's character was made immortal by the poet in a sentence, which has lasted longer than any metal: 'I can but love, but not hate.' Antigone was misunderstood by her narrowminded environment and as her great and noble heart could not make any difference between her two brothers, she was accused of being a traitor, and there were people who misunderstood also the pure patriotism of our contemporary Antigone. But there will come a time, when the purblind will become clear-sighted and people will recognise, that the patriotism coupled with pure love of humanity of women like Vilma Glücklich mark the path of the future, ensuring the happiness and prosperity of the country and the development of humanity as a whole."

After this touchingly poetic introduction other collaborators of Vilma Glücklich spoke, first of all Dr. Simon Gold, who appraised the individuality of Vilma Glücklich. He said: "There lived amongst us a phenomenon who's gifts we enjoyed and if we look back to-day into the past, our chief emotion is not that of grief and pain over our early loss of her, but of joy and gratitude to Providence that she lived and acted, that we were allowed to know her, to be near her, to love her and to look up to her."

After Dr. Gold, Vilma Glücklich's oldest collaborator and partner in her struggles, Mrs. Eugenie Miskolczy Meller got up to speak. With a faltering voice choked by tears, she painted Vilma Glücklich's figure true to life: "She was a heroine and a forerunner. She was not frightened by power or violence, she did not bow before authorities who gained a position and did not pretend respect before those who did not deserve it from her . . . besides her firm faith and courage she also possessed the gifts of a great educator, a great moulder of men, and like great educators, she attained results not by tuition, by admonitions or praise, but by the example, which she personally gave, personally lived. An unattainable example, but such a one towards which it is worth while to strive."

There was no eye remaining dry during Mrs. Meller's speech, which was followed by the commemoration speech of Dr. I. Beke, Professor of The University: "He knew Vilma Glücklich since half a century as refined, distinguished and yet simple, warm hearted and yet retiring, commanding respect and yet familiar. Education for peace—that was her soul's innermost wish. She knew quite well that the righting of the wrong caused by the Trianon Treaty as well as the insurance of peace depends on the mutual respect of the nations, on the cultivation of fellow feeling, on the more intensive development of education in pacifist economics. The three most prominent qualities of the good educator she possessed in the highest measure. She loved her object, she loved the young people and she loved her country's future."

After Professor Beke, Miss Anna Kethlp M.P. interpreted the sorrow of the women labourers, saying: "We remember sincerely mournfully the woman who followed her brave, pure and sublime life within a hair's breadth the line of her ideals, and between whose confessed creed and actions scorn and malice could never find an attackable surface. Concerning her morals she stands before us as an ideal figure; on the political plane she fulfilled the ethical ideals towards which we advance and which to attain is the highest wish of the socialist woman."

After Professor Max Havas had depicted with touching words the efforts of Vilma Glücklich for arbitration between the nations in the field of economics, her endeavours to realise the ideal of Cobden, Mrs. Ivan Vándor spoke on behalf of the Hungarian Women Writers and Journalists, Augusta Rosenberg as representing the N.C.W., Maria Balogh for the International Union of the New Educators, Mary B. Thornton in the name of the W.I.L. and of Mademoiselle Gobat, whose letter she read. Professor M. Fodor in

the name of the Peace Society and of the Society for Child Research said a farewell to the memory of Vilma Glücklich.

Finally Melanie Vámbéry moved a proposal asking the Extraordinary General Meeting to accept the suggestion of a resolution of the Committee in which it declares that it does not wish to fill up the place of Vilma Glücklich and charges Mrs. de Szirmai, Mrs. Meller and Mrs. Vámbéry with the further guidance of the society's work. The General Meeting passed this resolution with acclamation and the celebration was finished with a poem written for this occasion by Mrs. Jenny Várnai and recited by Mrs. Piroška Szabados with such sweeping enthusiasm, such deep-felt and touching affliction as only the poems can be recited of this great woman poet, who has the genius of bringing human emotion from the very depths of the soul. The deeply moved mourning audience left the commemoration meeting very quietly and shedding sincere tears.

MELANIE VÁMBÉRY.

### UNITED STATES.

There was a glorious reunion in New York City on November 8 to celebrate the woman suffrage victory in New York State just ten years ago. The eighty guests, limited to those who had some official connection with the suffrage campaign, recalled the excitement of Election Day in 1917 when a yellow light flashed over Broadway telling the women that the sixty-nine-year campaign for equal suffrage in New York State had been won. There were memories of "tears and laughter, wooden rattles, festive cakes, speeches and pledges."

A suffrage victory in New York without Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt seemed almost impossible, but Mrs. Catt had to be on the high seas on her way to the peace study conference at Amsterdam. Before she sailed Mrs. Catt wrote a special message to be presented at the reunion. It was a challenging message. It fell to the happy lot of Mrs. Raymond Brown, a leader in the suffrage campaign, to read the following message:

"Dear Fellow Suffragists,

"Allow me to join with you in our common expression of joy and gratitude that the great campaign for woman suffrage lies behind us.

"We are told that women lack political acumen. Probably they do! As time goes on I am deeply impressed with the yawning chasm where political sagacity of men ought to be. The truth is, there is precious little political intelligence in the race. There is little vision, courage, understanding, sense of duty and comprehension of collective service. The facts are that a new and different education in political action is needed. The times are calling for it. The political parties are timid. The politicians muddle and the voters follow as best they can. Somebody somewhere, some time, must declare for an entirely new deal. This will be the reform of the future.

"It was a grand old battle we had, and especially in those last years when triumph perpetually perched upon our banner and each woman knew that victory was as certain as the rising of the sun.

"My mind goes further back to the time when the date of triumph was not so certain. Those were dull times but had women not carried the faith those days there would have been no triumphal years at the end.

Soldiers in Glorious Cause

"Joy be with you to-night. You were all glorious soldiers in a glorious cause, and whether anybody else knows that you gave a great and mighty contribution to the cause of civilization, please be assured that you did and never forget. Tell your children if you have any, your brothers' and sisters' children if you haven't. Let your family and your friends know that you were a heroine in one of the world's greatest revolutions.

"Each of you should have a medal, a budget of honor, and by and by a special message over your grave. Long after your dust may be moldering the world will understand that these things should have been yours.

"Never mind the honor. You did not work for it. Be glad that one job is done. Face the future and do not be afraid of the work that remains for you to do.

"Blessings on you, each and all.

CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT."

Nov. 11th, 1927.

### Visitors from Egypt and Turkey.

Two women visitors, leaders in their respective countries of Egypt and Turkey, were in the United States last month. Madame Charoui Pasha, who was head of the Egyptian delegation to the Paris Congress of the International Alliance, passed several months touring the country, and came to Washington, for a second time, just before sailing late in October. While in Washington she was the guest of her daughter, who is the wife of the Egyptian Minister to the United States. She was a popular visitor, and one of the many social events in her honour was a luncheon given by Miss Belle Sherwin, president of the National League of Women Voters.

Madame Sofie Hussein Bey proved an equally captivating visitor. She was at the League's headquarters for several hours, and exhibited much interest in the surveys and reports of its work.

### Cause and Cure of War Conference.

Internationally-minded women of eight national women's organizations, who have participated in the annual Conferences on the Causes and Cures of War are looking forward to the third of these conferences, to be held in Washington January 15—19. Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, who originated the plan for these conferences, will again act as chairman, and upon her return from the Amsterdam peace conference of the International Alliance, will devote all her time to arrangements for the Washington Conference.

The general plan of the previous conferences, which included addresses and discussions by leading authorities on various phases of international questions, will be followed. There will be a new feature, however, in the conduct on two round tables of three hours each. Outstanding topics predict discussions of the economic conference, the disarmament conference, and the United States' foreign policy in Mexico, Nicaragua, and China.

The tentative programme includes three addresses for the last day, devoted to answering these questions:

"What is the place in the world of backward peoples and less advanced civilizations, and how far have the most developed nations a right to rule over them?"

"In the reorganization of the world for permanent peace, how serious is the handicap imposed by nations that have turned away from the principles of self-government, such as Russia with her aim at World Revolution, or Italy with her dream of extended empire?"

"Have the people of a self-governing country the right to know the facts concerning their own foreign policy? Can publicity be given to such policy without prejudice to the case under discussion?"

### Mrs. Catt's Portrait.

An event of marked interest to members of the League of Women Voters was the recent hanging in National League headquarters in Washington of an oil painting of Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt. Eventually the portrait will take its place in the woman suffrage section in the Smithsonian Institute, but until then it is the wish of the donor, Mrs. Stanley McCormick, that the portrait remain in the safe keeping of the National League.

The portrait hangs over the fireplace in Miss Sherwin's private office—a truly historic setting! It was in this same room that General Grant conferred with President Lincoln, Clara Barton guided the course of the American



Red Cross, and "Archie" Butt of Roosevelt and Taft Administration days handled matters for the Depot Quartermaster's department.

In her familiar Alice blue gown, Mrs. Catt's presence is made very real. Perhaps Miss Sherwin, more than anyone else, has expressed most clearly and feelingly, what the portrait means to headquarters, "It will always be a challenge to us to do more than our best for the League" was her thoughtful comment.

#### Women in Public Office.

One of the results of the November 7 municipal elections in the United States was the re-election of Mrs. John T. Pratt as a member of the Board of Aldermen, of New York City. Mrs. Pratt is the only woman to be elected to the board of the largest city in the country. She has proved a serious worker, although confronted at all time with opposition from the controlling Democratic members.

She enjoys her job. When asked about reports that she would be a candidate next year for Congress, her immediate reply was:

"New York's city government fascinates me. I could look forward to studying it for years without any desire to widen the field."

Another honour to women—and the first of its kind—has come in the appointment of Mrs. Esther N. Andrews as a member of the Governor's Council of Massachusetts. Mrs. Andrews was a member of the group of persons interested in juvenile welfare work more than 20 years ago who brought about the establishment of the juvenile court and probation system in Massachusetts. Later she became a member of the State Prison Board, and frequently has been the public representative on the minimum wage board for the women's clothing industry—Press Department, National League of Women Voters.

#### LIST OF FEMINIST PAPERS.

The following additions and corrections to the list published in the November issue have been received:

*The Bulletin* of the International Council of Women, of which the address was wrongly given as 17 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1., whereas it should have been 117. We apologise for the error.

France: *Forces Nouvelles*, 10, rue Bobillot, Paris XIII. Monthly 7 francs a year.  
*Le Journal des Dames des P.T.T.*, 15, rue Godefroy Cavaignac, Paris XI. Organ of the women in the postal service.  
*La Femme*, 83, Bde. Arago, Paris XIV. Monthly. 12 frs. p.a.  
*L'Information Féminine*, 9 rue Bertin Poiree, Paris I. 10s. a year.

Luxembourg: *L'Action féminine*, 25 rue du Parc, Esch-sur-Alzette. Monthly. 12.50 frs. a year.

#### CANADA.

A Canadian constitutional question which is to be submitted for legal decision in the near future is whether women are eligible to sit in the Senate. The Supreme Court of Canada is to be asked by the Dominion Government to decide upon the legality of this step. This is a question which has been pressed upon the Government for some years by various Canadian women's organisations, who have even gone so far as to suggest individual names for appointment. The clause of the British North America Act which falls to be legally interpreted reads:—

The Governor-General shall from Time to Time, in the Queen's Name, by Instrument under the Great Seal of Canada, summon qualified Persons to the Senate; and subject to the Provisions of this Act, every Person

so summoned shall become and be a Member of the Senate and a Senator.

The question that arises is whether the word "person" is capable of a feminine connotation. This is the problem that had to be decided in the British Courts as far as the House of Commons at Westminster is concerned. It occurs also with regard to the Canadian House of Commons, but here, as in England, the eligibility of women has been admitted, though so far only one woman M.P. has obtained a seat at Ottawa.

Meantime, it is interesting to note that at their recent convention the National Council of Women added to their request that the Government should grant the right to women to be appointed members of the Senate the following:—

That if the clause or clauses in the British North America Act appear to forbid or debar women from being so appointed, the National Council of Women do request the Dominion Government to urge the Imperial Government to so amend the clause or clauses or interpretations thereof in the British North America Act that equal rights to sit as members of the Senate may be granted to women.

The Supreme Court, and possibly the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council as well, will have to say whether it will be necessary to resort to the Imperial Parliament for amending legislation, in order to permit of the appointment of Women Senators.

#### LES FEMMES ET LA REFORME DU JURY.

M. Raymond Baranton déposait il y a quelques mois, sur le bureau de la Chambre une proposition de loi aux termes de laquelle les femmes seraient désormais admises dans la composition du jury. L'honorable député va même jusqu'à réclamer un jury composé obligatoirement d'au moins 6 femmes pour le jugement d'une accusée.

Il serait, en effet, non seulement équitable mais nécessaire que les femmes puissent, elles aussi, participer à l'exercice de la justice. Quels peuvent être ce bon sens populaire et cette conscience publique auxquels on fait appel dès lors qu'on en bannit tout élément féminin?

Modifier la composition du jury en y introduisant des femmes, telle est la première réforme qui s'impose, réforme qui, espérons-le, est sur le point de s'accomplir, grâce à la proposition de M. Baranton.

Au cours d'un article récemment paru dans le *Journal*, M. Louis Martin en préconise une autre. Justement indigné par l'injustice que consacre notre Code Pénal dans son article 324, alinéa 2, le distingué sénateur du Var propose de supprimer cet alinéa.

N'est-il pas, en effet, inique que soit seul excusable, dans le cas d'adultère, le meurtre commis par l'époux sur son épouse ainsi que sur le complice à l'instant où il les surprend en flagrant délit dans la maison conjugale?

Pourquoi cette différence de situation? Pourquoi le même droit ne serait-il pas accordé à l'épouse? Pourquoi plutôt cette disposition homicide ne serait-elle pas rayée de notre Code, ainsi que le propose très pacifiquement M. Louis Martin?

Ce court alinéa est à la base de la plupart des acquittements dits "scandaleux", de ceux précisément qui font qu'on critique l'institution du jury.

A crimes égaux, responsabilités égales, et droit d'être jugé par des femmes aussi bien que par des hommes; ce sont là en somme des revendications très modestes.

Nous souhaitons d'autant plus ardemment leur réalisation prochaine qu'elles sont de nature à modifier heureusement l'œuvre de répression pénale, en bannissant peut-être une indulgence souvent criminelle, en permettant certainement une individualisation plus rationnelle de la peine.

SUZETTE SAVY,  
Avocat au Barreau de la Rochelle  
—La Française.

#### SECTION FRANCAISE.

#### L'ALLEMAGNE ET LA CONVENTION DE WASHINGTON SUR LE TRAVAIL DES FEMMES AVANT ET APRES L'ACCOUCHEMENT.

Le Bureau international du Travail nous communique une nouvelle intéressante: Lors de la récente session à Berlin du Conseil d'administration de cette organisation, M. Brauns, ministre du Travail, a donné connaissance de la ratification par l'Allemagne de la Convention dite de Washington, et concernant l'emploi des femmes dans l'industrie et après l'accouchement.

Nos lecteurs se souviennent peut-être que c'est en 1919 déjà, lors de la première Conférence internationale du Travail, qu'a été votée cette Convention; et qu'elle pose en principe qu'une femme ne sera pas autorisée à travailler pendant 6 semaines après ses couches, et qu'elle aura le droit de quitter son travail, sur certificat médical déclarant que l'accouchement se produira probablement dans un délai de 6 semaines. C'est donc en tout douze semaines de repos qui lui sont assurées, avec le versement d'une indemnité suffisante pour son entretien et celui de l'enfant, dans de bonnes conditions d'hygiène, durant toute la durée de son absence, indemnité qui sera, ou prélevée sur les fonds publics, ou fournie par un système d'assurance.

Jusqu'à présent 7 Etats seulement avaient ratifié cette Convention: la Bulgarie, le Chili, l'Espagne, la Grèce, le Lettonie, la Roumanie, et le Royaume des Serbes, Croates et Slovènes. Les grands Etats industriels l'avaient toujours regardée avec une prudente méfiance. Il faut donc se féliciter très chaudement de ce que l'Allemagne, elle, grand pays industriel, ait donné le bon exemple, et souhaiter que d'autres Etats la suivent dans cette voie.

D'après les renseignements du B.I.T. (Revue Internationale du Travail, et Informations Sociales), la mise à exécution de la Convention en Allemagne est assurée par deux lois d'application: l'une du 9 juillet 1926, qui prévoit le paiement d'allocations de maternité, et l'autre du 16 juillet 1927, qui fixe les mesures complémentaires nécessaires à la réglementation de l'emploi des femmes avant et après l'accouchement. La législation allemande va même plus loin que la Convention de Washington, en incorporant dans son champ d'application les femmes qui travaillent dans des entreprises familiales.

Nous nous réjouissons vivement de ce progrès. En effet, si beaucoup parmi nous, féministes, répugnent aux lois de protection qui, atteignant seulement des femmes en capacités normales de travail, constituent des mesures d'exception à leur égard, la grande majorité d'entre nous estime que la femme, en période de maternité, se trouve dans une situation spéciale qui appelle des mesures, spéciales elles aussi. Et la législation de trop de pays étant encore incomplète à cet égard, on se bornait à interdire tout travail à la femme au moment de ses couches, sans lui assurer la contrepartie du gain qu'elle perd ainsi, nous avons salué avec satisfaction les dispositions prévues par la Convention de Washington comme nous en saluons maintenant la ratification et l'application par l'Allemagne.

E.G.E.

#### CODIFICATION DU DROIT INTERNATIONAL.

Le principal effort de la 8ème Assemblée de la S.d.N. dans le domaine juridique, a porté sur la question de la codification du droit international.

L'Assemblée a estimé qu'il importait pour le progrès de la justice et le maintien de la paix, de préciser le droit international.

Les travaux du Comité d'experts pour la codification

progressive du droit international dont l'Assemblée, — après le Conseil, — a pris connaissance permettent la préparation méthodique d'une première Conférence de codification dont l'Assemblée a dès maintenant envisagé la réunion pour 1929.

L'Assemblée a décidé de soumettre à l'examen de cette première Conférence les questions suivantes:

- la nationalité;
- les eaux territoriales;
- la responsabilité des Etats en ce qui concerne les dommages causés, sur leurs territoires, à la personne ou aux biens des étrangers.

L'Assemblée a prié le Conseil de s'entendre avec le Gouvernement néerlandais en vue du choix de la ville de La Haye pour la réunion de cette première Conférence. L'Assemblée estime en effet que cette Conférence peut obtenir un plus grand nombre de participants si elle est réunie à La Haye que dans toute autre ville. Le choix de La Haye serait un hommage rendu au Gouvernement des Pays-Bas qui, par ses initiatives répétées en matière de codification de droit international public et privé n'a cessé de rendre les plus grands services à la cause de la bonne entente internationale.

L'Assemblée a estimé qu'il est absolument indispensable pour assurer le succès de la première Conférence de codification d'en préparer soigneusement et avec méthode le programme et l'organisation. Cela s'impose d'autant plus que la prochaine Conférence doit être la première d'une longue série de conférences semblables.

La charge des travaux préparatoires sera particulièrement lourde. Elle exigera de ceux qui s'y consacreront beaucoup de temps et une somme considérable de connaissances théoriques et pratiques.

Aussi, l'Assemblée a-t-elle confié au Président du Conseil le soin de nommer, aussi promptement que possible, un Comité préparatoire composé de cinq personnes réunissant des connaissances étendues sur la pratique internationale, les précédents judiciaires et les données scientifiques des questions rentrant dans le programme de la première Conférence de codification, et chargé de préparer, sur chacune de ces questions, un rapport accompagné de l'indication de bases de discussion assez détaillées.

Un certain nombre de règles générales sont destinées à régir les délibérations:

- la possibilité, le cas échéant, pour les Etats participant à la Conférence, d'adopter entre eux les règles qui auraient été acceptées à la majorité des voix.
- la possibilité d'élaborer, dans les matières qui s'y prêtent, une convention assez large et, dans son cadre, des conventions plus restreintes.
- l'organisation d'un système de révision ultérieure des accords établis et
- l'esprit de la codification qui ne se bornera pas à la simple constatation des règles existantes, mais visera à les adapter, dans la mesure du possible, aux conditions actuelles de la vie internationale.

L'Assemblée a invité d'autre part le Comité d'experts pour la codification progressive du droit international à achever le travail qu'il a entrepris. Elle lui a demandé d'envisager les conditions à étudier la proposition de la Délégation du Paraguay tendant à la préparation d'un plan général et synthétique de codification du droit international. Ce travail devrait, à son avis, être fait en tenant compte, dans la mesure du possible, tant au point de vue scientifique que pratique, des progrès de la doctrine, des travaux accomplis par les Compagnies savantes ainsi que du vaste et remarquable effort de codification poursuivi en Amérique.

Le Président en exercice du Conseil de la Société des Nations, M. Villegas, Représentant du Chili, vient, après consultation avec ses collègues, d'inviter à faire



partie du Comité Préparatoire de la première Conférence de Codification du Droit international, les personnalités suivantes :

M. Le Professeur Jules Basdevant (France).  
M. le Conseiller Carlos Castro Ruiz (Chili).  
M. le Professeur Francois (Pays-Bas).  
Sir Cecil Hurst (Grande-Bretagne).  
M. Massimo Pilotti (Italie).

Son enquête terminée, le Comité sera à même d'établir, grâce à la comparaison des renseignements fournis, les points d'accord ou de divergence plus ou moins accentués sur chacun des aspects des questions à traiter.

Lors de sa prochaine session, l'Assemblée prendra connaissance de l'avancement des travaux du Comité. Un fois ces travaux terminés, il appartiendra au Conseil de décider la date de la réunion de la Conférence.

## NOUVELLES INTERNATIONALES.

### Réunions du Bureau et du Comité International à Amsterdam.

En 1920, le congrès de l'Alliance aura lieu à Berlin. L'Union allemande célébrera alors le 25ème anniversaire de l'institution officielle de l'Alliance internationale pour le Suffrage en 1904.

Melle. Gourd a fait un rapport sur son travail, en coopération avec la Ligue des Nations et un résumé des travaux accomplis par le centre temporaire de Genève, pendant l'assemblée de la Ligue. L'utilité de cette institution est maintenant démontrée. Miss Sterling, trésorière, a lu son rapport sur les finances de l'Alliance internationale. Ce bilan montre que, si la situation présente est favorable, l'avenir est incertain. Si la Commission Leslie interrompait sa généreuse donation, les Sociétés affiliées auraient à augmenter leur souscription annuelle. Au prochain congrès, un comité spécial s'occupera de la question. Mme. S. Grinberg a fait un rapport sur les moyens d'organiser le nouveau bureau bibliographique à Paris. Dr. Zahn-Harnack, de la Fédération germanique des femmes diplômées de l'Université, a donné des indications précieuses sur l'organisation de Berlin. On pense que le Bureau de l'Alliance coopérera avec cette Société et profitera de ses travaux. Des rapports ont été reçus de plusieurs comités internationaux; celui sur la Police des différents pays sera publié bientôt, ici-même. Miss Macmillan a envoyé son rapport sur la Nationalité de la femme mariée et en particulier, sur la nouvelle loi française. Elle a présenté un programme d'action commune à la Commission de la Ligue des Nations pour la préparation d'une loi internationale. Fru Arenholt, Présidente du Comité sur les conditions communes de travail pour les deux sexes, a envoyé un rapport sur la question brûlante des lois de protection, telle qu'elle ressort des décisions de la Trades-Union internationale des femmes, dans sa conférence tenue à Paris en Juillet.

L'avenir de Jus Suffragi, a été aussi discuté. Il a été décidé que des articles mensuels sur la Société des Nations seraient publiés; une section sera consacrée aux rapports sur le travail, et une série de rapports sera publiée sur le Comité de la Police, Comité des femmes affranchies, etc.

Enfin, la récente conférence sur la Paix a été l'objet d'une attention spéciale.

### Conférence sur la Paix à Amsterdam.

Les Déléguées, Etaient présentes: Mme. Chapman Catt qui a fait le voyage depuis les Etats-Unis pour passer quatre jours au Congrès. Cet intérêt à l'Alliance internationale et à la cause de la Paix a été vivement appréciée; Miss Morgan, Présidente du Comité, et Melle. Rosa Manus, la Secrétaire infatigable. Le Bureau de l'Alliance Int. était représenté par: la Présidente Mrs. Corbett Ashby, la Vice-Présidente, Frau Adèle Schreiber, Mme. Malaterre-Sellier, le Sénateur Plaminkowa, Melle. Gourd, Miss Sterling, Mme. Grinberg, Mme. Charaoui Pacha, la Marquise del Ter,

Frau von Velsen et Miss Walin. Etaient représentées, les Sociétés affiliées suivantes: Australie, Tchecoslovaquie, Egypte, France, Allemagne, Grande-Bretagne, Hollande, Hongrie, Irlande, Roumanie, Afrique du Sud, Espagne, Suède, Suisse, Etats-Unis. La plupart des sociétés internationales féministes avaient envoyé des déléguées: la Guilde coopérative féminine internationale, le Conseil international des infirmières, le Conseil international des Femmes, la Fédération internationale des femmes diplômées de l'Université, la Ligue internationale des femmes pour la Paix et la Liberté, L'Union mondiale des Femmes pour la Concorde internationale et l'Association chrétienne des jeunes femmes.

Les Orateurs: Mr. Maurette fit un exposé magistral de la situation économique, le Professeur Thomas Parker Moon, de Columbia University, montra comment les besoins économiques sont souvent exagérés dans un but politique; le Dr. Lüders fit ressortir la nécessité d'une base économique pour assurer la paix mondiale; Sir George Paish fit comprendre les dangers immédiats pour le monde, d'une chute universelle des crédits; Mme. Kluyver, du Ministère hollandais des affaires étrangères, fit un exposé lumineux de la situation présente relativement à l'arbitrage et Mr. Maderiaga, parla, non-seulement de ce qui a été fait et sera fait pour le désarmement, mais il réussit à inspirer la foi et l'espérance dans les possibilités futures d'une réussite.

Au meeting du soir, l'important discours de Mrs. Chapman Catt tout en faisant appel à notre idéalisme, inspira aussi d'amères réflexions. Avec son ton mesuré et son geste sobre, elle apparut comme la prophétesse inspirée du pacifisme.

Le Coté Social: L'inauguration privée du congrès eut lieu le mercredi soir où les deux sociétés hollandaises affiliées à l'Alliance Int. offrirent une charmante réception qui permit aux membres de la Conférence de faire la connaissance les uns des autres. Ensuite, eut lieu un dîner officiel de 130 couverts qui se termina par des discours des représentantes de chaque délégation, puis, il y eut une "surprise": un film montrant l'arrivée des déléguées à l'Institut colonial.

Le Président du grand concert d'Amsterdam invita les déléguées au concert du dimanche 20 Nov. où un magnifique orchestre jouait un programme spécialement attrayant. Après le concert, le président offrit une réception aux déléguées! Enfin, le Bourgmestre d'Amsterdam offrit une réception à la fin de la Conférence dans la maison hollandaise ancienne qui lui a été attribuée dernièrement comme résidence officielle.

Le Lyceum Club d'Amsterdam où beaucoup de membres du bureau furent logés, donna aussi une réception où assistèrent une foule de déléguées et d'amies. La directrice et le comité offrirent, pendant tout le séjour, le libre usage du Club aux déléguées, ce qui leur permit d'avoir beaucoup de repas en commun. Melle. Manus avait organisé un Comité d'hospitalité merveilleux qui trouva de nombreuses familles pour recevoir presque toutes les déléguées. Enfin, elle organisa elle-même, dans la maison de sa soeur, proche de l'Institut colonial, un déjeuner pour les orateurs et les membres du Bureau, et, deux dimanches de suite, elle emmena beaucoup de déléguées à la campagne de ses parents où elles reçurent accueil extrêmement cordial.

La Conférence: L'Institut colonial est un très beau bâtiment qui comprend un musée, de grands bureaux administratifs, et un grand Hall où les meetings eurent lieu. L'organisation y fut excellente. Les membres du comité de réception hollandais avaient constitué un bureau d'informations, un comptoir de papeterie, de chocolat, de souvenirs d'Amsterdam et un service de "pages" qui se rendirent très utiles. Melle. Manus fut l'âme de cette admirable organisation, préparée par elle de longue date, avec l'aide de nombreux amis, et on ne peut assez dire tout ce que la Conférence lui doit.

Rapport sur la Conférence: Ce rapport qui sera un document précieux pour ceux qui ont assisté à la Conférence aussi bien que pour les autres, reproduira exactement tous les discours avec un bref résumé en anglais,

français, et allemand. Nous prions nos lecteurs d'en faire la commande dès maintenant à Melle. Rosa Manus, 580 Keizersgracht, Amsterdam, accompagnée d'un mandat international de 1.50 gulden (2 sh6 en monnaie anglaise ou 15 frs. en monnaie française au cours actuel) et de la répandre autour d'eux.

### Grande Bretagne.

Union Nationale des sociétés pour l'égalité civique. Les diverses sociétés de l'Union ont exercé une pression sur les membres du Parlement qui étaient opposés au nouveau projet de loi ou dont l'opinion était douteuse pour les amener à soutenir le projet. (Loi donnant aux femmes comme aux hommes le droit de vote et d'éligibilité à partir de 21 ans). De ce fait, 71 députés douteux sont devenus favorables au projet.

Deputation au Ministère de l'Intérieur. Le 8 Novembre, une députation de 20 sociétés féministes a été reçue par le Ministre. Miss Rathbone a exposé les raisons pour lesquelles les femmes demandent quel âge minimum du mariage, qui est de 14 ans pour les garçons et 12 pour les filles, soit élevé à 16 pour les deux sexes. Cette mesure est nécessaire pour l'exemple à donner aux dominions et surtout aux Indes. Le Ministre s'est déclaré favorable à cette mesure et a demandé aux déléguées de nommer un comité de femmes pour résoudre avec le Ministère les difficultés d'application.

Conférence sur les Indes. Une Conférence de 36 sociétés féministes et autres a été réunie par l'Union Nationale pour discuter les critiques de Miss Mayo sur les Indes et préparer les voies aux réformes nécessaires: émancipation des femmes et surtout des veuves, reformes des lois sur le mariage des enfants, réduction de la mortalité maternelle et infantile, amélioration des services d'hygiène et d'éducation, etc. La conférence affirme sa conviction que les citoyens britanniques doivent se considérer comme responsables et travailler à l'amélioration des lois hindoues.

Ligue de la Liberté des femmes. La Ligue a organisé tout le mois dernier des meetings publics et des conférences sur la question du vote et des mariages prématurés et des meetings à Londres pendant la session du Parlement.

Election. A une élection partielle, à Southend, la Comtesse d'Iveagh, candidate conservatrice, a été élue au Parlement à une forte majorité. C'est la septième femme membre du Parlement britannique.

### Etats-Unis.

Anniversaire. Le 10ème anniversaire de la victoire suffragiste dans l'état de N. York a été célébré à New-York City. Les 80 convives, pionnières du Suffrage, rappelleront l'émotion du premier jour des élections, quand une lumière jaune, allumée au-dessus de Broadway, annonça aux femmes que leurs efforts de 60 ans venaient d'être récompensés. Mrs. Chapman Catt, retenue à Amsterdam envoya un message dont voici le principal passage: "Je me joins à vous dans une commune expression de joie et de gratitude de ce que notre mémorable lutte suffragiste est loin derrière nous. On dit que les femmes manquent de sens politique. Peut-être. Mais pour le moment, je suis surtout impressionnée par l'absence de sagacité politique des hommes. La vérité est qu'il y a peu d'intelligence politique dans notre race; il y a peu de 'vision,' de courage, d'entendement, de sens du devoir, de compréhension du service collectif. Les partis politiques sont timides; les politiciens brouillent tout et les électeurs les suivent comme ils peuvent. Toute l'éducation politique est à refaire; les temps nouveaux l'exigent."

"Visiteuses" d'Egypte et de Turquie. Deux féministes notoires sont venues en Amérique et ont été reçues par la Ligue des Electricités: Mme. Charaoui Pacha, chef de la délégation égyptienne au Congrès de Paris de l'All. Int. a passé deux mois à visiter les Etats-Unis et est venue à Washington pour la deuxième fois. Mme. Sofie Hussein Bey, de Turquie, est venue quelques

heures au siège central de la Ligue et s'est beaucoup intéressée aux exposés et rapports de ses travaux.

Conférence sur la Guerre, ses causes et ses remèdes. Des femmes d'esprit international, appartenant à 8 sociétés nationales féministes, qui ont participé aux deux premières conférences, en préparent une troisième à Washington du 15 au 19 Janvier. Mrs. Chapman Catt l'organiserait à son retour d'Amsterdam et la présiderait. Le programme sera le même. On prévoit des discussions sur: la Conférence économique, la Conférence sur le désarmement, la politique étrangère des Etats Unis à Mexico, le Nicaragua et la Chine. Trois discours, le dernier jour, porteront sur ces questions: Quelle place dans le monde doivent tenir les peuples arriérés ou non civilisés, et jusqu'à quel point les Nations plus développées ont-elles le droit de les diriger? Jusqu'à quel point la réorganisation des peuples pour la paix permanente sera-t-elle handicapée par les nations qui ont renoncé à se gouverner elles-mêmes: la Russie avec ses efforts pour une révolution mondiale et l'Italie avec ses rêves de conquêtes? Les peuples d'une contrée qui se gouverne elle-même ont-ils le droit d'être informés sur les faits concernant leur politique étrangère sans que cette publicité cause de préjudice aux matières en discussion.

Les femmes fonctionnaires. Aux élections municipales du 7 Novembre, Mrs. John T. Pratt a été réélue membre du conseil des Aldemen de la city de New-York. Mrs. Esther M. Andrews a été nommée membre du Conseil du Gouverneur de Massachussets (d'après le rapport de la Ligue des Electricités).

### Autriche.

Nouveau Code pénal. Dès l'ouverture de la session d'automne, le Gouvernement a présenté au Parlement le projet de loi pour un nouveau code pénal. Ce code sera adapté au code allemand dont on prépare aussi la réforme. Dans l'ensemble les demandes des femmes ont été accordées. Ainsi, le nouveau projet admet que pour une femme, la fuite du domicile conjugal ne sera pas une faute punissable. L'adultère de la femme ne sera pas puni si la vie commune se maintient. Les punitions pour séduction et mauvaise conduite seront plus exactement définies et le rapt d'une jeune fille au-dessous de 16 ans sera puni dans tous les cas. Les pénalités pour avortement sont maintenues, tandis que les lois allemandes admettent l'avortement en cas de danger pour la mère. Les femmes Socialdémocrates ont protesté par des meetings à Vienne et dans le pays et les sociétés féministes vont organiser des conférences.

Autre action féministe. Le Conseil National des femmes et les femmes diplômées de l'Université protestent contre un nouveau règlement des écoles secondaires par lequel l'instruction des jeunes filles sera inférieure à celle des jeunes gens. Un grand meeting a eu lieu demandant la nomination de professeurs femmes dans les écoles secondaires mixtes et le statut de fonctionnaires donné aux femmes professeurs des écoles secondaires.

Une jeune Viennoise Lily traverse l'océan en avion. Dr. Alma Motzko, Conseillère municipale, a été décorée pour services rendus aux fonctionnaires sans place. Dr. Urbanitsky a été nommé professeur de médecine à Peabody College aux Etats-Unis (d'après Gisela Urban.)

### Bresil.

Melle. B. Lutz, Présidente de l'Union brésilienne pour le suffrage, nous annonce que le Gouverneur Lamartine vient d'accorder le suffrage aux femmes dans l'Etat de Rio Grande no Norte. C'est la première victoire suffragiste au Brésil.

### Cuba.

La nouvelle que les femmes de Cuba avaient obtenu le suffrage n'a pas été confirmée. Senora Mallen de Ostalaza nous écrit qu'un amendement à la Constitution a été adopté qui permettra au Congrès d'accorder le vote aux femmes quand il le jugera opportun. Mais,



comme plusieurs membres du Congrès sont opposés à la réforme, les femmes ont encore une longue lutte à soutenir. Le Bureau de L'All. Int. a décidé d'écrire aux Présidents des deux chambres pour qu'ils fassent aboutir cette réforme.

MADELEINE RUDLER.

#### APOLOGY.

The Editor apologises for the fact that this issue has been somewhat delayed owing to her absence in Amsterdam for the Peace Conference. It was important that some account of that Conference should appear in the Alliance paper at once, hence the delay.

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# NEWS OF THE YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION THROUGHOUT THE WORLD



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## EDUCATION NUMBER.

The World's Young Women's Christian Association has not yet at any of its conferences held a commission definitely on the subject of education, yet from various commissions on such subjects as our practical programme, on girls' work, on the interpretation of Christ at the present day, there have arisen findings that describe, if they do not define, our idea of education.

Among these findings are such sentences as:

To share life in all its richness and beauty, freedom and joy, as we find it in Christ, the Lord of every side of human life.

To afford young women opportunities for all-round development, self-expression and training in service and citizenship.

We believe that the work of the Y.W.C.A. should be characterised by the scientific spirit which fearlessly faces truth, develops a programme in the light of thorough research, and is not content to do merely remedial work, if it is possible to remove the causes of evil.

The highest standards of technical efficiency should be maintained.

To interpret Christ to the individual as the One Who meets her insufficiency and gives power to be free and strong; Who is a real and ever-understanding Friend, showing infinite love in every life; Who desires for her joy and the fullest development of her personality; Who calls her to explore His teaching and in personal allegiance to Him to follow the guidance of His spirit in the pursuit of beauty, truth and righteousness; Who asks of her a constant translation into life of her growing understanding and experience of Him.

To express in the language of to-day and on the plane of the individual's experience truths that are unchanging and universal.

To present the Scriptures so vividly and simply that they are seen to be full of reality and interest.

To be fearless and open-minded in facing new ideals.

Accounts of a few branches of education undertaken by the Y.W.C.A. are given below. It is hardly necessary to state that a large number of other instances might have been given had space permitted.

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: SOME EXPERIMENTS.

The Y.W.C.A. in Great Britain has, during the last few years, made a special study of the religious approach to the girl of the present day. It is clear that no one method is the right one, there must be an almost infinite variety. Much of the work is done by the leaders' contact with the individual, but this article is concerned with the general rather than the individual approach.

The Association believes not only that all educational work should have a spiritual basis, but that all parts of its fourfold programme for the physical, mental, social and spiritual development of its members can contribute directly or indirectly to the Christian aim.

Most girls join a Y.W.C.A. centre for the sake of the social activities, or because they want to share in a class on some subject in which they are personally interested. They may be inimical or merely indifferent to religion. They may be quite unaware of their own spiritual needs, sometimes they are uncomfortably conscious and afraid of them. But they respond to any spirit of fellowship in the Club, and are often more ready than they know for direct religious teaching.

The cardinal principle is to start at a point where their interests are already involved. Take for instance a big industrial centre where it had been found almost impossible to do any explicitly religious work. There was a strong dramatic group in the club who were fired to enthusiasm by the novel suggestion of doing a

Christmas play. The dramatic quality and simple setting of the Nativity story made their own appeal and a performance of "The Shepherds" was beautifully and reverently given. Other clubs prefer Morality plays or scenes from "The Pilgrim's Progress." The performances seldom fail in their effect on both players and audience, and wonderful results are often obtained from the roughest material.

The dramatic method is often used too as part of a definite scheme of Bible Study. For instance one leader proposed a dramatic version of the story of Ruth in Bible words which was very effective. Others have found such plays as Dr. Crafer's on the Acts or St. Paul's epistles most stimulating. The actors discover that they need to read and study if they are to give an adequate presentation of the characters, while the audience, realising the setting in which St. Paul worked, turn to the New Testament with a fresh interest.

Many leaders find other pictorial representations of the Bible story helpful. The Hole slides of the Life of Our Lord make a splendid introduction to study. Experience has shown that few words are needed, the pictures speak for themselves. They have a remarkable effect even on audiences who at other times prove restless and inattentive, and the hymn slides which usually accompany the lecture give the girls an opportunity of taking an active share in the service.

Music is indeed the handmaid of religion. Girls respond very quickly to what we are all learning to





JAPANESE BUSINESS GIRLS.

call community singing. Revivalists were good psychologists when they used hymns to prepare the way for their message. But Y.W.C.A. workers, like many others, have learnt that herein lies a danger. The response comes most quickly to an emotional appeal. The choice of words and tunes must be made carefully to avoid sentimentalism, and the emotion roused must be accompanied by some rational appeal to the mind or find an outlet in practical service.

The Association has also found that the members who are not ready or desirous of direct teaching are often glad to discuss problems of their daily life. All the definitely religious work in one club grew out of a small group who met to talk each week. Some shop-girls wanted to discuss the ethics of modern salesmanship, others were worried by the attraction which betting and gambling had for them. Some came with questions of social inequality which were distressing them. As discussions developed another question arose, had religion any answer to their perplexities and if so, what. Naturally and almost imperceptibly they turned to discuss the social implications of their Christian faith. Another club found their way to a course of Bible study from a series of health talks and discussions on the power of mind over body.

But whatever opportunities of direct education may come, and they are many and varied, the value of implicit teaching cannot be over-estimated. The workers in the Association, believing as they do that all life's activities can be consecrated to God, should be able to pray and wait and work in faith for the right moment to express their belief in direct religious work.

MAY CURWEN.

**Winter Schools in Germany.**

"Real and lasting greatness in a people always has its roots in the home."—*Friedrich Ludvig Jahn.*

The significance of the home, according to this saying is great indeed! It can be affirmed that the spirit expressing itself in a people shows what quality of homes it possesses. This means that that nation is really great which possesses as guardians of the home, wives and mothers who, in the spirit of love and humility, become the life and soul of the home, and the guardians of its purity. What is the daily life and work of such women unless it be that of educators of their people—welfare workers in the truest sense. Therefore it is our duty to prepare the young girls of our nation for this most difficult of all professions.

The work of the twenty-two holiday homes that our Y.W.C.A. in Germany possesses in different parts of the country constitute in that respect a great task for us. During the summer months these homes are inhabited by young members of our Association. Here they spend a quiet time of rest and refreshment, gathering new strength for their daily work in office, factory, school or family. To them all, no matter to what class they belong, the house becomes a home, through the comradeship that unites them to each other, and the faithful care of the Housemother.

When the first autumn storms drive them away they leave with grateful hearts; but the house, in its setting of golden autumn forests, does not think of preparing for its winter sleep. Very soon, with the opening of our winter courses, new and fresh young life enters it.

There are now seven Domestic Science Schools and two people's Universities which our homes house during the winter months. The students belong to the most varied classes, the village girls sitting beside the towngirl, the working girl beside the girl of leisure. They all want to learn and are eager for education and often they only realise in a very inadequate degree what an amount of study it requires to become a good housemanager, and more often they do not realise at all how important it is that they should learn it, both for their own and for their nation's sake.

They have no idea at all how a room should be tidied, or how a floor should be kept clean, how and what to cook for a family of three or six members, nor how meat, vegetables, fruit, etc., should be dealt with. They are taught by teachers possessing government diplomas in all branches of domestic science and botany. At the end of the school term they are asked to write papers on such subjects as:

- How to use and cut up a pig;
- How tomatoes, cucumbers and pumpkins are grown;
- The egg, its composition, its use, its nutritive value;
- Various kinds of food and their value in the building up of the human body;
- How to select and to divide a piece of garden land;
- How to prepare the ground in the autumn and the spring.

In sewing classes the students learn knitting, sewing, patching and mending; while dressmaking classes teach them the theory and practice of designing, cutting and making blouses and dresses. In addition, they are taught how to look after sick people and babies, various handicrafts, gymnastics and singing.

The aim is to teach them everything that should be known by a home-maker, but at the same time to



A SINGING CLASS IN GERMANY.

develop them intellectually through lessons in the German language, in the literature and geography of their own country, book-keeping and citizenship. Church history and the history of home missions are taught in order to acquaint them with the working of the spirit of God in the world and in the lives of prominent men of faith.

There are special hours set aside for Bible study and fundamentals of the Christian faith so as to deepen and broaden the knowledge they gained at confirmation.

The greatest emphasis is put upon bringing the girls under the influence of a Christian home life, so that they may learn, in their work and in their play, to find the sources of their strength in the Gospel, that their lives may be purified and their minds set upon eternal things.

In our popular university courses for girls the aim is identical, only here the intellectual training takes the foremost place and they share many classes with the male students of similar popular university courses organised in the same locality and also share in their parties and fun. This working together of boys and girls contributes to the enrichment of their lives.

These winter schools last four months and we have been running them since 1919. We may say gratefully that they have proved to be "Schools of joy in work," and that from them women have come forward determined to shoulder their responsibilities for the glory of God.

Y.W.C.A. OF GERMANY.

**Tokyo Y.W.C.A. Commercial School.**

The Tokyo Y.W.C.A. Commercial School is held in the Association buildings which with all its lacks possesses certain elastic qualities which we utilise to the utmost. The school year is divided into two semesters at the opening of which students are admitted, on examination, who have graduated from high school and had at least four years of English. There are three sessions of school a day, the more advanced students come in the morning; the newest class in the afternoon, and the evening session is for girls already in business who either wish to complete training interrupted by the necessity of helping their families financially, or who wish to supplement their present training in order to obtain better positions or be of more value in their present positions.

The required course of study includes typewriting,



INDIAN GUIDES AT SUMMER SCHOOL.

business ethics, coding, filing, business English and correspondence, and a series of lectures and demonstrations in general office practice, parts and care of all standard makes of typewriters, and instruction in the operation of office machinery. The school does not boast equipment for the latter, but through the co-operation of the Japanese dealers in lending machines, and in some cases men to demonstrate, this part of the course has been made possible. Shorthand is offered to those whose English is sufficient, but it is only the exceptional girl who sticks to it long enough to complete the work. A class of seven girls completed the work in June, two of whom have already accepted positions, one in the National Office of the Y.W.C.A., and the other in St. Luke's International Hospital as secretary to the head nurse.

During the year there has been an enrolment of 289, of whom 91 have graduated, 84 have dropped, and the remainder are still in school. The students were graduates of 72 schools, 35 outside of Tokyo. In the student body we have had besides Japanese, one Korean, two American-born Japanese, and three English girls. (It might be interesting to explain that many of the girls enter much as we might enter a finishing school. They do not intend to use the training or even finish the course, but to utilise the time between high school and marriage, and add one more accomplishment to the list when the go-betweens secure them for presentation to the prospective bridegroom; hence the number who drop out.) There was an average of 101 classes per week. At present there are three full-time Japanese people on the staff, one part-time Japanese girl who assists with office work, and one foreigner.

In connection with the first graduation an all day demonstration of office machinery was held to which the friends and parents of the students were invited, shown about the school, and given an opportunity to meet the instructors. At the graduation exercises diplomas were given to girls having completed the entire course satisfactorily. The motto chosen by the class was, "Nothing worth while is lost by taking time enough to do it right."

The Association has no one for foreign correspondence, or the typing of reports, and other material which must be done in English, and during the year that has been taken care of as part of the work of the more advanced students of the school, and graduates who wished to keep on with their work. Copy work has also been a



source of income for the school, although limited at present owing to lack of equipment and persons whose entire time could be utilised for such work.

One of the most important parts of the work has been the bureau which has been taken care of by Sakai San, the Japanese Director of the school. She placed sixty-nine girls in office positions of which twenty were graduates taking first positions, three were night-school girls who had already had positions when studying with us but wished to secure better positions after finishing their training, and forty-six were girls who had been working but wished to change their positions for various reasons.

Although some club work was done with the day-school girls, owing to the heavy schedule of the staff in the school it was impossible to give as much time as necessary to this part of the work.

For the evening girls, Professor Sheffield's discussions of "My Christian Responsibility in the Business World," were adapted and translated into Japanese and proved most beneficial and enlightening, and started a wholly new field of thought with the girls, who do not talk over or share their experiences in offices as a rule, and therefore have no feeling of unity or interest in other girls doing the same work. The evenings devoted to discussion of wages and formation of a budget as a basis for a minimum wage, needed no urging from a leader but merely guidance.

ETHEL M. DAVIS.

#### Our Summer Schools in India.

It is now more than eight years since some of us first dreamed dreams about a Y.W.C.A. Summer School for India. There were great obstacles in the way then, and many friends of the Association questioned both the possibility and the advisability of such a venture.

To-day, after seven successful Summer Conference sessions in Ootacamund, we wonder how anyone could ever have doubted India's need of a Summer School, for we feel convinced that it helps more than anything else that we are doing to spread throughout the length and breadth of this great country, the spirit of understanding, of friendliness, of fellowship and of service for which our Association stands.

Picture to yourself a cluster of buildings, standing in a large compound, gay with flowers of all kinds and colours; behind, within a stone's throw of the main buildings, rises Elk Hill, beautifully wooded, and abounding in bird and plant life. Here, in these inspiring surroundings, during April, May and June each year, girls from every province in India and Ceylon gather together, to share in the interesting and varied programme that the Y.W.C.A. Summer School offers. There are usually four different Conferences, suited to the needs of all kinds of girls, so that whether teachers or students, Guiders or Y.W.C.A. club members seek for guidance and help in their work, all can find a programme of activities suited to their own particular needs.

Each morning at all our Conferences, immediately after breakfast, we gather together in our beautiful drawing-room upstairs for prayers, and I believe that many of us look back with gratitude to those times of help and inspiration when we thought together about the Christian Adventure to which Christ had called us; the equipment which He had provided for us, which so often we foolishly imagined that we could do without; the ideals for which He wanted us to strive—most wonderfully embodied in our Guide promises; the joy of being asked to take our share in the building of the Kingdom of God here on earth; and the glory of sacrificing everything false and worthless, that we might help others to know Him too.

We try as far as possible to fit the work of our Conferences into the mornings, and leave the time after lunch—12.30—6.15—free for rest, games and other recreation of all kinds. This plan seems to meet the needs of the girls who come up to our Summer School, for many of them are weary after a long year's work in the heat of the plains, and we feel that they will not get the full benefit of the Conference, unless they are able to get plenty of rest as well.

The evening sing-songs which take place in the spacious drawing-room, or sometimes round a camp-fire under a star-studded sky, are a source of great delight to everyone. Each evening one patrol is responsible for preparing some kind of "stunt" or entertainment, and the talent displayed is quite amazing! Another patrol reads the day's Nature Log, revealing to us some newly-discovered wonder in the out-of-doors.

The Conferences vary in length, some lasting for only ten days, others for four weeks. The longer ones make it possible to have a less crowded programme, and give us more leisure to get to know one another, but the shorter ones are necessary for the sake of the girls who cannot afford to take more than a two weeks' holiday.

At the Conference for Teachers and Students, we include in our programme lectures on all kinds of subjects of interest to teachers, such as Psychology and Industrial and International Problems; we also have discussions and debates; physical education, and organised games.

The Business Girls' Conference includes physical work and games which are always much appreciated; hand-work, such as raffia and passe-partout, story-telling; Bible talks on such subjects as "Knowing Jesus as a Friend"; talks on industrial problems followed by visits to tea factories, and other places of interest; talks and discussions on all aspects of Y.W.C.A. work; debates; and, most appreciated of all by the girls, daily Bible Study Circles. It is in these small groups that we are able to get into close touch with the girls, and help them in the solving of their problems.

The Programme for the Guiders' Conference includes first and second class work; games; physical work of all kinds taken by a qualified physical director; cooking; handicrafts; nature lore; talks on subjects of interest to workers with girls; and songs and yarns for the Camp Fire.

This year during the three months, ten Indians and nine European Guiders were enrolled. Some teachers come up to Summer School fully determined never to become Guiders, but they were converted within a few days, and some who were specially prejudiced before they came, went back to start Guide Companies in their own schools! Of all those who came up to the Guiders' Conference—74 in all—not one went away without the Guide Tenderfoot Badge, but of course the majority were Guiders before they arrived. We were fortunate in having splendid Trainers who gave us invaluable help.

The biggest inspiration of Summer School, however, is to be found, not in the many new things that we learn, but in the atmosphere of good-will and fellowship and willing service which abounds in our midst. At Ootacamund, there are not only many different races gathered together, but many different nationalities as well, and we can justly claim to be a "League of Nations." This year we had American, Anglo-Indian, Australian, Burgher, English, Danish, Goanese, Indian, Parsee, Scotch, Cingalese and Swiss delegates. One evening the forty Indian girls at the Conference divided into groups, and entertained us by songs and recitations in no less than nine different Indian languages, each group speaking its own mother tongue.

There is still much that I have left out; the novelty of an Indian dinner, when the whole Conference, arrayed in beautiful saris, borrowed from the Indian girls, sat on the floor and ate delicious curry and rice cooked by the girls themselves, off plantain leaves; the thrill of all-day hikes amongst glorious surroundings, with mountains to climb, and streams to paddle in; the amusement called forth by patrol "stunts" at sing-song each evening; and the fun and fellowship enjoyed during the doing of the orderly duties each day.

But I think there stands out among all the happy and inspiring memories that we have taken away a beacon light, beckoning us ever onward and upward in our search for Goodness, Beauty and Truth, and as we follow eagerly, we find that Jesus Christ is there beside us, to guide and cheer us on our way, and we know that all is well.

DORA ROBOTHAM.