

WOMEN'S SERVICE
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THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S NEWS

JUS SUFFRAGII

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CONTENTS.

	PAGE.		PAGE.
Notes and News	44	Section Française:	
Preparing for the Disarmament Conference	45	Les Préparatifs de la Conférence du	
Reviews	47	Desarmement	49
News in Brief	48	Nouvelles Brèves	50
		Un Incident féministe au Sénat	51

The Economic Crisis is World Wide

SUPPORT

The International Alliance for Suffrage & Equal Citizenship
and
The International Women's News

Work for the establishment of the Right of Women
to take their full share in the reconstruction of
economic and political life.

NOTES AND NEWS.

Abolition of Brothels in Hong-Kong. The Association for Moral and Social Hygiene announces that the Government of Hong Kong has decreed that "all brothels are to be abolished as soon as possible." "Non-Chinese brothels (i.e., houses catering for the foreign clientele) shall be closed in six months from January 1st, 1932. Chinese brothels should be closed within three years. No new women will be registered as from now, nor will any transfer of women from one house of ill-fame to another be allowed, and any woman leaving a house for a month will have her registration cancelled. The position will be reviewed in twelve months, and if necessary the extinction of brothels will be hastened. The local press made the following comment: "The Government, in the action it has taken, has the support of the responsible members of the Chinese community. The District Watch Committee has unanimously and loyally promised its co-operation. . . . The Government hopes to do more in the suppression of venereal disease as was stated in the last Budget speech. Clinics are being set up and it is expected that the Chinese public dispensaries will co-operate."

Married Women Teachers. "North is North and South is South and never the twain shall meet," to misquote Kipling's line, but they do meet on the question of married women's employment.

The Irish Free State Education Department has decided that "after 1st April next, women teachers entering the service, shall on marriage no longer be eligible for recognition in any public capacity in national schools." The decision is less reactionary than that recently taken in Belfast, as no teachers now in the service will be affected by the new regulation. The Teacher's Union is considering possible action.

The Stronger Sex? "The Boys of Wexford" are famed in song, and memories of '98 are still kept alive in the North and in Wexford. A friend of my own remembers that her grandfather had a pike hidden in the roof of the old home in Co. Antrim, and pikes are evidently still to be found in Co. Wexford, as witness the following story. Since the stoppage of emigration and the depression in farming, there has been much unemployment in the country, and there has been a certain amount of house-breaking and other crime. A recent attempt in a lonely part of Co. Wexford failed through the courage of an old woman of ninety, who told the story in the Police Court lately. Roused in the middle of the night by men knocking at the door, she was told they would have her money or her life. In reply to a threat that they would break in the door, she cried "Come on! Come on! You will not all come in alive except over my dead body." When a hole had actually been made in the door, she pushed the pike, which she had brought from its hiding-place, through the opening. They then betook themselves to the window which they smashed, calling to each other "bring the bombs and we will bomb the whole place." The old lady took up her post inside—calling "come on, come on," pike still pointed to the enemy. An iron bucket thrown in cut her hand, but she held her ground and the brutal attackers ran away. One is glad to note the magistrate shook hands with her in court.

DORA MELLONE.

Married Women and Unemployment in the U.S.A. Not the least of the problems accompanying the period of economic depression in the United States is that relating

to the employment of married women. From many sources have come recommendations for the removal of married women from the factory or from public service as a quick remedy for the grim unemployment situation. Organized women's groups have sounded emphatic protests on the grounds that the proposal is based on the wholly false assumption that every married woman worker has a husband drawing wages sufficient for the support of the family, and that the dismissal of women solely on the grounds of marital status is unjust.

Scientifically conducted investigations by the Women's Bureau in the United States Department of Labour show that the majority of married women who are working are doing so because their wages are necessary for the support of the home and the family. The annual report of that Bureau states that research makes it clear that many thousands of married men are employed at wages below the level necessary for the maintenance of a family, and the necessity of rising above the lowest subsistence level must be met by other resource.

The National League of Women Voters and the National Women's Trade Union League of America have each issued protests against the growing tendency to dismiss women from positions because they are married. A statement of the last named organization says:

"The dismissal of married women would not remedy unemployment. It would scarcely make a dent in the situation, even were it not too unjust and impracticable to consider."

The board of the National League of Women Voters after discussing the subject issued the following statement:

"The League regrets that at the present time there is a marked tendency toward dismissal of the married woman from her job. It is well known that a very large percentage of married women need work and are responsible for dependents to a degree which requires that opportunities for work be open to them as well as to men. If the scarcity of jobs under present economic conditions makes it necessary that persons who have private incomes be removed from positions, the principle should be applied to all persons and not aimed specifically and particularly toward the married woman who works outside her home. Dismissal of such women as a group is a discrimination which the Board of the National League of Women Voters deplores and protests."

ADA BARNETT.

A Feminist. On the 14th January Madame Jane Valbot made a demonstration in the Senate in favour of votes for French women. The following is a translation of the account which appeared in *L'Oeuvre*.

"Yesterday, the Senate was proceeding peacefully with its business. It was towards four o'clock. Suddenly, a lady sitting in vice-president's gallery rose and said:

Mr. President, Members of the Senate, I remind you, very respectfully, that we have been waiting for a long time for the question of votes for women to come up for discussion.

We trust that this session will not end without its being discussed.

Having spoken, amid complete silence, with perfect calm Madame Jane Valbot sat down. Applause broke out. Cries of "She is right! She is right!" were heard. One senator called out "Come to the rostrum!" to which Mme. Valbot replied, "I should like to!"

But the policeman had other ideas, and with the greatest politeness he asked Mme. Valbot to follow him to the commissary's office, which she did, first releasing a cloud of little many-coloured paper streamers which

read: "In order to abolish war, women must have the vote," "In order to secure equality of salaries, women must have the vote," "In order to lower the cost of living, women must have the vote."

In the commissary's office this short dialogue took place:

— This is intolerable, said the commissary.

— Indeed, Mr. Commissary, it is intolerable that women have not got the vote!

— I meant that it was intolerable that women should come and make demonstrations in the Senate!

— Do you know any better way?

The dialogue continued for a minute or two on these lines and then the Commissary politely showed Mme. Valbot out."

In a letter to the President of the Alliance Mme. Valbot tells how, since 1928, she has worn on her hat a ribbon bearing the inscription "*La française doit voter.*" At first, she says, it cost her an effort to do so, but "I so quickly became used to it that I now no longer remember when I am out that I am carrying our claims very high, and I am surprised when people say 'I agree with you, Madame.' I hope to form a group of women of the same mind and to follow the example of those courageous English women who went ahead without fear and ridicule, and in the end obtained the right to vote for all."

We congratulate Mme. Valbot heartily on her courage and initiative.

PREPARING FOR THE DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE.

Opening the new Hall.

On January 12th at 3 o'clock several members of the League of Nations Secretariat and prominent Genevese assisted at the opening ceremony of the building in which the Disarmament Conference will be held. Monsieur Avenol, in the absence through illness of Sir Eric Drummond, thanked the Genevese authorities for their generous collaboration and congratulated the architects on the rapidity of their work.

Monsieur Frederic Martin, President of the State Council, formally handed over the new building to the League of Nations, and stated that the land on which it stood was the site of the ancient Priory Hospital, whose good works would soon be continued in the plans of reconstruction to be evolved during the coming Conference for suffering humanity.

Co-operation between the Press and the Disarmament Committee of Women's International Organisations.

On January 13th Mrs. Guthrie D'Arcis, President of the World Union of Women for International Concord, held a reception in her house on the Quai Wilson, Geneva, to enable the Disarmament Committee of the Women's International Organisations to meet members of the Press.

In a short address Miss Dingman (President) outlined the aims and ideals of the Disarmament Committee and suggested means of co-operation with the Press during the coming Disarmament Conference.

The Journalists present expressed their sympathetic interest in the work of the Committee and made many practical proposals with regard to obtaining a useful collaboration during the Disarmament Conference. Particular interest was shown in the question of presenting the Peace Petitions, to which full publicity will be given. Arrangements are being made for a very impressive ceremony in this connection.

"France on the Eve of Disarmament."

"France on the Eve of Disarmament" was the

subject of an address given at the Athenée, Geneva, on January 13th, by Professor Paul Mantoux, Director of the Post Graduate Institute of International Studies. Professor William Rappard was in the chair.

Monsieur Mantoux put before his audience the many difficulties confronting France at the forthcoming Disarmament Conference and endeavoured to refute the allegation that France is the obstructor of world peace.

The lecturer's fair statement of facts and figures was listened to with great interest by an audience anxious to follow the Disarmament Conference with unbiased judgment and with a full realisation of the great difficulties confronting statesmen of all nations.

Communicated by ROSA MANUS, Amsterdam.

Hon. Sec., Disarmament Committee of the Women's International Organisation.

BULGARIA.

On the 17th January a big Public Meeting in support of the Disarmament Conference was held in one of the Theatres in Sofia, organised by 21 women's organisations.

The following resolution was adopted and has been forwarded to the Chairman of the Disarmament Conference:

After hearing the following speakers: E. Karavelova, President of the Bulgarian Branch of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom; D. Ivanova, President of the Union des Femmes Bulgares; V. Panova, President of the Union of Macedonian Women; and T. Guénova, Secretary of the University Women's Federation, we declare that:

Bulgaria having been disarmed in common with the other conquered nations by the Peace Treaties, these Treaties oblige the victorious States to an equal disarmament (Par. 8 of the Covenant of the League of Nations), which they have not however put into force:

The women of Bulgaria demand in common with the women of the whole world the execution of the following policy: disarmament of all those who are still armed, a universal disarmament as the solid basis for world peace.

HOLLAND.

In order to make a success of the approaching conference for disarmament, the leading statesmen of the world will need, as they have often said, the support of the public opinion of the different nations. To give public opinion the opportunity of declaring itself on this question, fourteen great International Woman's Organisations have formed the Disarmament Committee, having its seat at Geneva.

In the Netherlands, a special committee was formed of 22 women's organisations, which organised a great public meeting in the Colonial Institute at Amsterdam.

Mrs. Doorman-Kielstra, the president of the National Council of Women, made the opening speech and welcomed the women who had come from different parts of the country. She was also pleased to welcome some of the men, official delegates of the Disarmament Conference, who had taken the trouble to come from the Hague to be present at the meeting.

The hall was filled to capacity with a very interested audience.

Miss Rosa Manus, as representative of the International Disarmament Committee, gave an interesting survey of the work of that Committee and its great importance. She drew attention to the Spanish resolution and the memorandum which was presented to Sir Eric Drummond, showing the necessity for the co-operation of the women and the League. She then spoke about the signing of petitions all over the world and the possibilities about their presentation to the Disarmament Conference in Geneva, for which she was going to Geneva the next day. She also mentioned

the possibility of a consultative committee of women to be in Geneva during the Disarmament Conference.

Jvr. van Asch van Wijck, president of the World's Y.W.C.A. was the next speaker. She emphasized that it was not enough to collect signatures, but that we should carry out in the world the true spirit of peace.

Mrs. Sterck-Proot, a Roman-Catholic, spoke about peace in the home, saying that when peace and happiness reign in the family, it is the best foundation for peace and happiness in the world.

Mrs. Ros-Vrijman delivered a most eloquent address, telling us the disgrace of the expenditure made every year for armaments, by the different Governments, on which capital is wasted, which could be used in so much more effective ways. In her speech she made it clear that women being in a great majority in the world, it is their duty and their task to use their influence and their power on behalf of reduction of armaments.

The President then read the following motion:

Les organisations de femmes néerlandaises mentionnées ci-dessous réunies à l'Institut Colonial d'Amsterdam le douze janvier 1932 déclarent sympathiser sans réserve avec le but de la prochaine Conférence pour la Limitation et Réduction des Armements.

Tous les membres présents, hommes et femmes, convaincus que la confiance mutuelle entre les nations doit être son fondement et que le sentiment de sécurité réciproque forme la seule base efficace pour une paix durable, émettent le vœu sincère que dans l'intérêt moral et économique des peuples, ladite conférence ne se termine pas sans avoir atteint ce but, auquel aspire si ardemment le monde entier.

This motion was accepted by acclamation with much enthusiasm and signed by representatives of the different organisations and will be handed to Sir Eric Drummond.

NORA SHADEE.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Nearly two and a quarter million signatures have been secured in Great Britain to the Disarmament Declaration of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. Eight packing cases were required to carry these signatures to Geneva, and on their transference to the train at Victoria Station there was an impressive ceremony. Lord Cecil was among the speakers, who also included Lady Snowden.

The British Commonwealth League held a meeting on January 25th in support of a Resolution on Disarmament, to be brought forward at the Disarmament Conference. Among the speakers were Dame Edith Lyttleton and Dr. Ethel Osborne.

The Glasgow Branch of the British Auxiliary organised, in conjunction with the Glasgow Women Citizens' Association, a mass meeting in support of Disarmament in Glasgow last week, at which Mrs. Corbett Ashby was the principal speaker.

IRELAND.

The International Disarmament Declaration Committee has forwarded to Geneva 18,000 names from Ireland. The work has been carried on both in the Irish Free State and in Northern Ireland, and over 400 signatures were obtained in Belfast through the Irish Co-operative Women's Guilds and the local branches of the League of Nations Union, as members of this organization obtained many hundreds of signatures which were sent direct to London. This number of names does not represent the full value of the work done. Much educational work was carried on and interest was roused in the whole question of Disarmament and a certain amount of press publicity was obtained.

SWEDEN.

Last autumn, the Fredrika-Bremer Association was asked by the Alliance to assist in collecting names in support of the work of the League of Nations for international understanding and universal disarmament. As names were already being collected all over the country for this purpose, the Fredrika Bremer Association decided to show its sympathy for the work and aims of the League of Nations by other means.

This endeavour resulted in a big Public Propaganda Meeting in Stockholm on January 20th with prominent speakers, all personally experienced in international work. Professor Undén spoke on "The Safeguarding of the Peace"; B. Hammarskjöld, secretary of State and Council member of the International Labour Office, on "The International Labour Organisation"; O. Rydbeck, Bank manager and member of the Latest Committee of Experts in Basel, on "To-day's International Problems of an Economic Character"; Envoyé E. Boheman, on "Preparations for the Disarmament Conference," and Miss Kerstin Hesselgren, on "The League of Nations and the Social Questions."

The meeting was arranged by the Fredrika Bremer Association together with sixteen other women's societies, social and political organisations and professional federations, amongst others by the Society of Women Citizens of Sweden. Both press and public showed great interest. The speeches were broadcast, and could thus be followed by listeners in every part of the country.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Women of the United States were given just cause for rejoicing when on December 24th, President Hoover appointed Dr. Mary E. Woolley, president of Mt. Holyoke College, as one of the six representatives of the United States to the Geneva Disarmament Conference. In making this appointment the President has not only recognised the great interest of the women of this country in the subject of international reduction of armaments as a means of securing peace, but he has also secured a delegate of unusually high qualifications.

As a college teacher, and president, a worker for woman suffrage, a member and officer of many organisations and associations of women, Miss Woolley knows the women of the United States and the desire of the great majority of them for peace. A student of international relations, she has twice attended the Institute of Pacific Relations in Honolulu, and in 1922 made a six months' tour of China as the only woman member of the China Education Commission. That Miss Woolley believes in peace and in the power of the women of the world to help obtain it, is shown in the following excerpt from an interview with her published in the *New York Times* on January 3rd, 1932.

"I believe that the majority of women are in favour of peace, and of the limitation and reduction of armaments. Moreover, I believe that part of their strength and their effectiveness as peace advocates lies in the very fact that they have not had the experience in directing affairs that men have had. Their imagination is not cramped by the traditions of the case—that war has always been and therefore must always be. Their attitude is that it must stop. Here, as many times before, women may rush in successfully where masculine angels fear to tread."

POLAND.

As a result of the representations of the *Association des Femmes pour le Service Social en Pologne*, Mme. Anna Szelagowska has been nominated by the Polish Government as a delegate to the Disarmament Conference.

Mme. Szelagowska is a member of the General Council and head of the Foreign Affairs Section of the

Polish Women's Society, and a member of the Peace Committee of the Alliance. She was a delegate to the XIIth Assembly of the League of Nations, where she proposed, in the name of the Polish Government, a resolution concerning the participation of women in the Government delegations to the Disarmament Conference.

ITALY.

A largely attended meeting was held at the Headquarters of the Unione Femmine Nazionale, at which the President, Signora Roghi, gave a spirited address on the work women had been doing in the cause of disarmament, and referred to the millions of signatures to petitions which had been obtained, proposing a vote of thanks to Jane Addams for her initiative in this matter. Signora Cesarina Lupati, delegate of the Società per la Pace, Francesca Peyronel, and Signora Ferri also spoke, the last named referring specially to the success which had attended the magnificent campaign for signatures carried out by Dr. Ada Sacchi Simonetta, President of the Italian Federation for Women's Civil and Political Rights. In conclusion, Pietro Sacchi, Vice-President of the Società per la Pace, spoke of the work for peace of the League of Nations and the meeting broke up with an enthusiastic expression of hope for the success of the Disarmament Conference in Geneva.

REVIEWS.

The Economic Functions of the State. By Roger H. Soltan, M.A. (Pitman 5/-)

Students of economics who have reached the inevitable conclusion that the older economic theory was based on assumptions which are not true of present world conditions, will turn with interest to any discussion of economic problems that is based on practical considerations. It is for this reason (apart from its academic value) that Mr. Soltan's "Economic Functions of the State" will appeal to its readers.

Mr. Soltan starts by enquiring briefly into the nature of a 'State,' the duty of the citizen to a 'State' and the duty of a 'State' to its citizens. He examines the function of the State and traces the development of modern political and economic conditions from their origin in early societies—Jewish, Greek, Roman, etc. through Mediaeval Feudalism and later industrial commercial development to the legal reparation of political and economic status that exists to-day.

He settles for himself (if not for others) the vexed question of 'rights' and having dogmatically asserted his conception of the 'true end of society' and thus cleared his ground of Metaphysical and ethical controversy he starts his serious enquiry into the possibility of attaining this 'true end.' And he soon finds the means of attainment to lie in the intervention of a wise, benevolent State.

He attributes to the State the power to discern whether schemes that are economically profitable are morally and politically advisable. He assumes that the State can be safely trusted to control all economic activity. He "refuses to admit that private enterprise has so justified itself by results as to have established its claim to freedom from social interference," neither does he "believe that any single formula, whether Communism, State Socialism, Guild Socialism or Syndicalism—and 'laissez-faire'—can be applied to the whole of industry under all conditions." A different industrial organisation should correspond, he contends, to different economic activities, and he distinguishes three main categories of economic activity differentiated by their "relationship to the essential welfare of society" and requiring State control in proportion to this relationship.

Mr. Soltan proceeds to enquire in detail into the

various forms of control, stressing education as one of the most important factors in social reconstruction, and finally draws his conclusion. "Transformation," he says, "is the only alternative to revolution," and political action must ultimately take the greatest share in such a transformation." "State action in the economic sphere is therefore solely a matter of degree, no longer one of principle."

Throughout this book one is refreshed by Mr. Soltan's optimism. We are accustomed to the pessimistic predictions of modern economists, and, recently, to a lack even of gloomy predictions, which gives us grounds for even greater pessimism, since it is an admission that they can offer us no cure or even palliative for the present evils, and it is stimulating to consider the opposite view—the probability of amelioration, and to weigh carefully the two courses open to us. Firstly, absence of intervention—the old-fashioned system of *laissez-faire*, letting things 'right themselves'—and, secondly, wholesale intervention, i.e., some degree of State control in all economic activity.

This latter course, as we have said, is Mr. Soltan's solution, and, if human beings were infinitely wise and infinitely good, we might be tempted to share his optimistic view—but we know that they are not. Since the State is an abstract conception and not a Robot mechanism of economic activity, it must always be controlled by a set of humans, and we cannot blind ourselves to the fact that humans, whether in their private affairs or at head of State departments, are from time to time fallible.

V.H.J.

The Cost of English Morals, by Janet Chance. (Noel Douglas, 38, Great Ormond Street, London, W.C.1. Price 5/-)

This is a book which those who are concerned with social problems ought to read, though many of them will disagree with its views and many will be distressed by its tone. It deals largely, though not entirely, with the case for birth control, a subject on which it is not possible for the Alliance journal to express any views. It is nevertheless a question which we know interests many of our members, whether because they are opposed to birth control for religious or other reasons, or because they regard it as an important means of social betterment. To both these classes, this book should prove worth reading. Supporters of the birth control movement will find strong arguments in its favour and a courageous statement of what to the writer are its ultimate implications. Sincere opponents will be glad of an opportunity of having a statement of the case against them given with clarity and force. The book is directed against the English standard of morality as it exists at the present time, but some of the conditions with which it deals are common to other countries. If we recommend this book it is because it is written by a woman of courage and obviously deep and sincere feeling, but we would again warn our readers that it runs up against many prejudices, perhaps more than prejudices, and that to many it will appear "a dreadful book." Readers must bring to it the spirit of real intellectual honesty and absence of prejudice—which does not mean absence of convictions.

K.B.

What the Countrywomen of the World are Doing.

Edited by Sholto Watt. (Published by Chapman Hall, Ltd., for the Liaison Committee of the Rural Women's and Homemakers' Organisations, 26, Eccleston Street, London, S.W.1. Paper 2s. or 2s. 4d. post free; cloth 3s. 6d., or 4s. post free.)

This annual report of the Liaison Committee of the Rural Women's and Homemakers' Organisations gives a very good account, illustrated with photographs, of

the various activities of this organisation, as well as many special articles. The Committee has only been in existence two years, and in that time has accomplished much in the way of linking up various country-women's societies all over the world, and thus helping to promote international sympathy and co-operation amongst women. It publishes every month a bulletin with news from the societies, called "Links of Friendship," which is translated into many languages.

Copies of the report may be obtained from the London Office.

NEWS IN BRIEF.

Mlle. Yvonne Roussel has been appointed head of a department in the French Ministry of Labour, a post hitherto held only by men.

Mrs. Hattie Caraway has been elected to the United States Senate, in place of her late husband. Her term will end in March 1933.

The Burma Round Table Conference came to an end last week. The Burmese delegates demanded full Dominion status or responsible self-government on Dominion lines for Burma. Miss May Oung (the only woman delegate) associated herself with her countrymen in this demand and asked for complete equality for her sex in the new Constitution.

It was decided at the 56th Session of the Governing Body of the International Labour organisation to appoint a panel of experts for consultation by the International Labour office in its study of women's work.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. C. P. Scott, governing director of the *Manchester Guardian*, a paper which under his editorship attained a unique position in Great Britain and an international reputation. Mr. Scott was always a faithful supporter of the principle of woman suffrage, and questions connected with the women's movement were generously dealt with in his paper during the fifty-seven years of his editorship.

We learn that a 'suffragette museum' containing relics of the struggle for the enfranchisement of women is shortly to be opened in London.

The full list of women delegates to the Disarmament Conference is, up to date, as follows: Great Britain: Mrs. Corbett Ashby; United States: Miss Mary Woolley; Canada: Miss Winifred Kydd, President of the Canadian National Council of Women; Poland: Mme. Anna Szlagomska.

We learn by cable that the women of Peru have been granted the Municipal vote, and that the law with regard to the nationality of married women has been altered to meet the claim of women to retain their nationality on marriage with foreigners.

Dr. Marion Phillips, Chief Woman Officer of the British Labour Party, has died at the age of fifty-one.

The Rome Scholarships (Great Britain) for painting and for sculpture have both been won this year by women. Miss Constance Rowe, a student of the Royal College of Art, holds the painting scholarship, and Miss Marjorie Meggitt, of the Royal Academy Schools, that for sculpture. In the engraving division Miss Esmé Sandercock is the only person to be "highly commended."

We regret to record the death of Dame Bertha Newall, better known by her maiden name as Dame Bertha Philpotts, late Mistress of Girton College. She

was a distinguished scholar and a well-known personality in Cambridge.

The present year is the Jubilee Year of the passing of the Married Women's Property Act in Great Britain. Prior to the passage of the Act, every woman who married, by so doing, vested all her property, actually or in expectancy, in her husband, who might even claim as his own money which she earned. The Act was thus one of the biggest steps towards the emancipation of women.

The National Auxiliary for Great Britain sent a deputation to the Home Secretary last week in order to bring before him points in their programme which come within the province of the Home Office. The chief points dealt with by the deputation were: sexual offences against young persons; the law relating to solicitation; reform of the marriage laws; the legal status of married women; testamentary provisions for spouses and children; women in the police and prison service; the reciprocal enforcement of affiliation orders oversea; the regulation of the employment of young persons; the regulation of factories and workshops and offices.

The case of Mrs. Laura Worth, as described in the general Press, under the heading "Woman without a Country," will serve to draw the attention of the public to the anomalies which exist under our present nationality laws. Mrs. Worth, who is of British origin, married an American citizen, thereby losing her British nationality and yet not gaining American nationality, was fined forty shillings for having lived in Scotland without furnishing particulars required under the Aliens Restriction Act.

"DISARMAMENT"

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SECTION FRANCAISE

LES PREPARATIFS DE LA CONFERENCE DU DESARMEMENT.

Le 12 janvier à 3h. plusieurs membres du Secrétariat de la Société des Nations et des notables Genevois assistaient à l'inauguration du Bâtiment où se tiendra la Conférence. Monsieur Avenol, en l'absence de Sir Eric Drummond remercia les autorités pour leur généreuse collaboration et complimenta les architectes.

Coopération de la Presse et du Comité de désarmement des Organisations féministes internationales.

Le 13 janvier Mrs. Guthrie d'Arcis, présidente de l'Union Mondiale pour la Concorde internationale, convia le Comité des Organisations féministes à rencontrer des journalistes. Ceux-ci exprimèrent leur sympathique intérêt pour les idées et le but de notre Comité et proposèrent des moyens pratiques pour obtenir la collaboration de la Presse, en particulier pour la présentation des Pétitions.

La France à la veille du Désarmement.

Tel fut le sujet du discours prononcé le 13 janvier à l'Athénée de Genève par le Professeur Paul Mantoux, directeur de l'Institut supérieur des Etudes Internationales.

Mr. Mantoux fit un exposé des difficultés du moment et s'efforça de réfuter l'assertion que la France est un obstacle à la paix du monde. Il présenta des faits, des chiffres et fut écouté attentivement par un auditoire qui tient à se rendre compte impartialement des difficultés qui confrontent les hommes d'Etat de toutes les nations.

d'après ROSA MANUS,
Secrétaire honoraire du Comité des Organisations féminines pour le Désarmement.

BULGARIE.

Résolution prise au grand meeting des vingt et une organisations féminines à Sofia en faveur des désarmements des peuples armés.

Après avoir entendu les oratrices suivantes: E. Karavelova, présidente de la Section bulgare de la Ligue internationale pour la Paix et la Liberté, D. Ivanova, présidente de l'Union des femmes bulgares, V. Panova, présidente de l'Union des femmes macédoniennes et T. Guénova, secrétaire de la Société des femmes diplômées des Universités, nous déclarons, que:

La Bulgarie ayant été désarmée en même temps que tous les Etats vaincus en vertu des Traités de Paix,

Ces mêmes Traités obligent les Etats vainqueurs à désarmer également (#8 du Pacte de la Société des Nations). Cependant ils ne l'ont pas fait.

Les femmes bulgares demandent donc avec les femmes du monde entier l'exécution de cette clause: désarmement de tous ceux qui sont encore armés, le désarmement universel comme une base solide de la Paix dans le monde.

SUEDE.

L'Automne dernier l'Association Frederika Bremer ayant devancé la requête de l'Alliance pour la signature d'une immense pétition en vue de la Conférence du Désarmement voulut montrer par d'autres moyens quel intérêt on prend en Suède au travail de la Société des Nations.

Le résultat de cet effort fut un énorme meeting de propagande à Stockholm, le 20 janvier, où des orateurs distingués exposèrent chacun une question internationale de leur compétence. Le Professeur Undern parla sur "la Préservation de la Paix." Mr. Hammarskjöld, Membre du B.I.T. sur "l'Organisation Internationale du Travail." Mr. Rydbeck, directeur de

Banque, et membre du Comité de Bâle expliqua "le caractère économique de certains problèmes internationaux." Mr. Boheman montra les préparatifs de la Conférence et Miss Kerstin Hesselgren la part que la Société des Nations prend aux questions sociales. Seize organisations, en particulier l'Association des Femmes électeurs de Suède collaborèrent à cette manifestation. La presse et le public y prirent un grand intérêt et les discours furent transmis par sans-fil à travers tout le pays.

ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE.

Les femmes des Etats-Unis sont justement fières de la nomination de Dr. Mary E. Woolley, directrice du Collège féminin de Mount Holyoke comme l'un des six représentants des Etats-Unis à la Conférence de Genève.

L'état de services de Miss Woolley justifie sa nomination. C'est à la fois une universitaire et une active féministe. Miss Woolley connaît bien les femmes des Etats-Unis et leur ardent désir de paix. Elle a étudié les problèmes internationaux et a été membre de l'Institut des Relations pacifiques à Honolulu. En 1922 elle a fait un voyage de six mois en Chine, étant le seul membre féminin de la Commission d'Education.

Dans l'interview qu'elle a donnée au *New York Times* Miss Woolley affirme sa foi dans le pouvoir des femmes d'influencer la politique de paix, précisément parce qu'elles sont neuves à la politique et n'ont pas l'esprit formé dans le vieux moule des préjugés et traditions diplomatiques.

POLOGNE.

L'Association des Femmes pour le Service Social en Pologne nous fait part que ses démarches auprès du Gouvernement ont réussi et que Mme. Anna Paradowska-Szelagowska est nommée déléguée suppléante dans la Délégation de République Polonaise à la Conférence du Désarmement à Genève.

Mme. Anna Paradowska-Szelagowska, membre du Conseil Général et chef de la Section Internationale de l'Association, membre de la Commission de la Paix et de la Société des Nations de l'Alliance a été déléguée suppléante de la Délégation Polonaise Gouvernementale à la XII. Assemblée de la Société des Nations et c'est là qu'elle a proposé au nom du Gouvernement Polonais une résolution concernant la participation des femmes aux délégations gouvernementales à la Conférence Générale du Désarmement.

ITALIE.

Une assemblée nombreuse s'est réunie au Siège de l'Unione Femmine Nazionale où la présidente Signora Roghi parla avec enthousiasme du succès que la propagande pacifiste a rencontré dans le pays et des pétitions couvertes par des millions de signatures. Un vote de remerciement fut adressé à Jane Addams pour son initiative en cette matière. Signora Cesarina Lupati, déléguée de la Società per la Pace, Francesca Peyronel, Signora Ferri, firent aussi des discours et cette dernière loua en particulier l'effort de Dr. Ada Sacchi Simonetta, Présidente de la Fédération Italienne pour les droits civils et politiques des femmes.

HOLLANDE.

Pour démontrer que l'opinion hollandaise est en faveur de la Paix et afin d'influencer l'issue de la Conférence, un comité spécial a été formé par 22 associations féminines néerlandaises. Ce comité organisa un meeting public à l'Institut colonial d'Amsterdam.

Mrs. Doorman-Kielstra, présidente du Conseil National des Femmes prononça le discours d'ouverture,

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