

THE CATHOLIC CITIZEN

Organ of St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance (formerly Catholic Women's Suffrage Society),
55, Berners Street, London, W.1.

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

Francis Thompson.

Thirty-ninth Annual Meeting

On March 25th, the thirty-ninth birthday of St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance, members met at St. Patrick's Club Room, Soho, for the Annual Meeting under the Chairmanship of Dr. Shattock. The room was well filled with members and friends of the Alliance who showed great enthusiasm.

Apologies were read from various members, including Lady Pakenham, who had hoped to speak at the meeting; Miss Havers, who wrote from hospital saying this was the first annual meeting she had missed; from Miss Organ, who for personal reasons was obliged to retire from the Committee, and from Miss C. M. Gordon, who had sent a gift of bacon from Scotland to be raffled.

Telegrams of good wishes were received from Mrs. Anne Lee and Miss Pearce of Liverpool, and telegrams were sent from the meeting to Miss Havers and Miss Organ.

Mrs. Shattock then introduced Canon Reardon as a very old friend whom all were pleased to see again. Canon Reardon declared that he was always interested in the hard work of the Alliance as recorded in the *Catholic Citizen* and in the constant writing of letters to Government Departments and to the Press. He admired the patience of the Alliance in going on and on and he dwelt on some recent triumphs—such as the proper ranking of women in the Armed Forces and the increased number of women candidates in the Parliamentary Election. Victory would follow the efforts of St. Joan's Alliance, and Canon Reardon wished it every success.

Miss Challoner then presented the Annual Report, stressing the high lights of the past year.

The *Catholic Citizen* Report was presented by the Editor, Miss Christine Spender, who appealed to members to take out extra subscriptions for the paper to be sent to Missionaries, Libraries, etc.

The Merseyside Report was presented by Mrs. Keating, Hon. Secretary of the Branch. She brought greetings from the Chairman, Mrs. McCann. She announced to the Meeting the recent death of Miss Mary Hickey, former Secretary of the Branch, for whom prayers were asked.
—R.I.P.

Miss McClellan said she was very pleased to move the adoption of the Annual Report. She was pleased that St. Joan's did not waste its time changing its constitution. The Alliance worked against a background of stable reason so that all its work and resolutions have a logical basis in principle which means some kind of perspective. The Hon. Secretary, Miss Barry, was the soul of accuracy as Miss McClellan knew from experience. The Sections which were springing up all over the world and in the British Commonwealth would have a flying start as they would be able to learn from the experience of the Mother Society.

Miss Monica Munro, from Grenada, was introduced as having distinguished herself in every branch of nursing. She said she had immense admiration for the zeal, enthusiasm and hard work of the Alliance, especially its pertinacity on the subject of Equal Pay. How did the Alliance working with such little funds manage to steer itself from the debit to the credit side? It must surely be the co-operation and friendliness of all the members that managed this. The work of the Alliance has surely been blessed by St. Joan and will benefit women all over the world.

Miss Sorby spoke of the *Catholic Citizen*. She said it had been her first introduction to St. Joan's Alliance and that it seemed to her "as important as the eyes, hat or dress of a party acquaintance." The paper interested her immediately as it seemed calmly reasonable, and simply written. Miss Sorby had not realised before the denial of freedom and justice to women in countries other than the East. The *Catholic Citizen* showed Catholic women to be in the forefront of the woman's movement and it was a prime source of information to all within the movement.

The Financial Report was then presented by Miss Barry in the absence of Miss Organ on account of ill-health. She explained matters connected with the Gabrielle Jeffery Memorial Fund and pointed out that expenses had been kept down owing to exceedingly generous voluntary help. Miss Barry paid tribute to Miss Jameson, who, in Miss Challoner's absence in South Africa, had done the work of several people rolled into one. Dr. Shattock added a word of thanks to the Hon.

Auditor, Miss Gadsby, a foundation member of the Alliance who was present at the inaugural meeting of the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society on March 25th, 1911, and was with us to-day.

Alderman Mrs. Hoare, in moving the adoption of the Financial Statement, told the meeting something of her work as an Alderman, a position to which she had been elected in March, 1949. She served on the Education Committee and on the Children's Committee of the L.C.C. The latter Committee was "mother and father" to 9,000 deprived children, assuming parental rights. Many of these are literally wards of the Committee. The Education Committee controls all the schools in London and every single school and Home is run by a Committee. Women of principle were needed on all these Committees and on Hospital Committees and here was a chance for Catholic women. Mrs. Hoare, referring to the Alliance, said she was amazed so much work had been accomplished by so few and with such small funds. Surely there should be more women interested in the splendid work of St. Joan's, which affects them all.

Miss Noreen Carr in appealing for funds referred to the heavy financial year in front of the Alliance. There was first the change of office, which meant more rent for a smaller room. Though there was no question of raising the Annual Subscription officially it would be grand if members could raise the subscriptions for the 39th Birthday of the Alliance, either by adding thirty-nine pence, thirty-nine shillings or thirty-nine pounds to their usual subscription. Then there was the question of the typewriter—a new Standard typewriter was badly needed for the office and perhaps someone would be inspired to present one. Envelopes were then handed round the hall and the magnificent sum of £107 2s. 3d. was collected in promises and cash.

Dame Vera Laughton Mathews, the International President, then spoke of the International work. She said she was delighted to see so many old and new friends present, especially the younger women. She gave an account of the new Sections of the Alliance, of the Council Meeting and then, as an example of the work undertaken, she described how a Petition sent by St. Joan's International Alliance to the United Nations had resulted in an investigation into polygamy in West Africa and in recommendations arrived at by the United Nations. Who knew what good might follow from this work? Dame Vera went on to say that the status of women everywhere was affected by their status in any one place. The work of St. Joan's Alliance strikes a spark in the hearts of depressed women all over the world. Dame Vera concluded by announcing the Third Triennial Conference of St. Joan's International which would take place in Rome from the 1st-9th

October. She hoped there would be a large contingent from the British Section.

The new Committee was then elected as appears on page 28. Miss Organ was warmly thanked for her devoted work as Hon. Treasurer during the last ten years. The resignation of Miss Fahie, owing to her appointment to a post in Paris, was received with regret.

Dr. Shattock thanked the excellent speakers. She begged promises of work for the future as there were still many important questions to work for—equal pay, for instance, which the Alliance has been conceded but not implemented, and there was still lobbying to do on this question and a Mass Meeting on June 13th. Then there were many aspects of the International work for which helpers were needed. Miss Barry, in amplifying the Chairman's appeal, took the opportunity of thanking Miss Graham for the magnificent gift of a solid oak desk which was going to be a joy in the office.

Resolutions on subjects connected with the work of the Alliance were then put to the meeting and carried. They will be found on page 28.

A splendid tea followed, made possible by gifts from our Australian colleagues and other members. Miss Carr was in charge, helped by Miss Hayes and Miss Cave, and members chatted together, well satisfied by a most successful Annual Meeting.

CHRISTINE SPENDER.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

From the "Catholic Citizen," April 15th, 1925.

We have great pleasure in publishing the following letter which St. Joan's S.P.A. has received from Dom Gilbert Higgins, C.R.L.:-

"I want to leave it on record that St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance has always had my appreciation and best wishes. May its membership ever go on growing in numbers and power. The Catholic Citizen will extend your wholesome influence so long as it publishes rousing articles like 'Women in the Missionary Field'."

* * * * *

The Guardianship of Infants Bill has passed through its committee stage. Lady Astor moved an amendment to make a mother joint guardian with the father, as in Mrs. Wintringham's Bill. The amendment it was said would wreck the Bill, and Lady Astor was induced to withdraw it, but moved an amendment to insert in the preamble a declaration in favour of equal responsibilities of parents. This was accepted.—Notes and Comments.

OBERAMMERGAU

Frames Tours Ltd. offer special facilities to travellers wishing to attend the 1950 production of the famous Passion Play—the first enactment since 1934. Enquire, too, about pilgrimages to Rome and Lourdes. Officially appointed travel agents since 1881.

20, Denmark House, Denmark Street, W.C.2.

Notes and Comments

Mass has been offered at St. Patrick's, Soho, for Gabrielle Jeffery, Founder of the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society, and Leonora de Alberti, first Editor of the Catholic Suffragist (now the Catholic Citizen), whose anniversaries occurred on March 19th and 26th respectively.—R.I.P.

* * *

The Executive Committee has elected the following officers: Chairman, Miss P. C. Challoner; Hon. Treasurer, Miss N. K. Carr; Hon. Secretary, Miss F. Barry; Hon. Editor of the Catholic Citizen, Miss Christine Spender.

* * *

At a Conference at Transport House held on March 21st, London busmen voted unanimously against the proposal by London Transport that, to relieve staff shortage, busmen should agree to the re-employment of women at the men's rates of pay.

Some are said to base their objection on the "fact" that "women are not built for working on buses"—but the real reason would seem to be that the present position enables the men to bargain for improved conditions. The women are angry at this discrimination—calling it a "dog-in-the-manger" attitude—and say, "If we are willing to do the job and do it well, the men shouldn't try to stop us."

That the wonderful way women helped to carry on London Transport during the war should be so soon forgotten is no credit to the men.

* * *

The Ministry of Labour survey of the earnings of 6½ million manual workers mainly in manufacturing industries, reveals that between October 1938 and October 1949 average weekly earnings had risen by 129%. The increases are detailed as follows:

Men (over 21)	101%
Youths and Boys	130%
Women (over 18)	142%
Girls	179%

but the average weekly earnings in October 1949 show that of

Men (over 21) to be ...	£7 12 8
Women (over 18) to be ...	£3 18 9
Youths to be ...	£3 0 1
Girls to be ...	£2 11 8

so that the overall increase still leaves women and girls far behind the men in the matter of pay. During the past two months of 1950 nearly two million workers received wage increases amounting to a weekly aggregate of £285,100.

From *The Woman Teacher* we note with pride the tribute to our member, Miss H. R. Walmesley, M.A., on her retirement from active membership of the teaching profession. Miss Walmesley was elected to the Central Council of the N.U.W.T. in 1928 and was several times local President, becoming National President in 1933. Miss Walmesley was awarded the M.A. degree Hons. Causa by Birmingham University.

The Woman Teacher praises her "ready pen and readier speech with its wealth of imagery... her undeviating feminism and her determination to secure the best in education for girls and boys alike." It goes on to say that her qualities of unlimited patience and understanding of human weaknesses "have won for her the admiration and affection of the woman's movement."

We wish her great happiness in her retirement and hope we shall now see her more often.

* * *

According to the available list of rates of pay for employees of the nationalised industries, the scales in practically every case are lower for women than for men. Exceptions are among clerks up to the age of twenty employed by the National Coal Board; clerks and administrative workers in grades above the general clerical staff in the Electricity Supply and for Manual Workers (about 2% female).

Women conductors under London Transport Executive are paid 90% of the men's wages for the first six months, and thereafter receive the same rate as the men.

In Civil Aviation—the clerks, stewards, tracers (male or female) are all paid at the same rate, but the rate for Manual Workers (maintenance, radio, canteen staff, etc.), is higher for men than for women.

Male Nurses under the Health Services are usually paid £10 a year more than female, though the maximum rate for a male charge nurse and ward sister is the same.

All other professional work—Specialists, Medical Laboratory Technicians, Pharmacists, Secretaries of leading Hospitals, Clerks to Executive Councils, and Therapeutic Dieticians receive equal pay as between men and women. (*Equal Pay Campaign Committee.*)

* * *

Will members keep the evening of June 13th free for the Mass Meeting on Equal Pay which will be held at the Central Hall, Westminster, under the auspices of the Equal Pay Campaign Committee. Details will be announced later.

ST. JOAN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ALLIANCE

AND

Editorial Office of "Catholic Citizen"

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

Signed articles do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Society

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ex-officio DAME VERA LAUGHTON MATHEWS, D.B.E., *President, St. Joan's International Social and Political Alliance.*

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MISS CHRISTINE SPENDER, *Hon. Editor,*
"Catholic Citizen."

Resolutions passed at the 39th Annual Meeting

Human Rights: Draft Convention.—St. Joan's Social & Political Alliances urges upon the Government to instruct its delegate to the Human Rights Commission to press for the inclusion in the Covenant of Human Rights of an Article on marriage, stating that—

the family deriving from marriage is the natural and fundamental unit of society which is best protected by a system of monogamy. All persons shall have equality before the law in all matrimonial questions. No marriage shall be contracted before the age of puberty and without the free consent of both intending spouses.

St. Joan's Alliance further urges that in the implementation of the Covenant of Human Rights, individuals and groups shall have the right and opportunity to petition the United Nations in respect of violations of the Covenant.

Equal Rights.—St. Joan's S.P.A. calls upon the Government to implement the principle of "equal rights of men and women" laid down in the United Nations Charter, by abolishing all legal and administrative discrimination based on sex.

Equal Political Rights.—St. Joan's S.P.A. demands that peeresses in their own right be allowed to sit and vote in the House of Lords, and that in any reform of the Second Chamber, men and women should have equal eligibility and voting rights.

Equal Pay.—St. Joan's S.P.A. expresses its indignation at the continued injustice of discrimination in pay between men and women workers on the ground of sex alone, and demands the immediate implementation of equal pay for equal work—the rate for the job—in all Government and public employment.

Equal Moral Standard.—St. Joan's S.P.A. reaffirms its demand for the repeal of all existing legislation specially directed against "common prostitutes."

(i) It urges the Government to amend Sections 2 S/s (1) and (3) and S/s (2) of the Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1885, which excludes "common prostitutes and women of known immoral character" from the

operation of the law against procurers.

(ii) It further calls for the repeal of the present unjust solicitation laws, and the substitution of a measure dealing with street solicitation by general legislation against annoyance or molestation, under which the evidence of the person annoyed or molested would be necessary in order to obtain conviction.

Taxation.—St. Joan's S.P.A. demands the removal of all discrimination in taxation.

National Insurance.—St. Joan's S.P.A. calls for the abolition of discrimination, based on sex or marriage, under National Insurance and Assistance. In particular, there should be equality of contributions for men and women; the retirement age should be the same for men and women and married women, insured in their own right, should be entitled to the full rate of unemployment and sickness benefit.

Domicile.—St. Joan's S.P.A. calls upon the Government to introduce legislation to entitle a married woman to acquire a domicile of her own, in the same way as a man or single woman.

Education.—St. Joan's S.P. reiterates its demand for full financial equality for Catholic schools in the National Scheme for Education. It further urges that in all schemes of education, equal opportunity be made available for boys and girls, both in this country and in the Trust Territories under British administration.

Status of Women.—St. Joan's S.P.A. demands that in all territories under British jurisdiction it shall be definitely laid down that customs analogous to slavery should be abolished:

1. No woman or child, of whatever race, shall be treated as a chattel.
2. Every woman shall be permitted to choose her own partner in life despite any contract entered into in her name by any other person.
3. No marriage contract shall be made for any girl under the age of 14, nor for any woman over that age without her consent.
4. There shall be no lending out of wives under any pretext.
5. Widows shall not be inherited but shall be free to dispose of themselves and their children as they think fit.

HON. TREASURER'S NOTE

Congratulations and many thanks for the generous response to the appeal for funds made at the Annual General Meeting. We want £75 towards the rent of our new office (still in 55, Berners Street), and anything in excess to go towards a new typewriter, so badly needed. So far, in money and promises, we have just over £108 5s. 7d. Perhaps those of you who could not come to the meeting would like to help. Members were asked to give the Alliance a present on its 39th birthday—either 39d., 39s., or £39. We received one marvellous gift of 39 guineas. If you would like to help, would you be kind enough to let us have your donation before St. Joan's Day, May 30th? May I also ask all those who have not paid this year's subscription to do so as soon as possible, to facilitate work at the office and to enable us to bring our accounts up-to-date?

N. K. Carr.

REPORT OF MERSEYSIDE BRANCH, 1949

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. Keating, 34, Danehurst Road, Wallasey, Cheshire.

The Branch is affiliated to the Women's Organisations Committee and members are on several of its Sub-Committees.

It assisted in a survey of Passenger Transport in Liverpool, and joined in the successful protest concerning the sale of contraceptives from slot machines.

In August, the Annual Garden Party was held at Birkenhead, by the kindness of the Misses Barry, when Mrs. Calvert, recently returned from Czechoslovakia, gave an account of conditions there since the war; the Chairman, Mrs. McCann, presided.

As a result of money-raising efforts, the Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Brady, collected £6 4s. 0d., half of which was sent to Headquarters.

During the year, members entertained Miss Challoner on her return from South Africa, and had the pleasure of meeting Dame Vera Laughton Mathews, when she spoke to the Vigilance Association at Liverpool Town Hall.

In December, members held a meeting to welcome Mrs. Daly, President of St. Joan's Alliance, New South Wales, on her way home to Sydney, when she gave an interesting account of her visit to Lake Success—Mrs. Daly also attended the monthly meeting of the W.O.C.

At the close of the year, members learned with sorrow of the death of Miss Madeleine Barry, an original member of the Liverpool Branch, who, till the end, took a keen interest in the work of the Alliance. On behalf of the Branch, Mass was offered for her, and the Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and several other members attended the Requiem at Birkenhead.—R.I.P.

A NEW OPENING FOR WOMEN

From a Correspondent

We believe that readers of the *Catholic Citizen* will be interested to hear that the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children has recently launched a new scheme, which is already helping the Inspectors in their work. Known as the "Visitor Scheme", it provides a band of trained women "Visitors" available in certain districts, to follow up the work of Inspectors in creating better home conditions for children. Each Visitor has not more than twenty-five families under her care at any one time, and, in consequence, she is able to form a real friendship with each family. She can give close personal attention and practical friendly help on matters ranging from parental discord and the difficulties of adolescence, to the more material problems of budgeting, cooking, cleaning and making the best of small resources.

The Visitor must, indeed, be an experienced, sensible, sympathetic woman and a "Jill-of-all-trades." She is not intended to be a specialist nor to compete in any way with specialist workers, such as Health Visitors, Psychiatric Social Workers, etc., nor does this scheme constitute a new social service, adding yet another to the number of agencies concerned with the welfare of children; it is simply an extension of the work already being done by the Society, and covers only those families already under the notice of our Inspectors. The Visitor Scheme is, in effect, our attempt to help, in a new way, not only "problem families" but any families whose mental, emotional or material resources are inadequate for them to bring up their children in happiness and security.

The success of this scheme in 1949, the first complete year of its operation, has been remarkable; although it was launched with high hopes, nobody then foresaw the full extent of the demand for this type of work, nor did we anticipate the achievement of such a high proportion of successes where all previous efforts had failed. A further number of Visitors is now in training, and it is hoped to extend the scheme more widely in the future.

But the Society's work receives no State help, for all of its income comes from voluntary contributions. Its work, too, is directed by voluntary helpers. Its Chairman is His Grace, the Duke of Portland, and its Central Committee, whose activities he guides, is composed of men and women of divers occupations and of all shades of religious thought and political opinion. In all, the Society has 40,000 voluntary workers, and through its various Committees, whose work is very efficiently co-ordinated, every member has a voice in the management of the Society.

INTERNATIONAL NOTES

From our Rome Correspondent. The International Congress of the Catholic Press from the 16th-19th February with the participation of 300 Catholic journalists had as general theme: "The Catholic Press in the service of Truth, Justice and Peace." The most important addresses were given on Economic and Social Problems, in the religious and international field, and on means of diffusion used in different countries and finally on reception of foreign colleagues in different countries.

The beatified of the first quarter of the Holy Year were: Blessed Vincenzo Pallotti, the founder of the *Pallotini*; M. Desolata Torres Acosta; Mother Vincenza Maria Lopez Vicuna, the founder of the "Institute of Domestic Service"; and Domenico Savio, the 14-years-old Salesian student.

Those members who wish to attend the Triennial Conference of St. Joan's International Alliance in Rome in October and take part afterwards in the Holy Year Pilgrimage Exercises, are asked to send in their names to the office as soon as possible.

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Apostolatus Maris. The 12th International Congress of the Apostleship of the Sea was held in Rome on March 22nd to 28th. St. Joan's International Alliance was represented by Miss Margaret O'Connor and Miss Pauline O'Brien.

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India. We have received from the Ministry of Health of India questions asked in Parliament on birth control and the very heartening replies made by the Hon. Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, Minister for Health.

February 21st, 1950. **Shri A. M. Rathnaswami.** (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state whether the rate of births in India since the year 1941 has shown an upward trend?

(b) Have Government in view any proposal to popularise knowledge and appliances of birth control?

(c) Will Government consider the advisability of making available the benefits of the knowledge of birth control to the poorer and labouring classes?

The Hon. Rajkumari Amrit Kaur. (a) There is an indication of a downward trend in the birth-rate as may be observed from the statement laid on the table of the House.

(b) and (c) No. The social implications of a widespread campaign for the dissemination of knowledge in the matter of the use of contraceptives for the purposes of birth control are fraught with risk to health in a population where there is mass ignorance of the laws of hygiene and neither adequate medical relief nor means of proper education. Family planning is a desirable objective. It should be sought to be obtained and will be better obtained in our country by social reform, such as the raising of the age of marriage of both boys and girls. In any event any action to be taken in this direction will obviously have to be in close consultation with State Governments and with due regard to the social and religious susceptibilities of large sections of the population, bearing in mind also the frequently adverse moral effect of such methods as have been adopted in the Western Hemisphere.

United Nations. Slavery. The *ad hoc* Committee of Experts on Slavery has adopted a report dealing with plans for a survey of the field of slavery and methods for combating slavery.

Every Government of the world and a large number of non-Governmental organisations and individuals will be asked to answer a questionnaire on slavery and institutions and customs analogous thereto. The Committee asks: "Do any practices exist . . . which are restrictive of the liberty of the person and which tend to establish control of that person in conditions analogous to slavery?" We are particularly glad to note the inclusion of the following questions for which St. Joan's International Alliance had pressed:

(c) Pledging or pawning of persons as security for debt;

(e) Adoption of children to secure their labour and to exploit them;

(f) Purchase of wives and inheritance of a widow by the heir of the deceased husband, involving involuntary subjection of a woman to a man not of her choice;

(g) All forms of prostitution of women and children involving exercise of ownership over them.

* * *

On February 27th the Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary presented, through the courtesy of The Catholic Film Institute, the Première of a Missionary Film entitled **Out of the Darkness**. This event took place at the *Institut Français*, Kensington, in the presence of the Apostolic Delegate, Monsignor Godfrey. The *Catholic Citizen* was privileged to have a Press ticket.

In this film we are shown the Novitiate and Motherhouse of the Sisters at Killeshandra in Ireland. The scene then moves to Africa among the Nigerian people where we see the Holy Rosary Sisters at work and follow the paths of two Nigerian girls who go through school and college together. The pictured baptism of one of these girls is most touching and brings out vividly all that the faith must mean to those that have "sat in darkness." One will not easily forget the expression of peace and exaltation on this girl's face. Later in the film she become an African Sister, having earned her freedom from a betrothal made on her behalf by her father. We see the ceremony of profession and again we are impressed by the peace and exaltation, mingled with strength, so clearly marked on the faces of these young African girls. It is indeed as though they had found "the pearl of great price" and in finding it had been given the wherewithal to follow their vocation and break away from tradition. It is a hopeful sign for the new Africa, that in so short a time so much has been made possible. We think this film should have wide publicity and we hope it will do much for the Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary.

C.S.

REVIEWS

Edy. Recollections of Edith Craig. Edited by Eleanor Adlard, Biographical Note by Christopher St. John. (Frederick Muller, 10s. 6d.)

Sir William Temple wrote: "A true Friend. Something that is like Home and is not Home, like Alone and is not Alone, to be wished for and only found in a Friend." This being so Edith Craig was a rich woman, for she had not only one but two such friends: Christopher St. John and Clare Atwood. Of other friends she had many, but these two elect, who for many years shared her home, were surely shut into her innermost heart of hearts.

One frequently meets two women, not connected by any blood-tie and following widely different callings, living happily together, but in nearly all cases one dominates the pair. To find three women, each with marked individuality, living and growing old together, not always in peace and harmony—but in sympathy and understanding, is indeed remarkable, but this remarkable trio gave the lie to the proverb by doing exactly this.

The contributors to the Recollections all testify to Edy's outstanding gifts: her thoroughness, resourcefulness, perseverance in all that concerned her life's work for the theatre, as well as what might be called her "private" qualities: her love of children and bright colours and warm-hearted hospitality.

Perhaps the most vivid description of her in the book is given by M. Saint Georges de Bouhélier, who braved the horrors of a Channel crossing for the first time to see Edy's production of his "Carnaval des Enfants." Writing twenty-seven years later he says: "Dès le premier abord Edith Craig s'imposait à vous comme une force. . . . Avant même qu'elle eût dit un mot, sa seule présence galvanisait et électrisait." He goes on to tell how she carried through the rehearsal unperturbed by the presence of the author or her mother, who from time to time timidly hazarded a suggestion!

Suffragists will never forget the great work Edith Craig did in the days of the struggle for the vote, as Cicely Hamilton in her tribute says: "Her real and invaluable work for the cause was done by placing her talents and knowledge of the theatre at its service."

It is good to think that Edy had the happiness of having a theatre of her very own, even though a tiny one. The Barn Theatre, near her home at Smallhythe, where things could be done exactly as she wished and where she saw to it that they were so done. Her work for the theatre was perhaps not appreciated during her life, but it lives as well as the memory of her wonderful Mother.

Among the interesting illustrations is a charming group of the three white-haired friends. The jacket would surely have pleased Edy, it is such a lovely deep red with two medallions "For Remembrance." E.F.G.

Missionary Sisters. *A brief account of the nature and scope of twenty-nine institutes of Sisters engaged in Missionary work in the Apostolic Delegation for British East and West Africa.* (Catholic Mission Press, Nyeri.)

We have received from the Apostolic Delegation, Mombasa, this booklet which the Apostolic Delegate, Archbishop David Mathew, himself describes in the foreword as "this plain record" in which the "heroic work of the Missionary Sisters is set out almost in schematic form."

It is indeed an unusual pleasure to have to use one's imagination to "penetrate to the spirit of self-sacrifice and endurance, to the deep simplicity of heart" of these thousands of devoted missionaries. Here are no tales to catch the fancy or stir the emotions, but the cumulative effect of the work of Order after Order, working like leaven in the mass of paganism, is more than stirring—it is overwhelming.

There are twenty-eight different Orders under the Apostolic Delegate for British East and West Africa with Mother Houses in Ireland, Holland, Canada, Italy, Bavaria, the Rhineland, and Switzerland. They include Benedictines and Carmelites, the most active and the most contemplative—and many of them have built up Congregations for African Sisters, notably the Franciscan Sisters of Uganda and Kenya, led by Mother Kevin. The twenty-ninth Order is that of the White Sisters who were founded for and work exclusively in Africa—and the thirtieth, which has grown up under their supervision in response to the words of Pope Pius XI—"Africa must be converted by the Africans"—is the Bannabikira (Daughters of Mary), an African Sisterhood with forty Stations, a Mother House and Novitiate of their own, and some 360 professed Sisters.

P.C.C.

Pictures for Lent and Easter. By Sister Mary Ansgar, O.P. (Bloomsbury Publishing Co., 2s. 6d.)

A Spring Painting Book is the newest in the Series with which Sister Mary Ansgar, O.P., has delighted and instructed young children in the seasonal truths of their Holy Faith. This number combines the Sorrows of the Passion and the Joys of Easter—and brings home the means by which young and old can share in both. I like particularly the many races indicated in the procession to Calvary—and the "International Cherubs!"

P.C.C.

see over

Family Allowances—A New Edition of **The Disinherited Family**. By Eleanor Rathbone. (Allen & Unwin, 15s.)

Miss Rathbone's book, "The Disinherited Family," first appeared in 1924 and was then reviewed in the *Catholic Citizen* by Mrs. V. M. Crawford. To this new edition (the fourth) Dr. Gilbert Murray provides a foreword, in which he speaks of the book as "one of those—which change the mind of a nation," while Lord Beveridge, in an epilogue, says that it brought to him "instant and total conversion."

In what Miss Rathbone calls the "vital" Chapter 2 on "the living wage," she pointed out that while paying wages to support 16 million illusory children, we starve 1¼ million actual children. She quoted estimates that over 50 per cent. of the working men, who were paid a wage to support a "normal" family of five persons, had no dependent children, 27 per cent. of these no wives either, and that less than 10 per cent. had more than the normal three. By 1927 the 1921 census had been published and fully supported this estimate.

The late Mrs. Eva Hubback, in a final chapter, brings the movement up-to-date. She describes the gradual acceptance of the idea of family endowment—"first converts" being "the All-Party Women's Organisations"—but she can only name five, after what she calls a "considerable amount of spade work." The fact was that the feminist organisations as a whole were unwilling to make their claim for equal pay in any way contingent on family allowances. Miss Rathbone herself put the high incidence of adult dependency on a single woman before the Royal Commission for equal pay.

In her review of Miss Rathbone's book Mrs. Crawford posed the question—"What will the effect be on the birth-rate?" Miss Rathbone herself said it would be rash to speak with any assurance as to how the birth-rate will re-act to any social change. P.C.C.

BOOK RECEIVED

The Miracles of the Wolf of Gubbio: A parable. By Raymond Bruckberger, Dominican. Translated from the French by Gerold Lauck. Illustrated by Peter Lauck. (Home & Van Thal, 5s.)

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