

THE WOMAN'S LEADER

AND THE COMMON CAUSE

Vol. XVI. No. 44. One Penny.

REGISTERED AS
A NEWSPAPER.

Friday, November 28, 1924.

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Annual Subscription for Postal Subscribers: British Isles and
Abroad, 6/6.

Common Cause Publishing Co., 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

NOTES AND NEWS.

The Egyptian Crisis.

The *Times* of Wednesday contains a letter from Professor Gilbert Murray on the Egyptian Crisis, which we are tempted to quote in full, so emphatically do we agree with it. Professor Murray regards with approval the suggestion of *The Times* itself that "British opinion can have no possible objection to a really impartial inquiry" by the League of Nations. He admits that, under the Covenant of the League, Egypt has no *locus standi* for demanding to be heard at Geneva, but considers that from the point of view of the world at large such a claim on the part of Egypt "might command wide sympathy, and has at least the appearance of Justice." He adds that "Four or five years ago the world was teeming with suspicions of Great Britain, which have since been greatly allayed by the general straightforwardness of British policy, and especially by its loyal support of the League of Nations." We, for our part, most sincerely hope that if the Egyptian Government presses its claim the British Government will further its request. It is altogether desirable in the interests of international justice and stability that the action of the British Government in response to the brutal murder of Sir Lee Stack should be publicly justified. The circumstances which inspired it are not fully known to the European public, nor even to the public of Great Britain. Until they are known, the recent punitive measures and the manner of their application cannot fail to suggest unpleasant analogies with the action taken by the Austrian Government after the crime of Sarajevo, or the recent coercion of Greece by Mussolini.

Women's Suffrage in Italy.

We are glad to learn that Signor Mussolini has included amongst the measures to be submitted to the Chamber a Bill which would give the municipal vote to women. Mussolini is said to be in favour of partial admission of women to political suffrage, but he is opposed to their becoming members of Parliament. We always fancied that the Italian Prime Minister regards himself as something of a superman; he will certainly need superhuman powers if he imagines he can say to women "thus far and no farther." It may be possible to refuse all rights to women, but those who think half measures can have more than a most temporary existence are playing the part of Canute, only without his understanding of the forces with which they are dealing.

The Maternity Convention in Italy . . .

The Italian Government has definitely announced its intention of ratifying the Washington Maternity Convention adopted by the International Labour Organization Conference in 1919. This Convention, whose adoption was, we believe, largely due to the eloquence and tenacity of a British Labour delegate, Miss Margaret Bondfield, prohibits the industrial employment of women for six weeks before and after childbirth. At the same time it safeguards her economic position by ensuring for her and her newborn child free medical attendance and maintenance during the period of her enforced absence. In Italy the maternity fund section of the Italian National Insurance Fund already secures to insured women a money grant during the weeks immediately preceding confinement. The adoption of the Washington Maternity Convention would simply entail a further development of this machinery.

. . . and India.

Meanwhile Mr. N. M. Joshi, a member of the Indian Legislative Assembly who attended the Washington Conference in 1919 as Indian workers' delegate, has given notice of his intention to introduce a Bill of similar import. Mr. Joshi's Bill seeks to prohibit the industrial employment of women for six weeks before confinement. It entitles such women to receive an allowance at the expense of the Local Government which shall establish for the purpose a maternity benefit fund. It proposes that should a woman die during her confinement all benefits to which she is entitled shall be paid to the person who undertakes the care of her child. Finally, it imposes certain restrictions on the employer, who cannot dismiss a woman who is absent from work for six weeks before or after confinement.

Persian Women.

We learn from our contemporary, *La Francaise*, of the European visit of a Persian feminist leader, Mme. Sedighé Dolatabadi. Mme. Dolatabadi, who is the director of a Teheran women's paper *Zébané-Zenân* (The Voice of the Women) comes to Europe as the official representative of two bodies: The Union of Patriotic Persian Women and the Azmayeche Society, which last is the most important of the Persian feminist organizations. Her visit recalls something which we can never recall without sadness and indignation: Mrs. Colliver Rice's book *Persian Women and their Ways*, reviewed at some length in our editorial columns almost a year ago. Meanwhile, Mme. Dolatabadi herself, writing in *La Francaise* of 16th August, has given some account of the immeasurably difficult and almost heartbreaking conditions against which Persian women are struggling. They are fighting not merely an anti-feminist mentality such as existed in this country a century ago, they are fighting an anti-feminist which is held in power by the sanctions of religion and by a framework of intolerable oriental domestic and social practices (the attributes and accompaniments of polygamy) which degrade women in the home as well as in the world at large. We are familiar in this country with a type of anti-feminist who is ready to accord to the woman in the home a personal responsibility and dignity which he denies to her in the industrial, professional, or political arena. The Persian anti-feminist, in practice if not in theory, denies even the former. Knowing what women can do and have done in the past against almost insurmountable odds, we are confident that ultimate success will crown the present efforts of Mme. Dolatabadi and her colleagues. And our confidence is strengthened by her statement that the great majority of the younger educated women, as they leave school, rally to the feminist banner with the cry: "We, too, we belong to humanity; we have rights, and men have acted selfishly in depriving us of those rights."

Marriage and Divorce in Russia.

The last number of the *International Woman Suffrage News* had an interesting paragraph on marriage and divorce under the Soviet Government. Marriage is only recognized when it is contracted by civil registration, and both the man and woman have to produce certificates of health. Divorce can be obtained on the desire of either party; the proceedings are purely formal and the children are given in charge to the parent most capable of undertaking their support. There is absolute equality between the husband and wife, and both are responsible equally and mutually for each other's support. A woman is not compelled to take her husband's name, and frequently he takes hers, but Russian practice on this point was always different from ours. With regard to children, there is no difference made between the legitimate and illegitimate child; the point of view taken by the law is that the "child is a fact and the basis of the family," and the relationship of the parents to each other is considered as irrelevant to the question of the relationship of the child to its parents or the community.

The Work of English Women in India.

The issue of *The Queen* for 12th November has a really inspiring article by Cornelia Sorabji on what the Indian women owe to the English and to Englishwomen in particular. The history of official action for the improvement of the position of the women in India is well known, the repression of suttee, the opening up of educational facilities for girls, or the work for medical and nursing organizations of Lady Dufferin and Lady Minto. But where Miss Sorabji's article is of special interest is in her tribute to the influence of the Englishwomen who worked in India in the earlier days of Anglo-Indian life. There were Indian school-boys who first persuaded the mothers of better-class Indians to send their daughters to school; "we want our women to be like the wives of our English teachers," was their explanation. It was the wives of the English missionaries, soldiers, and administrators who started the movement for women's emancipation in India, and though it is yet far from complete, it has achieved great things, as is witnessed by the opening up of the profession to women, the establishment of medical colleges and training colleges, and, at the other end of the scale, the raising of the age of marriage, as given in the Census, from seven to twelve years of age. Whatever the future of the British in India may be, Englishwomen will be proud that a woman of the attainments of Miss Sorabji can write "we will give thanks anew, in that over a hundred years ago British women essayed with their men folk the great adventure of the unknown East."

Women's Work in the Church.

At a recent Manchester Diocesan Conference, Canon Rogers, of West Ham, gave an address on the work done in his own diocese in order to secure that women should receive from the diocese or the Church at large "the consideration which they deserve." In view of the fact that women comprise the vast majority of the church-going population, and are without doubt the mainstays of the Church's voluntary and social activities, most people will agree with Canon Rogers that the "consideration which they deserve" is not insignificant. He himself had, he said, tried to embody such recognition in an attempt to enlarge the scope of their "special work in the Church," to secure more money for their training for it, and to ensure for all women Church workers the provision of a minimum living wage. In his own diocese he had been able to pay some women "as much as £250 a year." He also suggested that where possible it would be desirable to substitute one curate and one "well-trained spiritually minded woman" for two curates. There was, he considered, a great deal of work which was better in the hands of women than in the hands of deacons. So far so good. We do not quarrel with Canon Rogers's attempt to promote the training of social workers in the Church, nor does his £250 a year, though it looks a little pitiful when regarded as a salary, look so bad when regarded as the subsistence cost of a woman intent on contributing voluntary work to a great cause. But how long will the dignitaries of the Church continue to sidle round the problem of the Churchwoman's status and talk as though these small material concessions constituted any approach to the "consideration which she deserves?" Mr. Bernard Shaw, speaking at the Eccleston Guild House on 14th November, suggested that the Holy Ghost was somewhat indiscriminate in its choice of those on whom it saw fit to descend—even going so far as to descend in some cases on a woman. If Canon Rogers and his colleagues would pay homage to that

fundamental Christian truth, and accept its implications, we believe that "all things would be added unto them" in the field of women's work.

Women in Holy Orders.

We referred recently to a statement in the *Church Times* that "all Christian professional women" "warmly resented" the proposal to admit women to the priesthood. The writer of that remark has evidently been rudely awakened from this strange delusion, for the number of letters received by the editor in favour of the ordination of women has left him "honestly surprised at the amount of feeling which exists" and has given rise to a long article on the subject in the issue of 14th November. The article centres largely round the difference between the Catholic and Protestant point of view to the Virgin Mary, and this is not the place to discuss a question of that kind. But when the writer of the article says that the motive behind the women's claim "is a conscious feeling of sex rivalry" we emphatically disagree. It is a desire for service and the longing to bring all their gifts to what seems to them the greatest service in life which is the motive force.

Scotland and the Care of the Feeble-minded.

We are glad to learn that the scheme agreed to last month by the Women Citizens' Associations of Scotland for the establishment of an industrial colony for the feeble minded is being pressed forward. A meeting was held at Glasgow on 20th November, under the auspices of the Glasgow Society for Equal Citizenship and the Glasgow Women Citizens' Association, to consider the scheme further. It will necessitate the raising of a sum of £40,000 so it is no light undertaking, but increased facilities for the care of the feeble-minded is one of the great needs of to-day, and if the Women Citizens' Associations of Scotland succeed in their plan it will be a great achievement, of which all women in England, no less than in Scotland, will be proud.

Women and Insanity.

An interesting article appeared in the *Glasgow Herald* on the incidence of insanity amongst men and women. The report of the Board of Control for 1923 shows a deplorable increase in the prevalence of insanity. There were just over four thousand more cases of certified lunacy than in the preceding year, the greatest increase ever recorded. Of the total number of 130,334 certified cases 43.9 were males and 56.1 females, but it must be remembered in this connection that there are nearly two million more women than men in the country. Taking this into account the lunacy rate works out at 3.16 per thousand of the population for men and 3.69 per thousand for women. There is also another factor to be considered, and that is the greater longevity of women. The number of cases of senility in asylums is very great, and though no figures are available to show their distribution as between men and women it is safe to assume that it is more common amongst women in view of their greater length of life. Allowing for this, it is clear that the incidence of real lunacy as distinguished from senility is certainly not appreciably higher amongst women than men and might even be lower. As there is a certain type of alienist who never wearies in stressing the greater mental instability of women, these figures are of interest.

The National Birth-rate Commission.

Our readers will be interested to learn that the National Birth-rate Commission, a semi-official body of experts which has already conducted a number of exhaustive inquiries into the most pressing problems of population, parenthood, and the moral instruction of the young, is again in session under the chairmanship of the Bishop of Winchester. This time it is concentrating its attention on the question of Birth-control, which was tentatively and somewhat unsystematically dealt with in its first report. We await with keen interest the published results of its inquiries, knowing from experience that they will contain a varied and comprehensive mass of expert evidence.

Miss Joan Fry.

Miss Joan Fry has had the honorary degree of Doctor of Political Economy conferred upon her by the University of Tubingen in recognition of her work with the Society of Friends for the relief of distress in Germany. There are still some people who object to the relief work that was done in ex-enemy countries, but we think that most of our readers will be glad to learn of this honour which has been given to one of the many Englishwomen who are labouring to heal some of the ravages of the war.

PRICES AND PROFITEERS.

We make no apology for returning this week to the subject of prices, since in the intervening space of time Mr. Baldwin has revealed his more precise intentions. He is going to appoint a Royal Commission on Food Prices under the Chairmanship of a very able man, Sir Auckland Geddes, whose terms of reference shall be as follows:—"To inquire into the conditions prevailing in the wholesale and retail trades in articles of food of general consumption so far as they affect prices, particularly having regard to the difference between the prices received by producers and the prices paid by consumers, and to report what action, if any, can usefully be taken."

This is, indeed, exactly the action which Mr. Baldwin foreshadowed a fortnight or so ago. His inquiry is to be limited to food; and his investigations concentrated mainly upon the operations of the distributor. In view of the fact that the recently published reports of the Linlithgow departmental committee contain a detailed analysis of the position with regard to home-produced foodstuffs, the task of the new Commission should be a manageable one, confined mainly to the distributive machinery relating to imported foodstuffs—unless of course, this Royal Commission should prove to be, in the words of the popular definition, "an expensive means of finding out what everybody knows."

Well—frankly, we still think that this is not enough; and for the reason which we gave last week: that man does not live by food alone, but by soap, sewing-cotton, light-castings, glass bottles, salt, tobacco, dyes, explosives, bricks, mortar, slates, pipes, nails, and all those things into whose cost of production and distribution petrol enters in varying degrees. And if any of our readers are mystified by our random selection of examples, let them seek revelation among the pigeon-holed records of the late lamented Central Profiteering Committee. For we are convinced that the evil of the present high cost of living does not begin with the distributor but with the trustified producer. Nor are we animated, in our expressed dissatisfaction, by any peculiar distrust of a Conservative administration. It is true that the sudden and premature destruction in 1921 of the Central Profiteering Committee's admirable sub-committee on trusts and combines was perpetrated in the name of "economy" during Mr. Baldwin's reign as Financial Secretary to the Treasury. But, we would remind our Liberal readers, that it took place under the Premiership of Mr. Lloyd George, whose interesting suggestion (made last summer) that it is the "first task" of the Liberal Party to destroy monopolies still rings in our ears. Meanwhile, the Labour record is not without its inconsistencies. Even before the investigations of the Central Profiteering Committee were put on record a Government Committee on Trusts were of opinion that this particular

economic menace was so serious as to necessitate the establishment by the Board of Trade of a Tribunal armed with wide powers for the continuous investigation of trusts and combines and the publication of an annual report on their nature and development. Mr. Sidney Webb's name appears among the signatories of that recommendation. We are not aware that as President of the Board of Trade in 1924 he took any steps to arm his department with the powers of whose necessity he was convinced in 1919.

"Easy to talk," some of our more critical readers may mutter. "What would you do if you were Mr. Baldwin contemplating the obscure and tangled growth of British industry, with the logical and drastic alternative of State Control barred to you by personal conviction and political pledge?" We are inclined to suspect that the first thing we should do would be to shut our eyes and tremble. Certainly we should not, with the recent economic history of the U.S.A. fresh in mind, go plunging along the winding and elusive path of anti-trust legislation seeking to penalize first this, then that definite form of monopolistic control. We should, we think, be inclined to pin a modicum of faith to the discrimination of the consumer, and to the assumption that no business man, however selfish, cares to be branded as an enemy of the people. And in the light of that faith we would establish an impartial and permanent tribunal for the investigation of "Trade Associations and Combinations, having for their purpose the restriction of competition and the control of prices," on the lines of the body recommended by the Committee on Trusts in 1919, and armed with the power to take evidence on oath and publish reports without liability for slander and libel actions. Further, we should ensure the appointment to that body or its administrative staff, of some person or persons capable of explaining business arrangements in language comprehensible to the ordinary consumer; and that done we should instruct it to issue to the Press official statements of fact wherever and whenever definite abuses were found to exist. We believe that such investigation and publication of facts would go some way at least towards the adequate protection of the consumer. And our belief is strengthened by recollection of a certain sharp fall in the price of soap and sewing-cotton which it was impossible wholly to dissociate from the Press campaign which followed the publication of the Central Profiteering Committee's reports on the two highly trustified industries concerned. We know, however, that such action is not going to carry us all the way, and we know that if it is going to carry us any way at all the active vigilance of the ordinary consumer will have to play a part. With this last aspect of the matter, however, we will deal, for want of present space, in a later issue.

SOCIAL INSURANCE.

II.

In the last article the advisability of transferring insurance under the Employers' Liability Act to the State was considered. Another suggestion is that the State should take over Burial Insurance. This was the intention when the Health Insurance Act was introduced, and the proposal was only dropped owing to pressure from the Insurance Companies. But they have entirely failed to justify themselves in this type of insurance, since excessive and wasteful competition has resulted in administrative expenses which are 44% of the premiums received. This state of affairs is serious since insurance for burial expenses is so widespread; actually more is spent on it by the working classes than in all forms of health insurance combined. At present the State does provide burial insurance through the Post Office, but only on a small scale, and no attempt is made to bring these facilities to the notice of the working classes. Its cost is only 5%, compared with over 40% in the case of the insurance companies, and if carried on on a larger scale the percentage would doubtless be reduced still further. Old Age Pensions are administered by the State at a cost of 3½%, and since the fact of death is more easily established than the age of a claimant, the cost of Burial Insurance, if made a part of a wide State scheme should, if anything, be less than this. Mr. Cohen estimates that the substitution of State for private Burial Insurance would involve a saving of some £14,000,000, which would be available for extended insurance in other directions without any increased burden on the community. This is surely an adequate reason for an extension of the State's activities.

Of the existing forms of social insurance in which the State

already actively takes part, the oldest is the Old Age Pension scheme, which, though on a non-contributory basis, must be considered in connexion with any comprehensive plan of insurance. There are certain points in the present system of old age pensions which have been much criticized; the present age limit is unquestionably too high. Mr. Broad makes the drastic proposal that pensions of 25s. a week should be paid to all men over 63, or 15s. to women, so that they would be in a position to retire from industry. This is not merely a matter of insurance against old age, but is to be regarded as a cure for unemployment. But if unemployment is to be cured by a deliberate reduction in the numbers of persons who need to earn their living, it is surely better to work from the other end, and to decrease the amount of juvenile labour either by raising the school leaving age, or by compulsory part-time continuation schools. Sir W. Beveridge's proposal is that pensions on a non-contributory basis should be paid all persons over 70, whilst a pension of 10s. a week, which would form part of the general contributory insurance scheme, should be payable to all insured persons between the ages of 65 and 70 or to their widows. It is difficult to see any logical reason why old age pensions at 65 should be on a contributory basis and at 70 on a non-contributory basis, but it must be admitted that even if it were considered desirable to abolish the existing non-contributory character of old age pensions it would be a political impossibility. On the other hand, the introduction of a lower age limit without the introduction of a contributory basis is undesirable from the point of view of the effect on the recipient, and would involve a very heavy

(Continued on page 354).

TWO SPRING VISITS TO PALESTINE, 1921, 1922.¹

By MILLICENT GARRETT FAWCETT, J.P., LL.D.

CHAPTER VII.—GALILEE (continued).

We were now close to Nablus, formerly Neapolis, before that Sychem, and once the capital of Palestine. It is a large, prosperous-looking town in a situation of great beauty, with groves of lemon, orange, and palm-trees, and with fruit orchards surrounding it. We regretted that we had not arranged to stay longer. We took luncheon in the Franciscan monastery, the refectory of which had been converted into a restaurant. Several pleasant young British officers came in and had their meal in our company. The prosperity of Nablus is now to a considerable extent founded on the manufacture and export of soap, olive and palm-oil being easily available. From the antiquarian and tourist point of view its chief interest over and above its beautiful situation lies in its being the seat of the remnant of that remarkable sect, the Samaritans. Their boast is that they have altered absolutely nothing in their worship or in any of its forms and ceremonies since before the time of Abraham. Compared with them our home-grown Conservatives must be accounted violent revolutionaries. They recognize no books of the Bible with the exception of the Pentateuch, no Psalms, no Isaiah, no Prophets: and they keep up all the blood-curdling sacrifices practised by the ancient Hebrews. There is a terrible account of these quoted from Dr. Mill's book, in Cook's *Handbook for Palestine*. Of course we did not see anything of it, and would not even if we could. The sacrifice takes place on the top of Mount Gerizim and only on the occasion of the Feast of the Passover.

We were courteously received by the chief members of the Samaritan community, handsome, melancholy-looking men who conducted us to the Samaritan quarter through very narrow, dirty lanes to their Synagogue, in which is preserved their great treasure, the Samaritan Codex of the Pentateuch. This is of considerable antiquity and may date from the sixth century A.D. Before we could see it we, or rather our dragoman, had to summon together three of the chiefs among the Samaritans, each with his key to unlock their treasure. No one man is permitted the power of opening it; the three key owners must act together. The Codex is enclosed in a beautifully wrought Damascene case of silver and gold. The utmost reverence was shown on the occasion. It was a strange scene in the tiny Synagogue; the tall, grave, melancholy-looking Samaritans standing for an absolutely inexorable conservatism as their ideal of existence, and our little group, as it seemed to us, standing for development, growth, and change as the principle of life itself. We left Nablus with regret and with the strong hope that at some future time we should go back to it and see more of its fascinating beauty. Especially were we sorry not to see, some way up the mountain, the remains of Herod's stately "street of columns."

A very good road leads from Nablus to Jenin: but its excellence did not prevent another puncture of our tyres. This took longer to repair than the first, but was quite as welcome, because it happened on one of the most lovely stretches of country we had seen. The road had been constructed along the shoulder of a fairly steep hill: the immediate foreground was like a fine park, green with grass and young crops of grain and bright everywhere with flowers, over which fine trees, mainly ancient olives, were dispersed. On our right rose the mountain we were skirting, and on the left, far away, shone the Mediterranean, of an exquisite sapphire blue. Again we had an ideal place for a walk and availed ourselves of it. Our clever Syrian boy driver contrived to patch up the tyre once more and we sped on to Jenin just on the edge of the famous plain of Esdraelon. Jenin is the En-gannim of the Bible: the name means "Fountain of Gardens" and is properly descriptive of the place. We did not stay there except to water out little machine, and we soon found ourselves upon the Plain of Esdraelon, known in Bible times as the Plain of Jezreel. This is the largest of the plains of Palestine, it is of great fertility and provides the main home-grown food supply of the country: but we think of it now chiefly in connection with its troublous history as one of the great battlefields of the world: from the time of Deborah and Barak, down through the ages to the Napoleonic wars and the Great War, of 1914-18. For Esdraelon

¹ This is the eighth of a series of weekly articles which will extend over a period of about six months.

is the Armageddon of the Apocalypse. Through centuries it has been the great fighting ground between Europe, Asia, and Africa. It was here that Barak joined forces with Deborah and said to her in anticipation of the fight with Sisera: "If thou wilt go with me, then I will go: but if thou wilt not go with me, then I will not go. And she said, I will surely go with thee." (*Judges* iv, 8-9.) We saw Mount Tabor, from the top of which Deborah gave the summons to battle, and we could then more fully realize what a storm of sleet and hail could do in these regions from what we had seen the previous day in Jerusalem, and appreciate what it meant when such a storm broke from the East on Sisera's host, driving full in their faces. "The stars in their courses fought against Sisera. The river of Kishon swept them away, that ancient river, the river Kishon," sang Deborah in her triumph, a form of the *non nobis* which is in the heart of so many successful generals. Tabor was formerly believed to be the scene of the Transfiguration, but modern research has practically proved this to be an impossibility. As we crossed Esdraelon our whole surroundings were of surpassing interest, and we had the more time to gaze upon them as this was the scene of our most serious breakdown. This arose, not from punctured tyres, but because the little car had sunk deep into a quagmire: the whole of the so-called road was very much like a river interspersed with deep pits of mud, into one of which we had plunged. This was no place for a walk as on our former stoppages. We got out of the car to lighten it and stood on the driest places we could find, and could only look and wait until it was gradually resurrected and we were able once more to proceed.

Esdraelon is full of places of historic interest such as Jezreel, the scene of the death of Jezebel, and of Ahab's palace, of which, however, not a trace remains. But a far stronger interest was drawing us on. We were thankful to get quit of Esdraelon and to reach the hills on the other side of it and to know that we were mounting up to Nazareth.

A CHOICE OF BOOKS.

THE FALKLAND ISLANDS. By V. F. BOYSON. With notes on the Natural History by Rupert Vallentin. (Milford, 15s.)

Miss Boyson and her colleagues have produced, in a workman-like volume, a history of these remote islands from the time of the early adventurers, through the eighteenth century period of joint British and Spanish occupation and a later troubled time of raid and murder to that of settled development as a colony, and the great battle which gives the name of the Falkland Islands a permanent place in our national records. Besides this, Miss Boyson describes the growth of the whaling industry, itself full of adventure, and of cattle farming, while Mr. Vallentin contributes a valuable section devoted to natural history. There are excellent illustrations.

ADVENTURES IN TRIPOLI. By ERNEST GRIFFIN, D.S.O., M.C. (Phillip Allen, 10s. 6d.)

Dr. Griffin volunteered to serve with a Red Crescent Hospital in the war of 1911-12, which ended in the Italian occupation of Tripoli. After the Turkish evacuation, the Arab resistance did not immediately cease, and Dr. Griffin remained with them in spite of the fact that he was informed by the Italian Commander that if caught he would be treated as a rebel. The book recording his adventures was written at the time, but was held up by the stress of greater wars. The author shows a conspicuous fairness in his treatment of both sides while sympathizing with both Arabs and Turks. The difficulties he encountered while exercising his profession in such uncivilized and poverty stricken regions are vividly described.

EVERYDAY LIFE ON AN OLD HIGHLAND FARM (1769-1784). By I. F. GRANT. (Longmans, 12s. 6d.)

Round an old farm account book, devoid apparently of any but a purely local business interest, Miss Grant has reconstructed for us an interesting and delightful picture of everyday life in the Highlands at a critical period of economic history. William Macpherson of Balnaspieck, who had taken part in the rising of '45, and subsequently sold his own estate, takes a lease of the farms of Dunochton and Kinraig, working part of the land himself and letting out the rest to sub-tenants. Into all these and like matters Miss Grant guides us with both learning and discrimination, adding yet another volume to the library of our knowledge of the past.

SARD HARKER. By JOHN MASEFIELD. (Heinemann, 7s. 6d.)

It is a little difficult to place Mr. Masefield's latest novel. It begins as a serious and stirring tale of the western seas, then becomes a sort of glorified boys' book of heroic effort and hair-breadth escape, and it ends in a fantasia of black magic and school-boy back-chat, with the long arm of coincidence busily pulling the hero and heroine through the most unlikely situations, while through it all runs a queer business of dreams and intuitions. It is beautifully written, stark, clear, and balanced prose, sheer joy to read, with scene after scene, the prize fight, the bog, Sard's talk with the Indian woman, the deserted shrine, all things of beauty and terror which we shall not easily forget.

THE TENTS OF ISRAEL. By G. B. STERN. (Chapman and Hall, 7s. 6d.)

Miss Stern gives us a pleasant voluble, rambling chronicle rather than a novel. It covers several generations of the cosmopolitan Jewish family of Rakonitz, taking us in its train from Pressburg to Vienna, from Paris to London. Their tale is told with a good deal of humorous insight, and there is ruthless vitality in the picture of the female Rakonitz, more robust than the male, expansive, extravagant, tenacious, and domineering to the end.

ETHEL M. DELL.

The publication of a new novel by Miss Ethel M. Dell,¹ leads us to meditate anew upon the peculiar genius of this overwhelmingly popular writer, and upon the nature of its appeal. Let us begin by assembling a few facts. One must of course start with the fact that she is a "best-seller." If not the "best-seller," at any rate one among the first half dozen or so. Added to this is the fact, which we venture to think some of our readers do not appreciate (we ourselves gleaned it from the literary discussions of a Cadet Battalion during the War) that among a large circle of her multitudinous admirers, Miss Dell is regarded, in company with her great contemporary, Hall Caine, as rather a "high-brow" writer. But the extent to which she focuses the personal affection as well as the intellectual respect of her readers was demonstrated a short time ago by the storm of chivalrous hostility aroused by Mr. St. John Ervine among the inmates of Wormwood Scrubbs Prison when, in the course of a literary address to those gentlemen, he dared to make deprecatory and even scoffing reference to the work of this great authoress. There are certain other facts, of a somewhat personal nature, but relevant to the discussion. There is the fact that we ourselves and many of our contemporaries read with avidity every word that Miss Dell writes. There is the fact that this taste in no way rivals or vitiates our periodical craving for Jane Austen and other novelists of comparable calibre. And there is the curious isolated fact (we make the confession in the interests of psychological analysis) that as one of our hands reaches out for a novel by Ethel Dell, so, simultaneously and instinctively (as though moved by some closely related motive whose nature we have not yet probed), does the other hand grope for a piece of chocolate or chocolate cream. And, over and above these facts, rides the undeniable fact, and in announcing it we fling a challenge against the gates of Wormwood Scrubbs, that Ethel Dell's characters are so many lay figures; insane or mentally defective lay figures, as the case may be. They speak with the disembodied voices of vices and virtues; they flash passion, agony, entreaty, love, mastery, terror, tenderness, taciturnity, from eyes whose physiological reactions to turbulent emotion transcend all the known powers of the human physique. Yet there is a singular monotony about these characters. The hero of *The Unknown Quantity* inevitably recalls, in his strong silences and his efficient dog-like, but masterful faithfulness, the hero of *Greatheart*, the hero of *The Way of an Eagle*. The churlish, villainous, violent hero with a passionate heart of gold who must needs break and injure the object of his love, does not figure in this volume; but he figured in the last, and we prophesy in faith that he will figure in the next. Our constant friend the heroine is here, however, with her secret eyes. "They are so delightfully secret. Someone will love her alone for that some day. She will draw him like a magnet. And he will follow her—pursue her—capture her—and find his treasure in her heart." That is, of course, her eternal desire throughout the consistent pages of Miss Dell's collected works—to be "captured." "This was the sort of man she had always secretly wanted—the man who could dominate her without offence and ultimately command her willing submission. Already the primitive woman in her had begun to rejoice at his mastery..." The quotation relates to the heroine of *The Unknown*

¹ *The Unknown Quantity*, by Ethel M. Dell. (Hutchinson, 7s. 6d.)

Quantity. It would, however, do service for the whole appealing galaxy of heroines created and yet to be created by the skilful pen of Miss Ethel M. Dell.

Well, then, what is it, this elusive "unknown quantity" which gives our authoress's work its nation-wide appeal? It is not merely the fact that she can tell a story; other people can do that. Moreover, Miss Dell's stories are so highly improbable as to be, in themselves, not really very good stories. It is not literary merit. We refrain from arguing this point in respect to the susceptibilities of Wormwood Scrubbs. As a matter of fact, however, it requires no argument. Nobody regards Miss Dell as a great English prose-writer. It is not the intensity of the passions which she describes, nor the burning heat of her melodrama. There are many more purple but less popular novelists than Miss Dell. It is not that she is, as Rebecca West once suggested, subtly improper. Her mind, to use the words of an ecclesiastical dignitary, "is as pure as the driven snow." Occasionally, with a disapproving forefinger, she indicates improprieties. She never suggests them. Nor does she rely on any advertisement other than the impersonal merit of her work. Never was a famous lady more modest. We have never seen her photograph—we should not recognize her if we met her at a charity matinee. Though an expert on the subject, she never communicates to the Sunday Press her views on "The Women that Men Love," "Should a Man sow his Wild Oats," and other allied matters of public interest. Only once, so far as we are aware, has she emerged from her seclusion, and that was on the occasion of her unostentatious marriage to Colonel Savage, D.S.O.

No, the mystery remains unsolved. The "Unknown Quantity" hovers unrecognizable and imponderable as ever. It may be that the absurdly over-simplified simplicity of Ethel Dell's creations appeals to all that is simple in her multitudinous devotees. It may be that the experiences of her men and women somehow embody the highest common factor of ordinary human emotion. It may be that in this world of concrete complexities her shining pictures of human love divorced from cramping reality provide us with a certain pleasurable contrast. Meanwhile, with a sigh of pleasant expectation, we stretch out our right hand for this latest embodiment of *The Unknown Quantity*. Instinctively our left gropes for a box . . . M. D. S.

RESEARCH WORK IN HOUSEHOLD MANAGEMENT.

THE GOOD HOUSEKEEPING INSTITUTE.

The research work connected with the Household Science Department of the University of London at Campden Hill is well known, by reason of the results obtained by distinguished graduates. It corresponds to the research work in agriculture, and dairying at Rothamstead, Malling, and Reading, under the aegis of the Ministry of Agriculture. But it is not enough. Those of us who know the housewife's difficulties intimately have often wished for a properly equipped and staffed experiment station for testing household appliances. The Institute of Hygiene has done something, and qualified women journalists have also done much in their own homes. Miss Mary Gwynne Howell, for example, through the WOMAN'S LEADER and other papers, has helped innumerable women to decide knotty questions concerning housecraft, but it has been left for the British edition of an American journal to establish the first practical Domestic Equipment Testing Station in England. It is, of course, a matter for regret that we should allow Americans to take the first step in important matters in our own country, because it shows a woeful lack of national enterprise. At the same time, the work is so useful that it is a good thing to get it done by someone. *Good Housekeeping* is an American journal that has run a successful experiment station for 18 years in New York; and some two years ago started a British edition with the idea of repeating the experiment here. Accordingly, the *Good Housekeeping* Institute was opened at the beginning of September this year, and a new era in the history of women's magazines was inaugurated in this country. It is situated at 49 Wellington Street, London, W.C. 2, and occupies the top flat of *The People* building, near Bow Street, but has nothing to do with that paper. (I mention these details because I had some difficulty in finding it; another point to remember is that it is closed between 1 o'clock and 2.30 p.m.) It is conducted by *The Good Housekeeping Magazine*, represented by Mrs. D. Cottingham Taylor, who is in charge of its housekeeping pages. Miss Jack (the Cooking Director), who has always had her own kitchen for testing recipes, now has rooms in the same flat for this work, but the two are separate, and I hope to write about Miss Jack's work later on. I have the greatest admiration for her cooking.

REVIEW.

PRESSING PROBLEMS OF THE CLOSING AGE. By CHRISTABEL PANKHURST. (Morgan & Scott, Ltd. 5s.)

An engineer is permanently attached to the staff, and Mrs. Cottington Taylor has domestic science diplomas from the National School of Cookery and Campden Hill. She is assisted by an efficient staff.

At the Editors' request I visited the "Institute," and found it a delightful place—all my fancy pictured it. In the sewing room an electric sewing machine was being tested; in the ironing room a variety of ironing boards, airers, irons, ironing machines; gas and oil-stoves, vacuum cleaners, etc., in other departments. Manufacturers whose equipment passes the tests receive certificates to that effect, and are allowed to use a red star label saying the article has been tested and approved by the *Good Housekeeping* Institute.

The idea is to set a standard of quality, efficiency, and durability. No charge of any kind is made to manufacturers; no charge is made to any member of the public who requires information, but of course it is a magnificent advertisement for *Good Housekeeping*. This does not, however, detract from the work done. On the contrary, it is almost an assurance of its efficiency; it wouldn't be worth while to spend so much money on anything bad.

Therefore, if you are in doubt which is the best and most economical stove to buy, or what electric fittings to choose, consult the *Good Housekeeping* Institute. Experts will give you all the information you require on lighting, heating, hot-water supply, laundry work, kitchen equipment, bathroom fittings, etc., floor treatment, paint, enamel, etc., everything useful. They don't pretend to touch decoration at present.

Bathroom fittings made of a by-product in the manufacture of dried milk; a crêpe rubber bath mat (for inside the bath) that prevents nasty accidents from slipping on a highly polished (soundly hygienic!) surface; a perfectly sanitary soiled linen receptacle; a globe for electric light completely covered in; a floor that had been transformed from old boards to a splendidly new surface by planing and other special treatment, were a few of the things that won my admiration.

My only disturbed feeling was envy and regret. I love Americans, they seem to me to represent Elizabethan England, but I do wish Englishwomen would not allow themselves to be eclipsed. It is a consolation that Mrs. Cottington Taylor is English and Miss Jack is Scotch.

Woman's Service has given us a magnificent Women's Service House, at 35 Marsham Street, S.W. 1, and America has given us the *Good Housekeeping* Institute at 49 Wellington Street; America also gave us our first woman Member of Parliament. There remains one big thing more to be done: a Housewives' Association to collect and distribute information on Household Economics. Not, if you please, Household Economy; Household Economics. America, Australia, New Zealand, Sweden, Norway, Finland, and Denmark have all similar associations, only Britain lags behind. We need a woman leader to do this for us. Will no one come forward? The right woman would be well supported. America, the Colonies, and the Scandinavian countries have not considered the needs of the woman at home beneath them, but have devoted the best brains they possess to domestic problems. One of the first things Sweden did when women were enfranchised was to form Housewives' Associations. Only England has left her mothers to cope alone with high prices and lack of domestic labour. And it is no exaggeration to assert that until women who can afford to keep servants come off the pedestal on which they have placed themselves we shall never get working girls to go in for domestic service; and I, for one, don't blame them. Not because there is anything objectionable in domestic work, but because it is abominable that anyone should expect another girl or woman to do for her what she objects to do for herself, in order that she may have leisure to prosecute what she calls "higher interests."

ANN POPE,

Member of the American Home Economics Association.

SOCIAL INSURANCE (Continued from page 351).

increased cost. Another criticism of our old age pension system is that there should be no thrift disqualification. This was admitted by the last Government, but the logical conclusion of this line of argument is that pensions should be paid entirely regardless of income, that is, there should be universal old age pensions for rich and poor alike. This idea is favoured by some people. The payment of non-contributory pensions to persons with incomes below a certain limit is regarded as too suggestive of class discrimination and of State charity. However, to introduce universal old age pensions in the present financial state of the country is out of the question; it seems doubtful whether it would ever be regarded as worth while. W. A. ELKIN.

Close on the heels of Miss Annie Kenney's memories of the militant suffrage campaign—and as though in relevant answer to our comment on them—comes a second prophetic work by Miss Christabel Pankhurst. It is almost precisely similar to her first in form and subject matter. Seeing the near approach of the world's catastrophic end, the final and decisive sign of which is the return of the Jews to Palestine, Miss Pankhurst calls the world to realization and repentance. The Suffrage Movement has been to her a vain and delusive hope. Equally transient in the path of this earth's inevitable destiny are the aspirations of democracy and the ideals focused on the League of Nations. The next war is as certain as is the coming of the Antichrist to herald the Lord's return. And the Lord will descend amongst us in the flesh, and in the flesh we shall both see and hear Him. Impossible, says the doubter? Not in the least, rejoins our author. What we can do to-day by the method of radio-communication, the Lord can do by a still more wonderful process. And from broadcasting (as Bernard Shaw foreshadows in "Back to Methuselah," Part 3) it is but a short step to television. "Radio-vision will be among his chief means of maintaining his ascendancy. Majestically arrayed, with imposing attitude and gesture, uttering some great proclamation, he will make himself seen by millions of humanity." We need say no more in order to explain to our readers that Miss Pankhurst feels herself in a position to say to the world, "Lo! here—or Lo! there is the kingdom of God," and that being so she naturally feels called upon to say it with exclamatory vehemence.

We have already, in an earlier review, commented upon Miss Pankhurst's headlong pre-occupation with this curiously unspiritual form of the Christian religion. Further comment is therefore unnecessary. And truth to say, were we inclined to make it, there would rise before our consciousness old memories of Christabel in all the flash and glory of her autocratic and insurgent feminism: Christabel in the dock heckling Lloyd George; Christabel in Hyde Park dominating a London mob; Christabel in the Albert Hall scintillating over a mist of hero-worship; and then, suddenly, Christabel nowhere at all, with all Scotland Yard upon her track! They have a very damping effect on the critical faculty—such memories as these.

THE CALDECOTT COMMUNITY.

The work of the Caldecott Community is probably well known at least by reputation to our readers. It is a boarding school for children of working class parents and aims at giving them the same conditions as they would get in educated homes. Although the parents contribute as far as they can for the children their payments naturally do not cover the whole cost, and a year ago the friends of the Community greatly feared that this courageous and much-needed educational experiment would have to close for lack of funds, but sufficient was raised to enable the School to reopen in spacious new premises at Cheshunt. At the opening of the new building, the Chairman, Percy Alden, however, pleaded for further funds to help pay off the mortgage. His experience in one of the poorest quarters of East London had taught him how much such schools were needed by children whose homes were far from streams and trees and all the influences of the country. Amongst other speakers was Dr. Alington, who was welcomed both as a representative of the Head Masters' Conference and as Head Master of Eton.

A WOMAN'S TEACHING OF GEOGRAPHY.

Business men have learnt to realize the advertising value of the poster designed by a first-rate artist, hence the many delightful posters of travel which are such a feature of our hoardings to-day. But it was left to a woman to realize their educational value. Miss Guy, of the Brighton, Hove, and Sussex Grammar School started out to collect these posters to use in her geography lessons with a view to stimulating the children's imaginative interest in other places. The British posters were supplemented first by French ones—and every traveller in France knows how delightful are some of their railway posters—then by those of other European countries and the Dominions. The collection of posters and photos must by now be unique. Londoners are to be given an opportunity of seeing them, as they will be on show at the Whitechapel Art Gallery for six weeks.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

President: Miss ELEANOR RATHBONE, C.C., J.P. Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. SODDY. Parliamentary Secretary: Mrs. HUBBACK.

Offices: 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1. Telephone: Victoria 6188.

SEPARATION AND MAINTENANCE ORDERS BILL.

It has been found necessary to postpone sending to Societies the leaflet promised on the above Bill until next week, in order to give the Executive Committee time to consider the exact form of the proposed measure. It would, however, be desirable to approach Members of Parliament, without waiting for the leaflet, to ask if they would ballot for a Bill on this subject provided that they agreed with the actual form of the Bill.

SALE OF WORK IN AID OF N.U.S.E.C. FUNDS, Wednesday, 10th December, 3-6 p.m., Church House, Westminster.

A special appeal is made by Lady Pares, who is organizing the Sale of Work in aid of N.U.S.E.C. Funds on Wednesday, 10th December, for Calendars, Christmas Cards, and Second-hand Books, to be sent to her at 32 Belsize Park Gardens, N.W. 3. She announces that among the Stalls will be a Christmas Present Stall, as well as one supplied with home-grown or home-made produce like that which was so popular last year. Members should also be able to pick up curious bargains at the White Elephant Stall. All those who live in or near London are urged to come to the Sale, and those who are too far away can help materially by contributing.

NEW LITERATURE: SEPARATE TAXATION OF THE INCOMES OF MARRIED PERSONS.

We have just published a pamphlet (price 2d.) on the question of the Separate Taxation of the Incomes of Married Persons. Miss Winifred Elkin, the author, is a member of the Sub-Committee appointed to consider the matter as a consequence of the discussion at the last annual Council meeting. She shows clearly the difference in the amounts which are paid when husband and wife are taxed together, and those which would be paid if they were taxed separately; and she explains fully the proposals of the Council with regard to legislation on this point. Copies of the pamphlet may be obtained from the Secretary at Headquarters (2½d. post free).

FARNWORTH AND KEARSLEY WOMEN CITIZENS ASSOCIATION.

On behalf of the above Association, Miss Rathbone, C.C., J.P., of Liverpool, addressed a meeting on 3rd October, 1924, at the Moor Hall, Farnworth, on the subject of "Widows' Pensions." The address was informative and inspiring, and was much appreciated by a good audience. A public meeting was held on 18th November, 1924, in the Albert Road Congregational School, when Miss Musson (of the National Council for the Unmarried Mother and her Child) gave an address on "The Illegitimate Child and the Law." Very bad weather affected the attendance, but those present were very interested and appreciative.

EXETER S.E.C.

In response to the invitation of the President (Mrs. Gamble) and Committee of the Exeter Branch of the S.E.C., a numerous and enthusiastic audience attended a meeting at the Deanery on Monday, 10th November, addressed by Commandant Mary Allen. This pioneer of the Women's Police Service gave her hearers a most interesting account of her work, demonstrating most convincingly by the recital of her personal experiences what valuable preventive work can be done by policewomen, and how important it is that their number should be increased in London and in all large cities. She also showed how the present lack of housing accommodation is increasing immorality. A resolution was passed urging the Government to deal with this pressing evil without delay. The proceedings terminated with tea, kindly provided by the President, whose charm as a hostess, added to the pleasant old world surroundings of the Deanery, render meetings there most enjoyable to all the guests.

LOCAL ELECTIONS—HONOURS FOR WOMEN.

We offer our congratulations to Miss Whitburn, of Falmouth, and Bailie Grace Tasker, M.B.E., of Stirling. Miss Whitburn, who in addition to much other public work, is Honorary Secretary of the Falmouth S.E.C., has been elected Deputy Mayor of Falmouth. Miss Tasker, who was Stirling's first woman Town Councillor, is now the first woman Magistrate of that Royal Burgh. We are also glad to hear that Mrs. Chambers was elected in October as an Alderman of Bradford City Council, and the vacancy caused by her promotion was filled by the election of Mrs. Amy Sykes. Also that Miss Margaret Law has been re-elected to the chairmanship of the Elementary Education Sub-Committee. Miss Law and Mrs. Chambers were members of the former Bradford S.E.C.

CORRESPONDENCE.

BABY CLOTHES WANTED.

MADAM,—Will you allow me to appeal through your columns on behalf of a friend of mine who regularly attends the court in a provincial town, to render help to women who are in want of help for their babies. Any who, having infants' clothes they no longer need, would send them in a parcel to me would be helping to meet a very real need. I would send them on to her at once, and she would write direct to the giver with grateful thanks.

Believe me, yours,
E. PICTON-TURBERVILL,
14 Gayfere Street, Westminster, S.W. 1.

ELIZABETH GARRETT ANDERSON HOSPITAL.

We have been asked by Lady Plender, Hon. Treasurer and Chairman of the Extension Appeal Fund Committee, to publish the following letter from Her Majesty Queen Alexandra.

SANDRINGHAM, NORFOLK,
6th November, 1924.

DEAR LADY PLENDER,

I am desired by Queen Alexandra to thank you for your letter, and to say that Her Majesty learns with great interest that the splendid work achieved at the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital has resulted in such demands for admittance and treatment, that the extension of the Hospital has become necessary.

Queen Alexandra remembers with pleasure that she laid the foundation stone of the present building, and Her Majesty hopes that all who have at heart the welfare of women and children will help the Extension Appeal Fund, and render service of some kind to forward the success of the enlargement of the Hospital of which she is Patron.

Believe me,
Yours sincerely,
HENRY STREATFIELD.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

(British Section: 55 Gower Street, W.C.1.)

THE OTHER FELLOW'S POINT OF VIEW.

We people with a cause usually content ourselves with trying to present our cause clearly and precisely. We search our imaginations for illustrations and analogies, and here our ideas of propaganda end. We do not see that we are trying to force our way through our neighbour's quickset hedge instead of entering by his wide and open gate. We do not take the trouble to find out the angle from which he will regard our subject, the path by which he will naturally approach it. We had a certain sense of disappointment when Germany did not ask for admission to the League of Nations during the recent Assembly. She had missed an opportunity: failed to respond to a generous gesture. But it would be worth while to look at the situation from the angle of Berlin—what does the average German think about the League of Nations, and why does he think it— to review from that angle its past, its spirit, and its decisions, how these appear to him. There is the vexed question of war guilt. It is quite reasonable that Germans should ask themselves whether by subscribing to the Covenant they would be understood as voluntarily accepting the Peace Treaty of which the Covenant is part. They have signed the Treaty it is true, but only under duress. We shall never have a real community of nations in Europe until we understand the approach of Germans to this question, and to do that we must be able to look at the facts from the German angle. There is the question of according to Germany in the League the position of a great nation, i.e. a permanent seat on the Council. You may feel that it is not for Germany just now to make conditions, but she is a great nation, and her people must regard her as such.

The Woman Engineer

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THE SOCIETY OF WOMEN JOURNALISTS.

PRESIDENT: VISCOUNTESS BURNHAM.

Founded for the Association of Women engaged in Journalism in the British Empire and abroad, *The Woman Journalist*, the organ of the Society, is published every alternate month. Supplied free to members, it is an invaluable guide to current journalism. Members of the Society are privileged to receive free medical advice, free legal advice, and the Honorary Ophthalmic Surgeon is always available by appointment. A Benevolent Fund, administered without publicity, is another advantage to members.

The Subscription for membership is One Guinea for London and Half a Guinea for Country.

Application for membership should be made to Sentinel House, W.C. 1.

COMING EVENTS.

GUILDHOUSE W.C.S.

DEC. 8 Expedition to National Gallery, conducted by Dr. Percy Dearmer.

HORNSEY BRANCH OF NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN.

DEC. 4. 2.15 p.m. The Broadway, Crouch End, N. Annual Meeting. 3 p.m. Debate on Equal Pay for Equal Work. Proposer: Miss Helen Ward (N.U.S.E.C.). Opposer: The Countess of Selborne, J.P.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE.

DEC. 2 and 3. 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. 35 Marsham Street, Westminster. Christmas Sale.

NAIRN W.C.A.

DEC. 4. 3 p.m. Town Hall. Mrs. Mott on "Reforms Women Want and How to Obtain Them."

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

DEC. 10. 3-6 p.m. Sale of Work in aid of Funds of N.U.S.E.C., at Church House, Westminster.

Cardiff W.C.A. DEC. 13. 3 p.m. Miss Eleanor Rathbone on "Family Endowment."

Dundee W.C.A. DEC. 1. 8 p.m. Mrs. Mott on "Feminism in the Twentieth Century."

Edinburgh W.C.A. DEC. 5. 8 p.m. Drawing-room Meeting. Mrs. Mott on "Feminism in the Twentieth Century."

DEC. 10. 8 p.m. Public Meeting. Royal Society of Arts Hall, 117 George Street. "The Permanent Care of the Feeble-minded" (with lantern slides). Lady Leslie Mackenzie, Lecturer on Local Government to the School of Social Study and Training, the University of Edinburgh.

Liverpool W.C.A. DEC. 2. The Common Hall, Hackinshey. Miss Rathbone on "Family Allowances Abroad."

Royal Holloway College S.E.C. DEC. 4. 8 p.m. Miss Elkin on "Legal Inequalities of Women."

SIX POINT GROUP.

DEC. 1. 5 p.m. 92 Victoria Street, S.W. Miss Alison Neilans on "The Solicitation Laws."

THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE:

DEC. 3 to 12. 92 Victoria Street, S.W. 1. Exhibition and Sale of Work of Members. To be opened at 3.30 p.m., on December 3, by Muriel Viscountess Helmsley.

TYPEWRITING AND PRINTING, Etc.

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PROFESSIONAL.

INCOME TAX RECOVERED AND ADJUSTED. Consult Miss H. M. Baker, 275 High Holborn, W.C. 1. Income Tax Returns, Super Tax Returns, Repayment Claims of all descriptions. Telephone: Holborn 377.

SPANISH AND FRENCH are now taught by native teachers at Miss Blakeney's highly recommended School of Shorthand, Typewriting, and Book-keeping. Day and Evening Classes. Terms moderate.—Wentworth House, Manresa Road, Chelsea, S.W. 3.

FOR SALE AND WANTED.

CHARMING FINNISH FAIRY STORIES for Christmas, Fireside, or other Recitals.—Address, "Stories", 70 Windermere Road, Ealing, W. 5.

THE TAYLOR HOME SET OF THERMOMETERS, including book of tested recipes and instructions for their use. (The sugar-boiling and frying thermometers are in silver-plated copper cases.) Price 28s.—Write, Box 1,099, WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

HUTTON'S BARGAIN CORNER.—Huckaback Towelling.—Remnant bundles of Irish huckaback linen towelling, very superior quality, for bedroom towels, sufficient to make six full-size towels, 12s. 6d. per bundle, postage 6d. Write for Bargain List—TODAY.—HUTTON'S, 41, Main Street, Larne, Northern Ireland.

THE "OLIO" RECIPE BOOK cannot be beaten for Reliability, Cheapness, Goodness. Edition XIV enlarged to 1,776 Recipes and Hints. Paper 2s. 6d., cloth 4s. All Booksellers.

SECOND-HAND CLOTHING wanted to buy for cash; costumes, skirts, boots, underclothes, curtains, lounge suits, trousers, and children's clothing of every description; parcels sent will be valued and cash sent by return.—Mrs. Russell, 100 Raby Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. (Stamped addressed envelope for reply.)

DRESS.

THE HAT DOCTOR, removed to 52 James Street, Oxford Street, W. 1, cleans, reblocks and copies hats at lowest possible price. Renovates furs. Covers satin or canvas shoes or thin kid with brocade or velvet. Materials and post, 13s. 6d.; toe-caps, 8s. 6d.; your own materials, work and post, 8s. 6d., in three days.

"FROCKLETS." Mrs. Ellborough, 6/0 Madame Sara, 163 Ebury Street (5 min. Victoria Station). Tel. Ken. 3947. Children's Dresses of original and practical design, Coats, Caps, etc., etc. Smocks a speciality. Fancy Dresses. Open daily (Saturdays excepted) 10 a.m.—4 p.m.

A GENUINE BARGAIN.—Mrs. Plevin, 126 Northgate, Chester, has purchased large quantities of ladies' fringed Chamois Gloves, previous to the advance in material, which she is offering at 3s. 11d. pair.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

ASSOCIATION for MORAL and SOCIAL HYGIENE. Ninth Annual Report. Owing to a printer's error in the binding up of this Annual Report, a small number of copies have been sent out which do not contain the full Report and which are confusing to read. If any reader of THE WOMAN'S LEADER has received such a copy, the secretary of the A.M.S.H. will be very glad to send a correct copy on application. The omission is of pages 27-34.—Orchard House, 2 and 4 Great Smith Street, Westminster.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE, 35 Marsham Street, Westminster. Secretary, Miss P. Strachey. Information Bureau. Interviews 10 to 1, except Saturdays. Members' Centre open daily. Restaurant open to 7.30 (not Saturdays).

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Sunday, 30th November, 3.30, Music; Lecture: "Ideals in Politics," the Hon. Oliver Stanley, M.P. 6.30 p.m., Miss Maude Royden: "An Incomplete Theology."

GENUINE FRIENDSHIPS formed through the U.C.C.—Write, Secretary, 16 L., Cambridge Street, S.W. 1.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

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