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# THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SVFFRAGE NEWS

THE MONTHLY ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SVFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

Volume 20. No. 1.

PRICE 6d.

OCTOBER, 1925.

Annual Subscription, 6/-

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## GRÈCE.

### Les Premiers pas vers l'Affranchissement Politique.

Dans notre dernier numéro\*, nous avons exposé les efforts des organisations féminines pour obtenir le droit de vote pour les élections municipales et communales, l'aboutissement de ces efforts à un projet de loi signé par 70 députés à l'Assemblée et l'interruption brusque des travaux de l'Assemblée au moment où nous attendions la discussion sur ce projet. Toutefois l'Assemblée, avant d'entrer en vacances, nomma deux commissions parlementaires, une pour l'élaboration de la Constitution et une autre pour le reste du travail législatif. Les résolutions de ces commissions seraient presque obligatoires pour le nouveau gouvernement et les lois votées seraient ratifiées par l'Assemblée lors de la reprise de ses travaux en automne.

A la douzième séance de la commission pour la Constitution, le 28 Juillet, à propos de l'amendement de la loi sur les municipalités et communes, le député, M. G. Sechiotis, rapporteur de cette loi, proposa un amendement selon lequel le droit de vote serait accordé aux femmes pour les élections municipales. Cette proposition était celle qui fut signée par les 70 députés, qui avait été présentée à l'Assemblée.

Une discussion très vive s'en suivit. Les mêmes arguments surannés, identiques dans tous les pays, furent mis en valeur pour combattre la proposition. Heureusement que le président de la commission, M. Alex. Papanastassiou, chef du parti républicain, défendit la cause avec une telle conviction qu'il réussit à faire voter la proposition par une assez forte majorité. Selon cette proposition "il sera accordé par décret, après deux ans d'ici, aux femmes âgées de 30 ans et au dessus et sachant lire et écrire, le droit d'élection (non d'éligibilité) pour les élections municipales et communales."

La nouvelle loi fut signée par le Président de la République, et nous n'avons plus qu'à attendre que les

deux ans soient écoulés pour commencer à exercer nos droits politiques.

Il est vrai que nous nous sentons assez désabusées après tant de restrictions et de délais. Mais, c'est tout de même un premier pas très important. Nous apprécions tous les efforts de nos amis féministes parmi les députés et nous sommes sûres que leurs rangs se renforceront avec le temps et que bientôt il se formera dans l'Assemblée un groupement entre les esprits les plus progressistes, indépendamment des partis politiques, et que ce groupement sera toujours favorable à nos revendications.

Nous partons dorénavant d'un nouveau point de départ, et nous espérons que ceci sera en même temps une instigation pour les femmes et les organisations féminines pour continuer à nous aider dans notre campagne féministe.

Encore une résolution importante de la Commission pour la Constitution : elle a ajoutée à l'article 5 concernant les droits électoraux un texte explicatif selon lequel le pouvoir d'accorder le droit de vote aux femmes appartient aux corps législatifs. Ainsi à l'avenir, il n'y aura aucun obstacle constitutionnel à ce qu'une chambre des députés passe une loi qui nous accorde le droit de vote. Et c'est encore à Papanastassiou, un des esprits les plus avancés de la Grèce d'aujourd'hui, un idéaliste des plus purs, que nous devons encore cette victoire.

La Ligue Hellénique pour le Droit de Femmes est vraiment fière d'avoir réussi à gagner les deux points auxquels portait sa campagne actuelle, le vote municipal et la suppression des entraves constitutionnelles à notre affranchissement. Elle est aussi vivement reconnaissante envers toutes les organisations féministes qui l'ont soutenue dans ses efforts, envers tous les hommes politiques distingués qui ont si vivement défendu notre cause à l'Assemblée et aux commissions parlementaires.

\* La Lutte de la Femme.

### THE PRESIDENT OF THE ALLIANCE.

All our readers will learn with great regret that Mrs. Corbett Ashby has been ill for some time, and was recently compelled to undergo a slight operation. She is making a good recovery and we hope will soon be well. We do not know whether her illness was directly caused by overwork, but we hope that all members of the Alliance fully realise the enormous amount of energy, real hard work, and fatiguing travel Mrs. Ashby puts into her work for the Alliance.

### A JUBILEE CELEBRATION.

#### The Allgemeiner Deutscher Frauenverein.

If the doctor permits, the President of the Alliance will attend the Jubilee of the Allgemeiner Deutscher Frauenverein in Meissen, near Dresden, on October 3rd, to join in the celebration of 60 years' work in the cause of women, and the notable achievements which have rewarded the courage, energy, and wisdom of the early pioneers. Germany is one of the many countries where the political freedom of women followed the upheaval of the Great War, in which the capacity and heroism of women were put to new tests.

But this Jubilee is not only looking backward; it will not only celebrate the work of such pioneers as Frau Luise Otto-Pelers, and pay a personal tribute to Dr. Helene Lange; it will also record the growing strength and influence and power for good of women in the great social questions of the day. The celebration of a long struggle ending in a victory will cheer the many unenfranchised countries with the fresh realisation that hard work brings final triumph. Long life and success to the Allgemeiner Deutscher Frauenverein!

### CORRECTION.

In our last issue we published an article taken from the American women's paper, *Equal Rights*, entitled "America's First Woman Diplomat." In this article a brief review was given of previous appointments of women in diplomacy, and it was stated that Miss Rosika Schwimmer was appointed Hungarian Minister to Switzerland by the Government of Bela Kun. We have now received a request from two correspondents (Miss Vilma Glucklich, President of our Hungarian Auxiliary, and Mrs. R. van Wulffton Palthe Broese van Groenou, of Holland) that we should call attention to the fact that Miss Schwimmer was, in fact, appointed by the Government of Count Stephen Karolyi. We are very glad to publish this correction, and very much regret that in using our contemporary's interesting article, we should have been led into publishing anything which might prove detrimental to the interests of our old member, Miss Rosika Schwimmer. We understand that, in fact, during the Communist régime in Hungary, Miss Schwimmer was unable to obtain permission to leave the country.

### INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS FOR CHILD WELFARE.

THE first International Congress for Child Welfare, organised by the International Save-the-Children Fund (Union Internationale de Secours aux Enfants), was a decided success, not only as to the number of visitors from European countries and from Oversea, but also as to the importance of the men and women who had come as delegates, and the spirit of the Congress.

Looking backward I remember the first meeting in that historical hall in Geneva, where, in 1863, the international Red Cross had been founded, and where, in December, 1919, and January, 1920, a small group of individuals, citizens of neutral and belligerent countries, followed the call of Miss Eglantyne Jebb. Her love of humanity and broad-minded internationalism led to the foundation of the International Save-the-Children Fund. I shall not easily forget my impressions when, for the first time after the war, I saw one table uniting English, French, and German men and women, all guided by the great idea that war hatred and the discussion of

war-guilt must be silenced in face of suffering, starving, dying children.

We listened with throbbing hearts to the reports from many countries, and I had a sad one to give as to my own land. All related of the terrible disaster, the hell on earth that war meant for the child.

The Union Internationale has since then done an enormous piece of work, all over the world. By far the greatest activity is due to England, and by far the greatest part of the hundred millions of gold francs spent for food and clothes were collected in Great Britain. Children in Russia and Poland, in the Ukraine, in Turkey, Greece and Serbia, in Hungary, Austria and Germany, as well as in the Far East, have been helped and rescued. Out of the mere emergency and rescue work a new idea developed. It was felt that it was not enough to extend hands to little sufferers, to save them after the catastrophes of war, famine or earthquake, but that more was needed. And so the new scope of the Union became that of an international centre of prophylactic and protective measures, aiming at a safeguard for every child not only in abnormal but in normal circumstances.

The Union began to see as its object, beyond mutual aid, the stabilisation of claims recognised all over the world, giving the child a minimum of physical and moral care and protection.

Thus the Children's Charter was laid down in 1923. Everybody ought to know its 5 brief points:

- (1) The child must be given the means requisite for its normal development, both materially and spiritually.
- (2) The child that is hungry must be fed; the child that is sick must be nursed; the child that is backward must be helped; the delinquent child must be reclaimed; and the orphan and the waif must be sheltered and succoured.
- (3) The child must be the first to receive relief in times of distress.
- (4) The child must be put in a position to earn a livelihood, and must be protected against every form of exploitation.
- (5) The child must be brought up in the consciousness that its talents must be devoted to the service of its fellow men.

By this Declaration men and women of all nations recognised that mankind owes to the child the best that it has to give.

The wish to promote these claims of the child in all countries led the Union to organise the first International Child Welfare Congress, August 22nd to 28th, 1925, in Geneva. Limited space does not allow me to dwell on details, but I want to point out that the resolutions accepted by the Congress are most satisfactory. Three sections dealt with health, assistance, and education. The resolution of the first medical section points out the necessity of general education as to hygiene and the care of children. They ask for the institution of centres for mothers and babies, for the promotion of breast-feeding, and demand solution of the housing problem, care for the child at school and during recreation hours, intensive measures in order to fight children's mortality, tuberculosis and rickets.

The Welfare section laid special weight on the claim of a better protection of the unmarried mother and her child by law, assistance and insurance. Further resolutions asked the best education and care for orphans, special vocational guidance, protection against child labour, care for abnormal children and for young criminals, provision for children of foreign nationalities as well as for the children of immigrants.

The Educational section accentuated the necessity of women as officials in all Governments, so that they might influence the situation of mother and child. The resolutions recognise the responsibility of the whole nation towards the child, and ask for special training in Child Welfare for doctors, midwives, teachers and social workers. Perhaps the most interesting discussion was dedicated to the education of the young generation in the spirit of peace, international understanding and brotherhood. It was resolved that the child ought to be taught that all love for one's own nation and one's own people must be guided by the vaster principle of love

for humanity as a whole. An international revision of text-books for schools, especially of history books, in the sense of international love and understanding was demanded.

All resolutions will be brought before the Committee for Children's Protection, of the League of Nations, in which we are fortunate enough to be represented. We may hope that the results of this first International Children's Congress will prove useful in all countries and promote Child Welfare all over the world.

Most of the reports had been sent in beforehand, and had been given to the delegates in a handsome volume, full of information and inspiration. As to my own country, Germany, the reports are not contained in this volume, but have been edited separately under the heading "Child Welfare in Germany." This booklet, which all the members of the Congress have taken home, intends to show the enormous work of systematic child welfare done in Germany within the last few years, notwithstanding the economic crisis and the dreadful calamities. I may add here that women in Parliament, in ministries and offices, have a great share in the progress achieved.

The Congress took place in an atmosphere of complete understanding and goodwill. Certainly the united efforts of work for children have formed many links between nations. Our love for the child is one of the bridges leading to that future land, where nations are but subdivisions of united humanity.

ADELE SCHREIBER.

### INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN.

#### Meeting of the Council in Brussels.

THE Council of the International Federation of University Women held its eighth meeting, in Brussels, at the end of July. The sessions were held at the Club of the Fondation Universitaire, kindly lent for the occasion, and a most interesting programme for the entertainment of the Council members was provided by the Belgian Federation. They were invited to tea at the Royal Château of Laeken by the King and Queen of the Belgians, and were received at the Hôtel de Ville by Monsieur Max, Burgomaster of the city.

Dean Virginia Gildersleeve, of Barnard College, Columbia University, presided over the meetings, assisted by two vice-presidents, Dr. Ellen Gleditsch, President of the Norwegian Federation, and Dr. Winifred Cullis, President of the British Federation. The members of the Council represented the women graduates of the United States, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, Great Britain, Holland, Ireland, Italy, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, Sweden, and Switzerland.

New federations formed in Bulgaria, Roumania, and Luxemburg were admitted to membership in the International Federation, which now includes the university women of twenty-three countries. Federations now being organised in Germany, Estonia, Mexico, the Ukraine, and other parts, will shortly be ready to join the International Federation.

Interesting reports on the activities of the national organisations were presented by their representatives. The general aim of the Federation is to promote international understanding by facilitating personal contact between the educated women of different nations, and a satisfactory amount of progress has already been made. In particular may be cited the success of the Czechoslovak Federation in linking together the Czech and German women graduates in the country, and the success of the Irish Federation in bringing into a joint association the women graduates of Northern Ireland and the Free State.

The national aims of the Federations differ considerably in the different countries. Some have allied themselves with other associations to support the general interests of women, while others prefer to restrict themselves to purely educational work. In all countries the membership is increasing, and a keen interest in the international aims of the Federation is shown.

Travelling fellowships, enabling well-qualified graduates to spend some time on research in foreign countries,

are considered by the Federation to be among the best means of realising the twofold aim of advancing knowledge and promoting international sympathy. A scheme for the endowment of about thirty fellowships annually has been approved by the Federation. For the coming year a travelling fellowship of \$1,200 is offered by the American Association, and for 1927 two fellowships are offered by the Australian Federation. These will each be worth £500, and are to be held for scientific research in Australia. One will be awarded to a British, the other to a non-British, graduate.

A fellowship offered by the American Association for the present academic year has been awarded to Dr. Ethel McLennan, an Australian botanist, who will spend her time in England. A fellowship for archaeological research in Italy, offered by the Italian Federation, has been awarded to Dr. Elsa Mahler, Lecturer in the University of Basle.

Clubhouses for the use of members are already established in many American cities and in Paris. The residential wing now being erected at Crosby Hall will provide an international clubhouse in London, and a committee is actively working for one in Rome.

The Federation has been working during the year in connection with the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation of the League of Nations. On the occasion of the appointment of the officers to the new Institut de Cooperation Intellectuelle in Paris, letters were sent to the members of the Committee urging the appointment of women to some of the more important posts. It is gratifying to learn that Miss Gabriela Mistral, the Chilean writer and teacher, has been appointed Chief of the Department of Literature.

Mrs. Corbett Ashby has acted as chairman of a Committee appointed to arrange the next Conference of the International Federation. The kind invitation of the Dutch Federation to hold the Conference in Amsterdam has been accepted. The date will be about the middle of August, 1926. All university women interested in the aims of the Federation will be very welcome. Preliminary programmes will shortly be available and may be had from the Secretary of the International Federation of University Women, 92, Victoria Street, S.W. 1.

### BOOK REVIEW.

THE EQUIPMENT OF THE SOCIAL WORKER. By Elizabeth Macadam, M.A. Price 6s. Published by George Allen and Unwin, Ltd., Ruskin House, 40, Museum Street, London, W.C. 1.

Most of our readers will recognise Miss Macadam, the author of this book, as an old friend of the suffrage cause and of the Alliance. Her book is intended to be both a brief history or review of the organisation of social work, and a general guide to those who are interested in, or actually personally connected with, such work. It has, however, a wider scope still, in that it must appeal to all good citizens who, while not themselves perhaps able to give time and service to these things, have an inevitable interest in finding put together in a clear and workmanlike form an account of what is being done in this direction.

The first chapter gives an idea of what the writer has in mind when she writes of the "social worker," and emphasises the need for training for all the varied work which comes under a wide and loosely used name. The casual way in which people are appointed in public administrations to undertake the most delicate and baffling work meets with a lament which all thoughtful readers will share. How much better off we might have been had the importance of this work been grasped long ago, and what a price we are paying—and must pay still in the future—for the lack of foresight and haphazard methods of officials! We cannot refrain from quoting in full the following definition of social study, made by the Joint University Council for Social Studies: "Social study as now conceived requires that each of the subjects of instruction shall be treated with continual reference to actual social life and its difficulties. For the whole aim in social study is to educate the citizen's understanding of the social life of which he is a part, to train

and test his judgment in dealing with its complexities—for the good of his neighbour as of himself,—to furnish him with a background of fact and ideal which shall throw light on all his practice as an administrator, to increase his power of dealing with people, and to inspire him with faith in the value of his efforts."

The larger part of the book is, as its name implies, taken up with an account of what training has been in the past, and what are the opportunities at present. Of course it is concerned mainly with Great Britain, but there is a very interesting chapter dealing with the position in Canada and the United States—this information being partly the result of Miss Macadam's personal experience gained in the course of a tour in those countries—and a brief note on what is being done in some of the European countries.

Miss Macadam definitely envisages the university as the proper centre for social training, but she recognises the useful work done by other bodies, social, charitable, and religious, especially in providing actual experience. In emphasising the need for real training, and preferably university training, Miss Macadam does not lose sight of the fact that it is difficult to demand a long and possibly expensive training for any job which does not, at the end of that training, offer a fair salary and reasonable prospects of advancement. At present the trained social worker is expected to live largely on devotion to the work, and that, obviously, tends to restrict the number of those who can afford to take up the work as a regular profession, however much they may feel the call it has on something beyond the desire to make a livelihood. If social work is to develop as it should, the need for it must be much more clearly and widely recognised, and when that is accomplished the old reminder that the labourer is worthy of his hire must be given a more attentive ear.

The book is completed by an admirable index, and an invaluable list of centres for social training in practically every country where such facilities exist.

#### THE AUSTRALIAN WOMAN DELEGATE TO THE ASSEMBLY OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.



Mrs. Eleanor Mackinnon, of Sydney, has been chosen as the woman substitute delegate for Australia this year. Mrs. Mackinnon is the wife of a doctor, and has taken a very special interest in the work of the Red Cross. This body in Australia is now devoting itself to an anti-tuberculosis campaign, and is opening the large

sanatorium used for tuberculous soldiers during the war, for the use of civilian sufferers. Mrs. Mackinnon is one of the two women members of the Senate of Sydney University, and was instrumental in securing the establishment of a Chair of Gynecology there. She is herself a member of the Nationalist Party, for which she has done a good deal of political work. She is naturally much pleased at the election of Miss Preston Stanley to the New South Wales Legislature, as Miss Stanley is herself a member of the same party. However, when it is a question of measures that particularly interest women, women of all parties unite, a typical example being the Nurses Registration Bill.

This is the fourth year that Australia has sent a woman to the Assembly, but, like Great Britain, none of them have been full delegates.

#### WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM.

I. *Our Next Congress* will be held in Ireland, during the summer of 1926.

II. *At the Sixth Assembly* of the League of Nations, Martha Larsen Jahn, President of our Norwegian section, will be one of the alternate delegates of the Norwegian Government.

#### AN ARDENT SPIRIT OF THE PAST.

ONE evening in 1839 two Turks in their national costume passed the threshold of the House of Commons in London. While the messenger was verifying their admission card, the curiosity of the public, come in the usual way to see the members come in, was drawn to these two strangers. Someone whispered: "The young Turk seems to be a woman." Soon this rumour spread; the strangers, crowded and scrutinised by the curious on-lookers, affected an oriental phlegm, but were considerably relieved when the messenger returned and introduced them into the narrow staircase from whence they entered the public gallery and seated themselves on the back bench, hoping there to pass unperceived. But the rumour of the lobby had reached the House: the members stared at the young Turk, whispered their impressions to each other, passed in front and behind, saying aloud: "Why has this woman got into the House? She must be a Frenchwoman—they have no respect for anything."

In fact it was a woman, and a Frenchwoman—Mme. Flora Tristan,—who in the course of a voyage of study had made up her mind to penetrate into the precincts of Parliament, from which women were then excluded, in order to complete her information as to the social, economic, and political life of England. This visit is the subject of one of the most vivid and lively pictures we possess of the opening of the Victorian era.

Flora Tristan, through family misfortunes and an unfortunate marriage, was drawn towards the oppressed—that is, towards women and the poor,—and dreamt of a society in which all men and all women would work together for the common good of humanity. Conscious of the immense influence which might be exercised by women in the family, and thus in society as a whole, she claimed for them an education equal to that of men, the first step towards a complete equality. To the working classes she said ten years before Karl Marx: "Unite not only in your own countries, but also beyond your national frontiers." In a little book entitled "Union Ouvrière," a sort of catechism for the working classes, she explained how quite small subscriptions would permit the erection of homes for children, the sick and the old, and would build up that mutual confidence and solidarity which would lead to a regeneration of "the most numerous and most useful class." In order to spread these ideas, she determined to go from town to town speaking to the working men and women, and she went thus all over France, sometimes discouraged by the difficulties of her task, but never doubting the importance of the work. Worn out in body, she died on November 14th, 1844,

at the age of 41, in Bordeaux, where a monument was erected over her grave by popular subscription.

The tale of this varied career and of her social work is about to be published in France, but it should interest women in all countries, since Flora Tristan, born of a Peruvian father and a French mother, was a real internationalist. She desired, in her own poetic words, that "the limits of our love should not be the narrow bounds of our garden shrubberies," and her first book is called "De la nécessité de faire bon accueil aux femmes étrangères." In London she wished to see every sight, and the contrast between opulence and misery made a painful impression on her. Ryan's book, "Prostitution in London," had just appeared, and she felt deeply the misery of these fallen sisters which she saw with her own eyes. She saw Newgate, Bedlam, hospitals, race meetings, clubs, factories; she attended political meetings as well as the clandestine gatherings held behind little shops by the partisans of O'Connell or the Chartists. She was frequently accompanied by a woman whom she greatly esteemed, Mrs. Wheeler, "the only woman socialist," she declared, "that I have met in England." Was this, perhaps, the wife of Wheeler, who was then secretary of the Chartist movement? Perhaps English feminists may be able to give some information on this point which may be of interest to them. Mrs. Wheeler was in correspondence with Fourier, the celebrated reformer, and she received and helped the St. Simonian, Jeanne Désirée Vêret, when she came to England after having tried, with a few friends, to keep a feminist paper going in Paris. If the papers of Mrs. Wheeler could be traced, they would give valuable information as to the history of the feminist and socialist movements in France and England; they would throw fresh light on a time when women were pioneers in a movement to which we nowadays can claim little merit in belonging.

Perhaps we hardly give sufficient thought to these forerunners: each age thinks it is the first to discover great truths, but when we see forms rising from the past who died for their work like Flora Tristan, and yet who have no place in history such as a man would have held, we should not only render justice to their memories, but should also draw from those memories an example to strengthen our own courage.

The journal kept by Flora Tristan of her travels was discovered in a box in an attic where it had been forgotten for 50 years. There is a copy of the popular edition of "Promenades dans Londres" in the British Museum, which formerly belonged to the socialist German refugee, Everbeck.

#### NEWS OF DIVERS WOMEN.

[These paragraphs are taken from varied Press sources, and their accuracy is not vouched for by our National Auxiliaries.]

##### ALBANIA.

Women in Albania have equal rights with the men, the press reports. The statement made that during their minority they are under the control of their parents even implies that mothers and fathers have equal control over their children. Before and after marriage women have a right to absolute control over their property.

##### BELGIUM.

The Woman's Cause is progressing in Belgium in spite of its recent defeat in Parliament. Mme. de Brown de Tiege is now Burgomaster of Waillet, a parish in the neighbourhood of Dinant. She is the first Belgian woman to hold such a position.

##### CZECHO-SLOVAKIA.

Special aid for mothers is provided in a new law in Czecho-Slovakia for the safeguarding of industrial workers. The provisions are for free services of midwife or physician, sick benefits for a period extending from six weeks before confinement to six weeks after, and nursing benefits equal to one-half of the sick benefits for twelve weeks after confinement.

##### GREAT BRITAIN.

**Women's Rights.**  
It is now proposed to admit women fellow members and members of the Royal College of Surgeons and

licentiates in dental surgery, with the same rights as men. Until now, women were permitted to take the M.R.C.S. or F.R.C.S. degree, but had no votes and were ineligible for seats on the Council.

##### First Woman Notary Public.

Miss Anna Amphlett, the daughter of a notary at Colwyn Bay, will shortly be formally admitted as the first woman notary public in this country. Miss Amphlett's mother will be admitted at the same time. A five years' apprenticeship is needed for this ancient and at one time ecclesiastical office, the appointment of which is now in the hands of the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Court of Faculties. The office is older than that of attorney, but many solicitors are also notaries.

##### NEW ZEALAND.

Mrs. Hedberg, of Wellington, N.Z., has invented a process whereby flax fibres produced by the present methods of stripping and scutching are broken up into finer threads, resembling, according to quality of the leaf, either coarse cottons or the finest silk. The staple is longer than the American or Egyptian staple. The process is simple, and if the finished product is found suitable for many purposes for which cotton is applied, one of the most important industries may be established.

##### TURKEY.

The Government of Turkey has abolished its censorship on fashions, wearing apparel, and coiffures. Thus, on August 10, women of Turkey became free to wear what fancy, convenience, and comfort dictate.

##### UNITED STATES.

##### U.S. Woman Consul.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday.—Miss Pattie Field, graduate of the State Department's Foreign Service School, has been appointed to the post of consul at Amsterdam. She is said to be the first woman consul in American history.

#### THE CAMPAIGN FOR EQUAL RIGHTS IN THE UNITED STATES.

By FLORENCE BREWER BOECKEL.

The Equal Rights Amendment to the United States Constitution which will give the women of this country legal equality is to be pressed for passage at the approaching session of Congress. The National Woman's Party, which is sponsoring the amendment, has just announced the election of Mrs. Edith Houghton Hooker, of Maryland, as Chairman of its National Council, to be in charge of the work.

During the four years since its organisation the National Woman's Party has been preparing the way and laying the foundation of the active legislative campaign which it will conduct this winter. The Equal Rights Amendment was drafted and introduced into Congress after months of careful study and consultation with experts in constitutional law; a legal research department was organised, through which, for the first time, the laws of the various states affecting women have been studied and compiled in order that the exact legal status of women in all parts of the Union might be known; without waiting for the passage of the amendment, 476 Bills have been drafted for introduction in the state legislatures, designed to remove specific discriminations against women, and in seventeen states such measures have been adopted. At the same time the Woman's Party has sought to secure equal economic opportunity for women through the organisation of professional and industrial councils in which women in various occupations meet, discuss their problems, and combine their strength. In the political field, and in the interest of its amendment, the Party last autumn conducted the first organised state effort to elect women to Congress.

Permanent headquarters immediately facing the Capitol have been established through the generous gift of Mrs. Oliver H. P. Belmont, National President, for carrying on this work in the interest of women, and local organisations have already been formed in a majority of

(Continued on page 12.)

## REPORTS FROM AUXILIARIES.

## AUSTRALIA.

## Western Australia.

DR. ROBERTA JULL has been appointed Warden of Convocation of the University of Western Australia without opposition. She is the first woman in Australia to hold such a position.

The Presbyterian Assembly has approved of the eligibility of women for eldership not only within the State but in attendance at Commonwealth-wide Assemblies.

A "Women Justices Association" for the State was formed in June at 191, Murray Street, Perth. This has become necessary owing to the fact that although there is a "Justices Association" here numbering about 600 members, they have never called the women into their deliberations, nor consulted them in any way, notwithstanding that the women justices are appointed on exactly the same footing as the men, and are free to attend any Court except the Children's Court, to which they must be specially appointed, usually by the Government. There are only 25 women justices in this State, but they hold a higher status than any other women justices in the Commonwealth. The officers elected to the Association were: President, Mrs. Amelia Macdonald; Vice-President, Mrs. Jean Beadle; Treasurer, Mrs. Mellows; Secretary, pro tem., Mrs. A. Macdonald. It is hoped that on her return, Mrs. Bessie M. Rischbieth will accept the position of Secretary.

## New South Wales.

It is reported that the N.S.W. Board of Trade has fixed the new basic wage at £4 4s. for men, and £2 2s. 6d. for a woman. This is unequal pay with a vengeance, but if, as we suppose, the idea of a basic wage is the amount of family responsibility attached to its recipients, it seems strange that there is no difference made between married and single men. Without such a difference, it can only appear that the basic wage is as much affected by sex discrimination as other methods of fixing wages have been.

## Southern Australia.

The Women's Non-Party Association have sent us their Annual Report, which shows what excellent work has been done, and also what a surprisingly wide field the Association covers. In addition to their successful efforts to get a Resolution on the Nationality of Married Women put before Parliament, they have considered such diverse matters as: Pensions for widows with dependent children; alien immigration; marriage and divorce; capital punishment; cinema advertisements; the care of aboriginal and half-caste children; municipal government, etc., etc. On all questions of public welfare the Association makes its voice heard, and it is very pleasing to note how bravely and punctually it reminds both its State and the Federal Legislatures of any failure to carry out necessary reforms.

## AUSTRIA.

## A Little Progress in the Question of the Nationality of Married Women.

OUR Parliament has accepted a new law on the acquisition and loss of citizenship. The "Austrian Council of Women" and the "Association for Women's Political Interest," as well as the women members of Parliament, endeavoured on this occasion to enforce the acknowledgment of the demand concerning the nationality of married women. As this new Bill was to be discussed very quickly it was not possible to get through the whole demand, but a little success was gained. In one paragraph it is settled that a woman who, by a marriage with a foreigner, does not acquire the nationality of her husband's state does not lose the Austrian nationality. This paragraph was put in specially on account of the American "Cable Act." Another paragraph says that a woman who lost her nationality by a marriage with a foreigner can get it back if her husband died or she was divorced from him.

The Austrian women hope that this is the first step towards the realisation of total liberty of women in the sphere of nationality.

## A Remarkable Women's Bill in Parliament.

Immediately before the closing of the summer session, the Social Democrat women members of Parliament, Adelheid Popp and Gabriele Proft, introduced a Bill aiming at the total equality of women in marriage. This Bill contains a great number of proposals for alteration of the laws; in the main, standing up for the following demands:

An Austrian woman shall not lose her nationality by marriage with a foreigner.

Husband and wife shall have the same rights and duties towards each other.

In case that the health or the economic situation of husband or wife are endangered by living together, each of them shall be entitled to give up the common household as long as the danger lasts.

Husband and wife are obliged to supply the common household, each as well as they are able, and to provide mutually for a comfortable living if one of them is not able to support him or herself.

Husband and wife have to choose after marriage a common family name (marriage name), and to proclaim their choice solemnly. The family name can only be the name of the husband or the name of the wife.

The common domicile can only be changed if both agree.

Husband and wife have the same rights and duties towards their children.

If there is any doubt (in the case of dissension, etc.), it is supposed that the earnings of the married couple have been supplied by both equally.

All these demands have excited, as has also the demand of equal rights of father and mother towards each other and towards their children, great satisfaction among the progressive women in Austria; but the economic equality of women in marriage should have been regarded too. It is necessary to strive for legislative regulations to appreciate the work of women in the common household equally with earning.

On the other hand, objections must be raised against the demand that "If the health or the economic situation of husband or wife are endangered by living together, each of them shall be entitled to give up the common household as long as the danger lasts." The danger for health is perhaps a point of consideration, though it might be supposed that mutual affection in case of illness would induce one to assist the other devotedly. But what would be the consequences if it were made possible for egotistic people to shirk their matrimonial duties under the pretext of economic reasons?

Also the proposal that the couple shall choose a common name is not to be approved of. As a rule, the name of the husband still would be chosen. On the other hand, it would be a sacrifice also for the man to accept his wife's name, though her name were well known. It seems to be more practical and also legally more satisfactory, that the wife who for professional reasons wants to keep her maiden name, should have the right to continue to use this name, and only for official purposes to add her marriage name. But is it not the simplest way to combine both names?

Slight as the hope for a radical alteration of the matrimonial laws is, considering the majority of conservative elements in Parliament, the progressive women in Austria are grateful to the two bold women members of Parliament who have introduced this Bill, for having proclaimed that this reform is a matter of greatest importance and urgency.

## The Title "Frau" for the Vienna Communal Women Relief Officers.

The Mayor of Vienna has ordered that all women who work as relief officers in the Vienna schools must be addressed by the title "Frau," orally as well as in letters.

## The New Law for Midwives.

The new law for midwives which was accepted by Parliament last year, which was objected to by the Federal Council, has now been accepted nearly unaltered and immediately enacted. The member of Parliament, Frau Olga Rudel-Zeynek, brought in the Bill for the second time. It is a notable women's success.

## The First Woman Patent Agent.

The first woman patent agent has been entered on the list of patent agents in Vienna. Her name is Dr. Cäcilie Ripper; she is a doctor of chemistry.

## A Memorial for Marie von Ebner Eschenbach.

In memory of the greatest Austrian poetess, Marie von Ebner-Eschenbach, a memorial tablet has been erected under the arcades of the Vienna University. Marie von Ebner-Eschenbach was the first and only woman who received, by the Vienna University, the honorary doctor's degree. GISELA URBAN.

## GERMANY.

## Dismissal of Married Officials Still in Force.

I HAVE to report this time on a new defeat for the women's cause, when the Bill for a change of the Reichs Government's decree concerning the dismissal of functionaries (Personal abbaugesetz\*) was discussed and carried in the Reichstag. This Bill, though it abolished most of the hardships, and restored most of the constitutional rights of the officials in general, still maintained the odious paragraph 14, dealing with the married women functionaries who could be dismissed, without notice, if support was secured for them, by their marriage. Thanks to energetic propaganda, the protests and petitions of the National Council of Women, as well as the professional organisations concerned, and thanks in the first place to the courageous attitude and impressive speeches of the women members of all parties in the Reichstag who unanimously stood for the abolition of the said paragraph, the motion in this direction was carried in a division, by a one-vote majority (180 against 179), at the second reading, July 17th. The Government however, firmly keeping their standpoint, used the time, before the third reading, to influence the Government parties in favour of the paragraph, which then finally was restored, July 24th, by a majority of 235 against 180. In vain were the strong protests of the women and of the democratic and socialist representatives, who declared that the paragraph 14 meant not only a degradation of the women officials, but also a violation of the constitution, and pointed out that its acceptance without the required two-thirds majority was illegal. Some facilities with regard to the future application of the paragraph, and the Government's assurance that it should be abolished definitely in the new functionaries' law, and at the latest, March, 1929, was all the women members could obtain, and only obtained by their undaunted efforts; on this occasion the proceedings in the Reichstag, however, revealing the well-known indifference and ignorance of men about women's questions and endeavours, in all its glory, showed the women anew the necessity to be on the look-out, and to strengthen women's influence in and outside of Parliament, so that the present illegal state may by no means become legal—and permanent.

## Meeting of the National Council of Women.

The next Biennial of the German National Council of Women, which will take place from 4th to 7th October, in Dresden, is to be conducted entirely in this spirit. The programme, under the leading idea of "Woman's will in social hygienic, and in cultural legislation," will express this with regard to several important Bills already pending, or in preparation, as for instance a law for cinemas, for theatres, for legal protection of the young at public amusements, and against bad or trashy literature; further, the already mentioned laws on public-houses (Schankstättengesetz), and to fight venereal disease, the paragraph on artificial abortion in the new criminal code, etc.

\* See reports in the January and February, 1924, issues.

It seems as if, this time, the participation of delegates from all parts of the Reich would be a very large one, as about a dozen of prominent affiliated societies will hold their meetings at the same time. The Allgemeine Deutsche Frauenverein (German auxiliary of the Alliance) will celebrate its 60 years' jubilee in Meissen, the birth-place of its founder and first German pioneer for women's emancipation, Louisa Otto. The local organisations in Dresden are very busy in procuring a suitable frame for these important gatherings, in preparing for hospitality and social and artistic entertainments. I hope to be able to report a good success on all lines in next *Jus*.

## A Triumph of Women Students.

The competition for the prizes of the Berlin University this year had the delightful result that all the prizes were won by women. As no candidates at all had competed for the State's prizes in the philosophical and juridical faculty, and the works for the theological faculty had come in too late for competition, the prize for the medical faculty only came into consideration. It was awarded, equally, to the students, fräulein Levy and fräulein von Balden, for their elaborations on "the diagnostic importance of the blood circulation for ear diseases," and, instead of division between the two winners, the minister was asked to double the prize. The Berlin city prize for the philosophical faculty was conferred upon fräulein Natalie Thon for a chemical investigation. It was a black day for the "Antis" all over the Reich when this result was published, and it was told that a renowned professor had recommended his raging man students, as the only way to avoid such abashing experiences, to sit down to work, and to do it, as conscientiously and assiduously as their women colleagues did.

Dresden, Sept. 12th.

MARIE STRITT.

## GREAT BRITAIN.

## NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

PARLIAMENT now stands adjourned for its summer recess, and for once we can look back on that part of the session which was completed in August with a pleasing and unusual sense of something accomplished. For once the Bills in which we were chiefly interested were introduced early in the session. For this we must thank the Government, who themselves took on many of the reforms in which we were interested, the other parties in the House who supported them, and the women's organisations all over the country who initiated certain of the measures in the first place, and who carried out that spade work in the constituencies, which is an essential preliminary towards receiving Parliamentary support.

The measure which stands out pre-eminently is, of course, the Widows', Orphans', and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act. To quote an article by Miss Eleanor Rathbone in the "Women's Leader" of 14th August: "We wonder if it is really true that the reform for which we have laboured so long has at last found its way on to the Statute Book. It is true that its form is so changed from that for which we have striven, so whittled down here, so padded out there, that we scarcely recognise it and are inclined to question whether even the term 'pension' is justified at all. Nevertheless with all the Act's defects—amounts inadequate, burdens placed on the wrong shoulders, provision made for some who need it only questionably, withheld from others whose need is profound—for all that and all that, we recognise fully and gladly that a great thing has been accomplished. The widow and the fatherless child have been given a niche of their own in our economic structure—a narrow niche, it is true, but a secure one; a niche which they will hold for ever by right and not by charity, and which, as time goes on, will assuredly be broadened."

Next we find the Guardianship of Infants Act cavilled at, it is true, by those who are impatient of anything short of real equal guardianship, but regarded by all others as a very real and substantial advance on the present law. Equal rights of mothers and fathers in any dispute affecting the child brought before the courts; equal rights for parents with regard to the appointment

of guardians after death; the right for a mother to receive maintenance from the father for the child when given its custody; the right to bring cases in the ordinary police courts—all this is going a long way to remove existing hardships.

The Summary Jurisdiction (Separation and Maintenance) Act has also become law. This useful little measure gives to either husband or wife the right to apply for a separation order on the grounds of cruelty to the children or habitual drug-taking. It gives to a wife the right to apply for a separation order on the grounds that her husband has forced her into prostitution, or has insisted on cohabitation whilst suffering knowingly from venereal disease, etc., etc.

Several different aspects of the Status of Married Women have been before the House. Readers of *Jus* will remember that Major Harvey's resolution to give a married woman the same right to return to or change her nationality as a man was carried, and an unwilling Government has been forced to communicate with the Dominions on the subject. We understand that women's organisations in the Dominions are initiating similar resolutions in their respective Parliaments. The Married Women (Torts) Bill to abolish a husband's liability for his wife's "Torts" (or misdeeds for which damages can be claimed) has passed through the House of Lords, and on its becoming law will, we hope, lead the way towards the removal of many other anomalies in the status of the married woman.

The recent decision in the High Court that a local authority cannot dismiss its teachers on the ground of marriage alone will have a beneficial result in the case of the many local authorities who force teachers in their employ to resign on marriage.

#### Garden Party in Honour of Dame Millicent Fawcett, G.B.E.

The Garden Party held at the end of July in the beautiful grounds of Aubrey House (where Dame Millicent Fawcett told us in the course of her speech she first met her future husband) was a great success. Many old Suffrage and other friends were present at the reunion. The speakers were: Lady Frances Balfour, Mrs. Creighton, Mrs. Philip Snowden, and Mrs. Oliver Strachey. Lady Astor was detained at the House, but arrived in time to make a speech. All the guests present were asked to sign their names on sheets of parchment which are to be bound and given to Dame Millicent.

#### Summer School, St. Hilda's Hall (August 25—Sept. 8).

The Summer School for magistrates and citizens was a very great success. The hall held 100 students, most of whom were engaged in some form of public work, as magistrates, town councillors, poor law guardians, probation officers, and social workers; others were scattered about the town. Many conferences were held in addition to the set lectures. We were glad to welcome several lecturers and students from other countries, including Mademoiselle Bertillon, of Paris, who lectured on the treatment of juvenile crime in France and U.S.A., Frau Wex from Germany, and Mrs. Gaus from South Africa, all of whom took a helpful part in the discussions. Most of the lectures given at the school will be reprinted in the *Woman's Leader*, especially those in the section for women magistrates, and may be had on application at the office of that paper, 15, Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1. A remarkable feature of the school was the attention it attracted in the Press, which enabled its teaching to reach a wide outside public; and this was as it ought to be, as almost every lecture or discussion dealt with some question of present-day urgency. Oxford is an ideal place for such a school, and the excursions to the beautiful surrounding country, and visits to institutions, were greatly enjoyed. E. M. H.

#### THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

In anticipation of the proposed Conference on Franchise Reform which the Government is expected to summon next year, The Women's Freedom League is preparing an Autumn Campaign on Equal Franchise. At our recent campaign on the Clyde Coast we specialised

on this subject, and we are urging our branches to make this matter a live issue in their localities.

We rejoice that Mrs. Ethel Short, a Council School teacher, won her case against the Poole Corporation, the judge maintaining that she should not be dismissed from her employment simply and solely because she was a married woman. At the present time a woman doctor has been asked to resign her post, on the ground of her marriage, by a London local governing body. We are delighted to know that she is prepared to refuse this request, and we shall give her every support in our power.

Time after time during the present Session of Parliament we have protested against the inadequate number of women compared with men placed upon Committees appointed by Heads of Government Departments; and we have specially protested that no woman has been asked to serve on the Committee recently appointed by the Minister of Health "to draw up a practicable scheme of post-graduate medical education centred in London." The Minister of Health is Chairman of this Committee, which has fourteen other men members. We have pointed out to the Minister of Health that the proposed scheme will affect women as well as men doctors; that a better scheme is likely to be formulated if drawn up by men and women working together; and that there are now a number of medical women connected with the various schools and hospitals who would be valuable members of such a Committee.

With regard also to the inquiry about to be undertaken by the Board of Control in conjunction with the Board of Education into the incidence of mental deficiency, we have urged that a woman (either a woman Inspector of the Board of Education or a medical woman) should act jointly with the Inspector of the Board of Control—a medical man—who has been deputed to carry out the investigation under the auspices of a Committee. There are seven men and three women on this Committee, and the investigation is expected to take about a year. There are girls as well as boys in our schools who are mentally deficient, and we are convinced that the results of the inquiry would be more successful if a capable woman acted with the Inspector in carrying out the investigation. F. A. UNDERWOOD.

#### HOLLAND.

##### Result of July Elections.

ON the 1st July the elections took place for the Second Chamber of the Dutch Parliament. The First Chamber has 50 members—one of them a woman. The Second Chamber has 100 members, chosen in 18 "elective centres" on a system of proportional representation. There were three million voters—seven per cent. more than at the last election in the year 1922, owing to increase in population. In the old Chamber there were 8 women members, in the new one only 6 are left. In Holland the grouping of the parties is unique: on the one hand there are three parties inspired by the principle of authority derived from the Roman Catholic and various orthodox Protestant religions; on the other hand we have the Liberals, the Radicals, and the Socialists, who pretend to have nothing in common. Nevertheless, and in spite of themselves, they are called the Left Group. As the theocratic Right refuses to be mixed up with any of them, they are a group whether they choose to be or not. The Roman Catholics had 32 members in the Second Chamber, two being women; now they have 30, and but one woman. The Anti-Revolutionary party (against the "droits de l'homme" of the French Revolution) had 16 seats and lost three. They say they will only bring a woman into Parliament when they find a Deborah! The Christian Historical Party (following God's guidance in the history of the nations) had, and have still, 11 members, one of them being a woman. So the "Right" had 59 seats as against 54 now. They kept their majority, and the new Cabinet is again composed of prominent Roman Catholic and orthodox Protestant men. The leader of the Anti-Revolutionaries, Mr. Colyn, has become Prime Minister. It is easy to see that from these parties, which regard trust in human

# 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. J.

President - THE LADY PARMOUR. General Secretary - MISS CHARLOTTE T. NIVEN.

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## INTERNATIONAL CAMP.

By MISS C. M. ASCH VAN WYCK.

NONE of those who attended the International Camp organised by the Young Women's Christian Association of Denmark at Hindsjavl, on the Isle of Fyer, August 1-10, will ever forget those days. Even all the outward circumstances seemed to combine to assure the success of this meeting. The lovely old estate where the Conference took place, the beautiful park surrounding it, which offered such a unique opportunity for informal discussions and personal talks between the meetings, the glorious weather with days full of sunshine but not too hot, the moon-lit evenings, the well-planned excursions to places of interest—Skamlings, Banker, and Odense,—all filled our minds with pictures of beauty and harmony.

In a great many countries the invitation of the Danish Y.W.C.A. had been gratefully accepted. Y.W.C.A. workers were present from Norway, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Great Britain, Holland, Germany, France, French Switzerland, Italy, America, and China. To most of these an international gathering was a new experience. But the hearty welcome and great friendliness of the Danish hostesses made everyone feel at home very soon. The last evening the feeling of great unity in diversity proved to have been the outstanding experience of all present.

How could there be but a great diversity when workers of so many different countries introduced and discussed the subjects. It showed quite clearly in the "talks from many lands" how different are the methods of work, the problems the Y.W.C.A. has to deal with, the circumstances under which they have to work in the various countries. How varied is the organisation of all the national Y.W.C.A.s! And, above all, how great a difference there is in the spiritual outlook and the religious views of the diverse nationalities, and in the relations between the Y.W.C.A. and the churches! The methods applied in America for the work among adolescent girls, to promote character-building—which is such an important part of religious education, which subject was so well introduced by Miss Gogin,—might seem strange at first to the workers in the Northern European Y.W.C.A.s. But very soon all realised how much they could learn from their sister-association from overseas, and they were eager to find the ways of adapting these methods to the needs of their own girls. The prominent position the Y.W.C.A. of China takes in the woman's movement and the upbuilding of the Christian Church in that country is entirely different from the relations between the Church and the Y.W.C.A. in the Western Christian countries, and it certainly seems to lay a very heavy task and great responsibility on this association, comparatively so young and so small. But the way Miss Ding spoke about this made everyone realise how each

must assume this responsibility, because the influence of the womanhood the Y.W.C.A. comes into contact with may be so great for the religious life of every country. The lectures on "Spiritual Unrest of Our Days," by Fräulein Lademann, and "Responsiveness to Human Need," by Fru Gautier-Schmit, showed clearly how great are the difficulties for our youth of to-day to find peace and certainty for their soul, and how great are the possibilities for service. This unrest and this cry for help may take different forms in the various countries, but the need is as great everywhere, and these discussions opened new perspectives for everyone.

Great diversity, but also great unity! This was due in no small measure to the excellently arranged programme which laid the greatest stress on the deepening of personal spiritual life. The lectures of Fröken Hemmingsen on "Leadership," and of Mme. Bertrand, one of the vice-presidents of the World's Y.W.C.A., on "Association Aims," the Bible readings by Bishop Ammundsen, Rev. Hee Andersen, Fröken Fugl, and other visitors to the Conference, succeeded in bringing this thought to the foreground. And at the Communion Service the last evening all were thankful to find each other at the foot of the Cross, which is, as Rev. Hee Andersen said so well, the central point of Christianity. And certainly it is the point of greatest importance for every worker in God's Kingdom! It was with great joy that in that quiet hour of the last evening many spoke of what they had received in those days of spiritual blessing, and of a quickening of the desire for service. A strong sense of the reality of the presence of God in their midst had been the experience of many of those present, and they had realised better than ever before how a close communion with God is the supreme condition for fruitful work to His Glory.

## A VISIT TO HUNGARY.

By BARONESS OLGA MEYENDORFF.

I BEGAN my tour by attending the Annual National Conference, which this year was being held at Czegled. I went there immediately after the training course at Visegrád, on May 14, with a large number of delegates from Budapest, in a train provided with special cars for their use. They all were in the happiest state of excitement, looking forward to the encouragement and inspiration they expected to receive from the Conference. Czegled is a town of some 30,000 inhabitants, situated in the great and fertile Hungarian plain. Passing through it you get a sense of an unlimited space surrounding you almost as on the ocean. The plain is covered from horizon to horizon with waving cornfields and meadows, which at that season are of a bright green, starred with thousands of flowers, while the air is filled with the scent of acacia-bloom.

The batch of delegates I was travelling with had Princess Sulkowski, the President of the Y.W.C.A., with

them, and so we were received and welcomed in great style by the Mayor and other dignitaries of the town. Speeches were made and flowers offered, Boy Scouts were there to carry the luggage, and in a short space of time the various hostesses had got hold of their guests and were whirling them off to their respective homes, in carriages whose drivers wore marvellous, brilliantly coloured liveries, somewhat resembling a Hussar's uniform. I had been assigned to a very charming lady living several miles out of town. Every morning we motored to Czegled, and spent the interval between meetings in town in the house of my hostess's mother-in-law. The hospitality extended to myself, and indeed to all the 320 delegates, was truly wonderful. Meals were all taken in common in a large hall, and served in a most efficient way by sixty young girls, who took turns at that work. Most generous hospitality is one of the traditional virtues of the Hungarians, and even under the present difficult circumstances they practise it as much as ever.

It is not easy for me to sum up the work done by the Conference, for everything was, of course, done in Hungarian; and though I always had somebody at my side eager to interpret, I was bound, even so, to lose much. It was, however, easy to see that the Conference was an evangelistic one; the delegates came chiefly for evangelistic inspiration. The speakers, for the most part pastors, were chiefly concerned with presenting the need for a deepened spiritual life. For discussion the delegates separated into two groups, a smaller one composed of older women, and a very large one composed of girls and young leaders; in both, practical questions were discussed with very keen interest. Owing to the fact that the Conference was so large there could not be so much useful discussion as would have been desirable, and the question is being seriously considered of limiting the number of the delegates attending the National Conference, and of organising several sectional conferences during the year instead.

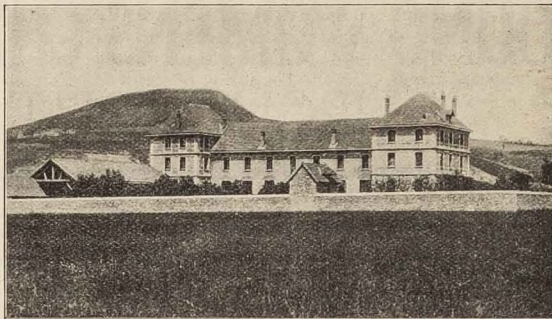
Opportunity was afforded to me several times of bringing to the Conference messages and greetings from the World's Committee, and the lecture which I gave, illustrated by beautiful coloured slides, was very much appreciated; and I was told by many that it had served to clear their minds and their ideas regarding the aims and work of the World's Committee.

Sunday, May 17, was a day of particular interest to me. It was the day of the annual visit to Czegled of the very much beloved Bishop of the Reformed Church, the Rev. Ravasz Lazlo; and the whole town had prepared itself to give him a worthy welcome, while the Y.W.C.A. had planned their Conference on purpose to include this date so as to secure him as a speaker at the morning service.

His reception in Czegled was most interesting, for a "Banderium" was organised in his honour. This "Banderium" gave me an idea of what the receptions given to Royal personages must have been in old times; though this one, of course, was on a very small scale. About a dozen young men mounted on horseback, dressed in their beautiful national costume, waited for his motor-car to arrive in the square, opposite the railway station, and when it was signalled they arranged themselves so as to form a guard of honour, standing on parade all the time while the usual speeches of welcome were taking place. They formed a most picturesque sight with their snow-white linen trousers, so wide as to fall down like skirts at both sides of the horse. They wore white linen tunics with wide-flowing embroidered sleeves, and a short dark-red velvet jacket richly embroidered in gold, the latter without sleeves. A broad-brimmed black felt hat with a waving tuft of feathery steppe grass, and high riding boots completed the costume. When the motor-car moved on, the cavalcade followed the Bishop through the streets of the town, with half the population running behind. The procession stopped before the beautiful large church, where, on the steps leading up to it, young girls dressed in national costume were arranged in picturesque groups. The women's costume is very graceful. It is composed of a short white muslin skirt and short-sleeved white bodice, over which a sort of tightly-laced brightly-coloured satin corset is worn; also a head-dress of the same colour, with long white flowing ribbons,

the whole richly embroidered in gold. All the young men and girls seated in reserved seats all through the service formed a bright, attractive picture.

(To be continued.)



Model School, Mens, France.

### TRAINING COURSE FOR LATIN COUNTRIES,

August 21 to September 17.

(CONTRIBUTED.)

IN the beautiful, historic Isère region of Southern France the World's Committee of the Young Women's Christian Association embarked this summer upon a small adventure in internationalism. For one month in a spot of almost other-worldly beauty and tranquillity, thirty-five young women representing ten different nations lived together, working and playing together, growing in fellowship and mutual appreciation. This venture grew out of various schemes suggested by the Training Committee of the World's Y.W.C.A., a committee inaugurated at the meeting of the World's Committee at St. Wolfgang, 1922. At the meeting of the World's Committee at Washington, 1924, various suggestions were made for brief international training courses for leaders of such countries where the condition of the Association does not permit of a national training centre. One such course was organised in the spring of this year in Hungary, for leaders from South-east and Central Europe. The second course, in France, was prepared to meet a request that came from an international camp held last summer in France. The campers demanded that another year there should be not a camp, nor even a conference, but a definite training course; and the Training Committee decided, therefore, to meet this demand with a month's training school primarily for leaders from Latin countries.

The nature of the course was naturally directed by the Association aim, and the formal programme therefore included Bible study, psychology and practical methods of application. This was to be rounded off by the more informal discussion groups, by organised recreation, and by the still more informal training involved in the daily contact of leaders of different nations, with the inevitable interchange of ideas and points of view, together with the intimate give and take of life under the same roof. For months the World's office hummed with communiqués to various quarters of the globe in preparing the programme of study. The resulting course was a happy one.

It included lectures by a young French pastor on the Bible, its formation, purpose and adaptation to human need; a course on how to think and how to use the thoughts of great thinkers, most ably presented by a woman of Russian and Baltic origin, with a Swiss training and education; studies in the psychology of adolescence, given by a Swiss-American, the student of a well-known Swiss educator; an exposition of practical methods, contributed by an American secretary of long experience in the work and with recent training at Colombia University; discussion groups variously led by Italy, Scotland, France, etc., on various subjects, some theoretical, some immediate and practical.

The question "where" proved a rather knotty problem, in view of the many things to be taken into consideration.

The location must be reasonably central, with a building and equipment adequate, yet within the funds at the committee's disposal, and in surroundings that would meet the need of wholesome recreation and out-of-door life. Just on the outskirts of Mens, one of the quaintest of the old French villages of the South, stands a large red-roofed solid building which commands the whole broad sweep of mountain and valley for miles around. It was formerly the Ecole Modèle for Protestant boys, and was given up at the beginning of the war. For ten years it has stood idle; fortunately it was available, and the "where" was solved.

Scotland, England, France, and U.S.A. arrived in advance to scrub, air, provision, move high puffy French beds hither and yon, trundle desks about, inspect sanitation, and otherwise prepare for the other countries.

The middle of August the door swung wide and the school "came in." Every morning from 9.0 to 12.0 saw the schoolroom where many a French boy had carved his name on battered desks, filled to overflowing with young women, eager, interested, and often a bit puzzled. The official language was French. Each week's work ended with a written examination, the purpose of which was to aid the students (many of them unaccustomed to formal study) to gather up and crystallise for themselves the real essence of the course.

Afternoons saw an empty schoolroom and a school dispersed to the four points of the compass, ranging the hills in groups of ten to twenty, or gathered in the walled-in school yard for a wild game of volley ball, under the very efficient umpiring of Miss Constantinople, a young Greek secretary trained in the American College at Constantinople. Her decisions were delivered sometimes in French, sometimes in English, to a group who played in English, French, Italian, or all three at once as the case might be. Every bush and tree in the great stretch of green meadowland outside the school wall could probably tell its tale of earnest conversations poured out under its shelter. Perhaps when the records are all in it will be these long afternoons which have counted most in real training.

A secretary of a small French association confided: "What has impressed me so much here has been the idea that there may be many methods of working for the same ideal." And another, "I don't know where I have had such a sense of liberty."

The gay Saturday excursions will not soon be forgotten, when the school departed en masse for some point of interest in the surrounding country. All through the day little groups formed for a while to dissolve and reform in a most kaleidoscopic fashion. One saw France, Italy, England, U.S.A. munching French bread and cheese under a tree, while being regaled now with French poetry, now with bits from the Oxford book of English verse; or Portugal, Italy, and France taking a wind-swept hillside abreast; or Scotland and Greece hobnobbing over Greek phrases.

One night an international evening was given for the friends from the village, members of the local association, visiting pastors, and so on. From a neighbouring village among the hills came four girls who walked over mountain roads three hours each way.

Each nationality represented by the students made a contribution. Belgium, Greece, Switzerland, Alsace, France gave national songs in national costume. France, the largest group, presented a historic tableau, "Tour de Constance," so realistically that Huguenot history lived in a new fashion for many present. Scotland, formerly a secretary in India, had brought Indian costumes, and so even India was most vividly represented. Denmark in white, a sheaf of wheat over her shoulder, read in French a brief interpretation of the young womanhood of her country. Portugal all gay in red and gold recited a Portuguese poem. Italy to the tune of her own tambourines danced a merry Italian folk dance.

The keynote of the evening was sounded in very good French by a Scotland, who had worked both in Roumania and Geneva. She welcomed the guests and spoke of the aim and scope of all association work. Tides of friendliness and esteem rise high on such an occasion, and must surely bear fruit one day.

And now the experiment is over. Thirty-five young women—a family group for four busy, happy weeks—

have gone their thirty-five different ways. Back to China, Turkey, Denmark, Algeria, the four corners of Europe, and the four corners of France, to translate into action, in thirty-five different ways, a new vision of God, of each other, and of service.

Has it been a success? Can success ever be measured or defined before the journey's end? But France, Scotland, England, U.S.A. moving back puffy French beds, trundling to their wonted spots desks marred and old, counting silver and glasses in a stolid red-roofed building, grown strangely quiet, were quite content. And certain communiqués travelling back to the busy World's office seem to indicate that one day, on an even larger scale, the experiment may be tried again.

### AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND CONVENTION.

THE Seventh Triennial Convention of the National Y.W.C.A. of Australia and New Zealand was held in Brisbane, Queensland, Australia, from the 20th to 27th July. There were 88 delegates present in all. All the associations in Australia were represented with the exception of Perth and Bendigo. The representation from New Zealand was, owing to a strike and other conditions, much smaller than usual. The whole of the proceedings, which called forth radical differences of opinion, were characterised by the deepest harmony and unity of spirit. There was an absolute determination on the part of all delegates that they should agree to differ in the spirit of love and understanding. An interesting feature of the discussions which influenced the decisions was the fact that one-third of the voting delegates were quite young board and committee women. Throughout the discussions there was manifest a spirit, on the part of the older leaders, seriously to consider the opinions of the younger members, and the younger members in their turn showed that they had a fine appreciation of the standards set up by the more mature leaders, and a deep sense of their own responsibility to uphold them in building up the future of the movement. Vital decisions were made in a spirit of utmost quietness, at the same time with due consideration of everyone's point of view.

The long-discussed question as to whether Australia and New Zealand should have separate organisations was brought to a conclusion. It was definitely felt by those present that it was in the best interests of both countries that as early as possible next year they should set up separate organisations. The new headquarters for Australia will be in Melbourne, Victoria, next year, after having been established at Sydney as a joint headquarters for twenty years.

There was much discussion at the Convention on the findings of the commissions on small towns, leadership and membership. After nearly two days' consideration, by a two-thirds majority it was agreed to recommend that an alternative basis for membership on similar lines to that adopted at the last Biennial Convention of U.S.A., be the basis for the new Australian constitution. The fact that most of the future developments in Australia and New Zealand will be in the direction of small town work made the findings of the Commission on Small Towns a vital one; and the National Board has been asked to draw up a scheme of organisation for this type of work. It was also agreed that all associations be urged to take up a study of international problems during the next three years. An international touch which delighted everyone was the use throughout the Convention of the India Jubilee Hymn Book.

### A WORLD TOURIST.

By MISS ETHEL STEVENSON.

IF anyone wishes to travel round the world, and has the good fortune to belong to the World's Y.W.C.A., or any kindred international society, she can be sure of not only seeing what is most interesting in each country, but of getting at the heart of things from the very start. I have just returned from a journey round the world, in which the friendship for which our Association stands has become a very real and beautiful thing, and I want to try and share with you some of the

impressions I have carried back with me, especially of our work in the East.

I had gone to America to take part in the Committee Meeting of the World's Y.W.C.A., which was held in Washington in 1924, and from there I planned to go on to the East and return home by India. I had the great pleasure of having with me, as travelling companion, one of our Swedish delegates to Washington, Countess Elsa Bernadotte, and her companionship doubled the pleasure of the journey for me and was a great inspiration to the Associations which we visited.

Our first stopping place after we left America was Honolulu, a lovely island with its beautifully-shaped mountains rising steeply up from the clear blue sea, and its gardens full all the year round of the most glorious flowers. It is one of the most international associations we have, as it includes Chinese, Japanese, Hawaiian, British, and American members, and there are, I believe, other nationalities too; at any rate, here in the pretty Association building, with its palm trees and lovely flowers, East and West do meet. Our stay was too short for us to see many of the members, but we met a large group of the Committee and those interested in the work at a luncheon given in the charming Association hostel, where we were served by soft-footed, dark-eyed Hawaiian girls, and heard some delicious Hawaiian music. It is not all flowers and sunshine and music there. Our secretary has her own difficulties and many problems to solve, as will be readily understood when one thinks of the cosmopolitan aspect of the city. The delightful welcome we received there, when we were wreathed with flowers on the landing stage, and found our few hours had been so carefully planned that we missed nothing we could possibly have seen, is a specimen of the great welcome we received everywhere in the Association, and which we will always remember.

The next country was Japan, and I will never forget my first sight of that fascinating land. I got up early to have the first glimpse of Fujiyama. The sea and sky were a pale delicate blue, and away on the horizon one saw very clearly the well-known outline of that famous mountain. I was one of the first on deck, and it was extraordinarily interesting to watch the faces of the Japanese passengers as they came up. Fuji stands to them not only as an emblem of their country, but as the sacred symbol of its very heart; and their faces lit up with an inward joy as they caught sight of the familiar slopes. Soon we were steaming past the beautiful coastline, with its irregular and jagged line of mountains rising from the tree-bordered shores, and then came our first sight of the East. It was a sad one, for there was little left of the flourishing town of Yokohama but heaps of bricks and twisted iron. On the quay, however, stood a fascinating crowd; Japanese men in European dress were talking to men in kimonos and wooden clogs, carrying paper parasols; Japanese women with brightly-dressed babies tied on their backs were waiting to welcome friends, and a few Japanese ladies in quiet-coloured kimonos with beautiful obis (sashes) were talking together in a group. Coolies were everywhere in their curious, loose, dark-blue cotton coats with the crest of their trade stamped on the back in white, and often a very effective design in white all round. Very quickly we were discovered by Mrs. Eddy and Miss Scott, of the Tokyo Association, and went off in jinrickshas to the station. It was sad to pass along what had evidently been a very fine street and see merely a heap of neatly piled bricks or stones, and a placard saying this was the property of such and such a business house. In the midst of all the ruins the blue triangle showed up new and clean above a wooden two-storeyed house, where, in spite of the fact that only a year had elapsed since the earthquake, all classes were in full swing and the building almost crowded out. The morning we visited the Association there had been an earthquake lasting several minutes, which sent everyone running out into the street, and the building swayed ominously and creaked, but nothing happened. I can still see the charming group of laughing girls who gathered in the front for a photograph, coming from cooking classes, or typewriting, or dressmaking, or the study of English, and from many other studies, and who, later, gathered in the pretty little hall for prayers. Later we saw the place where



Committee Meeting, Osaka.

two of our secretaries were killed on that terrible 1st September, 1923. The stories of heroism, and of suffering borne unflinchingly, and of marvellous escapes, would fill a whole book.

Tokyo wore a very different aspect, although it also had been much destroyed, but the rebuilding had gone on quickly, and whatever scenes of desolation may have lurked behind the street fronts, ruin was not so visible. Our Association here was a busy hive of industry, although housed in one-storeyed wooden barracks. The earthquake swept away in two minutes everything that the Association possessed, and all records were destroyed, but within two days of that catastrophe girls were coming to Kawai San and asking when the classes would be reopened. Classes were impossible, but the Association grappled with a part of the tremendous refugee problem, and their help was so efficient and so prompt that it made a great impression upon the Government, with the result that they were able to secure a most beautiful site for their long-desired Conference ground. It lies right at the foot of Fujiyama, and would be the envy of many other countries could they see it, with its little wood where they often gather for prayer and Bible study, and its open-air swimming pool fringed with trees and ferns, and the charming wooden buildings with their sliding doors, Japanese fashion, which form such delightful sleeping quarters. The camp was not finished by any means when I saw it in September, 1924, but they had held their Conference there, and it had been a wonderful joy to them, and they hoped for a great extension of its usefulness.

We have many other centres in Japan. Kyoto, the old capital, with its wonderful palaces and temples, where we stayed in the Japanese house of our secretaries, with its Japanese garden and quaint stone lanterns, and had a delightful afternoon party given to us by our Association members—such a merry group of young girls in brilliant kimonos. Osaka, with its teeming population and tremendous industrial problems, where we met girls engaged in many kinds of industrial work, and saw one of the great cotton mills with its thousands of girl workers. Our hostel there was a rather new possession, and the girls showed us some of their rooms with great pride. Kobe, with its beautiful harbour and hilly streets, and background of wooded hills, where we spoke at an evening gathering to some of the girls, who, coming down from the secretaries' house on the hill in jinrickshas, each with a Japanese lantern on a shaft, and also other lanterns on vehicles, made such a picturesque scene. There are other places, too, which we were unable to visit.

(To be continued.)

It is with very deep regret that we announce the death of Miss E. G. Johnston, for several years a member of the Shanghai staff. Miss Johnston sailed to China in 1916, under the Y.W.C.A. of Great Britain, and was appointed to Shanghai after a year's language study. From the beginning she was deeply interested in industrial conditions, and made investigations; so that when in the winter of 1919-20 a deputation from the Federation of Woman's Foreign Mission Boards of America visited China, Miss Johnston was appointed vice-chairman of the Commission on Social Service, and was largely responsible for the Commission's report.

nature as sinful pride, we may expect no sympathy with feminist aims. They have dismissed the married women State employees, and they are opposed, whenever possible, to the economic independence of married women. Of the 5 seats they lost, one went to the small Roman Catholic Labour Party, which has on its platform the legal prohibition of all paid work for women. The Anti-Revolutionary party lost its seats to its own extremists—fanatic Calvinists who object fiercely to the alliance with the Roman Catholics, and who do not allow their own women ever to poll their vote.

The elections brought us a change for the better in one case—a seat gained by the Socialists from the Roman Catholics. The "Right," however anti-feminist, has some claim to our gratitude in spite of itself. To the anti-revolutionary principle that the Government, being God's trustee, must have no dealings with sin, we owe the happy fact that as early as 1903 the State regulation of prostitution was abolished. The "Right" is not conservative—it is retrogressive and sometimes inclined to return to the good institutions of a remote past. "La recherche de la paternité est interdite" was Dutch law from the time of Napoleon, but in that same year of 1903 the "Right" put an end to that century-old injustice. For the rest our hope is in the parties of the "Left," but it will be much deferred by their dissensions.

During the preceding period, Liberals, Radicals, and Socialists advocated our cause with zeal and ability in both Chambers. Each of these parties had, and still has, a clever woman in the Second Chamber to promote and defend feminism. They worked splendidly in the last Parliament, but without result, since the majority of the "Right" is like an iron wall against feminist arguments. Our League of Women Citizens organised meetings during the election, where leaders of the parties that support feminism, as it is expressed in our seven claims, advocated those claims in terms that were almost identical. Liberals, Radicals, and Socialists, trusting in human reason, showed a perfect though involuntary unity in this matter. Our League also allowed them to advocate their several party principles and their contrasting views on economics. They were asked to do it peacefully, and on this occasion they did.

With a theocratic majority against us and a minority of discordant friends, feminism in Holland is looking forward to a somewhat dark future.

ELIZABETH VAN DER HORVEN.

## INDIA.

WE learn that the Bengal Legislative Council has passed a resolution granting the franchise to women. This is the fifth British Province to use its powers under the Government of India Act to enfranchise its women, and though we have no details there is little doubt that it has done so on terms of equality. As the Punjab already has a Resolution to the same effect before its Council, which it is hoped may be passed very shortly, there remain only two British Provinces, the Central Provinces and Bihar and Orissa, which have not as yet taken any step in this direction as far as we know.

### The Forward March.

Every few days there comes news from one part of the country or another of progress being made in the Women's Movement. We have before referred to the work for their enfranchisement being done by the Sikh women. Now the Gurudwara Bill has been passed by the Council, and the Sikh women's rights recognised. Originally the Bill was drawn up giving the vote only to the men, but a fine protest was made by the Sikh women and others, including the Women's Indian Association, with the result that the provision of the Bill making men only eligible as voters, has been struck out, and the Sikh men and women are equal.

Also the Hon. Mr. V. Ramdas has given notice to the Council of State of his Resolution enfranchising women for that Council who possess the prescribed qualifications, and also conferring the right for women to stand for election to the Council, which is the highest elected Council in the land.

In Madras Presidency we are leading the way as we have done in so many reforms. Madras Legislative Council is to be the first to discuss the Resolution removing the sex disqualification with regard to the election of women as members of the Legislative Council. Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Iyengar, M.L.C., is the mover of the Resolution.

### An Elected Woman Councillor.

We are glad to know that a woman has been elected as a member of the Madras Municipal Corporation. This is the first time that a woman has entered the Corporation by election. She is Mrs. Hannen Angelo, who is well known for the good work as a nurse that she has done in the city. There is already a woman member of the Corporation, Mrs. Devadoss, who was nominated by the Government. We hope that in the near future there will be more women in the Corporation, for there are very many reforms needed in Madras that are specially in the department of women to look after.

### The Children's Protection Act.

During the next Session of the Legislative Assembly at Simla, that meets on the 20th of this month, this Bill will be again put before the members for their consideration. Last time it came up it was said by the Government that they had not been aware that public opinion was in favour of the Bill, and of making the legal age for the consummation of marriage for little girls to be 14. In such a vast country as India it is not an easy matter to collect public opinion, especially from women, who have not been accustomed to express their views publicly in meetings or memorials, and it is wonderful testimony to the strong feeling of the women of India on this subject when I can bear testimony that there has been sent to me, personally, no fewer than 36 resolutions passed by 36 women's organisations in all parts of India; from the National Council of Women in Bengal, the Seva Sadan in Poona and Bombay, Women's Indian Associations, etc., etc. Public meetings have been, or are being, held in the big towns. A great public meeting is being held in Madras University Senate House on the 11th of this month, with Lady Sadasiva Iyer in the chair, to support the Bill, and to demand that the age be 14.

In all the resolutions passed by women, and in all the verbal opinion obtained, we find that 14 is the age willingly accepted; if any difference is ever put forward it is to say that the age should be made 16. So we trust that Sir Harry Singh Gour will not lower his standard and concede to the wishes of the minority. It will be difficult to bring up the Bill again in the near future, to change the age once more from 13 to 14, so we beg of him, in spite of some opposition from the few, to continue bravely, as in the past, his unswerving championship of the highest ideals for the advancement of women and the welfare of the people.

## NEW ZEALAND.

LAST month the first Conference of our League of Nations Union was held in Wellington. Previous movements on this issue had commenced in different centres, mainly under prominent men, but not till the Women's Christian Temperance Union and the National Council of Women took an active part did the Union gather the necessary impetus. The campaign was much helped by the visit, last January, of Mr. Vivian Wilson, Secretary to Sir Eric Drummond, Secretary-General of the League of Nations. At a meeting called by leading women of the town, the Christchurch branch of the Union was formed, with a former Rhodes scholar, Mr. W. H. F. Airey, as Secretary. Mrs. Emma Wilson, mother of Mr. Vivian Wilson, has long taken a prominent part in public life as member of the Christchurch Hospital and Charitable Aid Board, and in other capacities. Leading women, including Mrs. J. E. Taylor, late Acting Dominion President W.C.T.U., and Mrs. Evans, M.A., first woman graduate in the British Empire, are active in the work; while Mrs. Edith Leach, Dunedin, who had helped Mrs. Carmalt Jones (then Dominion President of the National Council of Women) in the initial stages, is

an enthusiastic Dominion Secretary. It will do much to awaken our people to the great peace and reform issues bound up with the work at Geneva.

The question of housing and building is much before New Zealand at present, and though it is impossible to formulate one scheme of Government regulations, the Department of Public Health last month issued a set of model by-laws from which local authorities are not likely to deviate far. The Department accepts the English minimum of building sections—that is, not less than a twelfth of an acre. A frontage of 40ft. is demanded unless peculiarities of ground unavoidably alter the shape of the section. A minimum of five feet between the buildings is proposed, and where block terraces are permitted it is suggested that only four houses be built together. The minimum area for a bedroom is put at 63ft., cubic content 500ft.; that of a living room at 140 sq. ft., and kitchen 63 sq. ft. No bedroom, bathroom, or lavatory should open off the kitchen, and no gas heater must be without a flue.

The Parliamentary session has just begun. Our new Premier, Mr. Coates, has yet to prove himself on women's questions, but Government measures announced include, besides a comprehensive humanitarian Coal Mines Act Amendment Bill, two Bills actively promoted by women.

The Registration of Nurses and Midwives Act Amendment Bill safeguards the living and future of two important classes of women workers too seldom befriended by law in most countries as yet. The Child Welfare Act Amendment Bill proposes to put special schools for defective children on a proper footing, and altogether to assist the Education Department in dealing with the five thousand small wards of the State to-day. Wherever possible the boarding-out system under foster-parents is to supersede life in disciplinary institutions. A very important feature proposed is the creation of Children's Courts, where protection and guidance—not punishment—would be the aim, and where the skilled magistrates appointed would be assisted by skilled women officials. The welfare of illegitimate children is also to be more strictly supervised. These Bills will be carefully watched, but favourable treatment is expected.

Considerable surprise has been expressed concerning the cabled remarks of a Mrs. Kane who at the British Commonwealth League Conference, July 9—11, in London, was reported to convey a "gloomy impression" of post-suffrage work in New Zealand based on the "apathy and want of co-operation" of the women. We are at a loss to know how and where Mrs. Kane obtained such a viewpoint. We cannot claim the opportunities of the older and more leisured organisations overseas in apprehending world questions, but neither do we accept blame because a few reactionary Ministers and an obsolete Upper House have succeeded in blocking us in many of our up-to-date demands. Nor do we think that close inspection of public results achieved since 1893, and of the life and thought of our people, point to apathy and dissension among us. Rather may we say that our public work has been characterised by a clear idea of Dominion needs and a twentieth-century outlook followed with singular cordiality and unanimity in women's organisations for betterment here. We have not nearly all we hoped, but we do not think that Britain should be ashamed of our pioneer efforts for greater co-operation of women than ever before, and we earnestly hope to take our modest part with the rest.

It is too early to name prospective candidates for Parliament this year, but it is safe to say a bigger and wider fight will be put up by New Zealand women this time. Already one admirable Labour woman has her name on the party ballot list, and other projected nominations are in the air. So great an innovation cannot command the elements of any but a very modest initial success, but the most far-sighted of our men are eager to see the woman M.P. arrive, and we can but trust the event.

JESSIE MACKAY.

Christchurch, July 17.  
[Editor's Note.—With regard to the remarks attributed to Miss Kane, President of the National Council of Women of New Zealand, at the British Commonwealth Conference, we think it desirable to publish an extract

from a letter of Miss Chave Collisson, organiser of the British Commonwealth League, sent to our British contemporary, the *Women's Leader*, in reply to a similar protest sent to that paper by Miss Mackay. Miss Collisson says: "Miss Kane was allowed only ten minutes, and was definitely confined to the subject of 'Political Equality.' I think the cables have done her some injustice in omitting the context of her speech. She distinctly emphasised the same pioneer conditions about which Miss Mackay writes: 'In considerable areas of our country women are still grappling with pioneer conditions, unable either to combine or effectively inform themselves on public affairs.' Miss Kane said further: 'It is very hard to get sufficient women to take part in political life, as they have to help in carrying on their homes, doing work on the farm, and bringing up their children.' I think Miss Kane was definitely speaking on the issue of political representation, and not on the wonderful general social work of New Zealand."]

### SOUTH AFRICA.

In the June issue we published a report from South Africa dealing with the lamentable failure of the Labour Party to keep their pledges with regard to supporting woman suffrage. It was stated that a member of the South African Party had agreed to introduce a woman suffrage amendment to the Electoral Bill, and we now learn that Mr. Duncan did so, but the Government refused to consider the amendment on the ground that it would jeopardise the passage of the Bill. The end of the debate was that a Nationalist moved the previous question, which was carried by the Government majority, which included the Labour Party. Nothing but an assertion of the principle was expected from the amendment by the women's organisation, and further Parliamentary action on their part must depend on how events shape in the immediate future.

### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

PROMOTION of world peace, especially through American adherence to the Permanent Court of International Justice, looms forth as woman's important work for the winter of 1925.

With December 17th designated as the day for the beginning of the debate on the World Court in the next Congress, organised peace forces started a campaign early last spring. The National League of Women Voters, which placed the World Court proposal as the first item for action on its legislative programme, has maintained a steady vigil on World Court matters throughout the summer, and has been instrumental with other groups in stirring public interest. Action on the World Court may be months off, with the present assurances of a long debate and a bitter fight from the opponents, but women voters are prepared to continue their campaign for months and months, if it is necessary.

Something of the spirit of women voters when a crusade of world peace is the issue was gleaned from the way in which women rallied to a nation-wide World Court demonstration on August 26th, which was arranged by the National League as a fitting observance of the celebration of the fifth anniversary of woman suffrage in the United States. From Maine to California and from the Gulf to the Canadian border a chain of appeals, welded by the League, in addition to asking for senatorial approbation of the pact as it now stands, emphasised woman's plea that the United States take its stand in the universal efforts for continued peace. The drive took the form of public mass meetings, porch parties, exhibits, and speeches at country fairs and circuses, radio tea parties, special international relations, luncheons and dinners, and was promoted by state, county, city, and village leagues.

Mindful of the efforts which will be made to present last-minute amendments to postpone or "kill" the World Court resolution as it now stands with the approval of the Administration leaders, the executive committee of the National League has definitely placed itself on

record as against all "eleventh-hour" reservations to the resolution now pending in the Senate.

The League's stand is set forth as follows:

"The League of Women Voters for over two years has educated itself not only to the importance of this step to the peace of the world, but also to the difficulties to be removed at home before the treaty is signed. It supports the World Court measure as proposed by Presidents Harding and Coolidge, and by Secretary Hughes, and does not favour amendments which are likely to kill the proposal or delay its passage indefinitely.

The questions have been asked: "Will the League of Women Voters accept in place of the resolution and reservations offered by Mr. Harding, Mr. Hughes, and Mr. Coolidge, such proposals as have been made by Senator Pepper and Senator Borah?" "Is it willing to support the organising of a new Court around the old Hague tribunal?" "Does it insist that no advisory opinions shall be asked of the Court for fear of causing it to be politically dominated?" To all these questions the answer is "No."

Having examined the proposal for so long a time, the answers to the two main questions, "Does entry into the Permanent Court of International Justice commit the United States to entry into the League of Nations?" and "Is the Court an instrument for peace?" are found to be "No" and "Yes" respectively. The League of Women Voters is not prepared at this eleventh hour to accept reservations which will defeat the entry of the United States into the Court, and will be impatient with lukewarm leadership and long-drawn-out and pointless debate on the part of Senators who wish to be counted as friends of the proposal."

Miss Belle Sherwin, president of the League, recently addressed a letter to Dr. Frank J. Goodnow, president of Johns Hopkins University, urging that the doors of the new Walter Hines Page School of International Relations be opened to women. Gratifying assurances came from Mr. J. S. Ames, acting-president in the absence of Dr. Goodnow in Europe.

"The Walter Hines Page School will be on the same basis as our other special schools in the University, and like all the rest will be open to both men and women who are properly qualified to enter it," Mr. Ames wrote. "I do not think this school will be opened until 1926, however."

The League's seventh annual convention is scheduled to take place in St. Louis, Missouri, April 14 to 21, 1926. The convention has been arranged so as not to conflict with the National Y.W.C.A. convention in Milwaukee, beginning April 22, and also to provide plenty of time for some of the League leaders to complete post-convention work and then sail for Paris for the meeting of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance.

Suffragists in the United States, and many others in other lands, are mourning the loss of Mrs. Helen H. Gardener, who died in July at her home in Washington, D.C. Mrs. Gardener's work for suffrage as vice-chairman of the Congressional Committee which handled the campaign for Congressional approval of the federal suffrage amendment, and her subsequent appointment as the first woman commissioner in the Civil Service Commission, were only two high lights in a notable career devoted to the emancipation of woman. Glowing tributes to her full life were made at her funeral by Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt and Mrs. Maud Wood Park, former president of the National League.

A few words from Mrs. Park's tribute will be read with interest:

"We who knew her only in the later years often failed to realise her important contribution to American letters. One of her essays, 'Sex in Brain,' inspired by her life-long eagerness to secure justice for women, was translated into many languages and started scientific research establishing the fact that there is no difference in the brain structure of men and of women. Several of her early and popular novels were dramatised expositions of the need of a single standard of sex morals, again a manifestation of her longing for justice for women.

"In the Congressional Committee of the American Woman Suffrage Association we used to call her the 'diplomatic corps,' because her extraordinary tact made

numberless powerful friends for the cause, and her manifest sincerity held their support to the end. In the nature of the case much of her work was confidential and cannot be made known for a generation. I can only say that when, at crucial moments, aid came from high places so unexpectedly that it seemed miraculous, we knew that Helen Gardener's work had brought its accustomed fruits."

The following tribute of the National League was written by Miss Adele Clark, of Richmond, second vice-president:

"In the name of the National League of Women Voters I wish to express our consciousness of what is owed by women to Helen Hamilton Gardener for her fearless championship of the political freedom of women, her tireless efforts to obtain equal suffrage through days and night of patient, arduous labour, when no detail was too small, no challenge too difficult to be essayed; for her frank and courageous advocacy of efficient government, her leadership in the school of thought which aims to make the civil administration of the Government as high a form of service as can be rendered to our country; for her dignified and diplomatic stand for the recognition of women in Governmental affairs; for her refusal to accept her own honours as a personal matter, but always as a symbol and type of that which is due to enfranchised womanhood.

"The inspiration of her personality and of her achievements is the prized heritage of this association, of which she was a founder.

"Our grief is transmuted into a sense of victory and of peace."

ANNE WILLIAMS.

1st September, 1925.

### A MIXED BAG OF PAMPHLETS.

*The League of Nations: A Survey.*—Issued by the Information Section of the League, at 1s. This is a brief glance at the work of the League from the first meeting of the Council in January, 1920, up to June of this year. It starts with a review of the early days, showing how its organisation was built up; this is followed by a summary of the political disputes which have come before the League; its reconstruction work in Austria, Hungary, etc.; its work for International Law, and for Security and Disarmament; its methods of dealing with questions of health and other social problems; and the last chapter is entitled "Other Tasks," and in looking at the sub-headings one realises what a versatile organisation the League has to be to take on all the varied jobs which have been given to it to do. This is quite a little book—less than 90 short pages of reading matter,—and would be a most valuable possession for all advocates of the League who need to be able to explain what the League is, as briefly as possible, and yet give an idea of how multifarious are its good works.

*Finnish Government Publications, Helsingfors.*—We have received three pamphlets published by the Finnish Government dealing respectively with "The Position of Woman in Finland" in English, "Sociétés Finlandaises travaillant pour les Intérêts et la Défense des Foyers domestiques" in French, and "L'Enseignement de l'Economie domestique" in French and Finnish. These little booklets give a very good description of their several subjects. The history of the woman's movement gives an account of how Finnish women have gradually won their way to equality in many directions, and explains the steps that still have to be taken for their complete emancipation. It is illustrated by photographs of the women leaders, among which members of the Alliance will find many faces familiar from meetings at our international congresses. The others describe the varied associations doing work for children in many directions, and the practical steps taken to train girls for household management, garden and farm work, etc. This subject has received very serious consideration in Finland, and the record of their practical methods of dealing with a problem which is too often neglected should be of great interest to all women who realise the great need that exists for getting away from the old "rule-of-thumb" methods of the past.



*Seventh Annual Report of the National Council for the Unmarried Mother and Her Child*, 117, Piccadilly, London.—This Report gives, in addition to its account of the more detailed work of the Council, an interesting survey of the Parliamentary work of the last session. It rejoices in the fact that a Government Bill to legitimise children by subsequent marriage of the parents has been introduced, and will almost certainly be passed next session. This Bill is not so wide as was hoped, since it legitimises only those children of parents who were free to marry at the time of the birth of the child, but failed to do so, a proviso having been introduced which excludes illegitimate children, one of whose parents was married at the time of birth, even though the parents marry subsequently when free to do so. It seems hard that this discrimination against the child, itself equally innocent, should be made, but it is something if Great Britain at last removes the reproach that it is the only civilised country which fails to permit parents to rectify for their children, as for themselves, their earlier irregularities.

### CAMPAIGN FOR EQUAL RIGHTS.

(Continued from page 5.)

the States. One interesting feature which will soon be added to headquarters is the largest feminist library in the world, collected through years by Mrs. Belmont.

Mrs. Hooker, the newly elected Chairman of the Council, has long been in charge of the Party's work in Maryland, conducting its pre-suffrage campaign in that State. She is one of the most advanced feminists in the United States, and has a national reputation for her work in social hygiene and political reform as well as in the feminist movement. She is the author of several books, among them the "Laws of Sex," and founded and now edits the feminist paper of the National Woman's Party, *Equal Rights*. Her interest in everything pertaining to children is also very active, and besides bringing up her own five children she has foster-mothered several others.

Recently, in order that the members of the Woman's Party may be aided in their work by those women of other nations who have already secured what they seek, and that they may in turn aid and advise those who have not yet progressed so far, Alice Paul, founder of the Party, has organised an international advisory council, through which the Party hopes to receive the inspiration or work with feminist leaders throughout the world.

The Woman's Party is sending invitations to all the women whose names it has been able to secure who are accompanying members of the Inter-Parliamentary Union to Washington next October, to come to the headquarters and to utilise them in any way that adds to their pleasure or convenience while they are in the United States.

### THE EQUAL MORAL STANDARD.

IN our last issue we referred briefly to the unfortunate events connected with the Gymnastic Fête at Strasbourg. We are now glad to have learned from *La Française* that the protests made to the authorities have resulted in the appointment of a Committee of Enquiry, which unanimously reported that the maisons de tolérance should be closed. It is understood that an order has been made for the closing of these places in February, 1926. We may hope that this tragic business will help to deal a blow at the system of regulation all over France.

It is curious to consider in connection with this terrible exposure of the evils of this system, that in the Straits Settlements a Draft Ordinance has been prepared which would establish a system of Regulation in that Colony. Singapore has an evil reputation, and the growth of venereal disease in the Colony has made some action on the part of the authorities urgently necessary. We are glad to note that the British Colonial Office submitted this Draft Ordinance to the special Advisory Committee on Social Hygiene which has been set up to give advice on such difficult questions, and this Committee has presented a Report which very strongly condemns the proposal to

set up a system of Regulation which, as it truly says, is everywhere being abandoned as useless. Recognising, however, that destructive criticism does not meet the urgent necessities of the case, the Committee has made several suggestions designed to improve social conditions, especially that the proportion of men and women immigrants should be more equal (at present the percentage of males is enormously higher than that of females); also they recommend the provision of free facilities for treatment of venereal disease, and finally the suppression of brothels and the extension of the powers of the Chinese Protectorate in dealing with the safety of Chinese girls and women. It is to be hoped that this Report will prevent such a retrograde step being taken as that recommended in the Draft Ordinance.

To turn to the United States, there is an interesting note in the *Woman Citizen* about the work done by the women of Toledo (Ohio) in studying the administration of the State Laws on vice repression and control of venereal disease. These laws are worded so as to appear equal for men and women; but what did the women find? That instead of using the State law, the police were enforcing an old city ordinance to arrest women sex offenders, and paying no attention to men. With regard to venereal disease, quarantine quarters had been provided for women only, infected men being left alone. Finally, in spite of the power to close brothels, the city health officer kept a register of women prostitutes and demanded their regular periodical examination. They told the Mayor what they had discovered, and as a result the practice of registering prostitutes has been abolished; the city and county have provided a joint clinic for treatment of venereal disease in men and women alike, the women's quarantine quarters having been abolished, and test cases are to be brought to meet the other points. A good record, isn't it, of what vigilance can do and how it is needed? The moral is that if your country supersedes Regulation by a system of Health and Morals Ordinances, whether you agree with them or not, at least watch them—they need it.

### A WOMAN'S WORK IN NORWAY.

AN "equal-pay" story from Norway is evidence of a reactionary wave now sweeping over that land.

For the woman inspector of domestic science in 300 lower schools and the high schools of the country a beginner's salary of 5,000 kroner is paid and a maximum of 6,500 kroner. A man inspector of about 100 high schools receives an initial salary of 8,500 kroner and a maximum of 10,000. Recently it has been proposed to the Committee on Salaries that the maximum pay for the woman inspector shall be 8,000 kroner, a proposal recommended by the Department of Education. The reply of the Committee and of the Parliament was that the recommendation could not be adopted.

In the debate on the proposal much was said of the extraordinary service rendered to her country by the present inspector of domestic science teaching, Helga Helgeson, who was credited with founding and giving form to the present effective system of training.

One member of Parliament protested against the action of the Committee. "I think," he said, "many will agree that one representative struck the nail on the head when he called this 'woman's work.' It is woman's work! Had a man done the work Froken Helgeson has done, there is no doubt that the situation would have been different. Had the position in the schools been of a more theoretical kind than the practical work this one woman has done, I have no question that the result would have been otherwise."—*Equal Rights*.

### AN AGENT OF TRUE CIVILISATION.

IN the Loyalty Islands, a group of three tiny islands in the South Pacific, owned by France, there has lived for several years past a lone white woman, the only trained physician thereabouts. She is Mlle. Renee Lascasade.—*Equal Rights*.

## SECTION FRANÇAISE.

### BELGIQUE.

#### Un Echec.

Les suffragistes belges viennent de subir une pénible défaite: les femmes ne voteront pas cette année aux élections provinciales et elles n'ont aucune garantie de victoire pour 1929.

Comme le porte l'affiche de protestation reproduite ci-dessous que nous avons fait répandre dans tout le pays et publier par la presse, nous avons lieu de reprocher cet échec, à des degrés divers, à tous les partis; mais incontestablement c'est le parti socialiste qui en porte la principale responsabilité.

Malgré l'engagement solennel pris en 1921 par Monsieur Vandervelde, alors ministre de la justice (au nom de 28 mandataires de son parti, signataires de cet engagement) de fournir à la droite l'appoint nécessaire à l'adoption du suffrage provincial féminin en 1925, Monsieur Vandervelde, lui-même, a donné à la Chambre l'exemple du manquement à la parole donnée. Cinq seulement de ses collègues socialistes ont fait honneur à leur signature; tous les autres l'ont reniée sous les prétextes les plus fallacieux. Leur défection a fait échouer à la Chambre la motion de droite introduisant le vote féminin par voie d'amendement au projet de loi déposé par le gouvernement en vue des prochaines élections provinciales.

Toute chance de succès nous était, par le fait, enlevée au Sénat, où un amendement de M. Ligy a été rejeté le 3 août.

Il est profondément décevant de devoir constater que la seule femme belge siégeant au Parlement, Madame Spaak sénateur coopté par la gauche socialiste du Sénat, ait voté contre l'amendement en faveur du suffrage.

Il est à noter, aussi, qu'au cours de nos démarches auprès de nombreux ministres et membres influents des différents partis, Madame Brigode et Mademoiselle van den Plas, avaient reçu de M. Vandervelde personnellement l'assurance qu'il tiendrait son engagement; c'était le matin même du jour où il allait y forfaire!

Nous protestons contre une malhonnêteté sans précédent ne semblons l'être il y a quatre ans. Cet échec et plus encore la malhonnêteté cynique qui en a été la cause déterminante, nous ont vivement affectées. Il va sans dire que nous ne renonçons pas à la lutte et que nous allons reprendre la campagne de propagande avec plus de ténacité que jamais.

Pour la Fédération Belge pour le Suffrage des Femmes:

La Présidente: JANE BRIGODE. La Secrétaire-générale: L. VAN DEN PLAS.

#### Elections Provinciales de 1925.

Malgré des engagements solennels, les femmes sont frustrées du vote provincial: Pourquoi?

Parce que la gauche libérale, plaçant, ce qu'elle croit être son intérêt électoral au-dessus de l'équité politique, a mis obstacle durant quatre ans à ce que la question du vote provincial des femmes soit discutée au Parlement.

Parce que la gauche libérale, plaçant, ce qu'elle croit montré, vis à vis des adversaires du suffrage féminin, l'énergie nécessaire pour exiger la réalisation de cette réforme qui leur avait été garantie pour 1925, en échange de multiples et importantes concessions, lors de la révision constitutionnelle.

Parce que les mandataires socialistes, signataires de la convention de 1921, ont cyniquement déchiré leur signature, sous la pression du parti socialiste tout entier qui est ainsi devenu complice d'une escroquerie politique.

Nous protestons contre une malhonnêteté sans précédent dans l'histoire parlementaire belge—malhonnêteté portant gravement atteinte à la dignité de la représentation nationale et qui est de nature à détruire dans la conscience publique la notion du respect de la parole librement donnée.

Nous protestons, une fois de plus, contre l'appellation mensongère de Suffrage Universel donnée à un système électoral provincial qui exclut deux millions de Belges majeures.

Nous protestons, enfin, contre la méconnaissance de droits féminins et des intérêts familiaux qui, d'après

l'expérience de pays suffragistes, seraient mieux défendus par un S.U. intégral que par les seuls votes masculins.

Et nous faisons appel à l'opinion pour qu'elle impose au législateur une plus juste conception de ce que réclame le bien public.

La question sera posée à nouveau au cours de la prochaine session.

Les femmes doivent participer au scrutin provincial de 1929!

Pour la Fédération Belge pour le Suffrage des Femmes. Siège Sociale: 3 bis rue de la Regence, Bruxelles.

La Présidente: JANE BRIGODE. La Secrétaire-générale: L. VAN DEN PLAS.

### DEUX CONGRÈS INTERNATIONAUX POUR LA PAIX.

Deux Congrès pacifistes viennent de se tenir, l'un à Paris du 1 au 6 septembre, l'autre à Luxembourg du 9 à 14 septembre.

Le premier de ces Congrès, celui de Paris, eut un caractère plus officiel. La séance d'ouverture fut présidée par Monsieur de Monzie, Ministre de l'Instruction publique, assisté de M. Loebem, président du Reichstag allemand.

Le Congrès de Luxembourg, organisé par l'Internationale démocratique, groupa de nombreux jeunes hommes (français, allemands, anglais) accourus à l'appel de M. Marc Sangnier qui présidait le Congrès.

L'un et l'autre de ces Congrès firent un bon et profond travail. Et, chose digne d'être remarquée, c'est la question de l'éducation pacifiste de l'enfance qui occupe la première place dans les travaux des deux Congrès. Ceci s'explique sans doute par le fait que beaucoup de femmes assistaient à ces Congrès avec la volonté de faire triompher les préoccupations d'éducatrices qui sont les leurs. L'effort des Gouvernements sera en effet impuissant à assurer la paix entre les peuples si, par un effort d'éducation, on ne s'efforce pas tout d'abord de faire pénétrer la paix dans les cœurs, et tout particulièrement dans les cœurs des enfants qui sont l'Avenir.

Le Congrès de Luxembourg s'attacha surtout à la réforme des manuels scolaires, regrettant que ces manuels soient trop souvent une suite de récits de guerres et de batailles alors qu'ils devraient être surtout l'histoire des efforts tentés par les différents peuples pour faire progresser l'œuvre de la civilisation. "Dans nos écoles," déclara un allemand, M. Wilhem, qui présidait les travaux de la commission d'enseignement, "la glorification de la force brutale et de la tuerie doivent cesser. . . . Ainsi pourra se réaliser la grande parole: 'Paix sur la terre aux hommes de bonne volonté.'"

M. Ferdinand Buisson, directeur honoraire de l'Enseignement primaire de France, qui, en dépit de ses 86 ans, avait tenu à assister au Congrès de Luxembourg, montra le caractère primordial de l'action pacifique s'exerçant sur l'enfant pour l'organisation de la paix. "Il faut préparer," dit-il, "l'enfant à une vie nouvelle. Il ne s'agit pas de déclarer que les patries doivent disparaître; il faut lui faire comprendre que les patries, dans l'avenir, devront être grandes, non parce qu'elles seront fortes militairement et conquérantes, mais parce qu'elles seront justes et s'attacheront scrupuleusement au respect du droit."

Voilà une conception de la Paix et de la Patrie qui doit trouver un écho dans tous les cœurs généreux, et des Congrès internationaux, comme celui de Paris et de Luxembourg, sont de bons artisans de ce désarmement des haines sans lequel il n'y aura jamais de Paix véritable. GERMAINE MALATERRE-SELLIER.

### NOUVELLES INTERNATIONALES. Grande-Bretagne.

*Ligue de la Liberté des femmes*.—La loi qui permet de révoquer les femmes fonctionnaires qui se marient est battue en brèche de tous côtés. Mrs. E. Short a gagné son procès contre le conseil municipal de Poole qui voulait

la révoquer dans ces conditions. Une femme docteur de Londres va faire un procès analogue. La Ligue soutient leurs revendications. Elle vient aussi de protester auprès du Parlement contre le nombre insuffisant de hauts fonctionnaires féminins, et contre l'absence de femmes dans le comité de 15 membres nommé par le ministère de l'hygiène pour préparer les réformes de l'enseignement médical à Londres.

**Droits des femmes.**—Le Collège royal de chirurgie et les licenciés en chirurgie dentaire ont accordé aux femmes les mêmes droits qu'aux hommes. Jusqu'ici, elles pouvaient passer les examens et prendre leurs grades, mais elles n'étaient ni électrices ni éligibles aux comités.

Le notariat public est une ancienne fondation (plus ancienne que celle d'attorney) qui fut autrefois ecclésiastique et qui est dirigée par l'archevêque de Cantorbéry et le Conseil des Facultés. Miss Anna Amphlett va être la première femme "notaire public."

**Union nationale des Sociétés pour l'égalité civile.**—La session qui vient de finir a vu enfin la présentation du Bill accordant une pension aux veuves, aux orphelins et aux vieillards. Le "Guardianship of Infants Act" a été voté. Il donne des droits égaux au père et à la mère et assure à la mère, en cas de séparation, le droit à la pension alimentaire. Le "Summary Jurisdiction" (Separation and Maintenance), voté également, donne à chaque conjoint le droit de séparation pour mauvais traitements aux enfants, ivrognerie, maladies vénériennes, incitation à la prostitution, etc.

Le garden-party en l'honneur de Dame M. Fawcett a été un grand succès.

Les Cours de vacances pour les magistrates et citoyennes, à Oxford (25 août-8 sept.), ont pleinement réussi. Le Hall contenait 100 étudiantes toutes engagées dans une œuvre sociale ou un service public. Quelques étrangers étaient du nombre: Mlle Bertillon de Paris, Frau Wex d'Allemagne, Mrs. Gaus de l'Afrique du Sud, etc. Les conférences ont été publiées dans la *Woman's Leader*, 15, Dean's Yard, Westminster, London, S.W. 1, et ont été résumées dans la presse.

#### Allemagne.

**Révocations de fonctionnaires mariés.**—Le Bill concernant la révocation des fonctionnaires mariés a été discuté au Reichstag et a été rejeté en seconde lecture à une voix de majorité (180 contre 179) le 17 juillet, mais voté en troisième lecture, grâce à la pression du gouvernement, par une majorité de 235 contre 180. Tout ce que l'intervention énergique et unanime des femmes députés a pu obtenir, c'est certains adoucissements dans l'application, et l'assurance du gouvernement que cet article serait aboli définitivement dans la nouvelle loi sur les fonctionnaires, avant 1929.

**Réunion du Conseil national des Femmes.**—La prochaine réunion biennale aura lieu du 4 au 7 octobre, à Dresde. Elle coïncidera avec le Jubilé pour la 60<sup>e</sup> année de l'Union auxiliaire de l'Alliance, qui se tiendra, à Meissen, lieu de naissance de la fondatrice, Luisa Otto. Ce sera une manifestation féministe importante.

**Un triomphe d'étudiantes.**—A l'Université de Berlin tous les prix ont été remportés par des femmes.

#### Etats-Unis.

L'œuvre importante des femmes a été la pression constante et unanime qu'elles ont exercée en faveur de l'entrée des Etats-Unis à la Cour permanente de justice internationale. Depuis le printemps, une campagne a été organisée par la Ligue des Electrices qui a mis sur son programme de cette année cette question en première ligne. D'autres groupes se sont joints à elle pour cette campagne qui durera des mois et des mois s'il le faut; car cette cause est celle de la paix internationale. On peut se faire une idée de cette "croisade" par la manière dont les femmes se sont jointes à la démonstration du 26 août à l'occasion du 5<sup>e</sup> anniversaire du suffrage aux E.-U. Du Maine à la Californie, et de la frontière du Canada à celle du Mexique, des meetings, des expositions, des fêtes, des foires, des banquets, des thés, des conférences furent organisés par les sociétés des villages, des villes, des comtés et des Etats. La déclaration de la Ligue se résume ainsi: La Ligue, depuis 2 ans, s'est convaincue, non seulement de l'importance de cette étape vers la paix universelle, mais des

difficultés à vaincre dans le pays avant que le traité ne soit signé. La Ligue soutiendra la décision des présidents Harding et Coolidge et du secrétaire Hughes en faveur de la Cour internationale et combattra les amendements proposés qui tendent à tuer ou à retarder cette adhésion. A la question: L'entrée des E.-U. à la Cour permanente entraîne-t-elle leur entrée à la Société des Nations; elle répond non. La Cour est elle un instrument de paix? Oui.

Miss Belle Sherwin a reçu du Président de la J. Hopkins Université l'assurance que les femmes seront admises à l'école des relations internationales qui s'ouvrira en 1926.

La 7<sup>e</sup> Convention annuelle de la Ligue aura lieu à Saint-Louis, Missouri, du 14 au 21 avril, 1926.

Les suffragistes apprendront avec regret la mort de Mrs. Gardener qui a dévoué sa vie à l'émancipation des femmes.

**Parti National des Femmes.**—Ce parti, depuis quatre ans qu'il existe, a travaillé à préparer la campagne législative pour les droits égaux des deux sexes. Les lois affectant les femmes dans tous les Etats ont été étudiées, comparées et classées en vue de la prochaine session législative.

**Consulat.**—Miss P. Field, diplômée de l'Ecole du service étranger, a été nommée consul à Amsterdam.

#### Hollande.

Le 1<sup>er</sup> juillet ont eu lieu les élections de la seconde Chambre du Parlement. La première Chambre a 50 membres, dont une femme; la seconde en a 100, élus par 18 "centres électifs" sur le système de la représentation proportionnelle. Elle comprend 6 femmes. Le parti de droite a 54 membres, catholiques et protestants orthodoxes, dont 2 femmes; et son chef, M. Colyn, est premier ministre. Le parti de gauche est composé de trois groupes: libéraux, radicaux et socialistes; c'est le seul parti féministe. Le parti de droite a fait révoquer les femmes fonctionnaires mariées; il s'oppose à l'indépendance économique des femmes mariées et son groupe catholique a même préconisé la suppression de tout travail payé pour les femmes. Toutefois, c'est le parti de droite qui, depuis 1903, a fait abolir la réglementation officielle de la prostitution et a fait autoriser la recherche de la paternité. Les libéraux, radicaux et socialistes, quoique séparés sur tous les autres points, ont soutenu la cause féministe avec zèle dans les deux chambres, mais sans succès; la droite est un mur, contre lequel leurs initiatives se sont brisées jusqu'à présent.

#### Belgique.

La cause des femmes progresse malgré l'opposition du Parlement. Mme de Brown de Tiege a été nommée bourgmestre de Waillet, près de Dinant. C'est la première femme bourgmestre.

#### Albanie.

Les femmes et les hommes ont des droits égaux. Avant et après le mariage, les femmes ont un droit absolu sur leurs propriétés.

#### Tchécoslovaquie.

La nouvelle loi pour la protection des travailleurs comprend l'organisation d'un service médical gratuit pour les jeunes mères.

#### Turquie.

Le gouvernement a aboli la censure sur les modes, les vêtements et les coiffures. Depuis le 10 août, les femmes turques ont le droit de s'habiller comme elles veulent.

#### Norvège.

Il semble qu'une vague réactionnaire déferle sur tout le pays. Le traitement des inspectrices de sciences domestiques est de 5,000 à 6,500 kroners pour les femmes, alors qu'il est de 8,500 à 10,000 kroners pour les inspecteurs. Une réclamation a été faite sans succès.

#### Indes.

Le Conseil législatif du Bengale a passé une résolution accordant la franchise aux femmes. C'est la 5<sup>e</sup> province britannique qui fait usage de la faculté accordée par l'Acte du gouvernement des Indes pour le suffrage des femmes. Le Punjab a déjà rédigé une résolution dans ce sens; il ne reste plus que deux provinces, les Provinces Centrales et Bihar et Oressa, qui n'aient pas suivi le mouvement.

Les femmes Sikh ont obtenu la franchise égale.

L'Honorable Mr. Ramdas a présenté au Conseil d'Etat une résolution accordant la franchise aux femmes pour l'élection et l'éligibilité au Conseil; le Conseil législatif de Madras sera le premier à discuter l'éligibilité des femmes. Déjà une femme, Mrs. Angelo, vient d'être élue membre du conseil municipal de Madras.

A la prochaine session de l'Assemblée législative de Simla, le Bill sur la protection des enfants sera discuté et l'âge du mariage élevé à 14 ans; cette mesure est due à une pétition importante présentée par les femmes.

#### Afrique du Sud.

Le parti socialiste n'a pas tenu les promesses qu'il avait faites aux féministes. Mr. Duncan avait présenté, en faveur du suffrage, un amendement au bill électoral, et le Gouvernement avait refusé de l'accepter, sous prétexte qu'il aurait retardé le vote du bill.

#### Australie.

**Australie occidentale.**—Dr. Roberta Julia a été nommée présidente de la Convocation de l'Université de l'Australie de l'Ouest, sans opposition. C'est la première femme d'Australie qui occupe ce poste éminent. L'assemblée presbytérienne a approuvé l'éligibilité des femmes, non seulement dans l'état, mais aux réunions fédérales. Une "Association des femmes juges de la Paix" pour l'état s'est fondée en juin à Perth. Il y a 25 femmes juges dans l'état.

**La Nouvelle Galles.**—On dit que le ministère du Travail a fixé les nouvelles bases de salaires à raison de 4 guinées par semaine pour les hommes et 2 guinées 6 pence pour les femmes; cette inégalité ne s'explique pas par les charges de famille, puisque les célibataires reçoivent autant que les hommes mariés.

**Australie méridionale.**—L'Association des femmes "non-party" a envoyé son rapport annuel. Non seulement elles ont eu gain de cause en ce qui concerne la nationalité de la femme mariée, mais elles se sont fait entendre au parlement sur des questions variées, comme: pensions pour les veuves avec enfants; immigration des étrangers; mariage et divorce; peine capitale; affiches de cinémas; soins des enfants aborigènes ou de demi-caste, etc.

#### Nouvelle-Zélande.

Le mois dernier, la première conférence de l'Union Néo-Zélandaise de la Société des Nations s'est tenue à Wellington. Il y aura beaucoup à faire pour éveiller le peuple aux idées de réforme et de paix mondiale liées au travail de Genève. La question du logement est à l'ordre du jour; le département de l'hygiène publique a présenté un projet de loi comprenant: minimum de cube d'air par chambre; surface minimum de construction, disposition des pièces, ventilation, etc.—La session parlementaire vient de commencer: les mesures annoncées par le gouvernement comprennent: amendement à la loi concernant les infirmières et les sages-femmes; ouverture d'écoles pour les enfants anormaux ou arriérés; création de tribunaux d'enfants où les magistrats seront assistés par des femmes, etc.—L'œuvre sociale des femmes a été caractérisée par une idée très claire des besoins du Dominion et par une harmonie complète entre les sociétés féminines.

Mrs. Hedberg de Wellington a inventé un procédé par lequel le lin peut être divisé en fibres plus fines, de manière à prendre l'apparence du coton ou de la soie. C'est une nouvelle industrie qui va se créer.

#### L'Egalité de la Morale.

A propos des événements regrettables qui ont eu lieu aux fêtes de gymnastique de Strasbourg, nous apprenons par la Française que, grâce à la protestation faite aux autorités, un comité d'enquête a été formé; il a conclu à la nécessité de fermer les maisons de tolérance et un ordre a été donné pour que cette fermeture ait lieu en février 1926. On espère que cette affaire fera réviser le système général de réglementation en France.

Il est curieux de comparer ce cas à celui de Singapour, où l'accroissement de la prostitution et des maladies vénériennes devient inquiétant. Une ordonnance avait été préparée pour établir un système de réglementation; mais l'Office Colonial Britannique, l'a soumise au Comité d'hygiène, qui a jugé ce système inopérant, et a proposé, à la place, des mesures pour améliorer les conditions

sociales: entrée en proportions égales des immigrants mâles et femelles (jusqu'ici les hommes étaient en surnombre), facilités offertes pour le traitement des maladies vénériennes, suppression des maisons de tolérance, extension des pouvoirs donnés au Protectorat chinois pour la sécurité des femmes chinoises, etc.

Aux Etats-Unis, d'après le journal, *Woman Citizen*, les femmes de Toledo, Ohio, ont étudié l'administration des lois des états pour la repression du vice et le contrôle des maladies vénériennes. Ces lois doivent s'appliquer également aux femmes et aux hommes; mais elles ont constaté que la police ne les appliquait qu'aux femmes. Grâce à leurs protestations auprès du maire, l'enregistrement des prostituées a été aboli; une clinique pour le traitement des maladies a été fondée pour les deux sexes, etc.

#### Fédération Internationale des Femmes Diplômées d'Université.

Le Comité de la fédération a tenu sa 8<sup>e</sup> réunion à Bruxelles fin juillet, au club de la fondation universitaire. La Doyenne, V. Gildersleeve, de Columbia University, présidait. Les membres du Comité représentaient les femmes diplômées des Etats-Unis, Australie, Autriche, Belgique, Canada, Tchécoslovaquie, Danemark, Finlande, France, Grande-Bretagne, Hollande, Irlande, Italie, Nouvelle-Zélande, Norvège, Afrique du Sud, Suède, Suisse. De nouvelles fédérations fondées en Bulgarie, Luxembourg, Roumanie, ont été admises dans la F.I. qui comprend maintenant 33 pays. Le but de la fédération est de développer l'entente internationale en facilitant le contact personnel entre les femmes des différentes nations. Dans chaque pays, les buts et les travaux diffèrent; dans les uns, la fédération se joint à d'autres groupes d'œuvres sociales; dans d'autres, elle se limite à l'œuvre d'éducation. Un projet de création de 30 bourses annuelles pour les femmes diplômées a été approuvé par la fédération. Pour l'année qui vient, une bourse de 1,200 dollars est offerte par l'Association américaine, et, en 1927, deux bourses de 500 livres seront offertes par la fédération australienne: l'une pour une Anglaise, l'autre pour une étrangère. Des clubs sont déjà créés dans plusieurs villes d'Amérique et à Paris: Crosby Hall va être ouvert à Londres et un autre club à Rome. La Fédération a travaillé cette année en connexion avec la Coopération intellectuelle de la Société des Nations. Elle a demandé que des femmes fassent partie du nouvel Institut de coopération intellectuelle à Paris. Mlle Gabrielle Mistral, l'écrivain du Chili, a été nommée chef du département de littérature. La prochaine conférence de la Fédération aura lieu en 1926 à Amsterdam. On peut se procurer des programmes chez la "Secretary of the International Federation of University Women," 92, Victoria Street, London, S.W. 1.

#### Une Apôtre Française de la Civilisation.

Mlle Renée Lacassade, qui a pris ses grades de docteur pendant la guerre, est allée vivre dans les Iles Loyalty pour soigner les indigènes. Elle est le seul médecin de ces trois îles qu'elle visite continuellement et où elle a établi trois cliniques que des volontaires indigènes ont construites. Il y a 15,000 habitants.

#### Mme. Flora Tristan.

C'est une histoire curieuse que celle de cette Française qui vint en 1839 en Angleterre pour se documenter sur la vie sociale, économique et politique anglaise, et visita les hôpitaux, les clubs, les usinés, assista à des meetings politiques et pénétra même au Parlement sous un déguisement d'homme turc. Après un mariage malheureux, elle s'était vouée à l'étude des questions sociales et était allée de ville en ville prêcher la solidarité, la régénération par le mutualisme et organiser des homes pour enfants, vieillards et malades. Ses livres: *Promenades dans Londres*, *Une union ouvrière*, *De la nécessité de faire bon accueil aux femmes étrangères*, sont oubliés aujourd'hui. Le Journal de ses voyages a été découvert dans une boîte au fond d'un grenier où il dormait depuis 50 ans. Il va être publié.

#### Les Femmes de l'Orient: l'évolution du voile oriental.

Une forte antipathie se manifeste actuellement en Turquie à l'encontre de l'usage du voile dans le monde féminin. L'opinion publique turque est si hostile à cette

coutume démodée que dans les agglomérations, la femme voilée est devenue l'objet de la curiosité et de la critique des passants.

On a vu d'ailleurs en maintes assemblées, des femmes turques mêlées en toute aisance avec les hommes, et s'y tenant pourtant avec une dignité parfaite.

Ajoutons en passant que ce bienfaisant mouvement d'émancipation s'étend peu à peu dans tout l'Orient.

#### Les Journaux Féminins en Orient.

Dans l'Iran, les femmes collaborent non moins activement que les hommes à la rédaction des journaux

et périodiques. L'on y voit peu de ville qui manquent de rédacteurs féminins. Bien plus: il n'y a presque pas une ville qui ne se vante de posséder un journal ou une revue dirigés par une femme de grand mérite.

En Syrie, les journaux féminins pullulent. Ils peuvent même rivaliser sous tous les rapports avec les importants journaux d'Europe.

En Egypte aussi, le nombre des journaux féminins s'accroît peu à peu. Tout dernièrement le Ministère de l'Intérieur a autorisé Mme. Mounira Sabet à faire paraître un journal en langue française et un hebdomadaire en langue arabe.

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