

# THE WOMAN'S LEADER

## AND THE COMMON CAUSE

Vol. XVII. No. 7. One Penny.

REGISTERED AS  
A NEWSPAPER.

Friday, March 13, 1925.

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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 Guardianship of Infants Bill.

The second reading of this Bill was taken in a House, thin as the House of Commons only is thin, on a day whose chief business is confined to Scottish matters. The Under-Secretary for Home Affairs, in introducing the Bill, explained that it was in the nature of a compromise between those "mainly outside this House" who were clamouring for more, and those within—not all of one party—who were objecting to giving so much. Judged in the light of the demands of women's organizations and of the Prime Minister's election pledge to give "equal guardianship rights for mothers and fathers," the Bill falls short in that it contains no specific clause to constitute a mother joint guardian with a father. Judged in the light of what has been wrested out of a not too willing set of Government Departments, and acquiesced in by many usually reactionary members, and in the light of the practical relief it will actually bring to many an unhappy mother and child, its passing into law will mark another real stepping stone in the woman's movement. The main points of the Bill were given in our columns a fortnight ago, and our readers will remember that the Bill provides (1) that in any dispute that comes before the court affecting the upbringing of the child, the court shall have regard solely to the welfare of the child and not to the rights of either parent; (2) that in cases in which the mother is given the custody of the child she may also claim maintenance on its behalf from the father; (3) that mothers and fathers shall have equal rights with regard to the appointment of guardians after death; (4) that cases under the Act can be brought before the summary courts. In the course of the debate the Bill was blessed by both Sir Harry Slesser, on behalf of the Labour Party, and Mr. Runciman, on behalf of the Liberals. Die-hards on both sides of the House—Sir Henry Craik (Scottish Universities) and Mr. Spencer (Labour) were very apprehensive of the probable effect of some of its provisions on the happiness of families. Miss Wilkinson, in a brilliant little speech, which, while appreciating the Bill, put forward an eloquent plea for real equality in guardianship, rounded on former speakers, including Sir Henry Slesser, for the assumption that it must be taken for granted that the man is necessarily the head of the family. The Bill passed its second reading without a division, and has been sent to Standing Committee A.

#### Effects of the Guardianship Bill.

Compromise though it is, we feel that the new Bill will do a great deal more than is sometimes realized. It may not give equal

rights to a mother in so many words until the matter in dispute is brought into a court. But how can the most despotic father now actually carry out his legal rights if objected to by the mother, unless, in the last resource, he invites the assistance of the courts? But with the new Bill, directly this occurs his supremacy vanishes. It is interesting that in this year's annual *Practice*, or "White Book," a legal year book of repute, the Bill is interpreted as covering disputes dealing with religion, etc. It is clear that the chief weapon of the father at the present time is often not so much the power of the law as the power of the purse. This the new Bill does something to remedy—but the real remedy will only be found when by some means, such as family allowances, the right to a share of her husband's income or complete freedom to work after marriage, a mother achieves economic independence.

#### The Legitimacy Bill.

The Government's Legitimacy Bill was introduced into the House of Lords by the Lord Chancellor on Wednesday last. The bill is very much the same as last session's bill as it left the House of Lords. It provides for the legitimation of the child by the subsequent marriage of the parents, except in the case of a child whose father or mother was married to a third person when it was born. It provides in a manner which lacks the grave objections attached to Lord Midleton's famous amendment of last year, for the re-registration of illegitimate children by either or both of their parents, but adds that failure to provide the necessary information by the parents shall not affect the legitimation of the child. The provisions with regard to intestacy, inheritance, etc., are similar to those of last year's bill. We shall return to this subject next week.

#### Miss Wilkinson on Unemployed Women.

During the debate on unemployment last Monday Miss Wilkinson dealt with the vexed point of unemployed women and domestic service. She resented the fact that women who had spent time acquiring a skilled trade were forced by the administration of the unemployment scheme into domestic service, and then, being domestic servants, ceased to be liable for unemployment benefit. This exclusion from benefit, she maintained, was discouraging women from entering domestic service. She did not discuss the other side of the question, namely, whether domestic servants whose risk of unemployment is slight would on the whole gain by being included in a scheme where the vast majority of occupations dealt with are liable to much higher risks.

#### L.C.C. Elections.

The results of the L.C.C. elections from the women's point of view are more satisfactory than were the last Parliamentary elections as the number of women members has increased from 17 to 20. We are glad, too, to read in *The Times* that voting was brisk during the early part of polling day owing to "the interest taken in the elections by women." Of the women members of the new Council, the following eleven belong to the Municipal Reform Party, Lady Trustram Eve, Dame Beatrix Hudson Lyall, D.B.E., J.P., Miss Thelma Cazalet, Mrs. Elliot, Mrs. Emmett, Mrs. Dunn Gardner, J.P., Miss M. Hill, J.P., Mrs. Hopkins, Dr. Adeline Roberts, J.P., Miss Rosamond Smith, and Mrs. Worsthorne, and nine to the Labour Party, Dr. Stella Churchill, Mrs. Hugh Dalton, Miss Agnes Dawson, Mrs. C. S. Gandy, Miss A. Susan Lawrence, Mrs. E. M. Lowe, Mrs. Matthews, Mrs. A. Salter, and Mrs. Scurr. Two other women, Dr. Barrie Lambert and Mrs. Wilton Phipps, serve as County Alderman and as ten additional aldermen have yet to be appointed it is possible the number of women members

may be increased. The term of office as aldermen for Lady St. Helier and Miss Wallace has expired, and it is not yet known whether they will be reappointed. Women of all parties will regret to see the defeat of Miss N. Adler, who has been a member of the L.C.C. for fifteen years, and for all that time has worked strenuously in the interests of women and children. She was one of the members who protested against the Council's action in demanding the resignation of women on marriage, and was deeply interested in all questions dealing with housing and education.

#### The New Factories Bill.

A large deputation, organized by the Industrial Law Bureau of the Young Women's Christian Association, composed mainly of representatives of women's organizations, was received on Tuesday by the Home Secretary. The deputation was introduced by the Bishop of Winchester, and the speakers included Miss Gertrude Tuckwell, Lady Ware, Mrs. C. D. Rackham, and Miss Knight Bruce. We will deal with the Home Secretary's reply in a future issue.

#### Children's Rescue Committee.

The Duchess of Atholl presided at a meeting held at the Kingsway Hall on 5th March under the auspices of the Federation of Children's Rescue Committees to discuss the care of children who have been victims of child assault. The Federation was formed in 1915 because rescue workers found that a considerable proportion of the girls they had to deal with had been the victims of assault in early years. The Federation aims at making a healthy and happy childhood possible for these unfortunate children and of course at preventing further trouble of the same kind. There is one home where children who have been infected may be treated in pleasant surroundings, the only one of the kind in the country. Amongst other speakers was the Bishop of Kingston, who referred to the development of the public conscience in this matter. The realization of this evil is certainly greater than it was, but there is still too much ignorance on the subject which needs to be dispelled before a really satisfactory state of affairs can be hoped for.

#### Unity is Strength.

An important development has arisen out of the recent correspondence in the *Manchester Guardian* on the all-important subject of temperance reform, and the increasing necessity for unity in the temperance ranks. The chairman of the Temperance Council of the Christian Churches has undertaken to convene a round-table conference at High Leigh, Hoddesdon, from 17th-19th March, to which representatives of all branches of temperance thought will be invited, to discuss the possibility of some agreed form of Local Option for England. This decision may be attributed primarily to Lord Astor's urgent representation that the time had come when temperance reformers should "sink their differences on non-essentials and decide to co-operate in such a scheme as will give the greatest measure of agreement." We wish we had space to give an abstract of Lord Astor's striking address, in Newcastle Cathedral on 25th January, "*In which Camp?*" We suggest that temperance reform should be seriously studied by organizations of women citizens and advise those interested to read Lord Astor's challenge, which has been reprinted as a leaflet.<sup>1</sup>

#### Women Police.

We call the special attention of our readers to a practical instance of the value of the services of women police in a letter in our correspondence column signed "Mere Man," which has been sent us by a well-known man in a position of high standing in one of the Government Departments. We hope this concrete illustration will stimulate the energies of women all over the country. In a communication which has reached us from America we read that protective work for girls is coming to be recognized as a necessary part of the function of the police department, and is to an increasing extent committed to women invested with police authority and organized as a separate bureau in the police department. An admirable course of training for women police has been recently organized at the New York School of

Social Work with practical work arranged in co-operation with the New York City Department of Police. We should be glad to feel that we had reached this stage in this country.

#### Women's Suffrage in Newfoundland.

We read in *The Times* that the Lower House of the Legislature on 9th March passed unanimously the second reading of the Bill granting the suffrage to women of twenty-five years and over. It is expected that this will meet with very little opposition in the Upper House, so that we trust that the splendid efforts for enfranchisement on the part of the women of Newfoundland will soon be crowned by success.

#### Electricity.

The Women's Electrical Association have published in pamphlet form a lecture given by Miss Margaret Partridge, B.Sc., at a meeting of the Women's Co-operative Guild, which deals with electricity in the home from the woman's point of view. It can be obtained, price 1d., from the Women's Electrical Association, 26 George Street, Hanover Square, W. The Association has also organized a course of three lectures on Wednesdays beginning on 18th March, to be given by Miss M. Partridge, B.Sc., at Morley Hall, 26 George Street, Hanover Square, W. 1, at 3 p.m. The subjects are "The Live Wire," dealing with the wiring of a house, "The All-Electric Home," and "What is Electricity?"

#### Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital Appeal.

The Tea Party scheme to raise money for the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital has, we learn, started off with every prospect of success. Not only have a large number of private tea parties been promised, but some of the Women's Clubs are helping by giving dinners or dances. The first theatre tea-party was given last week to 100 guests at the Palladium. The Appeal Fund Committee are incorporating in their scheme the idea of vanishing tea parties. The first hostess would ask 10 people to tea with her, each of these would ask five, and so on; if each guest gives 1s. a total of £97 16s. is collected from each group. A few friends to tea and a shilling donation seems a simple, pleasant and cheap way of helping to raise money for a much-needed hospital extension.

#### A Woman President.

Mrs. George Cadbury was welcomed as the new President of the National Council of Evangelical Free Churches at its opening session in Leeds on 11th March. Mrs. Cadbury is the first woman to hold this office. Her presidential address dealt with Friendship: its Implications and Responsibilities.

#### Caught Napping!

Honesty and regard for accuracy compel us to admit that a paragraph relating to Peeresses in the House of Lords, referring to a motion in the House of Commons just a year ago, somehow strayed into our last week's number. We regret that Mr. Frank Briant, the author of the motion in question, and always a good friend for the causes of which we stand, is for the time being laid aside with illness.

#### Questions in Parliament.

**NATIONALITY OF MARRIED WOMEN.**—In reply to a question from Major Harvey, Sir W. Joynson Hicks said that copies of the debates dealing with the nationality of married women had been forwarded to the Governments of the Dominions.

**YOUNG OFFENDERS' COMMITTEE.**—In reply to a question from Mr. T. Kennedy, Sir W. Joynson Hicks stated that he had received a request from the Standing Joint Committee of Industrial Women's Organizations that a woman representing working women's organizations should be added to the Departmental Committee dealing with young offenders, but he was not prepared to add to the Committee, which already included three women.

**PAY OF WOMEN CIVIL SERVANTS.**—Mr. Churchill was asked various questions by Major Clifton Brown, Miss Wilkinson, and other Members with regard to equal pay for men and women Civil Servants. Mr. Churchill stated the country's finances do not admit of the increased expenditure involved.

## HALF A LEAGUE ONWARD?

As we went to press last week an atmosphere of cloudy yet hopeful uncertainty overhung the international scene. The new German proposals for a security pact had been laid on the diplomat c table. The House of Commons debate on foreign affairs was hardly under weigh. Now, as we write, little or no progress has been made with the dissipation of these mists. The House of Commons debate has come and gone, memorable only for a regrettable personal incident whose aftermath remains to encumber Parliamentary time. And such snags, as any acute observer of foreign affairs might have anticipated, have arisen in the course of discussion on the German offer.

Nevertheless, snags or no snags, that offer has about it springs of hope which we cannot easily choke down—assuming, of course, that the ratification of a League Agreement on the lines of the Geneva Protocol is for the moment beyond the capacities of international statesmanship. Germany has offered (and we must recognize the offer as a very notable victory of the pacific over the nationalist elements in that country) her adherence to a pact guaranteeing absolutely the eastern frontiers of France and Belgium, and the Italian frontier of the Tyrol. She has moreover declared her readiness to renounce any attempt to secure by force the rectification of her Eastern frontier against Poland. We hope that our readers will not accuse us of party bias if we venture to quote with approval the comments on this offer of a well-known organ of Conservative opinion:<sup>1</sup>—"In assuming this responsibility the German Government has made a decision of extreme wisdom. . . . Accepting the Western frontiers as settled and permanent, Germany spontaneously clears the way for a British guarantee by affixing her own. The German Government has not offered, nor did any sane person expect it to offer, a similar pledge in respect of the Eastern frontiers. . . . Admittedly, Germany hopes for revision. Why not? The peace-makers of Paris did not bar revision. Bad as we think the treaty, it was not as bad as that. . . . It is an overwhelming certainty that, without prospect of relief or change, the continuance of existing conditions on the Polish-German frontier will endanger the world's peace. In the course of time and of civilized procedure they will be modified by consent. Alternatively, war will be waged to modify them by force. There is no other alternative. Germany has now proposed to rule out the latter choice. She is ready to pledge herself to rely upon the merit of her claims, and a method of relief foreshadowed in the Treaty, for the ultimate amendment of an unjust and unwise settlement. For her Western frontiers revision is ruled out absolutely. The principle is simple and inherently rational. The frontiers of Western Europe are

indisputable, the frontiers of Eastern Europe are not." Add to this able analysis of Germany's offer the text of Article 19 of the Covenant of the League, and the terms of the new proposition are set clearly before us:—"The Assembly may from time to time advise the reconsideration by members of the League of treaties which have become inapplicable, and the consideration of international conditions whose continuance might endanger the peace of the world."

But the snags remain. There is in the first place the apparent commitment of France to her Polish ally—the commitment which at the end of last week sent the Polish Foreign Minister, Count Skrzynski, posting off to Paris, and from thence with a watching brief to Geneva. In the second place, there is the view, loudly voiced by certain influential sections of the Paris Press, that such a pact can be of no account since Germany cannot be trusted to keep a treaty. To the first claim there can be only one answer: If Poland is guaranteed by a super-nary pact that there shall be no war upon her frontiers and that those frontiers shall be revised only by common consent and when their form has become inapplicable and their continuance a danger to the peace of the world, she has been guaranteed all that a League Member State can reasonably ask. To the second assertion, too, there can be only one answer:—By the betrayal of the Fourteen Points the Allies forfeited the right to fasten the epithet of "treaty breaker" exclusively upon Germany. If Germany cannot be trusted to keep a treaty, neither can any of us. If two great betrayals are to undermine for all time the world's faith in the sanctity of treaties, then with the proposed pact must go also the Covenant of the League. But that is an implication which we in this country are not prepared to face. Nor, we suspect, are the French people.

Therefore, in spite of the snags we look hopefully towards the emergence of a pact on the lines suggested by the German Government, and, we understand, sympathetically received by the British Government. Our hopes are not untainted with regret. If the League were what it should be, and what we believe it will be, there would be no need for such sectional pacts within the framework of its Covenant. But since our intractable Ally wills it so, since our own Government cannot see its way to go forward on the more hopeful alternative lines developed by the Geneva Protocol, we must be content with half measures—praying the while, that by such side-tracking of the League's machinery, by such usurpation of its main function, we may not hinder the ultimate coming of that greater all-inclusive security for which a tired and faithless world is waiting.

## THE OLD AND THE NEW FEMINISM.<sup>2</sup>

By ELEANOR RATHBONE, J.P.

Standing at the corner of Trafalgar Square any evening, one can read the news of the day flashed off against the night sky. At first, if one is new to the sight, it seems as though some momentous message must be spelling itself out. But soon one realises that the record is mostly of trivial happenings and that after a few minutes the same story repeats itself over again.

The Parliamentary history of the last few years has been rather like that electric moving ribbon. It has reeled itself off with so much flash and brilliancy that it is difficult to realise how little it has all amounted to. Each Session we have watched the development of our several Bills with fascination, thinking that something decisive was going to happen. Then the end of the Session has come and the next Session's record has been just the same old serial stories broken off at about the same stages: Equal Guardianship, our own Bill, well favoured and full favoured, and the Government's somewhat pallid and shorn version of the same thing; Separation and Maintenance Orders, a Government Bill in which we recognised our own work in a meagre and attenuated form; an Illegitimacy Bill, again clipped and mutilated so that it might slip through all the easier; a Parliamentary Debate and many official and unofficial fine words about Widows' Pensions, but no Chancellor of the Exchequer ready to plank down the price; more fine words, and more official and unofficial promises about Equal Franchise Rights. But here again words only, not deeds.

Now in 1925, for the fourth or fifth time, the same old repertoire

<sup>1</sup> *The Observer*, Sunday, 8th March, leading article.

<sup>2</sup> Presidential Address delivered at the Annual Council Meeting of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, 11th March, 1925.

<sup>1</sup> "The Temperance Council of the Christian Churches of England and Wales" (Abbey House, Westminster, S.W. 1. 2d.)

accomplished. There remain the other three. I believe there are critics among ourselves who are inclined to charge us with showing less zeal and energy in the cause of an Equal Moral Standard, of Equal Pay and Opportunities, and of the League of Nations than in the reforms affecting the franchise and the status of wives and mothers. I do not believe this criticism is justified. It is not zeal or energy that have been lacking. The fact is that these other reforms do not offer the same opportunities for the action of a Society like ours as those which can be embodied in Parliamentary Bills. An Equal Moral Standard is something intangible. It cannot be brought about by one or a dozen Parliamentary Bills, only by a change of heart, of mental outlook, on the part of society and its members. Of course, there are changes in legislation and in administration that will help it on. One of these was successfully put through by our Union two years ago when we initiated the Matrimonial Causes Act. Others we are working for now. There is the question of Women Police. There are reforms in the laws affecting prostitution and solicitation and child assault which we are always watching for opportunities to promote. But these questions are much more difficult and delicate and controversial than those embodied in the Bills which are approaching their completion. General public opinion is more backward; expert public opinion is more divided; the existence of a strong *ad hoc* Society entirely devoted to these questions and affiliated to our Union restricts the part which a wholly woman's organization like ours can profitably play.

The question of Equal Opportunities and Pay is even more elusive and difficult. Except as it affects those employed in the Public Services, there is no obvious means of legal attack. We cannot ask for a Bill requiring private employers to engage men and women in equal numbers at equal salaries, or Trades Unions to remove the barriers of sex exclusiveness. It is difficult even to find means of bringing public opinion effectively to bear on such employers and Trades Unions. The actual facts relating to these sex privileges and exclusions are hard to get at. When anything at all can be done to fight them, it can usually be done better locally than through the action of a National Headquarters, because it requires personal influence and contacts. So far, with the exception of the London Society for Women's Service, which concentrates almost entirely on this problem, there have been few symptoms that our Societies have been interesting themselves actively in it. I think we may assume that you feel yourselves, as we do at Headquarters, baffled and rather helpless in face of the forces which tend to limit women's opportunities in the professions and to keep them to a definitely inferior status in industry.

There are those who believe that this problem can be tackled by means of general propaganda based on appeals to abstract justice. If so, let them undertake such propaganda and win fresh recruits by demonstrating its effectiveness. There are others who fear that exceedingly little can be accomplished by this means. We believe that the inferior status of women in industry and the jealousy which works against them in the professions are only partly the fruit of sex prejudice; that they have deep-rooted economic causes and that the only effective method of attack is to penetrate to and remove these causes, or at least modify and bring them under control.

Whatever view we take of these questions, I think that everyone who is thinking ahead must realize that the National Union is approaching a stage in its existence when its work will be less obvious and clearly defined and ready to hand than it has been during the last five years. The time has come to take stock and decide what next. It seems to me that, broadly speaking, there are two lines of possible development. We may complete the task of removing from the Statute Book the remaining traces of legal inequality; we may continue to chant the gospel of sex equality to the inattentive ears of employers and Trades Unionists, comforting ourselves that the fault is theirs if they fail to listen. But it must be confessed that this is a programme not likely to arouse much enthusiasm or attract new recruits, and if that is all, we must be prepared to see the once broad river of the N.U.S.E.C. dwindle till it becomes a trickle and loses itself in the sands. Or we may say: "Now the legal barriers are down; there is still some debris left which we must clear away. But we need not give ourselves up entirely to that, for women are virtually free. At last we have done with the boring business of measuring everything that women want, or that is offered them by men's standards, to see if it is exactly up to sample. At last we can stop looking at all our problems through men's eyes and discussing them in men's phraseology. We can demand what we want for women,

not because it is what men have got, but because it is what women need to fulfil the potentialities of their own natures and to adjust themselves to the circumstances of their own lives. We can do this without any sense of yielding to sex selfishness or antagonism, because we know it that is only in this way that women can make a contribution of real value to the common stock of human good; can throw on its problems a light which shines from within; can refute the gibe that while women are clever as imitators, they are deficient in initiative and originality.

Does this all sound rather vague and wordy? Let me try to give it concreteness by applying it to a particular problem—the problem of Equal Opportunities and Pay. Hitherto we have contented ourselves with demanding that in the economic sphere women shall be free to attempt the same tasks as men and shall be paid at the same rates *when they are doing men's work*. But under what conditions are they to labour and at what rates are they to be paid when they are doing work which only women can do or for which they have a special fitness? So far the National Union have made no pronouncement about that. Yet surely it is as important a question as the other. Is it only the women who have adopted callings glorified by the presence in them of men who need security for adequate remuneration and suitable conditions? Is it not possible that, just because these economic problems have been thought out by men with special reference to the conditions of their own lives, there are spheres of service just as important to the community which have been neglected, left at the mercy of ruthless economic forces without any consideration of the well-being of the human beings concerned in them, though on their efficiency must depend in the long run the efficiency of the service itself? There is the dangerous service of maternity, the delicate and skilled task of rearing children. There are the services of midwifery and nursing, there are all the questions of houses fit to be workshops for women as well as dormitories for men. Where in this sphere are the equivalents of the Factory Legislation, the Trades Boards and Industrial Councils, the Trades Unions and Employers' Federations which regulate and protect the services which employ men? Can anyone who begins to contemplate these facts wonder any longer why it is that such questions as Family Endowment, Birth Control, Housing, crop up ubiquitously and irresistibly in the programmes of Women's Conferences? Whatever the rights and wrongs of these questions, whether we are on the one side or the other, who can doubt that they are questions which women must think out for themselves and mould to their own patterns. When we are trying to do this, let us not forget that the path in which we are treading is a path which has been trod in by others before us who have been pioneers in asserting the rights of self-determination for their own group or class. When working men first began to struggle for their liberties their demands were at first limited to political privileges and to breaking down of legal disabilities. Only gradually they realized that the privileges and the formulæ that had been shaped to meet the needs of the classes that had hitherto held dominion were not necessarily sufficient in themselves to bring real freedom, real equality of opportunity, to the manual workers, that these must work out for themselves a whole new science and art of living that would enable them not merely to copy the manners and customs of their betters, but to shape their own destinies. We, like them, have to learn that the achievement of freedom is a much bigger thing than the breaking off of shackles. First strike off the shackles, but afterwards give the released prisoner just the kind of nourishment, just the scientific gymnastic, just the free exercise in the open air and sunshine that will enable him to grow to the full measure of the stature which Nature has destined for him.

#### "SAFETY FIRST" FOR CHILDREN.

On account of the alarming number of street accidents to children in the Potteries, the Chief Constable has arranged with the Education Committee for a series of addresses to be given to elementary children on traffic danger. The children are being particularly warned never to run behind motor vehicles, to look along the road before they cross, not to congregate round tramcars and omnibuses in order to collect tickets, and when they get off a tramcar or omnibus not to cross the road behind it. Other boroughs might well follow this example. There is probably not a single town where there are not every year a large number of preventable accidents to children which come from their lack of understanding, and the waste and maiming of young life as a result is a tragic factor in modern life.

## TWO SPRING VISITS TO PALESTINE, 1921, 1922.<sup>1</sup>

By MILLICENT GARRETT FAWCETT, G.B.E., J.P., LL.D.

### CHAPTER XVI.—BEIRUT.

On 17th March we were at Port Said and the *Lotus* moored exactly opposite the hotel where we had stayed last year, and we saw again the long mole with the statue of de Lesseps pointing proudly to the canal which he had planned and carried through. We passed Jaffa in the night without stopping, which I regretted, as I wanted to see it from the sea and also to know what made it such a very undesirable landing-place. The sea continued, however, so absolutely calm that probably there would have been nothing of the usual difficulties even if Jaffa had been one of our ports of call. At 6 a.m. on 18th March I went to our cabin window and saw Haifa looking absolutely lovely in the morning sunshine. We had hoped some of our friends there would have called on us, but in this we were disappointed; we had, however, a bright sun, a blue sea, a cloudless sky, and everything but our Haifa friends to make us happy. The 18th was the day we were due at Beirut, and we were rather afraid we might be late. It was very interesting, however, coasting along past Acre and the Ladder of Tyre and watching and waiting for our first sight of Beirut. Its lovely situation on the slopes of the Lebanon is well known. At luncheon that day an Englishman who sat opposite us told us that everything was practically settled about the construction of a harbour at Haifa, that the necessary concessions had been granted and that the Pearsons' firm (Lord Cowdray's) was to carry out the work; but we heard no word subsequently in confirmation of this cheerful assertion, and thought of the American aphorism "it is better not to know so much than to know so many things which ain't so."

The *Lotus* came into Beirut about 6 p.m., and was immediately surrounded by a dense mass of small boats, each containing four or five men who all yelled and clamoured, shouting recommendations to passengers to land in their boats and come to their hotels. There were two boats which bore Thos. Cook and Sons' flags. We selected one of these, and after a considerable scrimmage managed to get ourselves and our luggage into it; then another boat came alongside in which was a man (Cook's Interpreter, as we afterwards discovered), who asked for me by name. When I answered there was another scrimmage, and my sister and I, with our luggage, were transferred, not without a considerable din of remonstrance, from boat No. 1 to boat No. 2. Clambering over the massive oars and the high seats was not very easy. However, it was gradually accomplished, and all was well at last. The Interpreter (this title made us feel as if we were part of the *Pilgrim's Progress*) got us ashore, through the customs, into a cab, and presently into the Grand Hotel de l'Orient, Beirut, all safe and sound. There stood our friend, Miss J. F., in the hall waiting to welcome us. Here also we found our dragoman, who bore with him a letter of hearty recommendation from friends of our own who had lately employed him. The first stage of our journey was accomplished, and had been a real solid rest after the bustle of London.

We had only just one day in Beirut, and that day was Sunday. This unfortunately prevented our seeing anything but the outside of its splendid group of Missionary colleges and hospitals, to which the Americans and the Scotch have most largely and generously contributed; but the English, the French, the Italians, and the Germans have also their colleges, schools, orphanages, and hospitals, and they all would no doubt have been most interesting if we had had time to see them. But it was not to be. Last year we had seen something of the output of the Beirut American College (formerly the Syrian Protestant College), in the meeting held at our hotel of well-educated young men, then resident in Jerusalem, who had been its former students. We felt, therefore, that we must see at least the outside of the institution. It occupies an immense range of buildings on a splendid site, well lifted above the town, and our friend, Miss J. F., who had been taken over it by the Principal the previous day, described its excellences to us. It provides a thorough secondary education to all who wish to benefit by it, as well as professional training in many branches. The number of students was over 700 at the time of our visit. The whole equipment is marked by the lavish generosity with which Americans run the educational institutions for which they are responsible. Everything is of the best, and there is no sign of the "penny wise, pound foolish" policy which is sometimes

<sup>1</sup> This is one of a series of weekly articles which will extend over a period of several months.

met with. We neither heard nor saw anything of the girl students of whose admission to the college we had been told last year.

We could not be in Beirut even for a day without thinking wistfully of the young British poet who was once Vice-Consul there, James Elroy Flecker. His poems are full of references to the locality, Brumana, Tyre, Cyprus, Troy, but he never forgot that he "was bred in Gloucestershire, one of the Englishmen." I asked about him, and did not come across anyone who had known him. It would have been different if I had succeeded in getting into any of the colleges with which the town is studded.

Outside Beirut the small houses of the peasants puzzled us a little: each had its flat roof, and on every roof there was a small stone roller. We could not think why people wanted to roll their roofs. But our dragoman explained that it was necessary, especially after rain. If the surface of the roof becomes uneven or corrugated so that the rain water remains upon it in pools, it gradually penetrates through the surface and makes the whole house wet and unwholesome.

We had one drive out of Beirut on Sunday afternoon, to the Dog River along the beach of the Mediterranean to the ancient Roman road and bridge which had witnessed the march of almost innumerable victorious or vanquished armies from the earliest times down to 1918. The victors in these fights had cut upon the living rock a record of their victory,<sup>2</sup> and these histories written in stone still remain in Egyptian, Persian, Kufic, Greek, and Latin, all ancient, one in French of recent date, and two in quite modern English. These last were dated October, 1918. The most interesting to us ran thus:—

THE BRITISH DESERT MOUNTED CORPS  
AIDED BY  
THE ARAB FORCES OF KING HUSSEIN  
CAPTURED  
DAMASCUS, HAMA, AND ALEPPO,  
October, 1918.

Here, indeed, were sermons in stones; and we felt we were standing in places where history had not only been made but also written on the rocks. There these inscriptions will stand for thousands of years to come, as many of them have stood for thousands of years past and gone. While lingering here rain, which had been threatening since the morning, came on pretty smartly, and we turned back towards Beirut to make our preparations for an early start across the Lebanon the next morning.

## THE GENEVA PROTOCOL, III: OBJECTIONS AND AMENDMENTS.

By K. E. INNES, Women's International League, 55 Gower Street, W.C.

Like all proposals subjected, and rightly subjected, to general discussion, the Geneva Protocol has suffered from a good deal of misunderstanding and misinterpretation in the criticisms made of it. This does not mean that there are not very solid criticisms and very serious objections which might be and have been raised to certain parts of it; but there are many commonly echoed objections, passed on largely by those who have not read the text, which require dealing with in order to clear the air before the serious objections, and the amendments to meet them, are considered.

A very common objection to the Protocol is put in the form that it "would stabilize the Peace Treaties." Apart from the fact that many who now raise this difficulty have never shown any great concern hitherto for the revision of the injustices of the Peace Treaties, it does not seem to be realized that the Protocol in this respect neither detracts from, nor adds to the Covenant. In Article 10 of the Covenant we promised in 1920 "To respect and preserve as against external aggression the territorial integrity and existing political independence of all members of the League." Article 19 arranges for "the reconsideration by members of the League of the treaties which have become inapplicable and the consideration of international conditions whose continuance might endanger the peace of the world." The Protocol does not alter these clauses. Unless we withdraw from the League we are committed under Article 10, and have been since 1920; we still have a possible legal and peaceful means of one day securing revision of the Peace Treaties under Article 19.

<sup>2</sup> The Rev. W. M. Thomson, D.D., the author of *The Land and the Book*, and for thirty years a missionary in Syria and Palestine, gives in his fourth chapter a very interesting description of these extraordinary monuments.

But the critics who complain that the Protocol would tend further to stabilize things as established by Treaty mean more than that—the acceptance of legal methods of settling disputes involves the acceptance of the inviolability of treaties as a basis for international law. The alternative is not always realized by those critics who put the objection forward; for the alternative is—maintenance of the right to go to war to change the *status quo*. The W.I.L. holds that it is likely more injustice would result from the exercise of this right than from the acceptance of things as they are. Still, by slow education, public opinion is ready for their alteration by legal means.

A more serious difficulty, in their view, is the objection that it is not safe to sign the Protocol while several big powers are outside the League—viz. U.S.A., Germany, and Russia. The three cannot be dealt with as one problem. The fear over the U.S.A. is mainly that we might become involved in difficulties with her over interfering with neutral shipping while applying the sanctions under the Protocol by means of the blockade of a nation which had broken its obligations, but with which the U.S.A. did not wish to break off relations. This is undoubtedly a risk to be faced; but it is a risk which would be run by us in any war, Protocol or no Protocol. One can only say that in the latter case it is more likely that the U.S.A. would approve our action if it were in support of a very general verdict of condemnation of an aggressor state than if we exercised such interference with neutral trade in a private war. One feels that critics who say the "United States would not like it," are trying to put the responsibility for an instinctive objection they themselves feel on to other shoulders, rather than thinking out the pros and cons to a finish for themselves. The United States are far more likely to mix again in European politics if they see we are really trying to get ahead with the organization of peace than if they see us perpetually afraid to act, and giving their abstention from participation as an excuse.

The question of Germany must be approached from a different angle. Here the clearer definition and acceptance of obligations under the Protocol might be a real reason for keeping her still longer out of the League. But, then, while she is outside the League, and outside the Protocol, she would not be likely to accept the forms of peaceful settlement proposed by the League Council as at present constituted—a body that in her eyes is partial. It is therefore most important that Germany be encouraged to enter the League at the earliest moment, and the position of those who would postpone acceptance of the Protocol till she is in is understandable.

The case of Russia is again different. It may be said, however, that the dangers of war with Russia under the Protocol are at least no greater than the dangers of war without the Protocol. We must realize that war cannot nowadays be localized. Under the Protocol we cannot be involved alone (unless we are the aggressors) in war with Russia. Without it, Russian aggression might involve us in the yet more dangerous undertaking of another world war, where the balance of power would be the deciding factor in taking sides. It is no part of our aim to pretend that there would be no risks in signing the Protocol. It is a question in international politics of less or more; of any advance in the direction of our ideals or backsliding from lack of decision and fear of action. The ratification of an amended Protocol with Russia outside the League would, in our opinion, be better than waiting indefinitely for a change in the uncompromising attitude of the Russian Government to all co-operation with "capitalistic" countries.

A further difficulty foreseen in the Protocol is the possibility of our becoming involved in putting pressure on our own self-governing Colonies and Dominions. It is true that theoretically this possibility would be incurred whether we signed the Protocol with or without them. It presupposes that they put themselves so much in the wrong as to refuse all forms of arbitration and mediation (against the judgment of Great Britain herself) as to insist on aggressive war against some State ready to arbitrate. The likelihood of this is surely so remote that, when set out in black and white, it appears ludicrous in its improbability; but, for the sake of those whose fears in this direction have been roused, a reservation might be inserted excepting us from the obligation of any form of pressure on our own Colonies and Dominions, and *vice versa*.

The employment of force sanctions at all is one of the most serious objections to the Protocol from the W.I.L. point of view. They are an inevitable concession to the demand for "security" in case the pledge of peaceful settlement of all disputes is broken;

(Continued on page 55).

## HUSBAND AND WIFE BEFORE THE LAW.<sup>1</sup>

By ALBERT LEICK.  
THE DUAL UNITY.

"By marriage," says Blackstone, setting forth the Common Law, "the husband and wife are one person in law; that is, the very being or legal existence of the woman is suspended during the marriage, or at least is incorporated and consolidated into that of her husband." "Upon this principle of a union of person in husband and wife depend almost all the legal rights, duties, and disabilities, that either of them acquire by the marriage." Further on he remarks, "We may observe that even the disabilities which the wife lies under are for the most part intended for her protection and benefit. So great a favourite is the female sex of the laws of England."

Blackstone, although justly respected for his learning, could at times talk nonsense. The legal disabilities laid upon women in general, and married women in particular, are really archaic survivals.

It is beautiful and touching to think of the lawyers, or that indefinite entity, the law, greatly favouring the gentler sex by putting its members under masculine tutelage for their own benefit. But another, less poetic, explanation has been suggested, that this subordination of the physically handicapped sex to the stronger one is a survival of the secular conflict which changed the patriarchal stage in the evolution of our race, with descent and the derivation of property rights through the mother, and with the priestess often the central figure of the community, into the patriarchal, where the woman sunk to a position varying between that of a chattel slave and a servant wife, and the priest replaced the priestess, who was degraded into a witch.

There are not wanting those who see, in modern developments, the prophecy of reversion to mother-right. They fear that divorce may become so easy as to produce in effect the short term marriage, which few dare directly propose; and that the giving of equal rights of guardianship to both parents, and the conferring on the mother a definite legal right in all circumstances to enforce maintenance of her children by their father, are only steps on the road to her securing the sole right of control and management of the family. If this really be the tendency of things it will come whether we like it or not; but whatever modifications the relationship between the sexes undergoes, it is to be expected that the world will continue to revolve on its axis, giving day and night to a race unperturbed by the condemnation in advance expressed by its ancestors. History exhibits each generation falsifying the forebodings of the one before. Meanwhile, it is amusing to note that the husband of a female statutory tenant has been held to be a member of her family. (See *The Times* of the 13th December last, reporting the case of *Salter v. Lask*.)

It is not possible to deny to the theory of the oneness of the married couple a certain basis in philosophical observation of men and women in the nuptial state. Whether marriage be a sacrament or a mere contract, there does, in innumerable cases, seem to be an unbreakable bond forged between the two persons. Re-marriages of divorced persons occur, a very remarkable phenomenon. A striking instance happened in 1873, when Sir Charles Russell appeared to defend a man in a breach of promise action. A Captain Wildes had divorced his wife, and was on the eve of marriage to a Miss Nuttall. He accidentally met his divorced wife in the street, and within a few days married her again. He must have known that he would be mulcted in heavy damages. In fact the jury awarded £5,000; the amount would have been much heavier but for a powerful speech of the great advocate who appeared for him. The same sum was awarded in 1922 to a woman who sued for breach of promise a husband who had divorced her, gone back to live with her on a promise to remarry, and then married another woman.

Suits for restitution of conjugal rights have, of course, been merely a first step to getting a divorce, a piece of legal jugglery which becomes obsolete with the effective operation of the Divorce Act, 1923, but some such suits are genuine, if pathetic, attempts to recover, by a singularly inept method, the reintegration of a broken married life. In the course of the Delmé-Radcliffe case (see *The Times* of the 5th November last) the President of the Divorce Court mentioned probably the only case where such a suit has been successful in its object.

<sup>1</sup> Previous articles on this subject have appeared in our issues of 26th September, 31st October, 12th December, and 9th January.

The members of a curious trio used to make regular appearance some years since at one of the London police courts, a most ruffianly man, his wife, and his mistress. He lived with the two women alternately, and each was willing to creep back to him when the other was thrown out. Both women endured great cruelty from him, and each attempted her own life several times, but a mysterious link seemed always to hold them, and they appeared to bear no malice to one another. All three have disappeared into the wheel and drift of things, leaving a remembrance of an odd kind of trinity which replaced the more common dual entity.

Without the aid of such unusual happenings, experience shows how extraordinarily closely the marriage tie can bind. It is a common observation how much alike married people grow with the passage of the years, sometimes even in facial appearance.

We may be accused of wandering from the subject of law. But it is always worth while to see what realities underlie legal rules, and even to guess at the effects of their modification is not altogether unenlightening.

(To be continued.)

## 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.

### THE COUNCIL MEETINGS.

As we go to Press delegates are arriving for the Council Meetings, which will be the largest since pre-Suffrage days. By a curious coincidence one of our Bills, the Summary Jurisdiction Bill, is to be discussed in Standing Committee on the opening day of the meeting. Many delegates from constituencies all over the country are taking the opportunity of interviewing their members on our Bills which are before Parliament.

### BROADCASTING.

The Parliamentary Secretary will be broadcasting on "Legislation Affecting Women and Children" from 2 L.O. at 5 o'clock on Saturday, 14th inst.

### SOCIAL WORK IN JAPAN.

Some of our members will remember Mrs. Gauntlett, of Tokyo, who was at our Summer School some years ago. Mrs. Gauntlett has sent an appeal for a Sewing Institute for girls without work, and will be grateful for any contribution which may be sent to her. There may be some who have not yet contributed to any scheme of relief connected with the terrible calamity which overtook the city who will be glad of this opportunity of helping those who are still suffering from its after effects. The WOMAN'S LEADER Office will be glad to forward contributions.

### PERSONAL.

We wish to extend our sympathy to Mrs. Ward, an old and valued member of our Cambridge Society, on the death of her husband, who was a loyal friend of all the causes for which we stand.

### THE GENEVA PROTOCOL, III: OBJECTIONS AND AMENDMENTS (Continued from page 54).

and to demand that no provision should be made for this contingency would be to put ourselves outside the range of practical politics. We do not approve of the sanctions, but we realize that the Protocol gives something constructive to work for, an aim which if achieved would eliminate the danger of the sanctions ever being called into play, the aim of educating the peoples to the pitch of refusing to allow the pledge not to go to war to be broken. It is an enormous advance on any earlier international agreement, and it is as a document foreshadowing possibilities of peaceful development which are new (on such a scale) in international politics, that we welcome the Protocol and work for its serious treatment and consideration, with a view to its further discussion at the Sixth Assembly.

### LADY MARGARET HALL ENDOWMENT FUND.

The appeal for the Women's Colleges in Oxford has met with devoted support from many workers, old students and friends of the college, but has not yet been helped, as Dame Millicent Fawcett suggests it might be, by gifts of thousands. In thanking the artists at a concert, given by the kindness of Lady Robinson at 7 Cambridge Gate on 26th February, for the benefit of the Lady Margaret Hall appeal, Dame Millicent encouraged supporters of this appeal to believe in miracles of generosity, and to perform them, and told how she herself, in suffrage days, had all but ordered a caller to be sent away whose persistent ring had seemed to be a beggar's, when, checking the impulse, she found the suspected beggar had brought with her a gift of £1,000 towards any part of the work which required it most.

The concert itself was particularly interesting, bringing a well-chosen programme of songs rendered by Miss Dorothy Moulton with Miss Margaret Dencke at the piano. The performance was of such a high standard that the announcement that both artistes will be willing to give other concerts on behalf of Lady Margaret Hall Endowment Fund is of special interest. Application should be made to the Hon. Sec. Appeal Fund, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### A WOMAN MINISTER IN PARIS.

MADAM.—As I have not observed that anyone has replied to your inquiry which appeared in THE WOMAN'S LEADER of 30th January, concerning a report that a certain Madame Vogel held the post of Under-Secretary for Labour in the French Government, perhaps the following information will be of interest.

I recently attended a crowded and enthusiastic demonstration organized by l'Union Française pour le Suffrage des Femmes, and after the meeting I took the opportunity of questioning two women prominent in the feminist movement—Madame Kraemer-Bach and Madame Brunschrigg, on the subject, and they both said that no woman could hold such an appointment in France, and that Madame Vogel was merely a private secretary to a Minister.

OCTABLE LEIGH AMAN.

### THE LATE MRS. HERTHA AYRTON.

MADAM.—I am engaged in writing the biography of the late Mrs. Hertha Ayrton, *née* Marks, the physicist and suffragist. May I beg the courtesy of your columns to ask any of your readers who may possess letters or information concerning any period of her life to communicate with me as speedily as possible?

16, John St.,  
Bedford Row, W.C. 1.

EVELYN SHARP.

### LECTURES ON BANKING AND CURRENCY.

MADAM.—There may be some London readers of THE WOMAN'S LEADER, who are anxious, as speakers or social workers, to obtain a grasp of the theories and practices of orthodox banking and currency, and to understand the practical arguments for and against the reintroduction of the gold standard, and the control of the national credit and currency by private banking companies.

If any of your readers feel this they may be glad to hear that Mr. Arthur Kitson has kindly consented, if sufficient people are interested, to hold a series of classes in Westminster dealing with "Fallacies of Orthodox Economics," "It is tentatively proposed to take Hartley Withers' "Meaning of Money" and "Bankers and Credit" and to expound these two books from the standpoint of the New Economics, with questions and discussion. It may be necessary to charge a small fee to cover expenses, but the scheme depends upon whether or not a sufficient number desire to have the classes.

Anyone interested is asked to write to me and to say what time in the evening would be most convenient. We thought of 5.30 to 7 p.m.

I should add I write as an individual, and not in any official capacity to any society.

c/o P. S. King & Son,  
Orchard House, Gt. Smith St.,  
Westminster, S.W. 1.

ALISON NEILANS.

### UNIFORMED WOMEN POLICE.

MADAM.—In your issue of the 27th, you refer to the efforts which are being made to obtain a uniformed Woman Constable at Tunbridge Wells. An experience of mine at Tunbridge Wells four years ago may be of interest to you.

As one of the railway stations was closing up for the night I met a rather attractive girl of seventeen who had missed her last train, and came to me to borrow 6d. to try and get into touch with her people by telephone. This she was unable to do. She was quite at a loss what steps to take to secure any lodging for the night, and had insufficient money to meet the cost. Fortunately, at this moment the uniformed Woman Constable then employed at Tunbridge Wells appeared on the scene and solved all difficulties.

"MERE MAN."

### PENALTY FOR CHILD ASSAULT.

MADAM.—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a copy of your paper with a statement on a recent decision given at the Horsham Bench.

May I suggest that before publishing such a statement you should have verified the facts. As it happens, you are quite wrong in your assumptions, and I now beg to enclose a copy of a letter, which after perusal will give you a correct perspective.

No conviction has been registered against this man, and there had not been as you state two previous convictions. I have no doubt you wish to be fair, and I suggest that common courtesy demands an apology on your part for publishing such a travesty of the real facts. Awaiting your reply,

E. E. LAWRENCE,  
Chairman of the Bench on this occasion.

[The points touched on in this letter will be dealt with in our column "The Law at Work" in a forthcoming issue.—ED.]

## COMING EVENTS.

## EUGENICS EDUCATION SOCIETY.

MAR. 20. 5 p.m. At the Rooms of the Royal Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly. Dr. J. Brownlee on "The Present Tendencies of Population in Great Britain in respect of quantity and quality." Chair: Major Leonard Darwin, Sc.D.

## GUILDHOUSE, ECCLESTON SQUARE, S.W. 1.

MAR. 14. Conference on Education and Peace. Chair: Miss Maude Royden. Morning Session, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Speakers: Dr. Evelyn Saywell, L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., and Professor Graham Wallas. Afternoon Session, 2.15-4.15 p.m. Speakers: Miss K. D. Courtney, Mr. Hubert Martin, C.B.E., and the Rev. Frank Lenwood, M.A. Evening Session, 5.15-7.30 p.m. Speakers: J. C. Maxwell Garnett, C.B.E., M.A., Sc.D., G. P. Gooch, D. Litt., M.A., and the Rev. Harold Costley-White, M.A.

## GUILDHOUSE W.C.S.

MAR. 23. 2.30-5.45 p.m. The Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. Cookery Exhibition and Lecture.

## LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE.

MAR. 17. 5 p.m. 35, Marsham Street, Westminster, S.W. "Social Service, II: The Voluntary Worker." Mr. S. P. Grundy, O.B.E., Hon. Sec., National Council of Social Service.

## NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

Annual Council Meeting. MAR. 13 and 14. At King George's Hall, Y.W.C.A., Tottenham Court Road, W.C. Friday, 13th, morning session, 10-12.45; afternoon session, 3-5 p.m.; Public Luncheon at Holborn Restaurant, 1 for 1.15. Saturday, 14th, morning session, 10-1.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE, 35/37 Marsham Street, Westminster. Weekly meetings, 5 p.m. Tuesdays, February and March. Topical subjects. Influential speakers. See "Coming Events" each week. Admission free. All welcome.

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Sunday, 15th March. 3.30, Music; Lecture by Mr. Martin Shaw on "How Songs are Composed," illustrated by Mr. Geo. Parker. 6.30, Evening Service.

Woburn Sands Women's Institute. MAR. 18. 2.30 p.m. Miss Elkin on "Comprehensive and Contributory Insurance."

## ST. JOAN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ALLIANCE.

MAR. 14. 3 p.m. Annual Meeting at Women's Service House, 35 Marsham Street, Westminster.

## SIX POINT GROUP.

MAR. 16. 5-7 p.m. Committee "At Home" at 92 Victoria Street, S.W. 1. Miss Vera Brittain on "Women's Work in the League of Nations." Chair: Miss R. Oldham.

## SOCIETY FOR CONSTRUCTIVE BIRTH CONTROL AND RACIAL PROGRESS.

MAR. 15. 3 p.m. Owing to the kindness of Lady Wyndham, the above society are holding a special meeting at the Criterion Theatre on the subject "Why Doctors disagree about Birth Control." The Chair will be taken by the Hon. Sir John Cockburn, K.C.M.G., M.D., and the meeting will be addressed by W. H. Maxwell Telling, Esq., M.D., F.R.C.P., Dr. Mather Thompson, F.R.C.P.L., Dr. Jane L. Hawthorne and Dr. Marie Stopes, followed by questions from the body of the Hall. Seats, 5s. and 2s. 6d., to be obtained beforehand from Secretary C.B.C., 4-5 Adam Street, Adelphi, London, W.C.

## TEMPERANCE COUNCIL OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCHES.

MAR. 17-19. Conference at High Leigh, Hoddesdon, of representatives of all branches of temperance thought to discuss possibility of some agreed form of Local Option for England.

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