

JVS SVFFRAGII.

THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE NEWS



THE MONTHLY ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

Volume 18. No. 2.

PRICE 6d.

NOVEMBER, 1923.

Annual Subscription, 6/-

CONTENTS.

	Page		Page
The League of Nations and Women Travellers	17	Italy—Local Government Bill	23
Conference on Prevention of Causes of War	18	Japan—The Earthquake—Appeal for Books	23
Treasurer's Letter	18	Netherlands—The Women's Club at The Hague	24
International Conference on Traffic in Women	19	Russia—International School of Nursing	24
Rome Resolutions—Correction	19	Switzerland—Mlle. Schaffner, Delegate to Labour Conference	24
Life of Susan B. Anthony	19	United States—Work of the League of Women Voters	25
The Principle of Equal Pay in England	19	The Minimum Wage	26
Miss Sherwin, Director for Criminal Justice	20	Correspondence—The Suffrage Situation in China (Mrs. Liu)	27
Reports from Auxiliaries—Finland—Marriage Reform and Equal Pay	21	History of Woman Suffrage (Mrs. I. H. Harper)	27
Great Britain—National Council of Women	21	Book Notices—M. and M. Vaerting's "The Dominant Sex" (Marie Stritt)	27
Six-Point Group—Freedom League	22	Ricarda Huch's Works (L. G. Heymann)	28
India—Woman Barrister—Nurses—Education	22	SECTION FRANÇAISE—Appel aux pays latins	29
Ireland—Belfast Women's Advisory Council	23	Nouvelles féministes	29 to 31

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS AND WOMEN TRAVELLERS.

THE proposal of the Cuban delegate to the League of Nations Assembly that:—

"Young women who have not attained their majority, and who are travelling alone, shall be obliged to furnish themselves with certificates from the authorities of the port of embarkation testifying to their previous character,"

has been put down for consideration by the next Assembly.

It goes without saying that the I.W.S.A. is uncompromisingly opposed to any such discrimination between men and women travellers. Since when have men and boy travellers been obliged to produce certificates of good conduct?

If the intention is to deal a blow to the traffickers, let the laws against the traffic in women be strictly applied and its victims protected.

All auxiliaries of the Alliance should bring pressure to bear on their Government and their representatives to the League of Nations to oppose such reactionary legislation, however well meant.

"The Equal Moral Standard" means the abolition of all rules and regulations imposing restrictions on women in matters of morals that are not imposed on men.

The I.W.S.A. opposed for similar reasons the restrictions imposed on women immigrants by the Canadian Immigration Regulations of January, 1920, which required women who were unaccompanied by approved relatives to have a special permit from the Canadian Government Emigration Agent.

The following is a copy of the letter sent to the Secretary of the League of Nations, protesting against the Cuban proposal:—

La Société des Nations et les femmes voyageant seules.

Genève, le 20 octobre 1923.

Sir Eric Drummond,
Secrétaire général de la Société des Nations,
Genève.

MONSIEUR LE SECRÉTAIRE GÉNÉRAL,

L'Alliance Internationale pour le Suffrage des Femmes a pris connaissance avec autant de surprise que de regret de la proposition présentée à la IV^e Assemblée plénière de la Société des Nations par l'un des délégués de Cuba, et concernant la protection des jeunes femmes voyageant seules:

"Les jeunes femmes n'ayant pas atteint leur majorité et voyageant seules seront tenues de se prémunir d'un certificat des autorités du port d'embarquement attestant leur conduite antérieure."

(Quatorzième séance plénière du mercredi 26 septembre 1923, à 3 h. 30.)

Notre Alliance estime que des mesures d'inquisition pareilles à celle-ci ne sont point de celles par lesquelles il est possible de lutter contre la traite des femmes, et qu'elles risquent, au contraire, d'atteindre des résultats tout à fait opposés à ceux que pourrait en attendre leur auteur, l'expérience ayant toujours prouvé que lorsque la protection porte atteinte à la liberté de l'être humain, le remède est pire que le mal. Mais ce contre quoi surtout

notre Alliance tient à protester, c'est contre cette mesure d'exception s'appliquant uniquement à des femmes. Elle ne saurait admettre en effet que, sous couleur de protéger les femmes, on leur impose de la sorte une réglementation différente de celle qui s'applique de plein droit au sexe masculin, leur créant ainsi une situation légale inférieure qui est complètement contraire à toute conception de la dignité de la femme.

Déjà, lors de la Conférence Internationale contre la Traite des Femmes que convoqua en 1922 la Société des Nations, une proposition d'ordre à peu près analogue à celle que nous signalons avait été formulée par un délégué canadien. En réponse, les grandes Associations féminines internationales rendirent public un manifeste dans lequel elles déclaraient que "les femmes ne demandaient qu'à être régies par le droit commun, considérant que dans tout pays civilisé le droit commun doit pouvoir s'appliquer à tous les membres d'une même nation." C'est de ce principe, qui est à la base de son programme, que ne saurait se départir notre Alliance.

En vous exprimant les regrets et le désappointement que nous éprouverions à voir la Société des Nations, si compréhensive et si respectueuse jusqu'à présent des droits essentiels de la femme, s'engager dans la voie préconisée par le délégué de Cuba, nous vous prions, Monsieur le Secrétaire général, de bien vouloir agréer l'expression de notre plus haute considération.

Pour le Comité Exécutif de l'Alliance internationale pour le Suffrage des Femmes :

La Secrétaire chargée des relations avec la Société des Nations :

CONFERENCE ON THE PREVENTION OF THE CAUSES OF WAR.

LAST month was published the call of the International Council of Women to a Conference on the Prevention of the Causes of War. The programme suggested is full of interest and covers a wide field.

The idea of such a conference was submitted to the outgoing Board of Officers at their meeting in Rome, and by them in turn to the Council of Presidents. The greatest sympathy was expressed for the object, but it was felt to be impossible for the Alliance to add to its already long programme the consideration of the many causes of war, and, further, as no discussion on them had been possible for the auxiliaries, delegates to the Congress could not vote.

At the board meeting in Geneva we appointed three fraternal delegates. I shall attend as President, with Mme. Schlumberger, First Vice-President, and Frau Lindemann, Second Vice-President. We have, naturally, a keen interest in the Conference which carries out the third part of the first resolution of Geneva, namely: "This Congress calls upon all the women of the world to use their power to prevent future wars and to educate the children to a greater and truer understanding of all the peoples of the world."

An invitation to our auxiliaries to send delegates will be issued by the International Council of Women, and we hope many delegates will be able to attend.

Though much of the programme is outside our work, the Alliance has passed definite resolutions on several points. At Rome we passed Resolution III. on the inclusion of all nations in the League of Nations, which appears in the Conference programme as B. 1. a. Our main function is work for item A III. 3, the full citizenship of women, and on that our delegates can speak with full authority.

We hope that the national auxiliaries will send us the names of their delegates as soon as possible, as we are anxious to use their presence in Great Britain to arouse deeper interest in the work of the Alliance. We shall hold a big public meeting in London about the same time as the Conference, and hope to introduce many of our best speakers to London and to invite them also to speak in Provincial centres to the branches of the British auxiliary.

A board meeting will be held at the same time, as we must profit by having Mme. Schlumberger and Frau Lindemann in London.

There was a widespread wish at Rome that the new Council of Presidents should meet more frequently. We have decided, accordingly, to call a Presidents' Council in London in March, so that Presidents of their proxies can undertake to be delegates to the I.C.W. meeting and combine with it a Council meeting to develop and increase the work of the Alliance. London is an expensive place, but we will try to provide hospitality. We hope also to have an international exhibition and sale of work for the benefit of the funds of the Alliance. If each delegate could bring in her trunk some characteristic work of her country to be sold for the benefit of the Alliance, then those countries whose exchange is so low that they cannot give us donations in money could give us most useful contributions. We must already look ahead and plan to get funds for our next Congress, and every little helps. By the time we meet we shall hope our draft on the Nationality of Married Women will have come before the Council of the League and that the Commission on Slavery we asked for will be in full work. We may also have before us the results of the inquiry into the regulation of vice. Certainly we shall not lack either encouragement to proceed, or new problems to solve by our united courage and enthusiasm; so let us meet, as many of us as possible, in London March, 1924.

MARGERY I. CORBETT ASHBY.

I.W.S. ALLIANCE. Treasurer's Open Letter.

DEAR PRESIDENTS AND FRIENDS OF THE ALLIANCE,

The Rome Congress has led to some work at Headquarters before we could be launched on our three years' work. "Clearing up" has to be done before a fresh step can be taken. Now we are able not only to see where to work, but we can calculate our financial resources.

Figures are dull things! Those which are necessary will be sent to you, but will you allow me to speak here without details so that you may know just how we stand. The generous promises made at Rome, the balance of the Congress Fund, our usual sources of regular income and a further most valuable promise of help from the Leslie Commission (for this year, for 1924 and for 1925) are our resources. The board has made a budget of necessary outgoings for Jus and for the cost of next Congress (all calculated on the very most economical lines possible), without any margin for extras! The result is that we still need £500.

You will perhaps think me crazy to be talking of the cost of next Congress yet awhile, or even of next year's needs. My reason is this: In these anxious times no one has much margin, and the difficulty of raising £500 all in a hurry at the last would be extreme; indeed, it might be impossible. As I see it, our only chance is for everyone to begin now to scrape together small sums. Will the Auxiliaries try at least to find us a few more Associate Members, a few donors of £2 a year for three years, a few even of 10s. a year, and will all friends who were not at Rome and could give us a donation send us what they can each year? Finally, will everybody subscribe to Jus? If only we get a good increase of circulation the loss there will be appreciably reduced. I do not ask for huge sums, but surely we might, with a hearty effort, raise £250 a year more than we have now from this whole wide world! Who will begin at once and send me something by next month?

It has been suggested that in some countries, though money is not to be thought of owing to the low exchange, a few little gifts, characteristic and interesting to foreigners, might be available, and that friends coming over might bring them. These could be sold for the benefit of our funds. Does this idea appeal to you?

Cordial greetings! F. M. STERLING, Treasurer.

TRAFFIC IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

A PREPARATORY conference, convened by the International Bureau to prepare for the next International Congress, was held in London on October 11 and 12, under the chairmanship of Bishop Ryle, Dean of Westminster.

Seventeen countries were represented, viz., Austria, Belgium, Czecho-Slovakia, Danzig, Denmark, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Holland, Italy, Norway, Poland, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United States of America.

Mrs. Corbett Ashby attended as delegate from Italy. The conference was private, and comprised only delegates from national committees and members of the International Bureau.

It was decided to hold the Congress at Graz, in September, 1924, and to consider the following subjects: Obscene Publications; Emigration; Prohibition of Employment of Foreign Women in Licensed Houses; and Women Police.

ENFRANCHISED WOMEN'S ACTIVITIES.

ON another page we publish specially interesting reports of the doings of the Women Voters' League of America. We hope to publish next month a report on the fight waged by American women against high prices, and this cannot fail to interest housewives all over the world and stimulate women of unenfranchised countries to gain the power to intervene in what affects their home life so vitally.

The report on the Minimum Wage deals with the contentious subject of special protective laws for women, on which American women, like others, are divided. The National League of Women Voters supports such legislation; the National Women's Party opposes it.

ROME RESOLUTIONS. A Correction.

With reference to correspondence which has already appeared on the subject of Resolution V (a), dealing with the compulsory treatment of venereal disease, the Board of Officers discussed at their recent meeting in Geneva what the actual proceedings of the Congress were on this resolution. As the result of this discussion, the following resolution was passed:—

"That the Board accepts as correct that the resolution was laid on the table owing to a long discussion having arisen on a question of translation, but wishes to state that this was done after it had previously been carried, and that it did undoubtedly express the opinion of the majority of the Congress."

It will be recalled that a note recalling the difficulties in the procedure was added to the resolution when it was first published.

LIFE OF SUSAN B. ANTHONY.

Mrs. Ida Husted Harper has very generously presented to Headquarters a copy of the new edition of her "Life of Miss Anthony." This very able and comprehensive biography originally appeared over twenty years ago, during the lifetime of Miss Anthony, as regards the first two volumes, and the third volume shortly after her death. It may be obtained from the National American Woman Suffrage Association, 171, Madison Avenue, New York, at the low price of \$6. Our very best thanks are due to Mrs. Harper for this welcome gift, yet another evidence of the interest she takes in our international work.

THE PRINCIPLE OF EQUAL PAY IN ENGLAND.

THE question about women's pay has recently been discussed in the English Parliament. In 1920, when the question was considered, the House pronounced that they were disposed to give women equal access with men to the service of the State, and that they also ought to receive equal pay, and in 1921 the House resolved that, on account of the existing conditions of the State finances, they could not commit themselves to the increase in expenses involved by the introduction of equal pay everywhere, but that the question was to be taken up for consideration within a period not exceeding three years.

Later a Committee was appointed—connected with the efforts at economy prevailing in England, as everywhere else—consisting of three representatives of the Treasury (the "Anderson Committee") to consider the conditions of pay and employment of the English Civil Servant.

This committee issued their report in July this year, a section of which considers the relationship of the remuneration of man and woman labour.

In the report the Committee expressed as their fundamental view that the pay ought not preferably to be decided by responsibility, the position as a supporter of a family, or by the standard of living, but by the rate at which the employer at any time must pay to provide and keep a suitable staff.

This argument is now by the Committee applied to women in the following way:—

A man of 35 years is generally paid more than a woman of the same age—and the Committee think this right. The justification for this is not, however, to be sought in the fact that the man is the supporter of a family, or has a greater responsibility, etc., but in the fact that in open competition he will receive more for his work, and from that follows that also in the State Service he ought to receive higher pay than a woman. The private employer, indeed, pays the man at a higher rate than the woman, because he believes that his work is worth more than that of the woman.

With regard to the State Service the Committee consider that in the long run it would be most satisfactory for the employer, as well as for the woman employed, if women's work was valued by the same standard as that of men, so as to give both men and women the privilege as well as the burden of economic independence. The employer should accordingly apply the same policy of payment to women as the Committee recommend applied to the men. By that a sound and just division of work should be obtained. If, then, a man in certain work gives better value than a woman, this work ought eventually to be reserved for men—and vice versa.

The Committee consider that this principle in the long run will be the only satisfactory one for men and women, employers and employees, producers and consumers.

The argument leading to a division of all work into two groups—one for men and one for women—which theoretically, indeed, seems extremely applicable, suffers, however, from the defect that in practice it is inapplicable as long as the objective and unailing means of measuring the value of all kinds of work has not been found, nor does it form the basis of the Committee's report on the matter. It maintains, indeed, that the women are beginners in the activities, and there is no reason to believe that exactly the same working methods, working rules, or occupations which suit men would suit women—the contrary is more probable. It is evident that a woman in her first years of employment at work which demands long continuity of service gives less value than a man with the same training; she ought, therefore, to receive less pay. The prospect of marriage further reduces the value of her employment for her as well as for her employer.

For these reasons the Committee think that women should receive less pay in the beginning than men,

and they presume—optimistically—that this fact will scarcely make it more difficult for the State to secure a sufficient supply of trained woman labour.

The Committee further think that when women become older, and the risk of marriage becomes less, their working value should increase in proportion to the men's. As it, however, hitherto has been—and for some time to come will be—an experiment to employ women in the higher service of the State, and as the Committee has found no large employer who is of opinion that the average women, in activities which demand more than mere routine, offer more valuable work than the average men, the Committee find that the difference already existing between men's and women's pay approximately corresponds to what must be considered suitable according to the situation.

The greatest service that the State, then, can do the women is therefore, in the Committee's opinion, to permit them to try such work as suits them, show that they have initiative and ability to bear the responsibility, and in practical service to testify to their efficiency side by side with the men.

From the above remarks, it appears that the three "representatives of the Treasury" argue from the presumption *which does not exist*, i.e., that the State pays its servants at the rate necessary to retain an efficient Civil Service. And in this only is primarily found a reason for giving less pay to women than to men. But the State does not pay according to this principle at all—not in countries outside England—and in England perhaps least of all. The State pays according to responsibility, training, position as supporter of a family, cost of living, locality, climate, number of children, marriage, etc.

As long as all these factors are concurrent motives for the measuring of State payments—and they will remain so for many years to come—so long the English Committee's primary argument for paying women less than men is quite without any real foundation.

The Committee seem further to have overlooked the very essential point that payment in private service mostly is given *individually*, while the very large State activities are obliged to pay under one scale for average work of a certain description demanding a certain previous social and professional training.

The condition thus arises that an able woman in private employ has a possibility of asserting herself and to earn a payment that suits her work, while the most able woman who has entered the State Service never will reach the pay which is given to the most inefficient of men.

This fact alone shows how impossible it is to transfer one principle from the private labour market to the State Service, where widely different principles in many fields are and must be prevalent, and where the recently introduced principle accordingly will have an effect quite different from that in private concerns, where circumstances not found in the State Service remedy many of the unfortunate consequences of the principle.

It is pleasant to see that the Committee in reality cannot get round the very principle of equal pay. And the argument through which they at length arrive at the result that this principle is not to be introduced, after all, is, indeed, also easily assailable, and marked by the private employer's partial views, and lacking understanding of the special circumstances found in the State Service.

The assertion that men's working method, etc., does not suit women—quite the contrary—is in the first place an assertion only which it would be difficult to prove; and secondly it contains no proof that the working method, etc., which perhaps suits women (and not men) is to be estimated at a lower payment; there may even be reason to think the contrary.

The prospect of marriage makes the women in the State Service, even with equal pay, very cheap labour on account of the system of payment; increase in pay owing to long service, and right of pension are forfeited, as the women who marry as a general rule leave the Service at a proportionately young age, which means that they perform good work for a series of years while they are

young and while their powers are at the highest, and without obtaining the higher pay which accompanies the longer service, and without any pension.

The statement that women give less value than men with the same training cannot be proved, and certainly rests on the partial views of men, based on a comparison of work performed on one side by men with proper pay and the prospect of advancement, and on the other side by women who are paid less, and who during their "leisure" hours must work at housekeeping to make both ends meet, while men can train or refresh themselves; and, with regard to advancement, the women are from the beginning placed so far behind that the prospect of promotion cannot stimulate them to the same extent as the young men.

It is therefore quite unjust to undertake a comparison like this as long as the conditions under which men and women work are much more unfavourable for the women than for the men.

The section of the report of the Committee that finally discusses the reason why women, when they are older and the risk of marriage is reduced, shall not then have equal pay with the men, does not hold good either. That it is an "experiment" to employ women is no reason to value their work less, and that no large employer has been of opinion that the average woman does not perform more valuable work than the average man seems to be a poor reason for paying the man a higher salary.

The greatest service the State can render the women is to place them in an equal position with men with regard to training, access to work and advancement, and—of course—in pay.

Only through that can an honest basis be procured for a comparison of their work, and only through that do the women get "fair play." *The three representatives of the Treasury have not done so* in the proposal made by them.

But the English women have presumably not requested the State to give them privileges—as little as the female citizens of other States—but demanded their *right* to work on equal terms with the male citizens. This right is first of all shown by leaving behind all inherited views of the smaller efficiency of women and by departing from all division of workers into two groups according to *sex*, and the conception that the special powers that are ascribed to all men are more valuable at the valuation of the work than the special powers one chooses to assume that all women are endowed with.

ANNA WESTERGAARD,

Corresponding Member to the Equal Pay Committee.
October 12, 1923.

WOMAN DIRECTOR FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

THE public services of Miss Bell Sherwin have been newly recognized by her appointment as director-at-large of the Cleveland Association for Criminal Justice to fill a vacancy caused by the death of the greatly beloved Mr. Fred Goff. Miss Sherwin is First Vice-President of the National League of Women Voters, and heads the League's work for education in citizenship. The exceedingly interesting school of politics and government, in the conduct of which the League and Columbia University worked together last month, was the work of her hands, and the posters which State and local leagues will use at county fairs this fall in the first skirmish of the League campaign to get out 75 per cent. of the possible national vote in 1924, have been prepared under the joint direction of Miss Sherwin and another great Ohio citizen, Miss Elizabeth Hauser, of Girard, who are the two members of the League's Publication Committee.

FINLAND.

Marriage Reform Bill.

THE Marriage Reform Bill, which, if it becomes law will establish equality between husband and wife, has not yet passed its second reading in the Standing Common Law Committee, to which it was referred by Parliament, and nobody can foretell if it will pass during the autumn session, as there exists much resistance against it, though the resistance does not show itself openly. It makes itself felt, nevertheless, in the wish for obstruction.

In order to give the women M.P.'s support in their endeavours to help the Bill on, Finland's Swedish Women's Federation convened a public meeting on September 23rd. Mr. Gionvall, one of the greatest experts on this subject, gave a lecture, followed by discussion. The meeting unanimously adopted a resolution endorsing the principles of the Marriage Reform Bill, viz., the abolition of the husband's tutelage over his wife; equal guardianship of both parents over their children; the recognition (in the law) of the wife's activities and work in the home as a contribution to the maintenance of the family; the right of the wife to a definite allowance out of her husband's income for household expenses and also for her personal wants. If the husband refuses to pay, she has the right to buy on credit. In case the wife misuses this right, the court decides if she has exceeded what is supposed to be in accordance with the husband's income and also what is usual in the class to which the couple belongs.

Equal Pay.

Miss Dagmar Neovius, former M.P., gave a lecture on Equal Pay for Equal Work at the same meeting. The following resolutions were adopted:—

- (1) Salaries should be given according to the principle of equal pay for equal work, where qualification is equal.
- (2) In order to facilitate the adoption of this principle, supporters of families should receive some form of family allowance.
- (3) Salaries should be raised regularly after certain definite years of service. (This applies chiefly to Government employees.)
- (4) Public opinion should be roused against women offering to do underpaid work.
- (5) In order to achieve this aim, women ought to organize themselves in already existing organizations or form new ones for the purpose.

The principle of family allowances was discussed at great length. Some speakers justly pointed out that this principle could not apply to service in private work or business of any kind, as private employers are not in favour of engaging persons with big families, and would be still more unwilling to do so if this implied the necessity of granting higher wages or salaries in the form of family allowances. This was recognized to be true, but as the only chance of getting Governments to recognize the principle of equal pay is in connection with family allowances, where there is more than one child, the meeting declared in favour of this principle.

A committee of seven was appointed to carry on the work thus begun.

One other item of interest from our country worth noting is that the Central Board of Employers was asked to pronounce its opinion on the International Labour Bureau's recommendation on restrictions for women, young persons and children employed in agriculture. The Board in its criticisms refers to the resolution on Equal Pay and Right to Work (Part IV) adopted at the Congress in Rome, which the Central Board of Employers endorses.

ANNIE FURUHJELM.

October 3, 1923.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Woman Citizen's Year Book.

EVER since the "English Woman's Year Book" suspended publication, in 1916, the need has been felt for a comprehensive survey of the position of women in public and social life, and of a convenient handbook to give information on subjects such as training for different occupations, educational establishments for women and girls, central and local government, and all kinds of social work. The compilation of such a book has been undertaken by the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, and is now on sale at their headquarters at 15, Dean's Yard, Westminster, London, S.W. 1, price 5s. In addition to information with regard to all aspects of women's interests in England, the book also contains an international section, which summarizes the position of women under the law in the chief countries of the world.

Women Candidates for Parliament.

It is clear already that there will be a large number of women candidates at the next General Election in addition to many of those who stood last time. Several well-known women have already announced their intention of standing, including Mrs. Dimsdale for Cambridge County. As we go to press we receive news that Lady Warwick will be contesting the Leamington Division in the forthcoming by-election.

Conference of The National Council of Women.

The National Council of Women has been holding its annual conference at Edinburgh, October 16 to 20. Six hundred delegates from all parts of the country were received by the Lord Provost and Town Council of the city. Mrs. George Morgan was elected President for the ensuing year, and the Hon. Mrs. E. L. Franklin, convenor of the International Committee of the National Council of Women, was elected Acting Vice-President.

The subject of the conference was "The Call of the Child," and most of the resolutions dealt with children and young people. Resolutions were passed calling upon the Government to support the Guardianship of Infants Bill, demanding pensions for fatherless children, asking for increased penalties for criminal assaults on young girls, and proposing an inquiry into the mental conditions of these criminals. A resolution was passed recommending branches to inquire into local housing conditions and to participate in existing schemes or to help to originate others, and drawing the attention of the Board of Education to the need of open-air schools as a means for preventing children from contracting tubercular diseases. The Council also turned its attention to certain other important matters. One resolution that will be of peculiar interest to readers of this paper will be the following, which related to Nurse Cavell's statue:—

"That the National Council of Women of Great Britain and Ireland urges the Board of Works to add to Nurse Cavell's statue her dying words, 'Patriotism is not enough. I must have no bitterness or hatred in my heart.' The National Council of Women feels that these words are a valuable contribution to international understanding and that the memorial to Nurse Cavell is incomplete without them."

As it stands, the monument makes one a little ashamed, so eloquent is it of hatred. Not until it records the spirit of the woman it represents will the statue be a worthy tribute to so fine a soul as Edith Cavell.

The question of Temperance was tackled in a resolution in support of Local Option (viz., leaving localities the right to decide whether the number of public-houses should be reduced, left as they are, or whether such houses should be prohibited altogether.)

The following strongly worded resolution was carried on the Civil Service:—

"Protesting against the Government's failure to give Civil Service women equal opportunities with men, condemning their restriction of women to the clerical and accountancy branches, and urging the necessity of appointing more women to posts involving the control of policy."

An interesting ceremony, held during the conference, consisted in the placing of the corner-stone of the new hospice for maternity cases which is being built in order to commemorate Dr. Elsie Inglis's work. The story of the Scottish Women's Hospitals and of Dr. Elsie Inglis and her fellows in Serbia and elsewhere will never be forgotten. Lady Frances Balfour says, in writing of Dr. Inglis:—

"Dr. Inglis never accepted the disabilities of her sex. To her it was from the first an outrage that sex should be penalized for its weakness, and that a woman should not be a citizen of the Empire. In that school where up and down the country women were working and organizing, the school of equal citizenship, Elsie Inglis first learnt to think, to feel, to be patient, and long-sighted.

"Dr. Elsie Inglis brought out her Serbian army and came home to her immortal rest, and we to-day are raising a living memorial to her. What would a shrine, or a monument, or a museum of war trophies be to her? Here will enter the women who are to suffer all the trouble and pain of maternity. Within they will find that her spirit still walks the wards."

The time and place of next year's conference has not yet been decided.

N.U.S.E.C.

The Six-Point Group.

The Six-Point Group was formed in March, 1921, in order to obtain:—

1. Satisfactory legislation on child assault.
2. Satisfactory legislation for the widowed mother.
3. Satisfactory legislation for the unmarried mother and her child.
4. Equal rights for guardianship for married parents.
5. Equal pay for teachers.
6. Equal opportunities for men and women in the Civil Service.

The Chairman of the Executive is the Viscountess Rhondda; the Treasurers, Lady Berry and Mrs. Ogilvy; the Hon. Secretary, Miss Ada Moore; and the Organizing Secretary, Miss Winifred Mayo. The Group consists of direct members, and of a number of affiliated societies, working for one or more of the points. These include the National Union of Women Teachers, the Federation of Women Civil Servants, and a number of Women's local Co-operative Guilds.

The Group is organizing a meeting to be held at the Kingsway Hall on Wednesday, November 14, at 8 p.m., on the subject of "Child Assault." Both Lady Astor and Mrs. Wintringham are speaking at the meeting, as well as Mr. Cecil Chapman, Miss Ada Moore, and Staff-Captain Gill of the Salvation Army, and the Viscountess Rhondda will take the chair. The meeting is supported by a large number of women's organizations, both political and religious in character, and the speakers will be accompanied on the platform by Mrs. Hilton Philipson and other Members of Parliament, including Mr. Frank Briaud, Sir John Collie, Mr. Vernon Hartshorn (the Miner's Agent), and many well-known men and women.

The Women's Freedom League.

We began our winter campaign with a discussion meeting at the Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, on a proposed tea and sugar boycott by housewives, the object of this being to force the hands of our Government to reduce the taxes on tea and sugar in the next Budget, and to bring down the wholesale and retail prices of these articles. On October 29 Mrs. Northcroft, Assistant Editor of *The Vote*, who was in Geneva during the recent Assembly, will speak at the Minerva Café on "Women at Work in the League of Nations"; on November 2 we shall have a discussion meeting at the Minerva Club on the "Unemployment of Women," and on November 8 the Viscountess Rhondda will open a discussion on the "Domestic Service Inquiry Committee's Report."

With regard to women's unemployment, we have twice recently urged the Prime Minister and various Heads of Government Departments to devise schemes of work in the coming winter for unemployed women as well as for unemployed men. We wrote to each member of the Imperial Conference, urging them to consider the question of the nationality of married women, and the desirability of according to women the same right as men have to retain or change their nationality; and that marriage itself should not automatically decide a woman's nationality any more than it does that of a man.

A number of our members in various parts of the country are putting up as candidates in the coming municipal elections this November, and we are giving them all the support in our power, irrespective of the party to which they belong.

F. A. UNDERWOOD.

INDIA.

First Woman Barrister.

MISS HAZRA, B.A., B.L., has been enrolled as a High Court Vakil of the Patna High Court, and is the first woman to practise at the Indian Bar.

An Indian Feminist as Indian Representative to the League of Nations.

Mr. Syed Hassan Imam, leader of the Bar in Patna, has been appointed representative to the League of Nations. He was a strong supporter of the Woman Suffrage Resolution in the Behar Legislative Council in November, 1921, and did a great deal to help the campaign of the Women's Indian Association. He also supported Miss Hazra's claim for entry to the Bar. His wife shares his views and work for women's equal status.

Indian Nurses Trained in England.

For the first time Indian ladies are proceeding to England for training as nurses. The Executive of the Women of India Fund has selected Miss Marela Baksh, of Kashmir, and Miss Lavinia Mawa, of Maini Tal, and is paying their expenses. Two high-caste Indian ladies are also being trained by the same fund at the Dufferin Hospital, Calcutta.

Immense progress has been made in the nursing profession in India. Burma has passed a good Bill for the Registration of Nurses, which will ensure high status and adequate pay for the Burmese nurses. A similar Bill is being introduced in Madras.

Women's Home of Service, Madras.

The Baby Welcome Centre attached to the Women's Home of Service registered 1,000 attendances during its first month. Over 300 individual cases were treated.

Academic Success of an Indian Lady.

Miss Sujaya Bose, M.A., of Bengal, has obtained the Degree of Master of Education in the University of Leeds, England. After taking her M.A. degree in English literature in Calcutta University, she went to England and obtained her diploma of teaching. On her return to India she wrote the thesis which won her doctor's degree, on "The Influence of Western Civilization upon Education in India."

Compulsory Education in Baroda.

From 1911 to 1921 the number of literate females increased from 178,000 to 300,000, showing an increase of nearly 70 per cent.

Stri Dharma,
Organ of the Women's Indian Association.

IRELAND.

Belfast Women's Advisory Council.

THIS Council held its first meeting of the winter session on October 3. The outlook in Belfast, as in other great industrial centres, is grave. The linen industry and the making-up trade are amongst the chief factors in the industrial life of Belfast, as far as women are concerned, and these are involved in the general trade depression. This, with the unemployment among men, has the most disastrous effect on the family income. There is often not enough food to go round, and the mother is the first to go short, and the babies sicken and die from malnutrition. The rising infant-mortality rate follows the rising unemployment rate with sad accuracy. Efforts are being made by the Government and by local bodies to cope with the trouble, but, as usual in the first proposals made, no suggestions for employment of women were included. This is probably due to the theory that women are the dependents and men the bread-winners, familiar in old suffrage days. The Advisory Council wrote to the Minister of Labour, urging re-opening of training centres and retention of all children in the schools to the age of 16. By this means the pressure on the labour market would be relieved to some extent, and the mill-girls especially, many of whom began work as half-timers at the age of 12, would be greatly benefited by the work at the centres. If necessary, a deputation will wait on the Minister, as, in an industrial area where women and girls constitute so large a section of the workers, the matter is serious.

The new Education Act came into force on October 1. For feminists the chief interest lies in the official recognition, made in Northern Ireland for the first time, that the mental and physical welfare of the child is the business of the State. The Act does, in fact, form the basis of a real education for every child in Northern Ireland. A detailed criticism of the measure was sent on behalf of the Council to the Northern Press, emphasizing the need of the inclusion of women in the local education authorities and in the Central Advisory Council. In the same letter, while congratulating the Government on its recognition that the "education of the child is of greater importance than its employment," the Council earnestly deprecated the clauses in the Act allowing child labour for three hours daily, over the age of 12, and urging introduction of a Bill entirely forbidding employment of children under school-leaving age. The failure to establish a two-session day is also greatly regretted. Recent scientific research has again made clear the close connection between regular meals at proper intervals and satisfactory mental development. The long school day in Ireland, generally from 9.30 to 3.30, with only a break of half an hour, directly contravenes this principle. Alteration of the school day is allowed in the Act, but such permissive clauses are seldom enforced.

DORA MELLONE,

Hon. Press Secretary, Belfast Women's Advisory Council.

ITALY.

THE Italian Government had prepared two Bills, the first for "Electoral Reform," the second "the Administrative (Local Government) Vote for Women." The Government had the former debated because it was of exceptional importance for the Government, the country and the deputies; they had to fight hard to get it passed. After this debate, they did not think it opportune to have the Women's Administrative Vote debated, because two parties, the Popular or Clerical and the Socialists, wished for a wider measure, and for this reason, perhaps, the Government Bill would be lost. Thus the Bill for Women's Administrative Vote has been put off till November, in the hope that it may be passed.

ROMELIA TROISE.

A CORRECTION.

By an editorial error in the August number, a paragraph was added to the beginning of Dr. Troise's article for which she is not responsible. Dr. Troise's article began:—

"The Via Crucis of Italian women." The preceding paragraph was taken from an article in the Press and is not correct. The categories of women mentioned are correct (and correspond to the list sent by Dr. Troise, hence the confusion), but they are in the Bill for Women's Administrative Vote, not in the general Electoral Reform Bill. The Bill for Women's Administrative Vote has not yet been passed.

The last paragraph of Dr. Troise's article should read: Instead of "Now that it is passed," "When it is passed."

The Editor apologizes to Dr. Troise and the Italian Federation for the mistake made.

A further article on Italy by Dr. Ancona is given in French, page 31.

JAPAN.

The Japanese Appeal.

THE touching appeal of our Japanese suffrage friends is sure to find a ready response. Fortunately, the veteran suffrage leader's life was saved in the catastrophe by the devotion of her friends, but the carefully collected library, which was to help the suffrage workers in Japan, is lost.

English and American women citizens are cordially invited to repair the loss by forwarding books on women's subjects to our Japanese friends.

What a splendid spirit they show!

Their city is destroyed, and the immediate response of the women is to "rise to the work of reconstruction," not only literally, but the work of spiritual and moral reconstruction expressed by women's emancipation.

Venerable Suffragist Saved from the Earthquake.

Appeal for Lost Library.

DEAR MRS. BOMPAS,—You know on the 1st of September, the great earthquake shake the earth, the whole city was shaken and our W.C.T.U. headquarters was also broken, and after two hours the fire broke out and the building was burned down.

In our building Madame Yajima lives, the lady of 91 years old—and the founder of our society in Japan and the president of our society for over thirty years. We had to look after her and right after the great shake, we took her out of the house and carried her to the safe place in a bed. The fire broke out soon after and the whole block was in fire. Everything in the building was burned down.

As for me, I bought books from London about citizenship, suffrage, government, education, League of Nations, social morality, about £40, £10 of it was bought from the headquarters of English Women's Equal Citizenship. I cannot get anything like it in our country. I wanted to educate our leaders in our country by lending out these books freely. And many of them were already rented. Now the whole thing is gone, and I have no money to supply it because that £40 were squeezed out of my travelling expenses.

I know you are so busy, but if you will take so much trouble as to tell the ladies in London and England that we are in such a need of books in these lines, and the first supply was burned down, and ask someone to take trouble to collect the books on these lines as I mentioned, new or old, and send them to me, it will help not only me but also the whole leading women in Japan, who are just starting in the walk toward the woman's responsibility as a citizen.

Our office building is burned, but we moved to the place below mentioned, where our rescue work is carried on.

The New Tokyo is struggling to rise from the ruin and ashes, and we want the women to rise to the work of reconstruction.

The new immediate supply of the books will be invaluable.

Very sincerely yours,
OCHIMI KUBUSHIRO.

No. 356, Hyakumin Machi,
Okubo, Tokyo, Japan.

P.S.—At present we are trying to put out the regulation system from the plan of New Great Tokyo. Remember me to Mrs. Fawcett, Miss Rathbone, and all whom I know. The set of books I regret most is the "History of Woman's Suffrage," Vols. II., III., IV., V. I got the whole set from Mrs. Catt last year, and it is gone except one, Vol. I., which I took home. If someone is willing to offer it shall benefit our whole women.

NETHERLANDS.

The Women's Club at The Hague.

SOME two years ago club life amongst women (with the exception of the female students' clubs) was quite unknown in Holland. For, although it is a long while since the idea of erecting a women's club was formed, the opportunity of carrying out the intention did not present itself before 1921.

On October 1 of that year the first Dutch Women's Club opened its doors to its members, the number of which has been incessantly increasing, and has passed by this time the 600.

The club, in its pleasant and handsome old building, situated at the most attractive spot of our capital, Lange Vijverberg 7, opposite to the Houses of Parliament and separated from them by water and trees, is greatly appreciated in the Netherlands as well as abroad.

Our sixteen bedrooms are nearly always occupied; some of them continually, e.g., by one of our women M.P.'s.

On the first floor we have our reading and writing, our recreation and billiard rooms, the last also used as smoking-room, whilst the ground floor is occupied by the dining-room and the tea-rooms.

Behind the Club, having its own entrance and separated from the main building by an inner court, we have a large hall, with a platform and a gallery, which can contain some 300 persons. It is used for the most various purposes. So, e.g., on Sunday morning it is used as a church. In the day time and the evening it is let for meetings of several kinds: political, social, scientific, religious. Last year it had the pleasure of receiving for the week the International Council of Women under its vaulted roof.

It is much valued, because of its good acoustic, as a concert hall, and many a splendid musical performance has been held there by young artists who are only beginning their career, as well as by our women artists of long-standing reputation.

At other times the hall is turned into an exhibition hall, where arts and crafts of women workers, Dutch or foreign, are exhibited. In September the painters' group of our members organized their second exhibition, which proved in every respect satisfactory. In the tea-rooms we have every winter our weekly lectures on social or scientific topics, and since October, 1923, the club is publishing its own bi-monthly paper, called *Lyceum*, after our sister Lyceum Clubs, which are visited now and then by our members with great pleasure.

So club life in Holland, though young compared with other countries—with England in the first place—is flourishing, and will grow to be one of the elevating elements of our wider life.

MARIE VAN DIJK,
The Hague, October 14. Pres. C. v. V.

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF NURSING AND CHILD WELFARE FOR RUSSIA.

IT is proposed by our Committee to send a unit to Russia consisting of eight fully trained and capable English nurses, headed by Miss Payne, to teach and demonstrate to Russian women the following:—

- (1) The care of the sick.
- (2) The prevention of disease.
- (3) The care of mothers and children.

Miss Payne has had much experience in establishing similar schools for nurses, child-welfare clinics and hospitals in Czecho-Slovakia and England, and is a fully trained nurse.

The work of the unit would be inspected on behalf of the Committee by technically qualified members, specially designated to that effect from the League of Red Cross Societies. The organization proposes to supply all the necessary equipment for teaching and carrying on the work in the clinics and hospitals, the support of the students, patients and personnel. It is proposed to establish a training centre, comprising a hospital for children suffering from dietetic diseases, with an infant-welfare clinic, milk dispensary and ward for mothers.

It is also proposed to co-operate with the various hospitals—medical, surgical and epidemic—existing in Moscow, to take over a ward in each for teaching purposes, and arrangements made with the Faculty of Medicine in Moscow to supply professors to give some of the necessary lectures. It is proposed that the clinic work should include the visiting and education of the people in their homes, the examination of the children up to 14 years, the treatment of minor ailments and dietetic diseases. The realization of this programme depends entirely on the funds available, but the Committee are hopeful of being able to carry it through.

We have certain concessions from the Soviet Government, i.e., safety of the personnel, equipment, etc., a certain amount of fuel, water, lighting and a hospital building in Moscow. So much has been promised us. If we can raise £5,000, other countries have promised to help us with suitable amounts.

(Signed) M. A. PAYNE,
Secretary.

20, Grosvenor Gardens,
London, S.W. 1.

SWITZERLAND.

FOR the second time our Swiss Associations have won a feminist success, thanks to international regulation. After repeated and pressing requests for the Alliances of Swiss Women's Societies and of the Suffrage Association, the Federal Council has decided to nominate a woman, not as a delegate—we have not got so far—but as technical councillor attached to the Swiss Governmental delegation to the Fifth Conference of the International Labour Bureau, meeting at Geneva, October 22.

In fact, our Government could not have acted differently. Paragraph 2 of article 39 of the Constitution of the Labour Bureau is categorical: "When questions specially concerning women come up at the Conference, one at least of the persons nominated as technical councillors must be a woman"! And as the only question before the Conference is that of inspectors, which concerns women's interests directly, both as regards inspectors and those inspected, it was difficult to escape the obligation to appoint a woman, though Berne did at first attempt to evade it.

Moreover, our Association was able to put forward an admirably qualified woman, Mlle. T. Schaffner, former inspector of labour for Canton Bâle.

We are happy to record this progress. In 1921 Mme. Gillibert was attached to our delegation in the

same capacity at the Conference, which, amongst other problems, was considering women's work in agriculture. We hope thus, bit by bit, to establish in high quarters the tradition of the appointment of women where women's interests are concerned, and that from the international sphere this may spread to the national. Thus, our prediction will be fulfilled, and the League of Nations and its related organs will be the supporters of feminism to our Federal Council.

U.S.A.

Work of the League of Women Voters.

THE Executive Committee of the National League of Women Voters held its first autumn meeting at headquarters in Washington, September 22 to 24, and considered in detail methods of carrying out the plans adopted at the annual convention last April. The committee decided that a Child Labour amendment and the entry of the United States into the Permanent Court of International Justice are the legislative measures which the League will most actively support in the Sixty-eighth Congress, which will convene in December.

On Mrs. Park's desk, when the committee sat, lay the pen with which the President of the United States signed the Cable Act for the independent citizenship of married women, which was a League major measure in the last Congress. The President sent the pen in recognition of the work of the League for the Bill. On the wall hung the engrossed resolutions of Federal Employees Union No. 105, whose members are employed in the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, extending to the League the Union's gratitude for its support of the Sterling-Lehlbach Reclassification Law, and particularly the Union's "appreciation of the assistance given us in making permanent the rule requiring equal pay for equal work regardless of sex."

Women in the Civil Service.

The Sterling-Lehlbach Law is regarded as the most important piece of Civil Service legislation since the original Civil Service Act, and is designed to effect a genuine merit system of employment, promotion and dismissal. Salaries are revised on the basis of equal pay for equal work, and it brings Government pay rates in most instances more nearly in accord with rates in other work. The limitation upon transfers from one department to another is removed; salaries are fixed by classes and grades, and opportunity given for advancement from grade to grade or class to class; a central classifying agency is created, and in many other ways the Act means better conditions for workers and more efficiency for the employing departments of Government.

The pen and the resolutions bear witness to the wisdom of the League policy of concentration on not more than two major measures at a time, and are material tributes to another League policy, the work for carefully-considered specific Bills for specific ills, and not for vague blanket legislation.

America and the World Court.

In the legislative work for a Child Labour amendment and the World Court the League will have the co-operation of other national organizations of women. The World Court is a matter which the United States Senate alone can decide, and a two-thirds vote of the Chamber must be secured. Representatives of all the organizations endorsing the measure will form a committee to lobby for the measure, using what Mrs. Park has called "push" as distinguished from political pull. The State leagues of women voters will lend their aid by direct appeal to their senators and by petitions to the Senate. Since early summer the Minnesota League has been securing signatures to a World Court petition which will be literally a mile long when it is presented. Members of the Minnesota committee have toured the State in a World Court car, decorated with a banner announcing their purpose, and have visited remote hamlets and farms, speaking whenever an audience could be assembled and making personal

appeals to farmers in the field. Sheet after sheet of signatures has been stowed away in the car, and while it has been making its tour of the country districts, leagues in towns and cities have been adding their sheets of signatures. From League women in many another State will come great pushing for the World Court.

Child Labour Laws.

The Child Labour amendment must pass both Houses of the Congress by a two-thirds vote, and then be adopted by the Legislatures of three-fourths (36) of the States before it can become national law. The amendment in itself will have no direct effect on child labour. It will merely give the Congress the power to pass laws regulating or prohibiting child labour. Since the Supreme Court declared the last Child Labour law unconstitutional, the increase in the number of gainfully employed children has been great, and as the States have shown no desire to fix a general standard, it is felt that an amendment to the Constitution is the only way to obtain the desired result. An amendment, when adopted by the necessary three-fourths of the States, will make possible the adoption of a Federal minimum standard which will in no way interfere with any State's desire to adopt a higher standard, and which can be changed to fit new conditions.

In the States League women will bring pressure to bear on senators and representatives, so that they may feel the force of public opinion and come to the Congress already informed of the precise nature of the amendment. So far there is no publicly avowed opposition, except in a few States in which children are extensively employed.

Women Voters Educate Citizens.

The League's Department of Efficiency in Government is already stimulating the work to bring out 75 per cent. of the possible vote in the Presidential election of 1924, a goal fixed at the last annual convention.

In many places unique plans to enlist citizens in the duty of voting have been adopted. In Canton, Ohio, where a local election takes place this autumn, the local league secured the co-operation of milk dealers and supplied 35,000 tags, one of which was slipped over the neck of a bottle of milk at each Canton home on the morning of registration day. The tag was a piece of thin cardboard large enough to give room for a printed reminder of the day's duty, and at registration booths many persons were heard to say that if they had not taken that reminder in with the morning's milk they would have forgotten to present themselves.

The League of San Francisco, another city where municipal elections are held this year, arranged an outdoor reception in a park opposite the city hall, in honour of voters who registered in September for the first time. Noon was the hour set, and there was a programme of short speeches and patriotic songs, with the spectacle of voters of foreign birth or descent, dressed in their native costume, and marching in groups to register. By arrangement with election officers, deputy registrars were sent to apartment houses, to club meetings and into residential districts, so that the voter who could not or would not leave home had no excuse for failure to register.

American vs. English!

The Department of Efficiency in Government, which is responsible for more than a hundred schools of citizenship carried on by leagues alone and by leagues in co-operation with colleges and universities, has not forgotten the more personal side of the work of educating for efficient citizenship. A leaflet of the department outlines a "first voter's birthday party," and leagues will give such parties, bringing together for informal entertainment young men and women who vote for the first time. In Connecticut a league committee visits courts where the foreign-born are naturalized and make a special observance of the occasion.

In getting out the vote next year many State leagues will adopt the plan carried out by Kentucky, which has its State election this year. The league organized in

congressional districts, each district with a chairman. These chairmen chose chairmen for the counties in their districts, and county chairmen selected township and voting precinct chairman, each chairman in turn reporting to the chairman of the next larger division. The final unit was the precinct committee which had enough members to call on all voters and secure their promises to register and vote. In Lexington a tag day was arranged, and men and women were decorated with printed pledges to register and vote. Clergymen called attention from their pulpits to the dates and places of registration; cinema theatres gave the same information on the screen, and teachers supplied pupils with reminders to take home.

Organizations of all kinds, religious, professional, social and civic, have been asked "to take part in the campaign for efficient citizenship in its primary phase," which is intelligent and conscientious voting, and will check up their membership by voting lists. Department stores are asked to put a reminder to register and vote in each package wrapped up, public libraries, following the example of the Minneapolis library, will slip reminders into books loaned, and there will be earnest work on the part of League women in all the political parties to make nation-wide the success of the League in one Nebraska town, where in the last election the only qualified voter who did not vote was a woman bed-ridden and dangerously ill.

Women were not nationally enfranchised till the campaign of 1920 was already past its first stages. They will have their first real opportunity in 1924 to prove how well they can handle the new tools of politics and how far they can overcome political indifference and political ignorance, which are practically the same thing. What has been done in Nebraska can be done in every town of every other State, and the League, working shoulder to shoulder with all other patriotic citizens, will carry on by means already tried and found good.

National League of Women Voters,
532, Seventeenth Street, N.W.,
Washington, D.C.
October 4, 1923.

The Minimum Wage.

Since April 9, when the Supreme Court declared unconstitutional the minimum-wage law in the District of Columbia, there has been no legal regulation of women's earnings in the district. But this has not been the only result of this decision. Although it applied only to the law of the district, it has cast a doubt on the constitutionality of similar State laws, and all over the country persons who are interested in the welfare of working women are trying to decide along what lines the campaign for improving wage standards for working women shall be developed in the future. As the district has now been placed in the ranks with the 35 States where there is no legal regulation of women's wages, it is immediately concerned with the efforts which are being made to develop some plan which will provide a satisfactory and constitutional method of establishing adequate wage standards for women.

In the States which have been working under laws similar to that which Congress had enacted for the District of Columbia, thus far there has been no indication of a desire to retreat from their position. These States seem to be unanimous in their intention to continue to enforce their respective laws as in the past. Some States have done more than merely stand their ground, and have assumed an attitude of active support of constitutional changes which would put the legislation already existing on a more secure basis. The California Legislature has gone so far as to adopt a resolution memorializing Congress to amend the Constitution so as to permit of a minimum-wage law for women. Not only the Legislature, but the industrial commission of the State as well, has shown its intention to continue with the present legislation through its action in handing

down new wage awards after the Supreme Court had laid down its ultimatum for the district.

Governor Hart, of Washington, has shown his belief in such laws by suggesting a conference of the Governors of the various States to consider a nation-wide campaign for a constitutional amendment validating minimum-wage legislation.

In Arizona also the law is still to be enforced as though there had been no adverse decision from the highest tribunal of the land. The officials of the State have announced their intention to support the new minimum wage law of Arizona, which raised the minimum, quite as they would had no minimum-wage decision been rendered.

While these agencies which are interested in maintaining the advantages of the minimum wage for women have been considering plans and gathering strength for the future, the opposition has not been inactive. Test cases have been started both in Arizona and Wisconsin, in each case the contestant announcing his willingness to carry the issue on to the last court. Even in Massachusetts, although the validity of the Act itself is not being questioned, the publicity method of enforcement has been brought up for settlement in the court. In the Pacific Coast States, however, the strength of public opinion in support of the minimum-wage law has been so great that no action has been started against it.

Organizations which have more than a local interest in the minimum-wage situation have also been marshalling their forces that they may be ready to render the greatest service to the women workers wherever needed. The National Consumers' League was the first organization to recognize the need for consideration of the situation with which the country was confronted, and called a conference on April 20 of individuals interested in the welfare of working women. It was clearly demonstrated at this conference that much serious thought and study would be necessary before any definite programme could be formulated, and in that realization lay the chief value of this first meeting. It is expected that the League will be ready to announce a definite programme at the national meeting in the fall.

The American Federation of Labour was also aroused by the decision of the court, and called a conference which met in Washington the latter part of April. At that meeting a permanent conference for the protection of the rights and interests of women wage-earners was organized. Plans were also inaugurated for a campaign of union organizations to be started immediately among women workers in the District of Columbia.

The Women's Trade Union League called a conference in Washington on May 15 and 16, to consider the situation of the woman worker, so far as legal guarantees were concerned, in the light of the recent decision of the Supreme Court. Twenty-seven organizations were represented, including trade unions, religious organizations, welfare organizations, research bureaus, and other groups interested in the industrial women's problem in particular, and the broader field of labour legislation in general. A committee was appointed to consider the legislative proposals which had been discussed at the conference, and to recommend a programme which might be acceptable to all of the groups represented. Support of the women workers in their attempt to obtain protection through organization was also asked.

Broadly speaking, the decision has brought about two types of reaction. There are those who, remembering the previous defeat of two national child-labour laws and of other welfare legislation, are questioning the necessity and desirability of the existence of a court which is in a position to invalidate by one vote legislation which has been passed by representative bodies. Consequently, various methods of limiting the power of the court are being suggested, notably a requirement of a 7 to 2 or 6 to 3 vote in the court in order to override any State or Federal law, or provision for an amendment of the Supreme Court decision if the Act were again passed in Congress by an increased majority.

On the other hand, there are those who are turning their attention to a type of remedy which would not

alter the force of the Supreme Court, but which would so change the situation that minimum-wage laws would have to be upheld by that body. Some of these would work for an amendment to the Constitution which would be broad enough to permit the enactment of all welfare or social legislation, while others would be content with a constitutional change which would make possible only minimum-wage legislation for women workers. Which type of change would be the more desirable is a question which might keep political philosophers interested for some time, yet the serious consideration of the possibilities involved in each line of attack is of practical importance to those who would advance the position of underpaid wage-earners. The really interesting and hopeful side of the whole situation is the very considerable interest which has manifested itself in the whole matter, an interest shared by labour organizations, welfare and religious bodies, those connected with the Government, and, most important of all, the women themselves, through their organizations. The development of such an active public opinion is bound to have effect, even though it does not come as rapidly as some might desire.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Suffrage Situation in China.

MY DEAR MISS BOMPAS,—Your letter to Miss Christine I. Tinling has been referred to me. I consider it a great pleasure to reply to yours for her.

Please pardon me for a personal introduction. I am the Student Secretary of the W.C.T.U. of China, and also the President of the Shanghai Woman Suffrage Association, so you see the one who is writing to you will not only give you a mere report of the work here, but has keen interest in what she writes.

The Suffrage movement in China is sweeping all over the country. One finds Suffrage Associations practically in every province. Very recently, Canton and Hunan have both given suffrage to women. Our Shanghai Suffrage Association was organized last year. Our organization is quite active. We are issuing a monthly called *Nu Kon Miu* (*Woman Citizen*, in English.) We are trying our best to unite all the small Associations in China into a Suffrage Alliance. And as soon as we succeed in doing this, we will want to affiliate with the International Woman Suffrage Alliance.

This is practically all the information I can give you this time, and I hope I can be of greater service to you in the future.

Very cordially yours,
(Signed) FRANCES M. LIU
(Mrs. Herman C. E. Liu).

23, Haining Road,
Shanghai, China.
August 25, 1923.

"History of Woman Suffrage."

To the Editor of the I.W.S.N.

DEAR MADAM,—Please accept my warm thanks and high appreciation of the able review of Volumes V and VI of the "History of Woman Suffrage," recently published, which appeared in the INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE NEWS for September. For the sake of accuracy, I ask permission to correct two small errors. The review says: "Mrs. Harper takes up the story of the first four volumes of the history at the point where Miss Susan B. Anthony and Mrs. Elizabeth Cady Stanton stop in 1900."

Mrs. Stanton ceased her work on the History with Volume III, which carried the story into the early 'eighties. Volume IV was written by me in the home of Susan B. Anthony, who was then 80 years old, from the vast store of materials which she had collected and preserved. It had the inestimable advantage of her constant attention and advice, and every page was proof-read and sanctioned by her. This volume carried the story through 1900, the end of her administration as president. Volumes V and VI record the history through 1920, when Woman Suffrage had been gained in the United States and many other countries.

The review says: "In January, 1918, the Federal Amendment passed the Lower House of Congress; on June 4 it was submitted to the Legislatures of the States."

The resolution for the amendment did pass the Lower House in January, 1918, but it was defeated in the Senate several times during the year, and finally went over to the next session. Here it passed the Lower House in May and the Senate June 4, 1919. It was ratified by the last of the necessary three-fourths of the Legislatures in August, 1920, and declared adopted by the Secretary of State.

IDA HUSTED HARPER.

BOOK NOTICES.

"A New Basis for the Psychology of Man and Woman."

DR. MATHIAS VAERTING, already well known in scientific and feminist circles, from his biological and sociological studies on sex problems, and his sister, Dr. Mathilde Vaerting, recently nominated as first "regular" Professor for Educational Science at the University of Jena, are the authors of a remarkable work under the above title, which means a complete scientific revolution in this domain. The first part, which was issued about two years ago, "Women's Nature in Men's State and Men's Nature in Women's State,"* entirely does away with all the long-cherished theories on this matter, showing clearly and irrefutably that, as they always were based on false premises and confounded causes and consequences, they needs must lead to false conclusions. It is explicable only by the present all-absorbing hardships of material life in Germany that this standard book has not yet roused much more interest and sensation in our spiritual world. Its central theory is, in a nutshell, the following:—

All psychologists hitherto compared the dominant man with the subordinate woman, i.e., man and woman in *absolutely different situations and conditions*, and the differentiation stated by this method may just as well depend on this different basis as on innate qualities. It is, therefore, erroneous simply to denote as sex distinction what may be only inevitable consequence of social position and environment. That the latter is actually the case here, that man is by no means the born ruler, nor woman the born subordinate, is already clearly proved by the rise and rapid development of modern womanhood all over the world. So an exact comparison of the sexes and a trustworthy sex psychology will only be possible on exactly equal basis, i.e., between dominant man and dominant woman, or between subordinate man and subordinate woman, or between man and woman in full equality of power and possibilities. As this equality, though ardently striven for, is not yet reached anywhere—at least, if even legally, not in social conditions and conceptions—the comparison has to deal with those older cultural epochs, when women were the dominant and men the subordinate sex, as, e.g., in old Egypt and Sparta.

With extraordinary knowledge and assiduity, referring to an abundant material of historical and anthropological facts, the authors not only show, from this new basis, the psychology of man and woman in a wholly new light, but also open wholly new ways for the investigation in ethnography, sexuology, anthropology, and sociology of the sexes. This is the important fundamental law they have found out: Women's nature in our time is, on its main lines, determined by the male State, and this process had its exact and complete parallel in man's nature in woman's State in those bygone periods.

This general result is proved by a mass of special examples concerning the relation of the sexes. We learn, *inter alia*, that woman was the weaker in love

* "Neubegründung der Psychologie von Mann und Weib." Von Dr. M. Vaerting. I. Band: "Die weibliche Eigenart im Männerstaat und die männliche Eigenart im Frauenstaat." (168 pp.) Karlsruhe in Baden, G. Braun'sche Hofbuchdruckerei, 1921. English translation by Eden and Cedar Paul: "The Dominant Sex." London, George Allen and Unwin, Ltd.

affairs; that the man had to afford a dowry and had to vow obedience to his wife, who alone had the disposal of the common property. She alone, further, had the right to divorce or to repudiate her husband if she no more cared for him. Chastity and matrimonial fidelity was man's duty, and he often was punished severely for its violation, while women needed not to be particular in this respect. The husband had to take name and nationality of his wife, the children of their mother. Her rank also was decisive for the children's social position. The wife had to take care of business outside the home, the husband's "sphere" was the household work. Men adorned their body and clothing, women were attired rather monotonously. Unmarried men were exposed to ridicule and contempt. Men in general were looked upon as the kinder and gentler, but as the intellectually inferior sex. Female children were higher valued than the male. The maintenance of the parents was the duty of the dominant sex, i.e., the daughters. Most of the chief divinities were of the female sex, etc., etc. These puzzling facts of a "reverse world"—the more puzzling as they are reported, not of a primitive epoch, but of a culture on a rather high level—have been hidden until now, even in scientific circles, by male prejudice and suggestion and blindness, as is strikingly proved in Chapter 17.

Though strong feminists themselves and convinced champions of a real human culture through the free co-operation of man and woman, Professor and Dr. Vaerting have, of course, written their valuable book for science's sake, not for propaganda purposes. So much more it will be effective also for the latter, by supplying the women who are working for the uplifting of their sex with invincible weapons of historical and logical truth against arbitrary theories and false conclusions from false premises. It is to be hoped that the English version will be a good help for a wide diffusion of the book, and that translations into other languages may follow. The second part of the work will contain a new perception as basis for modern sex-psychology, and the third then will deal with the *actual sex differences*, found out on this new basis.

Dresden, October 21.

MARIE STRITT.

Ricarda Huch.

The greatest German woman writer is Ricarda Huch. We can safely mention her works by the side of those of the most noted men and women of all times. Her all-embracing and profound learning has not marred her intuition and creative genius or her rich imagination. She is a poetess through and through. Her language is so wonderful that in reading her one often asks oneself in astonishment, "Are these, then, only words, simple words strung together?" Yes, but imaginative creation, spiritual genius, inspire these words so that they bind the reader with a spell and carry him away.

The outward circumstances of her life are soon described. She came from a merchant's family in the old Hanse town, Brunswick, where she was born on July 18, 1864. After passing the Gymnasium examination, she studied history in Zurich, as German universities were at that time closed to women. In 1891 she took her Doctor's degree, and was appointed to the Zurich town library, which she left for an appointment at the girls' high school in Bremen in 1896. Later on, she spent a year in Trieste and Vienna, and since 1900 has lived in Munich. In 1898 she married a Trieste doctor, Erman Cecomi, by whom she had a daughter. In 1906 this marriage was dissolved, and in 1907 she married her cousin, Richard Huch.

Comparatively late in life she began her literary activity. Her comedy, "Der Bundesschwur," which appeared under the pseudonym Richard Hugo, "The Neutrality of the Swiss Confederation during the War of the Spanish Succession," the drama "Eva," and other writings attracted little notice. But her poems and the novel, "Erinnerungen von Ludolf Ursleu dem Jüngeren," drew widespread attention in Germany to this author of genius. A period of literary activity followed

which seemed absolutely inexhaustible. There appeared one after the other "Der Mondreigen Schlaraffis," "Teufeleien," "Hartwig im Kreuzgang," "Ausbreitung und Verfall der Romantik," "Die Blütezeit der Romantik," "Aus der Triumphgasse," "Dornröschen," "Von den Königen und der Krone," "Wonnebald Puck," "Die Geschichte von Garibaldi," "Die Verteidigung Roms," "Der Kampf um Rom," "Das Risorgimento," "Gottfried Keller," "Der grosse Krieg in Deutschland," and others.

Innumerable books have appeared about the Thirty Years' War, but I know of none to equal Ricarda Huch's in creative power and lifelike description. What she gives us are not dead figures, battles, victories. She transports us to the midst of the terrible war itself. Events pass before our souls as in a kaleidoscope, and she makes us visualize the desperate results—want, misery, poverty, superstition, the whole moral and intellectual downfall brought about by every war, but which historians usually pass over with much too little notice. The vividness of her descriptions moves us so deeply that we feel we, too, live through the events described.

The great war that preceded the world war of 1914 proves the great creative intuition of Ricarda Huch.

To create such a picture, mastery of the material does not suffice—though that can be taken for granted in all her historical works—but the gift of the seer and the genius. The experience of the war years of 1914 to 1918, with all their horror, proves with what terrible truth her poetic imagination grasped the facts, the psychological and historic connections, and forced them to live again.

With her works, "Der grosse Krieg in Deutschland" and "Die Befreiung Roms" a new era in the writing of history has begun, which can, indeed, include few authors, for it involves not dry reporting of facts, but plastic creation.

Ricarda Huch's literary ideals were Goethe and Gottfried Keller, to whom she is closely related in clearness and simplicity of style, in richness and creative power, and in tenderness of feeling.

Her novels prove a manysidedness possessed by few writers; she is never the same. All her works bear evidence of the joy which inspires her in creation, but with all her love for her heroes, or for the material she is treating, she remains always above the things that she creates. Her art easily succeeds in plunging us in the middle of unusual events. We follow the actions of her people, the scenes which she invests with reality, although they are infused with rich and flowing poetry.

Even in the sad years of the war, and since the war, when intellectual and spiritual depression damps and deadens creative power, this woman has succeeded in working. There have appeared from her: "Natur und Geist als die Wurzel des Lebens und der Kunst," "Wallenstein," "Luther's Glaube," "Der Fall Deruga," "Jeremias Gotthelf's Weltanschauung," "Der Sinn der Heiligen Schrift," and many others.

That some of these works show less than her former power and clearness is comprehensible—even a genius needs for creation a freer atmosphere than exists in these days. All the more astonishing is it that Ricarda Huch in her latest book, "Michael Bakunin und die Anarchie," has not only recovered her former power, but that it stands higher than ever. With ever deeper and richer perception her prophetic glance pierces to the core of the being and becoming of past and future times. That such a gifted author should be so little known outside Germany and that her works should not be translated into other languages is astonishing.

May this account of her work contribute to make her better known, so that those who can read German may learn to appreciate Ricarda Huch's works. Whoever studies them will soon recognize that a woman speaks to them who has a priceless gift for humanity. Not only that her artistic creation affords the purest pleasure, her historic works recall past days with a vividness that makes them unforgettable, and enables us to comprehend much in our own day: a gain that no strenuous soul will forgo.

LIDA GUSTAVA HEYMAN.

SECTION FRANÇAISE.

PAYS LATINS ABONNEZ-VOUS A JUS SUFFRAGII!

C'EST aux pays nommés plus ou moins justement pays de race latine que nous venons aujourd'hui adresser un appel pressant en faveur de JUS SUFFRAGII, organe de l'Alliance internationale pour le Suffrage des femmes.

Dans tous nos pays latins: France, Suisse, Italie, Espagne, Grèce, Serbie, Tcheco-Slovaquie, etc., les abonnements à JUS SUFFRAGII sont très peu nombreux, nos pays n'aident pas le journal à vivre et c'est pourtant aux pays latins que le journal international de suffrage est surtout destiné pour aider à la propagande suffragiste, maintenant que dans les pays scandinaves, anglo-saxons et germaniques les femmes ont reçu le droit de suffrage que nous réclamons encore.

Il est absolument nécessaire que dans nos pays latins les suffragistes fassent toutes un véritable effort pour trouver de nouveaux lecteurs et des abonnements nouveaux à JUS. Les suffragistes s'apercevront bientôt que leur propagande nationale a beaucoup à y gagner, et pour leur rendre cet effort plus facile le Bureau de l'Alliance a décidé de faire paraître dans le journal, à partir de Novembre, une partie beaucoup plus considérable rédigée en langue française, puisque c'est celle que les pays latins connaissent le mieux.

Le Bureau a aussi décidé, pour faire connaître le journal, d'envoyer gratuitement, pendant six mois, à quelques adresses bien choisies dans les pays latins, un exemplaire de propagande, dans l'espoir qu'au bout de ces six mois d'effort de l'Alliance on comprendra le devoir international et national de s'abonner définitivement à JUS SUFFRAGII.

Ne disons pas, je vous en prie: "JUS est un journal international, et ce qui se passe dans les autres pays ne m'intéresse pas." Aucune de nous n'a plus le droit de se désintéresser des pays étrangers, car de plus en plus toutes les nations sont solidaires les unes des autres, qu'elles le désirent ou pas, et ce qui se passe dans un pays a dans un autre pays une répercussion qui n'existaient pas autrefois. Même à notre point de vue égoïste, nous ne pouvons donc pas nous désintéresser de ce qui se passe chez le prochain.

Nous croyons que les alliances féminines ont une grande force et une grande portée et chacune de nous peut constater que jamais les hommes n'ont fondé une société internationale aussi considérable que notre Alliance suffragiste, société basée non sur la force et la guerre, mais uniquement sur un idéal de justice et de progrès de l'humanité.

Les idées ont besoin d'un organe pour se répandre et se faire connaître. JUS est notre organe suffragiste international, il est le lien entre nous toutes. Nos amies américaines l'ont longtemps fait vivre, en grande partie, par leurs dons généreux et nous, pauvre Europe éprouvée par la terrible guerre, nous ne sommes pas riches comme les Américaines; mais un sérieux effort de notre part est maintenant indispensable pour montrer notre volonté d'affranchissement, pour faire vivre notre journal et pour le faire lire autour de nous. Nous espérons donc de tout notre cœur que notre appel sera entendu par les pays latins et que les demandes d'abonnement vont affluer au siège central de l'Alliance à Londres, 11, Adam Street.

C'est le devoir des pays latins, et l'exemple de ce qui se passe chez nos sœurs affranchies sera pour nous un sérieux stimulant. En effet, les femmes qui possèdent le droit de vote, qu'elles viennent du Nord, de l'Est ou de l'Ouest, sont unanimes à déclarer: "Depuis que nous votons, il est positif que les hommes ont plus de considération pour nous et qu'ils nous écoutent davantage."

MARGUERITE DE WITT SCHLUMBERGER,

Première Vice-Présidente de l'Alliance.

NOUVELLES FÉMINISTES.

N.B.—This Section consists of a Summary of Reports contained in the English Section of the paper.

Finlande.—LA RÉFORME DU MARIAGE. — Le projet de loi qui établit l'égalité entre mari et femme n'a pas encore passé à la deuxième lecture de la Commission permanente. On craint que des obstructions n'en retardent le vote. Aussi la Fédération des Suédoises de Finlande a-t-elle organisé, le 23 septembre, une réunion publique avec conférence de M. Gionvall. L'assemblée a voté à l'unanimité les principes de la loi: abolition de la tutelle du mari, reconnaissance de l'activité domestique de la femme comme contribution à l'apport de la famille, droit de la femme à une allocation personnelle sur le salaire du mari, droits de tutelle égaux, salaires égaux.

A la même réunion, Miss Dagnar a fait adopter les résolutions suivantes: salaire égal, allocation de famille selon le nombre des enfants, salaires progressifs, lutte contre les salaires de famine, entrée de toutes les femmes dans les organisations ouvrières.

Etats-Unis.—LE MINIMUM DE SALAIRE. — Depuis le 9 avril où la Cour Suprême a déclaré inconstitutionnelle la loi sur le minimum de salaire, il n'y a plus de règles fixes, même dans les autres États. Aussi Washington (D.C.) et les États qui l'avaient soutenue travaillent à amender la constitution. D'autre part, la Ligue nationale des consommateurs, qui s'intéresse au bien-être des travailleurs, a organisé, le 20 avril, une conférence où elle a élaboré un programme défini pour le prochain congrès national. La Confédération du travail a, de son côté, organisé une conférence en avril à Washington et nommé une commission permanente pour la protection des salaires.

La Ligue des Trade-unions féminines a organisé une conférence à Washington en mai, pour étudier la situation des travailleuses après la dure décision de la Cour Suprême; 27 sociétés étaient représentées. On a établi un programme acceptable pour tous les groupes représentés.

Toutes ces sociétés travaillent soit à limiter le pouvoir de la Cour contre les décisions des États, soit à la rendre plus favorable aux lois votées par les États.

LIGUE DES FEMMES ÉLECTEURS. — La Ligue a tenu sa première séance d'automne au siège social de Washington les 22 et 24 septembre. Elle a décidé de soutenir spécialement les deux mesures législatives sur le travail des enfants et l'entrée des États-Unis dans le Cour permanente de justice internationale.

L'AMENDEMENT SUR LE TRAVAIL DES ENFANTS doit passer par les deux Chambres et réunir les deux-tiers des votes et ensuite être adopté par les trois-quarts des États, et encore, cet amendement ne donnera au Congrès que le pouvoir de voter la loi. En attendant, le nombre des enfants employés dans les usines s'est accru considérablement.

LES FEMMES FONCTIONNAIRES. — La loi Sterling-Lehlbach est considérée comme l'acte le plus important de la législation sur le service civil depuis le "Civil Service Act." Les salaires sont révisés sur la base du salaire égal pour les deux sexes et amène le taux des traitements à celui de l'industrie. Les traitements sont fixés par classes et grades avec chance d'avancement, et des agences centrales de placement sont créées.

ÉDUCATION CIVIQUE. — La Ligue des Électriciens s'occupe aussi de l'éducation civique. Elle a ouvert plus de cent écoles et organisé des cours dans les Universités. Elle lutte contre l'abstention et elle est aidée en cela par toutes les organisations sociales, religieuses, professionnelles et civiques.

RAPPORT DU COMITÉ SUR LE COÛT DE LA VIE. — Sir Auckland Geddes, ambassadeur d'Angleterre à Washington, déclarait que toutes les femmes qui veulent aider à la solution des problèmes mondiaux devaient se mettre à l'étude des principes économiques qui régissent

l'industrie, le commerce et les finances. Le Comité sur le coût de la vie s'occupe spécialement de cette question. Il travaille depuis plusieurs années à lutter contre la spéculation, la gabegie, les bénéfices excessifs des intermédiaires. En février 1922, le Congrès a voté une loi qui autorise les associations coopératives de producteurs; mais ce qui manque encore, c'est une loi uniforme pour tous les États qui généralise le système coopératif. La Ligue travaille à établir les principes fixes du système Rochdale, savoir: nombre illimité des membres de chaque coopérative, un vote par membre, quel que soit le nombre des actions, capital à intérêt fixe, bénéfices supplémentaires partagés entre les actionnaires, maintien des prix au taux général du marché. L'activité du Comité comprend (en prenant pour exemple New-Jersey): 1) Éducation générale du consommateur sur les problèmes de la production et de la distribution; 2) Rapports par des femmes volontaires sur les prix de détail dans chacune de leurs villes: des cartes de renseignement envoyées chaque mardi sont centralisées par le bureau et les renseignements envoyés aux clubs féminins chargés de comparer les prix de production et de vente; 3) Achats coopératifs de denrées périssables au moment de la récolte; 4) Dans les endroits où les centres de production sont à proximité des grandes cités, la Ligue encourage l'organisation de marchés publics où les femmes puissent écouler leurs récoltes; 5) En voie de réalisation, création d'un directeur de marché qui établira un office de renseignements entre les producteurs et les consommateurs.

Le Comité encourage aussi l'étude des enquêtes gouvernementales sur les industries des charbons et de l'alimentation, (par exemple, l'investigation sur la hausse des sucres), et appuiera toutes les mesures pour l'amélioration du marché, la répression des fraudes, lois contre le "filled milk" ou lait adultéré, la campagne contre les trusts de l'alimentation et les pratiques des packers.

Grande-Bretagne. — LE PRINCIPE D'ÉGALITÉ DE SALAIRE. — La question a été discutée dernièrement devant le Parlement. En 1920, il s'est déclaré disposé à donner accès aux femmes dans les services de l'État avec traitement égal à celui des hommes. Mais, à cause de l'état des finances, la question fut réservée. Plus tard, un Comité de trois représentants du Trésor (le Comité Anderson) fut chargé d'étudier les conditions d'emploi des fonctionnaires; son rapport, déposé en juillet dernier, conclut que le traitement ne doit pas dépendre de leur responsabilité, de leurs charges de famille ou du niveau de la vie, mais de ce que l'employeur doit payer pour entretenir un personnel approprié; donc l'homme sera plus payé, parce qu'il est davantage sur le marché libre. Pourtant le Comité estime qu'à la longue les salaires devraient en général s'égaliser, qu'en outre avec l'avancement les femmes devraient être payées à un taux plus semblable à celui des hommes. Mais les traitements actuels de l'État étant insuffisants, les femmes capables ont intérêt à quitter le service civil pour l'industrie.

CANDIDATES AU PARLEMENT. — Plusieurs femmes connues ont annoncé leur intention de se présenter aux prochaines élections: Mrs. Dimsdale pour le Comité de Cambridge et Lady Warwick à Leamington.

CONFÉRENCE DU CONSEIL NATIONAL DES FEMMES DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE. — La conférence annuelle s'est tenue à Edimbourg du 16 au 20 octobre. Plus de 600 déléguées de toutes les parties du pays ont été reçues par le Lord Provost et le Conseil municipal. Mrs. George Morgan a été élue présidente pour l'année, et l'Hon. Mrs. Franklin vice-présidente. Le sujet de la conférence était "L'appel de l'enfant." Une pétition a été envoyée au gouvernement pour obtenir la loi projetée sur la tutelle, une pension pour les orphelins, l'aggravation des pénalités pour assaut criminel. Une section s'occupe de la question des logements salubres et des écoles en plein air.

Irlande. — L' "ADVISORY COUNCIL" DES FEMMES DE BELFAST. — Le Council a tenu sa première séance de la session d'hiver le 3 octobre. La situation est grave comme dans tous les grands centres industriels. L'industrie de la toile et des tissus qui est la principale industrie féminine à Belfast est en baisse, ce qui, joint au

chômage masculin, a une influence désastreuse sur la santé des enfants. La mortalité infantile suit la courbe du chômage avec une précision navrante. Le Conseil a demandé au Ministère du Travail la réouverture des centres d'apprentissage et le maintien des enfants dans les écoles jusqu'à 16 ans.

La nouvelle loi d'enseignement a été appliquée le 1^{er} octobre. Pour la première fois, l'État paraît s'intéresser au développement physique et intellectuel des enfants. Le Conseil a publié son opinion dans la presse du Nord; il réclame l'admission des femmes dans les "local education authorities" et dans le Conseil central consultatif, la suppression du travail des jeunes enfants, un intervalle de plus d'une demi-heure dans les journées de classe qui vont de 9.30 à 3.30.

Pays-Bas. — Le Lyceum Club de La Haye, premier club féminin hollandais, a ouvert ses portes le 1^{er} octobre; il a déjà 600 membres. Le bâtiment, ancien et artistique, est situé Lange Vijverberg 7, en face du Parlement. Il a 16 chambres, une large salle pour concerts et conférences. Il est en relation avec le Lyceum central de Londres et les autres Lyceums d'Europe.

Japon. — Le tremblement de terre qui a détruit Tokio a démolit les bâtiments du siège social de l'Union du suffrage. Mme Hajima, la fondatrice, et présidente depuis 30 ans, qui vivait dans la maison, a pu être sauvée, mais les bâtiments ont pris feu et ont brûlé avec les archives et la bibliothèque. Les femmes de tous les pays sont cordialement invitées à envoyer des livres et documents à Mme Ochimi Kubushiro, 356 Hyakunin Machi, Okubo, Tokyo, Japon, où l'office est transféré.

Suisse. — Après des démarches répétées des diverses sociétés féminines, le Conseil fédéral a décidé de nommer une femme, non comme déléguée, mais comme conseillère technique attachée à la délégation gouvernementale suisse à la cinquième conférence du bureau international du travail qui s'est tenue à Genève le 22 octobre: c'est Mme Schaffner, inspectrice du travail.

Russie. — ÉCOLE INTERNATIONALE D'INFIRMIÈRES POUR LA RUSSIE. — Le Comité de l'International School of Nursery and Child Welfare se propose d'envoyer un corps d'infirmières en Russie, sous la direction de Miss Payne, pour enseigner aux femmes russes: 1) le soin des malades; 2) la prévention des maladies; 3) le soin des mères et des enfants. Le centre d'études comprendra: un hôpital, une clinique d'enfants, un dispensaire et une salle de maternité. Les bâtiments pour l'hôpital existent à Moscou.

Indes. — Miss Hazra est la première avocate d'un barreau hindou. Elle a été nommée à la Haute Cour de Patna. Mr. Syed Hassan Imam, féministe, bâtonnier à Patna, a été nommé représentant à la Ligue des Nations. Pour la première fois, des femmes viennent en Angleterre étudier la profession de nurse.

EDUCATION OBLIGATOIRE A BARODA. — De 1911 à 1921, le nombre des femmes lettrées s'est élevé de 178.000 à 300.000.

Chine. — Le mouvement suffragiste s'étend sur tout le pays; des associations existent dans toutes les provinces. Récemment, Canton et Hunan ont donné le vote aux femmes.

Conférence de l'Alliance internationale du Suffrage sur la prévention des causes de la guerre. — APPEL DE MRS. CORBETT ASHBY. — L'idée de cette conférence a été soumise au Congrès de Rome. A la réunion du bureau de Genève ont été élues trois déléguées: Mrs. Corbett Ashby, présidente; Mme de Witt-Schlumberger, première vice-présidente; Frau Lindemann, deuxième vice-présidente. Cette conférence réalisera la troisième partie de la première résolution de Genève: "Le Congrès fait appel à toutes les femmes afin qu'elles emploient leur influence pour prévenir les guerres futures et qu'elles orientent l'éducation des enfants vers une compréhension plus large et plus vraie de tous les peuples du monde." Le Conseil international des femmes enverra à nos auxiliaires une invitation à faire représenter leur pays par des déléguées. Notre

principal objet est l'article A. 111, 3: les droits complets des femmes comme citoyens. Nous demandons en outre l'admission de tous les pays à la Ligue des Nations. Nous prions toutes les auxiliaires de nous envoyer les noms de leurs déléguées aussitôt que possible. Nous tiendrons une large assemblée à Londres, en mars, et nous espérons présenter plusieurs de nos meilleures oratrices. Nous profiterons de la présence de Mme de Witt-Schlumberger et de Frau Lindemann pour réunir le Conseil des présidentes. Nous espérons aussi avoir une vente et une exposition au bénéfice des fonds de l'Alliance. Nous prions les déléguées d'apporter des objets caractéristiques de leur pays.

Donc, rendez-vous à Londres, en mars 1924.

Lettre de Miss Sterling (résumé). — Le bureau a établi un budget pour JUS SUFFRAGII et pour le Congrès prochain; le résultat est que nous sommes à court de £500. Nous prions les auxiliaires de nous procurer de nouveaux membres associés, quelques donateurs à £2 par an pour trois ans, et même à 10/- par an, des abonnés à JUS SUFFRAGII, etc. Il nous est nécessaire de réunir £250 de plus chaque année.

ITALIE.

LE gouvernement italien a préparé deux projets de loi, le premier sur la réforme électorale, le second sur le vote administratif (gouvernement local) pour les femmes. Le premier a été discuté et a passé difficilement. Aussi a-t-on jugé prudent de remettre le second à la session de novembre, parce que le parti populaire ou clérical et les socialistes demandaient une mesure plus large, ce qui aurait mis le gouvernement en minorité.

LA SITUATION SUFFRAGISTE EN ITALIE. — Contrairement aux nouvelles annoncées par JUS SUFFRAGII, par une erreur de la rédaction, le projet de loi accordant le vote municipal aux femmes n'a pas été discuté à la Chambre. Il a été présenté à la Commission parlementaire (Commission des dix-huit, présidée par S. E. Giolitti) qui a pensé que le temps n'était pas favorable à la discussion du vote parlementaire pour les femmes, et qui a envoyé une délégation pour parler dans ce sens au Président du Conseil; mais ce dernier ayant réaffirmé son intention de faire l'essai du vote municipal, la tentative a été abandonnée. Les suffragistes ne se dissimulent pas le fait que cette initiative de la Commission peut avoir été hâtée par son désir de remettre à plus tard le vote d'un autre bill électoral (représentation proportionnelle pour les hommes) qui a été soumis à la même Commission et qui a été approuvé après discussion. Si la Commission avait eu à traiter du vote municipal pour les femmes, elle aurait dû reprendre toute la question de la réforme électorale, ce qui aurait amené un délai considérable. De ces deux projets de loi: 1) vote parlementaire proportionnel pour les hommes; 2) vote municipal pour les femmes, présentés en même temps par le gouvernement et approuvés par la Commission des dix-huit, le premier seul a été présenté aux deux Chambres et approuvé; le second, qui nous concerne, est encore devant la Commission. S. E. Acerbo, qui s'occupe spécialement de la réforme électorale, a assuré à Mlle Troise et aux autres déléguées de la Fédération, que le projet de loi serait présenté à la réouverture du Parlement (le 25 novembre prochain) et nous a laissé espérer qu'il présenterait quelques modifications en faveur des femmes en tenant compte d'un mémoire de Mlle Troise au nom de la Fédération suffragiste.

AUTRES NOUVELLES. — Le gouvernement de M. Mussolini a entrepris la réforme de la bureaucratie. Beaucoup d'employés de l'État ont été licenciés et naturellement, parmi les catégories affectées, il y a un grand nombre de femmes. Les renvois ont été spécialement nombreux parmi les "avventizie" (surnuméraires) des tramways, des postes, etc. On n'a fait aucune différence de traitement entre les femmes et les hommes en ce qui concerne les pensions, certificats, etc.

Une réforme générale va être faite dans le domaine de l'instruction publique. Elle affecte spécialement les femmes pour différentes raisons et il peut être intéressant pour

nos collègues d'en avoir une idée. Tandis que jusqu'à maintenant l'école secondaire (media) était ouverte à tous, et qu'un nombre de cours suffisant étaient institués chaque année, pour recevoir tous ceux qui voulaient s'y inscrire, il n'y aura maintenant qu'un nombre limité d'écoles et de cours, et par suite le nombre des places pour les écoliers sera limité; ils ne pourront les obtenir qu'à la suite d'une espèce de concours. Ils ne seront soumis à aucun examen d'État avant la fin de leurs études.

Les conséquences seront:

- 1) une diminution du nombre des élèves dans les écoles publiques;
- 2) une diminution du nombre des chaires d'enseignement;
- 3) une réforme générale des cours, programmes, matières d'enseignement.

Comme, en général, les filles sont plus diligentes que les garçons, on prévoit que la proportion actuelle des écoliers (un tiers de filles, deux tiers de garçons) sera modifiée en faveur des filles.

Quant au personnel enseignant de ces cours qui sont créés et dissous selon la fluctuation de la population scolaire, il en souffrira beaucoup; car parmi les écoles supprimées, il y a beaucoup d'écoles "magistrali," les seules écoles de filles. Les maîtresses ont été envoyées dans d'autres écoles d'un degré inférieur. Cependant, quelques-unes des maîtresses plus âgées ont été nommées dans des écoles supérieures de garçons (qui sont des écoles mixtes), principalement dans des lycées et cela est indubitablement un avantage pour la cause féministe.

Parmi les écoles supprimées, il y a, je le répète, un grand nombre d'écoles "magistrali" qui étaient presque entièrement féminines. On dit qu'on a renvoyé beaucoup trop de maîtres qui ne pourront pas trouver d'autres situations. A la place de ces écoles, plusieurs autres ont été créées (dans toute l'Italie) sous le nom de lycées féminins (Licei femminili), semblables aux gymnases féminins autrichiens. Ils ne donnent ni diplômes ni droits d'entrée dans les Universités et sont destinés aux futurs "massaie." On ne sait pas si ces écoles réussiront; en général, l'opinion publique et les féministes désapprouvent ces institutions et craignent qu'elles ne soient le prélude d'une limitation graduelle de l'égalité des droits des sexes, observée jusqu'ici en Italie en matière d'enseignement. Il nous semble jusqu'à présent que nous ne courons pas le danger de voir fermer les écoles de jeunes filles et qu'on ne paraît pas disposé à établir aucune distinction entre les filles et les garçons pour l'admission aux écoles quelconques (excepté les lycées féminins), ni en ce qui concerne la formation de classes mixtes. Au contraire, dans la seule école où jusque maintenant les sexes étaient séparés, la "magistrali," les filles et les garçons seront désormais admis; mais il n'est pas dit que d'autres mesures ne seront pas prises.

Mauvaise nouvelle pour les féministes: les femmes seront maintenant exclues de la direction des écoles secondaires (media) qui ont été ouvertes jusqu'ici à tous les membres de l'enseignement.

CONGRÈS FÉMINISTES. — A la fin d'octobre, un congrès contre la traite des blanches se tiendra à Milan (l'association locale n'a pas encore voulu renoncer au mot blanches). Ce congrès avait été annoncé pour novembre 1914; il aura lieu maintenant avec le même programme. Au commencement de novembre, l'assemblée biennale de la Fédération pour le suffrage des femmes se réunira à Milan probablement, et, à cette occasion, aura lieu aussi à Milan un congrès des sociétés féminines pour étudier les rapports envoyés par ces diverses sociétés et pour préparer un programme de travail commun.

Signé: M. ANCONA.

Par une erreur de la rédaction dans le numéro d'août, un paragraphe fut ajouté au commencement de l'article du Dr. Troise, qui aurait dû commencer: "La Via Crucis des Italiennes."

Le paragraphe précédent fut pris d'un article de journal et n'est pas correct.

La rédaction s'excuse auprès du Dr. Troise et de la Fédération italienne pour cette erreur.

Officers of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, elected at the Ninth Congress, Rome, May 12—19, 1923.

President : MRS. CORBETT ASHBY, 33, Upper Richmond Road, London, S.W. 15, England.

Hon. President : MRS. CHAPMAN CATT, 404, Riverside Drive, New York, U.S.A.

First Vice-President : MME. DE WITT SCHLUMBERGER, 14, Rue Pierre de Serbie, Paris, France.

Second Vice-President : FRAU A. LINDEMANN, Köln, Marienburg, Wolfgang Mullerstr., 20, Germany.

Third Vice-President : DR. M. ANCONA, 8, Via Morigi, Milano 8, Italy.

Fourth Vice-President : MRS. GIFFORD PINCHOT, Executive Mansion Harrisburg, Pa., U.S.A.

Corresponding Secretary : MISS E. GOURD, Pregny, Geneva, Switzerland.

Recording Secretary : MME. THEODOROPOULOS, Rue Deligeorgi 11a, Athens, Greece.

Treasurer : MISS FRANCES STERLING, Homewood, Hartfield, Sussex.

Committee : FRAU SCHREIBER-KRIEGER, Ahornalle 50, Charlottenburg, Berlin, Germany; FRAU JULIE ARENHOLT, St. Kongensgade 23, Copenhagen K., Denmark; DR. PAULINA LUISI, rue Paraguay 1286, Montevideo, Uruguay, South America.

AFFILIATED COUNTRIES :—Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Czecho-Slovakia, China, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain and British Dominions Overseas—viz., Australia, Canada, Ireland, India, Jamaica, Newfoundland, New Zealand, South Africa—Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Palestine, Poland, Portugal, Roumania, Russia, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United States of America, Uruguay.

By-law of the I.W.S.A. Constitution.

"The International Woman Suffrage Alliance, by mutual consent of its auxiliaries, stands pledged to preserve absolute neutrality on all questions that are strictly national."

Headquarters and EDITORIAL OFFICES of the I.W.S. NEWS: 11, ADAM STREET, ADELPHI, LONDON, W.C. Telegrams: "Vocorajto." Telephone: Regent 4255.

**INTERNATIONAL FRANCHISE CLUB, LTD.,
FOR MEN AND WOMEN.**

President - The Right Hon. THE EARL OF LYTTON.

9, Grafton Street, Piccadilly, W. 1.
Telephone: 3932 Mayfair.

Subscriptions: London Members, £3. 3s., Country Members, £1. 5s., Irish, Scottish, and Foreign Members, 10s. 6d. per annum.
No Entrance Fee will be Charged from July 31st to December 31st.

LECTURES.

Wed., Nov. 7th, "Shakespearean Recital." Miss GRACE BUMPSTEED.
8.15 p.m.
Wed., Nov. 14th, "Old English Music." Sir RICHARD TERRY, Mus. Doc.
8.15 p.m.
Wed., Nov. 21st, "The Permanent Court of International Justice." Mr.
8.15 p.m. HUGH H. L. BELLOT, M.A., D.C.L. Chairman: Miss
CRYSTAL MACMILLAN.
Wed., Nov. 28th, "Some Aspects of China." Mrs. STAN HARDING. Chairman:
8.15 p.m.
Wed., Dec. 5th, "Medicine and Faith Healing." Miss LETITIA FAIRFIELD,
8.15 p.m. C.B.E., M.D., D.P.H. Chairman: The Rev. FRANCIS A. P.
AVELING, D.D., D.Sc.

LUNCHEONS, TEAS AND DINNERS. Full particulars, Secretary.

EVERY FRIDAY. ONE PENNY.

THE VOTE

THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE PAPER.

144, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C. 1.

THE WOMAN'S YEAR BOOK, 1923-24.

A Handbook for all women interested in Public Work, political, social or educational. International section with Summary of Laws affecting Women and Children in all countries.

Ready November 10th. Price 5/-.
Compiled by and to be obtained from
The National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship,
15, Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

GREEN, WHITE and GOLD FAIR

AT CENTRAL HALL, WESTMINSTER,

ON
FRIDAY & SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23 & 24, 3 to 9 p.m.

Opens:

Friday, THE LADY AMHERST OF HACKNEY,
Saturday, MISS LILIAN BARKER, C.B.E.

ENTERTAINMENTS, CONCERTS, PHRENOLOGY, ETC.
A large number of other Societies taking Stalls.

Come and buy YOUR Christmas presents at our "Fair."

Tickets (including tax) 2/6 (first day until 5 p.m.).
After 5 p.m. and on the second day, 1/3, from
144, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C. 1.

Refreshments at moderate prices.

**THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE,
144, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C. 1.**

**PUBLIC MEETING, MINERVA CLUB, Brunswick
Square, W.C. 1.**

Friday, November 2nd, at 8.15.
Subject, "The Unemployment of Women."
ADMISSION FREE.

**AT HOME, MINERVA CLUB, Brunswick
Square, W.C. 1.**

(Corner of Coram and Hunter Streets).
TEA at 3.30 p.m. SPEECHES at 4 p.m.
Thursday, November 8. Speaker, THE VISCOUNTESSE RHONDA,
who will open a discussion on the "Domestic Service Enquiry."
Chairman, Miss ELISE MORSON, M.B.E.

THE CATHOLIC CITIZEN

(Organ of the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society).

PUBLISHED ON THE 15th OF EACH MONTH.

PRICE 2d. (Annual Subscription, post free. 3s.)

**CATHOLIC WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY,
55, BERNERS STREET, LONDON, W. 1.**

All communications respecting advertisements in the I.W.S. NEWS to be addressed to—

The Advertising Manager, Miss F. L. FULLER, 99, New Bond Street, London, W. 1. Telephone: 2421 MAY FAIR.

Printed by WILLIAMS, LEA & Co., LTD., Clifton House, Worship Street, London, E.C. 2.

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

Published by the World's Young Women's Christian Association
34, Baker Street, London, W. 1.

President - THE HON. MRS. WALDEGRAVE.

General Secretary - MISS CHARLOTTE T. NIVEN.

Vice-Presidents:

MADAME A. BERTRAND.
MISS MICHÉ KAWAL.
FROKE SIGRID NETZEL.
LADY PROCTER.

MISS PICTON-TURBERVILLE.
THE HON. E. KINNAIRD.
THE LADY PARMOUR.
MRS. JAMES A. WEBB, JNR.

Treasurer

THE COUNTESS OF PORTSMOUTH.

**MODERN TRENDS IN THE
ASSOCIATION.***

IN common with other institutions and movements, the Association needs to be considered to-day in the light of its past and of its future. This is to all of us a familiar idea, for we are accustomed to outlines of history: "The Mind in the Making," "The Story of Mankind," and many other books which set forth trends and tendencies in politics, in economics, and in life itself.

We need also to consider the Association as an organization played upon and conditioned by the characteristics of the age in which we live. Many of its defects, many of its virtues are the same as those of other groups in our complex society. It is not strange that this is so, when it is people like ourselves who make it up, as we do every other organized group.

If we face the Association in the light of its past, its future and its present, we can see certain definite trends in Association work. It is evident that the Association is striving to be in practice what it already is in theory—a voluntary organization and not a welfare movement. It has always been of interest that nearly sixty years ago, in Boston, those women in organizing the Association organized a movement made up of a membership. They did not organize an institution in which one group of women did good to another group of less privileged women and girls. They could easily in those days have organized a welfare organization, and it would have been much in keeping with the other organizations of that day, but they chose wisely to make us what we now are, a great group of women and girls working together toward a common end. We notice this in the development of the Industrial Department, where we have industrial girls planning their own programme, their own activities and their own work of every kind. As we face this opportunity for self-expression of different groups in the Association, we must realize that of necessity it brings conflict, that there are different points of view as to the purpose of the organization and as to programmes. We can, however, comfort ourselves with the thought that the best modern psychologists say that the only true progress comes through conflict.

We see many different points of view, and different emphases in our own organization. Take, for instance, the girl of seventeen, of foreign parentage, who works in a factory. If we talk about her to a representative of the Girl Reserve Department, we are told that the most important thing about her is that she is adolescent, and that that is to be considered first. If we talk about her to a member of the Industrial Department, we are told

that the most important thing about her is that she is in industry and takes active part in the industrial and economic world, and if that is taken care of the other problems of her life will fit into place. Again, if we talk about her with a member of the Department for Work with Foreign-Born Women, we are told that the most important thing is that she has a foreign background, and that while she may speak English she does not think English, consequently that must first be considered. The real truth is that unless we take into consideration all these different sides of a girl's life it is very difficult for us to help her plan her place in this active, busy world.

Another very evident tendency in the Association is that we are becoming more exact, more accurate, in fact we might almost say more scientific in our work. There was a time when there were few organizations, and it was not necessary to do anything well in order to be recognized as having a claim to a special field. Now there are many organizations, particularly in our larger cities, and we in the Association combine many fields of effort, and in each we need to compare favourably with other organizations which specialize in that one field alone. That is, our Girl Reserve movement needs to compare with other adolescent movements. Our International Institute work needs to compare with other work for Americanization in the community. Our educational work needs to compare favourably with the educational work of educational institutions, and so on. The Association really becomes a sort of federation of groups which come together as an "association" in the real sense, in its administration and in its leadership.

The programme of the Association shows many modern trends. It seems less sporadic, less opportunist than it used to be. We are building into it more of psychology, more of a definite philosophy of life, all towards character building. The educational work of the Association is no longer divided into compartments. It faces wholeness of life for each individual, remembering that a girl is not a Christian on Sunday, a stenographer on Monday, a sister on Tuesday, a homemaker on Wednesday, and so on through the week, but is all of those things every day of her life, and that unless at all times we are considering her a complete individual, we lose our opportunity to be of service. In the health education realm our emphasis is on positive health. To-day we consider health to be the normal condition of every individual, and there is a responsibility on each individual for being well in order to give her best to the community.

The administration of the Association shows the influence of the age in which we live, for it is in the process of the administration of the work that we find out whether or not this democracy of which we speak really comes true. It is now customary in nearly all Associations to vote by ballot over a period of an entire day for the Board of Directors, thus making it possible

*Abridged from an article by Miss Mary S. Sims, in the "Woman's Press," published in New York, October, 1923. Miss Sims' remarks apply especially to the American Y.W.C.A.

for every one who desires to vote to have an opportunity. Other Associations are balloting by mail, as this makes it even easier for the electors to express their preferences. Often, Nominating Committees are being elected by the membership instead of appointed by the board. The standing committees of the Association are far more representative in character than they used to be.

Many Associations are having regular meetings of the membership, where there is an opportunity to talk over Association plans and politics. Some have a meeting in the spring and another in the autumn in addition to the annual meeting which comes usually in January. At the meeting in the autumn the budget of the Association is usually presented, that it may be discussed and approved by the membership.

The leadership of the Association is also changing. To begin with, we are using that word in a much wider and more inclusive sense to mean the outstanding club members as well as the board and committee members and employed officers. The leadership is more varied also than it used to be. Many different kinds of women and girls are assuming positions of responsibility in the Association. The more specialized character of the programme has attracted many women interested in these specialized lines. Women physicians are appealed to by the health education programme and are willing to serve on that department. Employment managers are often interested in the Employment Bureau of the Association or in its vocational work.

The leadership of the Association is to-day on the whole a thinking leadership. It is far less likely to be led by one woman than was the case several years ago.

There is a greater conception of group work and of the necessary processes for making group decisions, and more realization of the fact that the wisdom of any one person is not very great; that there are complex and different problems to-day upon which we must have the best thinking of everyone. One of the most interesting leadership questions in the Association is the relation between the volunteer and employed leadership. This is a co-operative responsibility. It needs much careful thinking. We are long past the point where the president accedes to everything planned by the staff or where the general secretary and other members of the staff are willing to be merely the errand girls of the board.

There is also a distinct tendency toward variation in the Association and away from standardization. Plans take very different forms in local communities, because execution is conditioned by many things, factors that were less limiting a few years ago, partly because they were not so evident in the community life and partly because the Association itself did not consider itself so much a part of the community as it now does. We recognize now as we did not in the past the necessity for fitting into the community. As far as the programme is concerned, we march with the community and not with a hypothetical well-rounded model.

There is an opportunity to-day for much originality and ingenuity in the Association programme. We are a flexible organization trying to adapt ourselves to many different conditions. If we remember that the really permanent things in our organization are the purpose and the fact that we are a Christian fellowship of women, it is easy to see why our expression of that purpose and of that fellowship would differ so widely in different places and be more effective thereby. Here should be mentioned one of the oldest principles in the Association. That is the principle that work we have started, if it can be effectively done or better done by some other organization, is gladly passed over to it, as we have at different times passed over Travellers' Aid work, parts of an educational programme, some of the work with business women and many other parts of the Association programme.

There seems to be also a greater recognition on the part of the Association of the need for a specialized approach to certain groups in the community. The International Institute really pioneered in this matter, though the idea has been taken up by other groups, such as the industrial service centres, the occasional Girl

Reserve centres, and the development of branches for coloured women and girls in the coloured communities of our cities.

There are certain principles which characterize the Association. One of these is an interest in all kinds of women and girls regardless of age, or race or creed. Another is the fact that we are a voluntary organization, that is, we are an outgrowth of the desires and the needs of the women and the girls of a community. We are a membership. We are an organization with a Christian basis growing out of church groups and finding there Christian leadership. It is not easy to find any one thing which would prove true of all Associations; the common ground on which we all meet in any part of the country, in any kind of a city, is the common ground that we are seeking to find the Christian way of life. Within these general principles there are great opportunities for freedom of development. There is little desire for standardization or comparison of one group with another.

We need to remember that it is contrary to the very genius of the Association that we should all be like-minded. It is the deliberate purpose of the Association to bring people of different points of view and different experiences together. In other words, it is our purpose to "associate." Naturally under these circumstances every one does not at all times agree; it would be impossible. As we follow out our lines of work, it often seems that perhaps we agree only in our search for the Christian way of life. This is the crucial point for the whole Association, with its many ramifications and manifestations in the community.

There is much that is disintegrating in life to-day, but we are held together as an organization by our common desire to become increasingly a Christian Woman Movement which is national and international in character. The Young Women's Christian Association is built on the philosophy of the "togetherness" of all the different kinds of women and girls in a community and the necessity for their coming to know and appreciate each other, and on the possibility of their working together for the common end—that of making come true Christian ideals of life. We believe that to hold true to this philosophy is worth the price of pulling together.

COMFORT AT MID-DAY FOR SINGAPORE'S GIRLS.

THE Singapore Association has been able to extend its work by providing (on land lent by the Government) a lunch and rest-room for the increasing number of women and girls working in the offices, shops and business houses of the city. It will no longer be necessary for them to waste strength going back through the tropical mid-day heat to their homes, "Home," or a good imitation of it, has come down into the business section. Other women who will benefit by the Y.W.C.A.'s enterprise are women shoppers from the outskirts, or from up country and women sightseers from the many boats that call at Singapore.

LIVING INTERNATIONALLY FOR SEVEN DAYS.

FOR one week in each year, beginning on the second Sunday in November, Y.W.C.A. members throughout the world think of their necessities and interests only as part of the needs and possibilities of other girls and women, without respect of class, race, or creed. Each day their thoughts and prayers go to a different part of the world, and this Week of World Friendship and Prayer typifies and sums up the spirit of Christian fellowship and service which is the strength of the Association.

DIE BLAUE DREIECK-MÄDEL VON PORTUGAL.

DIE blauen Dreieckmädel! „Was ist das für ein merkwürdiger Name!“ So höre ich manche ausrufen. Freilich ist es ein komisch klingender Name, namentlich in deutscher Übersetzung. Portugiesisch klingt es schon ganz anders, hat sogar etwas sehr melodisches und anmutendes an sich: „Jovens do Triangulo Azul“, dabei kann man sich doch schon mancherlei denken, von blauem Himmel, von Sonnenschein, von einem fernen Lande und einem seltsamen Volk!

Eigentlich aber sind die blauen Dreieckmädel gar nichts anders als die Jugendabteilung des Christlichen Vereins Junger Mädchen in Portugal. Es sind die Mädchen zwischen zehn und achtzehn Jahren, die noch nicht alt genug sind, um volle Mitglieder ihres Vereins zu sein, die ihm aber doch schon in dieser Jugendabteilung angeschlossen sind. Und mit dem blauen Dreieck hat es auch gar keine so absonderliche Bewandnis. Es ist das Abzeichen, das in vielen Vereinen der Welt als Symbol dessen gewählt worden ist, was die jungen Mädchen mit Hilfe ihres Vereins werden wollen, nämlich harmonische Menschen, die ihren Körper, Verstand und Geist gleichmässig zu entwickeln trachten, um dadurch ihren Platz in der Welt im Dienste Gottes und der Menschen besser ausfüllen zu können. Das Dreieck mit seinen drei gleichen Seiten verkörpert dieses Ideal. Es gibt noch nicht viele blauen Dreieckmädel in Portugal.

In Lissabon gibt es zwei Kompagnien blauer Dreieckmädel. Jede Kompagnie kann aus einer unbegrenzten Anzahl von Gruppen zu je zehn Mädchen bestehen, die unter ihrer Gruppenleiterin und deren Gehülfen stehen. Die erste Kompagnie Lissabons hat fürs erste nur zwei Gruppen, und die zweite Kompagnie nur eine Gruppe. Sowohl Gruppenleiterin als Gehülfen können ganz jung sein; die Leiterin muss zwar über achtzehn Jahre sein, die Gehülfen aber braucht nicht mehr als fünfzehn Jahre zu zählen. Damit diese jungen Mädchen aber doch jemanden haben, der ihnen mit Rat und Tat beistehen kann wenn mal Not am Mann ist, so hat jede Kompagnie ihre Beraterin, an die man sich als an eine ältere Freundin bei jeder Gelegenheit wenden kann. Es ist keine Kleinigkeit Beraterin einer Kompagnie zu sein, und eine grosse Ehre dazu!

Einmal in der Woche und sonst noch manchmal zu besonderen Gelegenheiten kommen nun die Lissaboner blauen Dreieckmädel zusammen, jede Gruppe für sich, und was sie tun ist alles daraufhin gerichtet dem Ziel, das sie sich gesteckt haben, näher zu kommen. Es gilt also Körper, Geist und Verstand zu kräftigen, mit dem alles tragenden Gedanken damit andern dienen zu können. Die erste Stunde unseres Zusammenseins während des März und April verbrachten wir mit Nähen. Das will aber gar nicht sagen, dass nun Jahr aus Jahr ein immer genäht werden muss. Nein, aber das Nähen ist eins der praktischen Dinge, die jedes Mädchen gut können muss. Während das Nähen oft nur als Geschicklichkeitsübung gepflegt wird, um die verschiedenen Näharten zu lernen, wird auch manchmal für einen besonderen Zweck genäht. Dies mal war es der Fall. Wir hatten vor kurzen einen Brief von einer in der portugiesischen Kolonie Angola stationierten bekannten Missionarin, die im vorigen Jahr im Verein geholfen hatte erhalten, die über den Mangel an Nähmaterial in ihrer Nähstube für die schwarzen Mädchen berichtete, und so arbeiteten nun die Mädchen an kleinen bunten Säcken, die als Arbeitsbeutel verwendet werden können, und mit allerhand von den Mädchen selbst gelieferten Nähmaterial gefüllt nach Afrika geschickt werden.

Es gibt vielerlei andere praktische Dinge, die in dieser ersten Stunde des Beisammenseins gelernt werden, wie Kochen, Plätten, Gärtnerei, erste Hilfe bei Unglücksfällen, Tischdecken, Bettmachen, und was es nicht alles an praktischen Dingen gibt. Hat man sich eine Zeit lang mit diesen Dingen abgegeben, so wird die erste Stunde zum Erlangen geistiger Kenntnisse verwandt, als da sind: Litteratur, Erdkunde, Naturkunde, Gesang

und so fort in endloser Reihe, gibt es doch immer wieder was Neues und interessantes zu lernen, um seinen Gesichtskreis zu erweitern.

Die nächste halbe Stunde verbrachten wir mit Turnübungen, und zwar mit solchen, die in besonderer Weise der Hygiene und der Kräftigung des Körpers dienen. Hier haben die portugiesischen Mädel viel zu lernen, denn in den Mädchenschulen wird noch wenig in dieser Hinsicht getan, und auch in der Familie wird in der Regel noch nicht viel auf Hygiene geachtet. Sie sind aber alle mit Feuereifer dabei, und werden dazu angehalten die Übungen täglich zu Hause zu wiederholen. Ihren Höhepunkt erreicht die Freude, wenn es ans Spielen geht. Sie sind mit Leidenschaft dabei, und es gibt ja auch wenige Dinge, die der Gesundheit so zuträglich sind, wie körperliche Bewegung, die Freude macht. Bewegungsspiele aller Art entwickeln die Geschicklichkeit und Aufmerksamkeit, und wir gaben solchen Spielen den Vorzug, in denen Gruppe gegen Gruppe spielt und dadurch in gesundem Wettstreit der Gruppeneifer gepflegt wird.

Endlich kommt ein kurzes, praktisches Bibelstudium, und da ist es hübsch die ersten und gesammelten Gesichter zu beobachten, die kurz zuvor noch so ausgelassen lustig waren. Die Gruppenleiterin bemüht sich die Mädchen zur lebhaften Teilnahme anzuregen, ist ja doch der Hauptzweck der ganzen Arbeit, sie zu einem lebendigen Christentum zu führen und sie auch in geistlicher Beziehung an selbständiges Denken zu gewöhnen.

Vor dem Auseinandergehen aber stellen sich alle Mädel auf das Kommandowort der Leiterin hin in Reih und Glied auf, um das grosse an der Wand hängende blaue Dreieck zu salutieren. Das tun blaue Dreieckmädel nämlich überall, wo es welche in der Welt gibt, denn das Dreieck bedeutet ja für sie das Ideal dem sie dienen, und ebenso wie der Soldat seine Flagge grüsst, um ihr Ehre zu beziehen weil sie das Symbol dessen ist dem er Treue geschworen hat, so tut es das blaue Dreieckmädel mit dem Dreieck. Auch untereinander grüssen sich die Mädel in derselben Weise, und zwar tun sie es indem sie die vier Finger der rechten Hand (der Daumen wird eingezogen) emporstrecken und damit die linke Seite ihrer Brust berühren, wo sie ihr Abzeichen tragen, ein in blauer Seide gesticktes Dreieck. Die vier emporgestreckten Finger bedeuten die vier Richtungen in denen sie das Ideal, das sie in der Brust tragen, ausleben wollen.

Auch eine Uniform tragen die blauen Dreieckmädel von Portugal, doch nicht gleich zu Anfang. Es ist nämlich eine Ehre die Uniform tragen zu dürfen, und die Mädel müssen zuerst gezeigt haben, dass sie sich wirklich herzlich bemühen die verschiedenen Versprechungen, die sie bei der feierlichen Aufnahme in die Kompagnie ablegen müssen, einzuhalten. Zu allerwenigst drei Monate dauert die Probezeit vom ersten Eintritt in die Gruppe bis sie volle Mitglieder sind. Nach dem ersten Monat dürfen sie das Abzeichen auf einer Armbinde tragen, und nach weiteren zwei Monaten, wenn sie sich bewährt haben, die Uniform, die in Portugal aus Rock und Bluse aus grauem Leinen und einer Kornblumen blauen Kravatte besteht. Das Abzeichen dürfen sie jetzt auf die linke Seite der Brust heften. Die blauen Dreieckmädel sind dem Wandern und dem Naturstudium ergeben, wo sich ihnen irgend die Möglichkeit bietet, und sind überhaupt sehr lustige Mädel. Am Ostersonnabend hatten wir ein prächtiges Eierfärbefest, und am Montag darauf sollten die Eier in einem grossen Garten versteckt und gesucht werden und allerlei Scherz dabei getrieben werden. Leider regnete es an diesem Tage so stark, dass nichts daraus wurde und wir statt dessen unsere Spässe im Zimmer vornehmen mussten, was auch sehr fein war

O. M.

NOTE.—Since this article was written Portugal sent two delegates to the Conference on Girls' Work held this summer by the World's Y.W.C.A., and in September a holiday home was opened which found favour with girls and women of different ages.

WHAT GREECE THINKS OF ITS MIGRATION BUREAU.

IN pioneer days the International Migration Bureaux often had to win their way to recognition in the community, but in Greece the needs of the refugees are so obvious and the means of the International Migration Service to meet them so adequate, that it has been easy to arouse the interest and enthusiasm of the people of Greece.

We give below a description of the work by a leading Greek woman journalist, which, unsolicited by us, was prepared for the magazine "Greece and her Women." At the same time a shorter article was written on the work to send to the League of Nations. This latter article passed through the hands of the editor of one of Athens' best daily papers, and he was so interested that he published it in his paper, and the following day it was read by most of the Athenian citizens.

Women's Activities in Athens.

"Since 60 per cent. of the refugees are women and girls over fourteen, the crowd of women refugees ought to have made our society busier, and should consequently be the subject of the press; but this does not happen, although the fact that the crowd of refugees are chiefly women makes the situation the heavier and the harder for them to bear. Happily, foreign and Greek women had the devotion and strength to search out some of the special phases with thoughtful eye and motherly love. The devotion of these women to the ideal of uplifting their sex has transformed them to real social workers and led them to specialize in the woman's questions to which they have devoted themselves.

So there have come and grown since March, 1923, almost at the same time, three most important human activities in our country with Athens as centre. First, the office of the International Migration Service; second, the Girls' International Home of the American Y.W.C.A.; third, the Pension of the International Women's Association. Of these three activities the first one attracts the most notice.

It has worked quietly in our society for six months. It has two offices, one in Piraeus (Philonos 88) and the other in Athens (Old Palace). The work of these offices consists in helping every woman or girl who is migrating from one country to another. It gives the travellers necessary information about the laws of the country to which they are migrating. It advises them to think carefully before they undertake the journey, to make sure that they have enough money for their expenses during the first days after arrival. It warns them of the moral dangers that lie ahead in connection with White Slave Traffic and from special and organized people who are waiting to take advantage of their ignorance. In this respect it is co-operating with the International Office of the Prevention of Traffic in Women and Children.

It undertakes to prepare passports and everything necessary, and specially guides to the boat unprotected girls who are intending to emigrate to some relative. When possible, they are put in the care of responsible people who are travelling, to ensure their safety during the journey. On their arrival at the far-distant port in the strange land, they are introduced to the Migration Secretary there, who takes care of them and sees that they reach their destination. She recommends to them cheap and safe lodgings for the night, helps them to find their relatives, or, if they have no relatives, introduces them to organizations of their own nationality and assists them to get work.

The devotion and patience shown by the directress and her helpers in all these tiring duties and in all that they do for the migrants, cannot be imagined. In our country as well as in Turkey, during the latter years the difficulty of getting a passport for an orphan girl or for a lonely illiterate woman is like a labyrinth with no end, from which they are only saved by the help of the International Migration Service.

The service of this organization does not help refugee women only, but all women who are leaving their native land. On account of the conditions which exist now, its activities in Greece have been mostly limited to the refugee area. Since the catastrophe in Smyrna, the Near East Relief undertook to look up relatives of refugees in America, Egypt and Europe, but all the care of the passports, tickets, travel arrangements of these destitute girls and women who were trying to join their relatives have been handled by the Migration Service.

The directress of the Migration Service here is Miss Alida Bigelow, a most highly educated and energetic lady. She, for instance, saw the necessity of having all the migration laws of Canada translated into different languages, as many Armenians were going to Canada. She has visited the Prefecture of Police and Detective Station, and asked their co-operation and help. She has also distributed little cards with the address of the Migration Bureau, which the police can give to unprotected travellers.

The Bureau in Athens has twenty to thirty cases daily. Miss Bigelow's right hand is Miss Theodore Isakadou, a young refugee lady from the Smyrna Y.W.C.A., who is full of altruism and devotion. Many of their cases have very touching stories, which are sufficient to prove the necessity and importance of the service which renders this international help to every migrant.

A girl here in Athens, all alone and ill, had lost her position as nurse. The International Migration Service, to which the girl applied, placed her in a hotel and cabled to her brother in Cairo, asking if he could have her to live with him. He replied in the affirmative, and the girl was informed of this by the I.M.S. But by that time she had only 400 drachmas, and this was not enough to buy the ticket. She spoke of a friendly family in Corinth who might help, and when the Secretary wrote, a reply was received that they would be delighted to help the girl, and sufficient money was sent to pay both her hotel bill and travelling expenses. Thus the unprotected and sick girl found safety with her brother.

A widow refugee with her daughter had fled to Patras. She had a son in America, whose address she had lost. The Migration Service cabled their office in New York to find the son. When the son learned of his mother's and sister's whereabouts, he said he would gladly receive them, but could not at that moment furnish them with the money for travelling expenses. The Service undertook to find someone to provide support and protection for the two women until the son found the necessary money to repay them. But in the meantime the mother, who was ill in Patras, died, and the Migration Bureau took charge of the daughter and finally sent her to her sole living relative, the brother in America.

All this work is being done systematically and quietly by women who are serving with unselfish strength, not only women of their own country, but of every country, every race, every religion, for the benefit of the community.

Before coming to Greece, Miss Bigelow had been sent to help in the International Migration Service of the Y.W.C.A. in Poland and Belgium. For two years she was general representative in all the ports of France, working under the World's Committee of the Y.W.C.A., whose headquarters are in London, a Committee which, moved with ideals for humanity, is dreaming of a friendly chain of service to link all women in the world to join their efforts in working for women.

Six months did not see the end of the migration problems in Greece, and at the end of the ninth month Miss Bigelow wrote:—

"The difficulty before me is how to stop a programme that is so much needed and so much appreciated. There are 200 active cases, and to-day's mail brings eight new cases from United States, one from Belgium, one from France, while eight new applicants for help have arrived at the Bureau—eighteen new cases in one day. How can we close the Bureau at the end of the year?"

Every effort is being made to continue this very necessary link in the chain of service for migrants.