

THE CATHOLIC CITIZEN

Organ of St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance (formerly Catholic Women's Suffrage Society).
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Daughter of the ancient Eve,
We know the gifts ye gave and give;
Who knows the gifts which *you* shall give,
Daughter of the Newer Eve?

Francis Thompson

The Education of Girls

By H. M. Green

The recently produced Crowther Report, an important educational document, has some pertinent things to say about education in general which have gained universal consent, but at the same time it incorporates in its suggestions, with regard to the education of girls, some deeply disturbing proposals. To those of us who have for so long worked for what we believe to be the right attitude to this question, both the Report and the correspondence it stimulated in the more responsible National Press reveal that there is still quite a lot of muddled thinking on the part of many people and even on the part of those who call themselves educationists.

The National Union of Women Teachers, vitally interested as it is in the education of girls, has always taken its stand on the rightness of demanding the widest educational opportunities for girls of every kind of ability. We may have thought that progress had been made—as indeed it has—until we read in the Crowther Report certain statements which would cause us to think that the reactionary forces were at work again to lead women back to that place from which the emancipation won by the remembered and unremembered pioneers of women's suffrage and education and the more humane benefits of science had led them—the kitchen sink.

The suggestion that the education of the less able girls should be influenced by the fact of their almost certain early marriage—this is a social phenomenon which has to be reckoned with—is, to say the least of it, very depressing. This feeling is in no way diminished by the realisation that the “back to the kitchen-sink” mentality is still with us as shown by statements such as “the majority (that is those not capable of a university education) do not love learning and only pine to be married as soon as they can escape from the typing-pool and the shop counter” and again, “Domestic service should once again be respected as a skilled trade and a university education as a privilege”—both these statements occurred in a

letter written to *The Times* on this question. Helping as I do to educate girls of a wide range of mental ability I can state quite sincerely that I should consider we had hopelessly failed in our task of education if this first statement were true. If the bias of a girl's education were towards preparation for home-life and marriage this would seem to be extremely narrow and would limit her development as a complete personality capable of making a full contribution to the life of the community. Our community needs more women of initiative, of ability to think for themselves and capable of making mature judgements, not fewer. If more time is to be given over in the girls' school curriculum to preparation for the domestic arts, this must be done at the expense of those other aspects of education which will fit our girls to be the responsible, thinking citizens of the future. One admires the grammar school headmistress who recently, in her speech day report, asserted that she did not believe in giving girls “a watered-down version of boys' education” and that “there should be no question of flower-arrangement replacing physics as a school subject.” This is not to decry cookery, housecraft, needlecraft and the domestic arts—any labour well-done has its own particular worth and dignity—but these things of themselves are not enough.

Recently I saw girls at one of the very large factories in the industrial Midlands working on machines in the Apprentices' Training School, training to be engineers. In every respect they were pursuing the same course of training as the boys and were succeeding in it and enjoying it equally with them. To have prevented these girls from qualifying for entry into such a training would have been to deny them a fundamental human right, the right to be educated as a complete person—not only as a potential wife and mother.

From this it follows that there is a much greater need for provision for girls in the sphere

of technical education, that is to say, in its true sense for alas, all too often even when this provision is made it is interpreted as emphasis on domestic arts, needlecraft and commercial subjects. The newer technical colleges—of which the Birmingham Technical College is one—are welcoming girl students and in order that women can be prepared for the higher branches of the retail trades, engineering and industry generally they must be given the opportunity in technical schools to qualify for entry to the colleges. Industry, too, must play its part in making provision to receive girls into the training schools of its factories and in giving them equal opportunities for advancement with men. Parents must also encourage their daughters to make use of the widening opportunities where they are offered.

If those who advocate that there should be a type of education specially adapted to the supposed needs of girls (and they always seem to suppose that these are largely domestic) were to get their way the whole fabric of higher education for women would be endangered. While agreeing with the suggestion in the chapter on "Sixth Forms with a Difference" in the Crowther Report that there should be a width of course which will be truly educational in order to avoid the dangers of a narrow and too early specialisation, it would be fatal to the cause of women's education if this were confined to women alone. It is unthinkable that the universities would adapt their entrance demands to the "special needs" of women. Women must compete for university entrance and for the professions on the same terms as men and so any proposals to make this impossible would be unacceptable to anyone who believes in the higher education of women.

In the correspondence which has already been quoted here one writer above all seemed to get to the heart of the matter when she said that, "Surely the purpose of educating either a boy or a girl is to train the mind, to encourage an intelligent interest in ideas, to be observant, and so to pave the way towards the lifelong process of self-education." If these ideals of education are applied as the writer suggests, to girls as well as to boys, then their future success in whatever sphere they find themselves will be assured.

DOUGLAS, ISLE OF MAN

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STATUS OF WOMEN COMMISSION

Members of the Women's Advisory Council of the United Nations Association were invited to a meeting organised by the Status of Women Working Group of SCESWUN and held by the kindness of Dame Irene Ward, M.P. and Mrs. Joyce Butler, M.P. at the House of Commons on March 22nd. The object was to discuss the Agenda of the 14th Session of the Status of Women Commission with Miss Tomlinson, the United Kingdom delegate.

Miss Bowie, in the chair, took the meeting through the agenda. Three set speeches were made. Mrs. Greenwood (Federation of Business and Professional Women) spoke on the Convention on the Political Rights of Women and of the forthcoming seminar to be held in this country on the political rights of women in the territories under British Administration. Two points of particular interest to the Alliance were dealt with by Miss Barry, on behalf of St. Joan's Alliance, and Miss Chave Collisson of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene. Miss Barry gave a brief history of the efforts made at the United Nations to raise the age of marriage. She asked the United Kingdom delegate to support a convention, as being a binding instrument; to press for the adoption of a minimum age of marriage of sixteen years for both sexes and to oppose any dispensation for either party under the age of fourteen. She made it clear that freedom of consent of both parties is fundamental and stressed the importance of the registration of marriages.

Miss Chave Collisson gave an account of the attempts to deal with the question of Ritual Mutilations and begged that the matter be pursued at the Commission. She saw a gleam of hope in the statement of Dr. Candau, Director-General of the World Health Organisation, to the effect that "there was a growing conviction that the W.H.O. could not only cope with the tasks for which it had been created, but could also successfully attack some of the problems which have emerged recently and which will have a definite bearing on the social and economic evolution of our fast changing world."

Before the meeting closed, Madame Radhia Hadad, the only woman Member of Parliament in Tunisia and a visitor to the meeting, gave an account of the present position of women in her country—polygamy had been abolished and women had equal political rights and equal pay.

The chairman wished Miss Tomlinson a happy and successful work at the Commission in Buenos Aires. In reply, Miss Tomlinson expressed her appreciation of the opportunity of discussion with representatives of women's organisations, which, she said, would strengthen her hands in the work before her.

Notes and Comments

ST. JOAN'S INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

Treves, June 11th and 12th

Dr. Luise Bardenhewer, president of the German Section of the Alliance, writes that the municipal authorities will be very pleased to welcome us to Trier and have been most helpful. The meetings will be held in the **Simeonstift**, the chapterhouse of St. Simeon. The agenda for the Council Meeting will be sent to delegates shortly.

Meantime our kind hostesses have made arrangements for the comfort and entertainment of delegates.

On Friday evening, June 10th, there will be an informal meeting of delegates and supper at the **Steipe**, an old house in the market place.

Saturday. There will be Holy Mass at 8 a.m. for the Alliance, followed by all-day Conference (with breaks). In the evening, there will be a **Weinprobe** in the Simeonstift by kind invitation of the **Oberbürgermeister**.

Sunday. Holy Mass. Followed by Conference. After lunch, if time permits, sightseeing tour of the town. In the evening, reception in the home of our member Dr. Gautenberg.

Monday. An interesting excursion has been planned.

Dr. Bardenhewer has secured accommodation for us at Treves at prices 10 marks, 7 marks or 5.50 per night plus 2 or 2.50 marks for breakfast.

Members who wish to attend the Council Meeting are asked to notify the Hon. Secretary, St. Joan's International Alliance, 8b Dryden Chambers, 119 Oxford Street, London, W.1, as soon as possible.

The International Abolitionist Federation will hold its twenty-first Congress on "Certain Present-day Problems of Prostitution" at St. Catherine's College, Cambridge, by courtesy of the Master and Fellows, from September 27th to 30th.

There will be discussion groups on the criminal law in regard to the exploitation of the prostitution of others; methods of forming public opinion; rehabilitation of the victims of prostitution.

There will be a congress fee of £2 10s. 0d. Delegates will be accommodated at St. Catherine's College at 35s. per day. Further particulars may be obtained from The Association for Moral and Social Hygiene, 129 Kennington Road, S.E.11.

Miss Catalina Maxwell will represent St. Joan's International Alliance at the Status of Women Commission in Buenos Aires this month.

The Offices Bill received an unopposed Third Reading on April 1st. An amendment moved on the report stage by Mr. John Harvey enables the Home Secretary to make regulations for restricting the employment of women in offices after childbirth. Further particulars will be given in our next issue.

On behalf of all the women Members of Parliament, the Hon. Mrs. Emmet and Mrs. Joyce Butler, together with representatives of the British Federation of University Women, interviewed Sir Edward Boyle, Financial Secretary to the Treasury on March 31st. They asked that married women should be allowed to have their earned incomes separately assessed from their husbands' income. Many professional women are anxious to return to work after the birth of their children, but because of the joint assessment, their earnings would frequently bring the family income into the range of super-tax. This discouraged many women from returning to work and the country lost valuable professional skill. The deputation asked that something be done about this in the Budget but the Chancellor of the Exchequer remains unconverted.

To encourage married women to return to teaching, the Ministry of Education announces that it will treat part-time (if at least half-time) as full-time qualifying service for superannuation purposes.

Married women who leave the L.C.C.'s service are to be kept informed at about five-year intervals of facilities for re-employment and the Council's refresher courses.

The Fabian Society, which was founded in 1884, has recently appointed its first woman general secretary, Mrs. Shirley Williams. Mrs. Williams, a member of our Executive Committee, contested Southampton (Test) at the General Election as Labour candidate.

HON. TREASURER'S NOTE

Many thanks to all the members who gave so generously to the appeal for the Rent Fund at the Annual General Meeting. If you were unable to be present will you please give something so that the onus does not always fall on the same people. All amounts, large or small, will be gratefully acknowledged. We have recently lost several loyal members so we have the greater need to call on your generosity. If only we could do without money, the Treasurer's lot would be a happy one—as it is, she has to find the RENT!!

Noreen K. Carr

ST. JOAN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ALLIANCE

AND

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Signed articles do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Society

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Forty-Ninth Annual Meeting

The Forty-Ninth Annual Meeting of St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance was held on March 19th at 27 Wilfred Street, Westminster, Mrs. Shattock, M.D., D.P.M., presiding.

Dr. Shattock opened the meeting by paying tribute to Dame Vera Laughton Mathews who for so many years had been an inspiring presence at our annual meetings and whose absence was so keenly felt by all. A Hail Mary was said for the repose of her soul.

The minutes of the last Annual Meeting were read and signed.

Miss Clarke then read the Annual Report, which was followed by the Report of *The Catholic Citizen* presented by the editor, Miss Spender. She told the meeting that subscribers were steadily increasing and reminded us what a triumph it was that the paper had existed for forty-five years, surviving two world wars and the greatly increased costs of printing in recent years. She was sorry to have to announce that Mrs. Halpern, owing to increased work, was unable to continue "The Month in Parliament," a valuable contribution which she had made so alive and interesting. She was glad to say that Miss Cheke had agreed to succeed her.

Dr. Shattock then called on Miss Nancy Parnell to move the adoption of the report, telling us that Miss Parnell was a former member of the Committee and a very old member of the Alliance, having attended meetings as a small child, with her mother. Miss Parnell prefaced her remarks by recalling the debt the Society owes to its helpers and officers for their devoted service, and linked the memory of Dame Vera, still so fresh in our minds, with that of her aunt Leonora de Alberti, first editor of *The Catholic Citizen*, who

left us twenty-six years ago; and of Gabrielle Jeffery, our founder, whose anniversary it was that very day. She said that if the Report seemed to show lack of success in the political field, in that the Street Offences Bill had become law, and that hereditary peeresses were still debarred from the House of Lords, yet there was great value in this work as a means of education and publicity. She went on to say that though the situation dealt with in the Street Offences Act might seem to most Catholics to be very remote from their lives, this was not really so. The refusal of the Government to admit the hereditary peeresses to the House of Lords, while creating women life peers, highlighted the illogicality of its actions. These two instances were glaring examples of the way the Government acted towards women—not on principle, but in an arbitrary manner, showing that our objectives—based on justice—still needed striving after. But she felt, using Mr. Macmillan's words in another connection, "that the winds of change were blowing" in our favour. Switzerland for instance was at last granting women some political rights. She then suggested how members as individuals might help the change. There was a new and important field in television and broadcasting, and the sending in of questions about matters important in our programme to the various question hours could be of immense value.

Mrs. Morgan, whom we knew in former years as Margaret Whittles, seconded the adoption of the Report. As she has returned from a five years' residence in Malta she was able to give first-hand information. Though women had the vote, they were still kept too much in the background, but the younger clergy were encouraging them to play a larger part in public life.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED AT THE FORTY-NINTH ANNUAL MEETING

19th MARCH, 1960

1. Status of Women Commission

St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance calls upon the Government to instruct its delegates to the Fourteenth Session of the Status of Women Commission to urge the adoption of:—

- a **Convention**, on the age of marriage, consent to marriage, and registration of marriages;
- to urge that in Article I of the proposed Draft Convention the minimum age of marriage for boys and girls be sixteen.

2. House of Lords

St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance expresses appreciation of the action of the Marquess of Reading in securing the passing of a motion to enable hereditary peeresses to sit and vote in the House of Lords. The Alliance regrets that owing to the opposition of the Government hereditary peeresses continue to be excluded from the House of Lords.

3. Street Offences Act

St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance deplors the passing into law of the Street Offences Bill and the fact that it was forced through Parliament, by the Government, despite amendments expressing strong opposition from all sides in both Houses of Parliament. In particular, the Alliance protests against Clause 1(1) which, by retaining the term "common prostitute", discriminates against one class of citizen and violates the principle that the law should apply equally to all citizens, both men and women; and Clause 1(3), which places excessive power in the hands of the police. The Alliance will not be satisfied until this unjust measure is repealed and replaced by a measure based on an equal moral standard.

4. Indecency with Children Bill

St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance welcomes the Government's Indecency with Children Bill and trusts that it will have a speedy passage into law.

5. Domicile

St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance calls upon the Government to introduce a Bill giving the married woman a right to her own domicile.

6. Equal Guardianship of Infants

St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance calls upon the Government to introduce and pass into law a Bill giving both parents equal rights of guardianship over their children.

7. Equal Pay

St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance deplors the exclusion of women in the industrial grades of the Civil Service from the operation of the official scheme for equal pay and calls upon the Government to remedy this injustice.

8. Taxation

St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance calls for the separate taxation of married persons and the removal of all sex discrimination in taxation.

9. Education

St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance demands full equality for Catholic schools in the national scheme for education. The Alliance believes that education should be directed towards the full development of the individual as a human being; it therefore deplors the many suggestions in the Press and elsewhere that the education of girls should be directed towards their preparation for marriage and motherhood. The Alliance further urges that in all schemes of education and in the allocation of scholarships, equal opportunity be made available to boys and girls, both in this country and in all territories under British administration.

As the cause of African women is so dear to St. Joan's, it was gratifying to have Miss M. S. Abakah from Ghana, a young lawyer, to speak to the Report. Her comments showed how a young fresh mind fastened on the points we are so familiar with—that there is discrimination against women in jobs that are open to men and women; that nothing can be gained without constant reiterated effort. She made us feel that Ghana is a State where many women are stirring in political and social life.

The adoption of the Report was carried unanimously.

The Hon. Treasurer, Miss Carr, presented the Financial Report, and appealed for funds, as eloquently and vigorously as always. Leap year meant different things to different people, but to her it meant extra days to find money for the office. She reckoned that it needed £2 a day to cover office expenses. She asked everyone present to be generous in the hope that there would be a sufficient sum to enable her to go into the office in future and write the cheques asked for without having to ask first her invariable question, "Have we any money in the bank?" The result of the appeal was a sum of £50.

Dr. Shattock, in her address from the chair, wished to underline some points already made. She referred to the hard work that had been done by means of correspondence and meetings with M.P.s over the Street Offences Bill.

The appointment of a woman as a proctor at Oxford and as a member of the Court of Discipline at Cambridge, led her to hope that this example might cause some move to be made towards the opening of the chaplaincy at Cambridge to the women students. There was still serious work to be done, she added. The Alliance was actively engaged in work for a Convention on the minimum age of marriage and in continued efforts to bring about the abolition of ritual mutilations.

The chairman put the resolutions to the meeting and they were passed unanimously. The text of these will be found in the adjoining column.

To conclude, Miss W. M. Price paid a moving tribute to Dame Vera and spoke of the proposed memorial to her. There had already been a letter in the National Press from the Association of Wrens and St. Joan's was working in co-operation with them. Details of the memorial would be given later in *The Catholic Citizen*, when a definite appeal would be made. Miss Price hoped for a generous response and said that since she was taking charge of the fund for St. Joan's, donations should be sent to the office addressed to her.

The meeting being thus ended, members were refreshed by a delicious tea prepared by Miss Carr and her helpers.

Mary Jackson

THE MONTH IN PARLIAMENT

Two Bills of particular interest to St. Joan's Alliance received their Second Reading on March 23rd, the Matrimonial Proceedings (Magistrates' Courts) Bill and the Indecency with Children Bill.

Mr. Denis Vosper, Parliamentary Under-Secretary to the Home Office, said that the object of the first Bill was to consolidate and clarify the law concerning the jurisdiction and the powers of Magistrates Courts in matrimonial proceedings. Mr. Vosper quoted some figures to show the magnitude of the work discharged by magistrates and their assistants who are concerned with matrimonial cases: in 1958, 24,000 applications were made under the Acts dealing with separation and maintenance orders; each year between 6,000 and 7,000 applications under the Guardianship of Infants Acts are made, and over 4,000 applications under the Affiliation Proceedings Act. Some of these cases involve protracted court appearances, inquiries by probation officers and repeated enforcement proceedings.

Mr. Vosper said: "Much less can figures speak of the human problems in an infinite variety, but all having in common a failure to make their domestic life a success and a looking to the courts for help and relief." He added: "We owe it to those who administer this, to me at least, difficult law, to see that the law they administer is clear, concise, and in some respects, I would like to say simple, but at least no more complicated than the subject matter requires."

Mr. Vosper reminded the House that, in the session before the last Parliament, the Maintenance Orders Act was enacted. The striking reduction in the figures of civil prisoners clearly suggests that the attachment procedure is being used to good effect.

The first change in the new Bill is "that the relief available to a husband is made substantially the same as that available to a wife."

Secondly, in certain circumstances a wife may be ordered to pay maintenance for the husband.

Thirdly, the court is given wider powers to make provision in the interests of children.

In the new Bill the term "child of the family" is defined as meaning any child of both parties, including adopted or illegitimate children, or any child of either party who has been accepted as a member of the family by the other party.

Another change is designed to avoid hardship which may arise when a wife wishes to leave her husband's home but cannot find other accommodation: for this reason the criterion of cohabitation has been substituted for that of residence together.

The Bill would give the court power to invoke or vary an order for maintenance of a party living abroad, after reasonable steps have been taken to serve notice.

The final change is the increase in the maximum weekly maintenance payments which a magistrates court may order.

Mr. Vosper declared that the Government accept that there is need for increases in the existing amounts which were fixed in 1949, but he emphasised that the new maximum of £7 10s. 0d. (raised from £5) is only a maximum, and that it may be expected that when the Bill becomes law there will not be many cases where more than £5 will be paid.

Mr. Eric Fletcher welcomed the clause which made the law entirely reciprocal between husband and wife.

Mr. W. G. Morgan, in a maiden speech, said that the Bill would be welcomed on both sides of the House.

Mr. Leo Abse pleaded for a conciliation service manned by psychiatrists, social workers and family case workers.

Mr. Chuter Ede and Sir Frank Soskice both welcomed the Bill.

In moving the Second Reading of the Indecency with Children Bill, Mr. Vosper said it was designed to close a gap in the law for the protection of children. The Bill was drafted by the Criminal Law Revision Committee.

The committee recommended that it should be an offence for any person to commit an act of gross indecency with or towards a child under 14, or to incite a child under that age to commit such an act. Clause I of the Bill covers this and penalises other forms of indecency hitherto not subject to penalty.

The Bill seeks to increase the penalty for attempted unlawful intercourse with a girl under thirteen to seven (instead of two) years penal servitude.

The penalty for attempted incest is to be the same—seven years. The penalty for indecent assault on a young girl is to be increased from two to five years.

Miss Alice Bacon welcomed the Bill as closing a gap in the law and giving children greater protection against depraved and abnormal people. She hoped the Government would consider raising the age of "under fourteen" to include children of fourteen and fifteen.

Mr. Edward Gardiner strongly supported the Bill, but said that he was not satisfied that the maximum penalties of imprisonment laid down in the Bill were adequate.

"In my view," he said, "a sexual assault on a child is not only an assault upon her body, but upon her mind, which may maim and leave a mark upon her character for life. The need for a severe sanction, the power to impose a lengthy term of imprisonment is quite clear, if we are going to give our children maximum protection."

C. M. Cheke

INTERNATIONAL NOTES

Ghana. The first article in the proposed new Constitution states that "without distinction of sex, race, tribe, religion or political belief, every person who, being by law a citizen of Ghana, has attained the age of twenty-one years and is not disqualified by law on grounds of absence, infirmity of mind or criminality, shall be entitled to one vote."

* * *

Korea. The new Civil Code provides that a married woman has equal property rights with her husband. Each married couple must submit a written agreement as evidence of personal control by each spouse of his or her property. A daughter may now inherit equally with male members of her family; a widow shares equally with her brothers and sisters-in-law in the inheritance of the parents. A single woman may adopt children and these may take her family name; widows may become guardians of their children without the consent of the family counsel; a woman is permitted to be head of a family. The minimum age of marriage without the consent of parents is twenty-seven for men and twenty-three for women; with parental consent the age is eighteen and sixteen respectively.

* * *

Liberia. Mrs. Myrtle Reeves Gorgla has been appointed Consul-General for Liberia in London.

* * *

Somaliland. The new Labour Code provides that "women workers are entitled, for equal work, to the same remuneration as men workers."

* * *

Switzerland. Dr. Lotti Ruckstuhl writes: "On March 6th, women's suffrage was accepted in the Canton of Geneva for cantonal and local affairs by a men's vote of 18, 152 for, to 14,593 against. Geneva is the third of the twenty-two Cantons to introduce women's suffrage, it having been accepted last year in the Cantons of Vaud and Neuchâtel.

"This was the sixth time that the male citizens of Geneva voted on the question of women's suffrage. In 1952, the women of Geneva had been asked their opinion on the question, 35,153 were for it and 6,346 against. This women's vote only had an informative character and was considered as legally not valid. Shortly after, in 1953, the men of Geneva rejected women's suffrage by 17,967 votes to 13,419."

We congratulate our Swiss colleagues on the success of their long struggle and we especially remember Mademoiselle Gourd and her mother, pioneers of the fight for women's suffrage in Geneva.

U.S.A. A correspondent has sent us information on bills introduced in two State Legislatures in February 1960.

Maryland Senate Bill No. 91 will make it "unlawful for any female person to give birth within this State to more than two illegitimate children;" the mother who is convicted shall have her children removed from her custody; she is to be barred from receiving any public welfare benefits; and "there shall be performed forthwith upon her the operation of sterilization."

Mr. Sanford who introduced the Bill, reported that twenty-six States had some sort of sterilization laws, among them California, Arizona, Delaware, Maine, New Hampshire and Mississippi.

In Virginia, the House Bill No. 494 states that whenever the superintendent of public welfare knows of a woman "who has given birth to more than one illegitimate child . . . and it appears that a child born to her is likely to become a public charge" he shall petition the judge to "direct such a woman to appear and show cause why she should not be reproductively sterilised. . . . The costs of such operation shall be paid by the county or city of which the woman is a resident."

Our correspondent adds: "No concurrent bills have been introduced providing punishment for the fathers of the illegitimate children."

UNE DATE HISTORIQUE

Dimanche 6 mars 1960: une date historique, disent les journaux de Genève. En effet, ce jour-là les électeurs masculins ont enfin accordé le droit de vote aux femmes, avec plus de trois mille cinq cents voix de majorité. Ce résultat a surpris heureusement les suffragistes, car depuis les dernières votations un revirement s'était produit dans deux des plus grands partis (radical et libéral). Les Chrétiens-sociaux s'étaient déclarés favorables au progrès et en auront l'honneur. Déjà Monsieur Ganter, le député qui avait inauguré la lutte dans le parti, en collaboration avec sa femme, propose que l'Etat, pour préparer les électrices à leur mission, leur distribue gratuitement la Constitution genevoise et un manuel d'instruction civique. Le Group Civique des Femmes Catholiques, fondé il y a quelques années par Madame Mossaz, va intensifier son activité de formation, soutenu par la Ligue des Femmes Catholiques qui avait déjà pris officiellement position pour le droit de vote.

Il y a donc maintenant trois cantons suisses gagnés à la cause. Le Valais et Bâle seront peut-être les suivants.

I. Archinard

REVIEW

The Glory of Parliament. By Harry Boardman.
Edited by Francis Boyd. (Allen & Unwin, 21s.)

Mr. Boyd has done a good service to the public in editing this book of extracts from the articles written for *The Manchester Guardian* by its Parliamentary Correspondent, Mr. Harry Boardman.

Mr. Boardman has an almost paternal interest in the "workshop of democracy" as he calls the House of Commons, and feels personal concern when members, as occasionally happens, fall below the standards he expects of them.

The articles cover the past quarter century (he died in 1958) and take the reader through all the great events of that eventful period, chiefly through the reaction to them of the personalities concerned.

Mr. Boardman's admiration embraces men of all parties and his criticisms do not spare even his heroes. He counts as the only orators in a period when that art has been at a low ebb, Lloyd George, Winston Churchill and Aneurin Bevan; he praises Asquith for his intellect and moderation and Attlee for his modesty, razor-sharp mind and economy of words.

He has an appreciative eye and a glowing style for the pagentry of Parliament, but sees Parliament's chief glory in the day-to-day working of the democratic machine and the men who keep its character unchanged and its record clear. I say "men" advisedly, for though Mr. Boardman speaks of "complete Parliamentary democracy based on adult suffrage" as crowning "the cautious beginning of 1832," he shows no appreciation of the services of the women Members in the period under review. **P.C.C.**

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

Miss P. C. Challoner in
"The Catholic Citizen," 15th April, 1935

The almost inevitable result of telling girls to be womanly is to make them narrow their outlook; to educate them for the home alone is to make them less valuable in it, and useless outside. . . .

If girls, no less than boys, are taught that the aim of their education is the full development of all their capacities for the greater glory of God and the service of His creatures, they will feel free, and will not need to snatch at liberty through strange ways of licence; they will be what God means them to be, however frightening their choice may be to those who have taught them, and they will do God's will in whatever state it may please Him, not us, to call them, whether in the world as wife and mother, social worker, teacher, artist, engineer or scholar, or, giving up these, in the ceaseless and anonymous activity of the cloister.—*Personality and the School.*

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OBJECT

To band together Catholics of both sexes, in order to secure the political, social and economic equality between men and women, and to further the work and usefulness of Catholic women as citizens.

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All Catholic women are eligible as Members, who approve the object and methods, and will pay a minimum annual subscription of £1 which includes *The Catholic Citizen*. Men are invited to join as Associates, on the same conditions, with the exception that they may not elect or be elected to the Executive.

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