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NOTES AND NEWS

The Disaster in Japan.

Words fail us to express our grief at the overwhelming catastrophe which has overtaken the Japanese nation and our heartfelt sympathy with the survivors as well as those among ourselves who are anxiously waiting for news of friends. Readers of this paper have many links with the Woman's Movement in Japan, and the personal interest in the country which has been aroused by visits of some of its leaders to Great Britain quickens our imagination and brings home to us the magnitude of the calamity which has paralysed their national life. We are convinced that Women's Organizations all over the country will co-operate in the schemes of relief which have been formed. Any contributions sent to this paper will be immediately forwarded to the fund organized by the Japan Society and the Nihonjinkwai (Japanese Association).

The League of Nations Assembly.

The Assembly of the League opened on Monday in circumstances of exceptional anxiety. The provisional President, Viscount Iskii, in view of the great calamity which has overtaken his country, had the sympathy of all present when he gave a summary of the activities of the League during the past year. At the close of his speech a resolution of condolence with Japan was proposed by Sir Joseph Cork, of Australia. Señor de la Torre, of Cuba, was elected President of the Assembly. Never has the country followed the deliberations of the League with greater anxiety than at the present moment and we mean to devote a good deal of space to the reports from Geneva during the coming weeks.

Women's Training and Employment.

The second interim report of the Central Committee on Women's Training and Employment has just been issued (price 6d.). The work of this Committee included four schemes for

women's employment, of which the homecrafts scheme and provision of outfits for domestic service are the best known. Training with maintenance was provided for 10,000 unemployed women who expressed their willingness to enter domestic service. In view of the attention which has recently been focussed on domestic service the report of the Committee on this part of their work is of special interest. It alludes to the loneliness experienced by girls in single-handed places and the importance of the provision of opportunities of social intercourse. To quote the words of the report: "A study of the evidence has convinced the Committee that the personal element is a dominating factor in the domestic service problem and that it is in itself a psychological problem rather than merely a question of demand and supply." The work of the scholarships scheme is not nearly so widely known. Over 2,500 women who were awarded scholarships (up to 1st January, 1923) completed some form of professional training, and of this number over 1,500 obtained employment. The training for which scholarships were provided includes Law, Medicine, Music, Art, Architecture, Farming, Social Work, Dramatic Art, Pharmacy, Dentistry, as well as the more usual occupations traditionally allotted to women.

Women's Training and Unemployment.

The report of the above Committee on the Homemakers' Scheme has a peculiar interest for us, in view of the likelihood of continued unemployment among women during the coming winter. This scheme provided training with maintenance for over 1,500 women up to 1st January, 1923, who "intended to return to their trades, but who were suffering the evils of long unemployment owing to industrial depression." The training offered was domestic work with more time given to needlework than in the housecraft centres. This aspect of the work of the Central Committee seems to us capable of development on a much larger scale if the difficulties referred to in the report of securing suitably equipped premises could be surmounted.

Public Morals and the Parks.

There has been the usual outcry that any criticism of public morals elects from certain sections of the Press as the result of the letter from the Bishop of London regarding the state of the Parks. Viscount Hill, the vice-chairman of the L.C.C. Parks Committee, in the absence of Lady Trustram Eve, who has just returned from abroad, defends the Park officials and takes the view that the inspectors referred to in the Bishop's letter have rigid views as to what constitutes impropriety. Miss Cicily Hamilton, who was commissioned by the *Pall Mall Gazette* to investigate the matter, makes light of the whole thing. On the other hand, the Woman's Auxiliary Police Service confirms the charges made by the Bishop, and the Chief Inspector states that in certain public Parks in London, the conditions became so bad that local residents privately employed members of the Service to act as patrols. Whether the charges made by the Bishop of London are exaggerated or not, we cannot say, but no one maintains that our parks and open spaces are as clean morally as they ought to be in the interest of young people who frequent them. Surely the solution is the employment of women police specially trained for this form of work. This is a matter which should attract the attention of women's organizations all over the country and stimulate them to continue their efforts to secure an adequate number of police women.

Mrs. Fawcett's Reminiscences.

Next week will appear the first of Mrs. Fawcett's articles on "What I Remember." We venture to suggest that this number will be an event of some historic interest in the Woman's Movement, for though no doubt later on readers will be able to obtain these recollections of Mrs. Fawcett's life in book form, there is a special appropriateness in their making their first appearance in the paper with which Mrs. Fawcett has always been so closely associated.

Obscene Publications.

The League of Nations is dealing with the international trade in indecent publications through a conference which is meeting just now at Geneva. In Great Britain the authorities are attempting to deal with this matter through the Criminal Law Amendment Bill which is now before Parliament; the clauses in this Bill relating to police action in cases of such offences have aroused much antagonism—readers will remember the article by Roger Fry in our issue of 13th July—as opening up a vista of

unlimited blackmail" and will certainly be greatly altered in Committee.

Mrs. Hertha Ayrton.

Mrs. Ayrton's death removes another of the group of distinguished women who were associated with different aspects of the Suffrage Movement. She made a mark in the world of Science, and leaves behind her a record of original work which few women can show, as a writer, an investigator, and an inventor. Mrs. Ayrton was the only woman member of the Institute of Electrical Engineers, and in 1906 received the Hughes Medal of the Royal Society for her investigations on the electric arc and the phenomena of sand ripples. In 1915 she invented a fan for protection against poison-gas attacks, which was ultimately successfully used during the war, and which, if the War Office had seen fit to utilize it earlier, might have saved many valuable lives. We wish to express our sincere sympathy to Mrs. Ayrton Gould and Mrs. Zangwill, daughters of Mrs. Ayrton, in the loss they have sustained.

Oxford Women's Colleges.

Our readers will be glad to know that the £10,000 appealed for by Lord Curzon has now been received. This amount will be divided between the four Oxford colleges, Lady Margaret Hall, Somerville, St. Hugh's, and St. Hilda's. This is an admirable beginning towards the total of £185,000, which is required for endowments, fellowships, and scholarships.

Mary Macarthur Memorial Fund.

The final report of the Mary Macarthur Memorial Committee has been issued. Over £2,000 was contributed of which £500 will be allotted to the endowment of a bed in the Mary Macarthur Holiday Home for Working Women. The remainder will be used to provide scholarships for the education of women who wish to devote themselves to trade unionism or the Labour movement.

POLICY.—The sole policy of THE WOMAN'S LEADER is to advocate a real equality of liberties, status and opportunities between men and women. So far as space permits, however, it will offer an impartial platform for topics not directly included in the objects of the women's movement, but of special interest to women. Articles on these subjects will always be signed, at least by initials or a pseudonym, and for the opinions expressed in them the Editor accepts no responsibility.

THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE?

In the Græco-Italian crisis, which threatens to end in another European war, we are told by the Press that Italy is solid behind her Government; that a wave of passionate anger spread throughout Italy at the news of the massacre of the delegates of the International Commission and that the people approve of the measures of vengeance which have already resulted in the deaths of a much larger number of Greeks, mostly refugees fleeing from the Turks in Asia Minor, than the slain Italians.

What does this statement mean? Does any one suppose that if "the Italian people" were questioned one by one, they would prove seriously willing that their country should be rushed into a war, resulting certainly in the deaths of thousands of their sons, to avenge General Tellini; or even to secure such aggrandisements of Italy in territory or prestige as might result from a successful war? Of course, it means nothing of the sort. The Italians are a proud people, but even they would feel that such a price was too high for such an end; especially if it were understood by them that the honour of their nation could be adequately vindicated by such measures of compensation as would certainly be secured if the whole dispute were submitted to the League of Nations. The voice that has been heard in Italy is not "the voice of the People." It is the voice of the Press. What guarantee have we even—in Italy or even in countries with a more perfectly formed democratic government—that the opinion which becomes articulate through the Press represents the real wishes of the people or even of the voters, who, in Italy, unfortunately, do not include the women? No doubt the Press reflects to some extent the surge of public feeling. It must please its readers for the sake of its circulation. But those who write for it know well that they are safe in this respect if they can present their case in such a way as to embody the catchwords and conciliate the prejudices of

their particular clientele, and above all make their readers feel "what exciting times we are living in" and want to buy tomorrow's paper to see what has happened next. The case itself, i.e. the opinions that each newspaper expresses, depends on its proprietors, and they are—who? Certainly not the great body of wage-earners or professional people, but in nine cases out of ten big capitalists representing the kind of commercial interests which lose least and gain most by war.

For this reason it is gravely dangerous for governments to conclude that they hear the voice of the People in the voice of the Press, especially where questions of international politics are concerned. If this holds true of this country it is probably even truer of a country like Italy, where parliamentary government has never counted for very much, and is counting for less than ever under the autocracy of Signor Mussolini. One cannot even honestly say that if women had the parliamentary vote in Italy it would be likely to affect the issue greatly under present conditions.

Yet in the long run what has the world to hope for but the gradual evolution of a real democracy including both sexes and embodied not only in political organization, but making itself felt through the channels of industrial organization, and, above all, of education and self-expression? If the nations whose representatives are meeting at Geneva this week had such democracies behind them and had their deliberations criticized by a Press which was truly "of the People, for the People, by the People," how much greater would be its potency? We should then truly have an expression of international opinion so overwhelming in its unanimity and its force that neither Signor Mussolini nor any other representative of old world pride and ambition, individual or national, would be able to stand out against it.

VACATION REFLECTIONS.

By OUR POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT.

The Sunday papers this week are not pleasant holiday reading; Europe seems to be in for another sequence of outrage and reprisal, with its unending trail of international crime. Italy has served Greece with an ultimatum which recalls with ghastly vividness the Austrian Ultimatum of July, 1914. The *Temps* hastens to assure us that there is no real resemblance between the two, but, in the minds of all ordinary people, the comparison is irresistible. Both documents seem to be drafted to force the alternative of national humiliation—or war—with a marked bias towards the latter. To judge from its first immediate results, Europe is already face to face with the latter. Without reference to the Council of Ambassadors, without reference to the League of Nations—whose Council happens to be actually in Session—Signor Mussolini has seized Corfu, not indeed as an "act of war," but (to use the language of the new diplomacy) as a "pledge" or "sanction" for the satisfaction of Italy's just claims. The abominable crime of the Greeks on the Albanian frontier cost five Italian lives. The "salute" or "bombardment" which accompanied the seizure of Corfu cost, according to early estimates, fifteen Greek lives. The Italians are, therefore, as things stand at the moment, ten lives up; but by the time these notes appear in print the balance will no doubt have altered. Meanwhile, partly no doubt because we in this country have learned to expect a higher level of civilization from the Italians than from the Greeks, public opinion is standing aghast at this latest blow to European peace. In view of the machinery which exists for a fair settlement, in view of the friendly relations which exist between the Italian Government and the Allies—who are jointly responsible for the work of the frontier commission—the terms of the ultimatum and the action by which it has been followed up can only be regarded as an act of international brigandage.

Unfortunately, it is an act which conforms most dramatically to the personal and political rôle of Italy's present dictator. It is both violent and spectacular. It is positively Napoleonic. It is supported in Italy by a hot wave of public fury. Already the black-browed, heavy-jawed face of Mussolini, "the strong man of Italy," has blazed through the British illustrated press evoking a response in every cinema-fed soul. What response must it be evoking in Italy where the demand for dramatically

strong measures has left behind it a passionate and genuine sense of grievance? One can well imagine that—

"Caesar's spirit ranging for revenge,
With Atë by his side come hot from hell,
Shall in these confines with a monarch's voice
Cry havo! and let slip the dogs of war."

And all this at a time when the critics of Fascism at home were beginning to raise their heads—the very moment for a Mussolinian gesture.

Meanwhile delegates are assembling at Geneva for the Fourth Assembly of the League of Nations, and it is no exaggeration to say that by the results of its coming month's deliberations the League will stand or fall. At no previous Assembly has it been faced by issues so momentous and yet so clearly capable of solution by League methods. Uppermost at the moment in everybody's mind is, of course, the Italian crisis and the Greek appeal for settlement in a dispute between two members of the League. The attitude of France to any such settlement and the possible coercion which it may involve, will be an important factor. Oh the one hand, in so far as its national interests are not at stake, the French Government must desire peace for its own sake; nor can it afford to come out into the open as a general saboteur of League activities. On the other hand, interference with other people's "sanctions" would be a dangerous precedent for France, whose supposed immediate political interests are not bound up with the complete establishment of European law and order. At the moment of writing, it is uncertain whether or no the legality of the Ruhr "sanction" will come up for discussion; but if it does it will be a complicating factor.

On the top of it all, and intimately bound up with the other issues, there is Lord Robert Cecil's disarmament project to be discussed, with its provision of mutual guarantees. There are, of course, people in this country who are of opinion that Lord Robert Cecil is a mischievous dreamer, and they are well represented by powerful sections of the Press. But without assuming that such people don't exist or even that "all women are pacifists," the writer will venture to assume that the majority of those who read the *WOMAN'S LEADER* will join in wishing Lord Robert well during his coming month of trial as British representative at Geneva, and will in spirit "send greeting—health and knowledge, fame with peace."

[The views expressed in this column are those of our Parliamentary correspondent, and are not our editorial opinion. Like so many other things in this paper they are expressly controversial, and comment upon them will be welcomed.—ED.]

HOW TO ORGANIZE A REGIONAL CONFERENCE OF SOCIETIES.

The success or otherwise of Conferences, Summer Schools, and all similar undertakings, depends largely on the amount of interest, thought, and work which is put into them beforehand. To spread interest, spread responsibility. Choose a Conference Secretary, and under her appoint a Hospitality Secretary and an Entertainments Secretary. The first duty of the General Secretary is to stir up a lively interest in all the Societies to be represented, making them feel that it is as much their Conference as that of the Society responsible for it, and that success depends on their whole-hearted interest and co-operation. On account of delays in correspondence (Secretaries should be urged to reply as promptly as possible to all communications) five or six months beforehand is not too soon to invite Societies to send in suggested Resolutions or Subjects for discussion. From these, the Organizing Secretary has the right of choice, if time will not permit of all sent in being taken, or of substituting, as time gets nearer, any subjects that have in the meantime assumed vital importance. Preliminary Agendas should be sent out two or three months before the date of the Conference, that all subjects to be dealt with may be thoroughly discussed. Urge all Societies to make a special effort to bring the Final Agenda before a members' meeting, and not merely an executive meeting. It is of tremendous value to the ordinary members in interest and education, and is of great help to the appointed

delegates. To facilitate this, Final Agendas should be circulated six weeks beforehand. If an alteration is necessary after the final programme has been sent out, Societies should be notified immediately. The labour and cost of postage entailed in keeping in constant touch with participating Societies will be well repaid by the interest aroused.

Whenever possible, obtain expert opinion on subjects to be discussed. Throw one or more of the Sessions open to the public, choosing subjects which will be of more general interest. It is essential to advertise in the local Press, securing as much publicity as possible by good reports, photographs of women taking prominent parts and flashlight photographs of Conference scenes. A reporter should be present at each Session.

Obviously the duty of the Hospitality Secretary is to arrange suitable homes for the delegates, and to give them every assistance and advice in their probably strange surroundings. A reading, writing, and rest room either in or near the Conference building is of great worth. Distinctive badges should be worn by all the officers.

The proverbial result of "all work and no play" applies very forcibly to Conferences. The Entertainments Secretary will be busy beforehand arranging pleasant hours for social intercourse, etc. Always endeavour to obtain civic recognition, either by a reception or garden party, according to the time of

year. This proved to be of incalculable value to the organizing Society in particular, and the Women's Movement in general. Invite all prominent citizens of every party and thought. Choose one or two women speakers who can be relied upon for brief, bracing, direct speeches. And attractive refreshments and occasional musical items will help to make a successful gathering. Amusing expressions of surprise at what women are capable of doing, heard at, and after, such functions, have proved their educative value to the uninitiated.

If time permits of two social entertainments, the second might take the form of a money-raising effort, if necessary, to defray general expenses. Possibly, a public dramatic performance or concert, for which a charge is made—all delegates receiving complimentary tickets. But different places have different attractions, and organizing societies will know best how to choose their entertainments. With regard to the expenses incurred, retiring collections after every Session might be taken, in addition to the entertainment already suggested.

Above all, at the time of the Conference, seek to create that genial atmosphere in which the most divergent views can be freely expressed and welcomed. Therefore, choose your chairwomen with discretion. Happy indeed is the Conference which has in its midst one or two wise, broad-minded experienced friends who can be relied upon to fill in gaps should they arise, draw together opposing opinions, and help to guide to wise conclusions.

BERTHA PRATT.

A HOME LIBRARY FOR SOCIAL WORKERS.¹

Many workers from the responsible public servant to the humblest toiler in the field of social service would like to have an occasional Sabbatical period off duty to add to their stock of knowledge and revitalize their aims and ideas. There are, of course, University Lectures, Summer Schools, and Conferences which offer stimulus and instruction at the same time, but "social work" does not lend itself easily to such opportunities for self-improvement. It offers no definite divisions of terms and vacations; holidays must too often be snatched as best they can, and the worker who is anxious to keep in touch with new ideas or experiments must depend largely on herself. The object of this article is to make a few practical suggestions for home study.

In the first place the home student should have by her side a few useful books for general reference; this article does not profess to provide a choice list of books on social questions, but will confine itself to selecting a few which are almost indispensable on the score of their scope, price, practicability, and excellence for the type of student whom we have in mind who is without any pretensions to learning or social training, and who is often too tired, physically and mentally, after a hard day's work, to read anything requiring much intellectual exertion. We venture to place first among these books three which are hardly reference books in the ordinary sense of the word, because we think they will serve as a foundation for further reading of history and economics, as well as help the social worker to follow more intelligently the economic changes that are taking place around her. *Economics for the General Reader*, by Professor Clay (Macmillan), 4s. 6d.; *The Making of Modern England*, by Dr. Gilbert Slater (Constable), 7s. 6d.; and *The Industrial State*, by Mrs. Stocks (Collins), 4s.

To turn to reference books of a more technical nature there is nothing that quite takes the place of *The Social Workers' Handbook*, published by Nelson before the war, but four books by Mr. J. J. Clarke, published by Pitman, cover a very wide scope of information and facts relating to Central and Local Government and Social Legislation.

- (1) *Outlines of Central Government, including the Judicial System of England*, 1s. 6d.
- (2) *Outlines of Local Government*, 2s. 6d.
- (3) *Social Administration*, 2s. 6d.
- (4) *Outlines of Industrial and Social Economics*, 1s. 6d.

The Charities Register and Digest (Macmillan), published yearly by the Charity Organization Society, besides being a mine of

¹ Questions relating to this or either of the preceding articles should be sent to the WOMAN'S LEADER Office, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster.

information on all types of Social Institutions, has an invaluable introduction dealing with Public Institutions and Legislation. The National Council of Social Service has published a convenient handbook entitled *Public Services*.

Good bibliographies play an important part in the Education of the home student. Most of the above books contain book lists and these should be supplemented by *What to Read*, published by the Fabian Society (Allen & Unwin), 2s., which has no political bias and is carefully classified. *A List of Books for Women Citizens*, published by P. S. King & Sons for the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship (1s.), though necessarily much more limited in its scope, has under each section a useful list of organizations publishing pamphlets, leaflets, or supplying speakers on the subjects dealt with. Home students must not overlook the necessity of watching the issue of Government publications and reports dealing with social questions.

P. S. King & Sons, Eyre & Spottiswoode, and other publishers send lists of books on social subjects free of charge on application, and lists of Parliamentary publications may be had from His Majesty's Stationery Office, Kingsway and Abingdon Street, London; York Street, Manchester; George Street, Edinburgh; St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff.

Books on social questions can be obtained much more easily than formerly. Librarians at public libraries are very willing to consider suggestions. The Central Library for Students, now at 9 Galen Street, W.C. 1, provides books on all subjects free except for cost of delivery, and the Cavendish Bentinck and Edward Wright Library (National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster) sends book-boxes for a nominal charge and undertakes to supply lists of books on special subjects for home students or study circles.

Lastly, the Press cannot be left out nowadays as an educational factor, and social students must find out for themselves which papers, daily or weekly, give them most help. There are admirable specialized papers dealing with Housing, Health, Child Welfare, Industrial Welfare, etc., which will be chosen according to the needs of the student and perhaps two papers of a more general character may be picked out. The *Times Educational Supplement* interprets "Education" in the same liberal sense as the ill-fated Education Act of 1918, and its articles and news cover a wide range of social-educational interests. Our own WOMAN'S LEADER may also, we hope, be given honourable mention in this connexion, as within the narrow limits of its eight pages and for the small sum of a penny, it contrives to supply weekly much information about books, reports, social experiments, Parliamentary debates and new or potential legislation which the social worker and home student cannot afford to be without.

ELIZABETH MACADAM.

SOME "OUT-OF-THE-WAY" BOOKS FOR HOLIDAY READING.

We publish below a selection from some of the lists sent us.

THE CHANGING TEAR. Anthony Collett.

THE TWILIGHT OF THE GODS. David Garnett.

Stories of the Classics of a satirical nature in the style of Anatole France.

THE SURREY LABOURER.

THE BETTESWORTH BOOK. } George Bourne.

THE WHEELWRIGHT'S SHOP.

Village life by a wheelwright.

THE CRUISE OF THE DREAM SHIP. Ralph Stock.

The adventures of a man and his sister who sail in a small boat across the Atlantic and through the Panama Canal to the Pacific Islands.

FUTILITY. W. Gherardi.

A novel of modern Russia.

WILTSHIRE ESSAYS. Maurice Hewlett.

NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE.

The great event next week will be the first instalment of Mrs. Fawcett's "Memories". The Assembly of the League of Nations will be dealt with by a special correspondent and Miss Cecile Matheson will contribute a review of the Annual Report of the Chief Inspector of Factories and Workshops.

THE EDUCATION OF THE PARTY WOMAN.

FROM THE LIBERAL POINT OF VIEW.

Miss Deakin in her article last week, speaking from the point of view of a member of the Conservative Party, discusses the problem of how we can assist in getting still more political pressure behind our N.U.S.E.C. programme, and points out, what we know is true, that women are joining party organizations in growing numbers.

She argues, and most of us will agree, that if we wish to instruct and influence the political woman, we will find it easier and more efficacious to get hold of her in her political organization, as a member of it, and not merely as outsiders.

The argument is, and has been put frequently before, that women who are specially interested in our work can do valuable service by joining the party they are in sympathy with, and working inside it, as well as outside, to secure the pressure we desire.

It is not only, one may point out, of value for our reforms to have the keenly interested woman in her party, but there is the additional question of the choice of Parliamentary Candidates, and if we have women candidates, of the right type of woman candidate. Those outside parties do not have great power in constituencies on this question. In fact, the woman who counts most there is the woman in party office or on committees.

This is true of all our parties, and of Liberal as well as Conservative. The party does not exist that would not be strengthened by the inclusion of the kind of woman who understands and cares about our reforms and it would undoubtedly be influenced, and we would argue in the right way, by her educational work.

The ranks of Liberalism, as such a philosophy should, for fortunately it is a bigger philosophy, as they all are, than a merely political one, have provided many a recruit and leader for the Woman's Movement of our country.

The history, if one might dissect it separately, of the Woman's Movement inside it, has been of great interest, with wings standing out valiantly for their conceptions of our rights, with notable victories and losses inside, if one may put it so.

But clearly, we need there inside the Party, all the best we can get from the women who hold that political faith, and are sound on our issues, too, and it would be a thoroughly satisfactory thing, from the practical point of view, to have every such Liberal woman pulling all the weight she so well could in the counsels and organization of her party.

HELEN FRASER.

LORD SHAFTESBURY.

Mr. and Mrs. Hammond's life of Lord Shaftesbury¹ is a brilliant piece of work. It is not merely a brilliant biography, throwing into clear proportions the figure of its subject, it is a brilliant rendering of certain phases of nineteenth century history from the angle of one man's activities. The authors have dealt with Shaftesbury mainly through his work, and the story of his work is the story of factory legislation in its earlier stages, of lunacy reform, of public health, of chimney sweeping, and of evangelical nineteenth century philanthropy. Through these stories, separately told, moves the unifying force of Shaftesbury's melancholy, obstinate, and introspective personality. At the beginning and at the end of the book, and in one short chapter, "The turning point," in the middle of it, the authors concentrate on an analysis of the man himself, his motives, the curious workings of his mind, his setting in the contemporary world. For the rest, we see him reflected in his work of social reform, but illuminated from time to time by

¹ *Lord Shaftesbury*—by J. L. and Barbara Hammond. Makers of the Nineteenth Century Ed., by Basil Williams. Constable & Co., price 12s.

extracts from the diary which has told the world so much about the secret places of his personality.

It is a curious fact that most, indeed, almost all, that is unattractive about Shaftesbury is revealed to us not in what he said or did as he went about his daily work, but in what he writes of himself, of his own heartsearchings and self-examinations, in this extraordinary diary. His decision "to lay bare these secrets" is described by the authors as "a rare act of self-abasement." Apparently at one time he intended it to be burnt; and his biographers suggest that perhaps his reputation would stand higher had this been done. For Shaftesbury dragooned into phrases, and committed to paper meditations which, we venture to think, the vast majority of imperfect human beings experience in the rough, but never formulate even for the preservation of their own self-respect to themselves. In the extracts from Shaftesbury's diary, however, we find formulated in the uncompromising, and, to us, curiously remote, language of nineteenth century evangelical theology, all his consciousness of self-sacrifice, of a political career forsworn for a higher calling, of disappointment with the grudging appreciation of men, and of the self-imposed spiritual isolation in which he lived and worked. We see the depths of his religious intolerance, which the contemporary world saw reflected in his fulminations against the tractarians. We see the profundity of his unbelief in democracy, which the world saw reflected in his efforts to develop popular education on the narrow basis of charitably endowed "ragged schools." And we can trace the current of his thoughts concerning his own financial difficulties, in the surprising remark that "Our blessed Lord endured all the sorrows of humanity but that of debt."

The thing which saved him, was, of course, his ungovernable intolerance of other peoples miseries. It was greater even than his intolerance of their theological or political heresies, and it forced him into collaboration with the atheistical Edwin Chadwick and into the leadership of a movement which derived much of its power from the working classes in revolt. "I must ever be groping where there is the most mischief," he writes; and so true was this that the nervous drive of it never left his mind at peace. "Accounts from London of intense and intolerable heat . . ." he writes from a well-earned holiday at Ems. "I shrink with horror when I think of the sufferings of the poor people in their crowded rooms, alleys, courts; . . . it stands in truth between me and my 'cure.'" It was this "wide range of social pity" which, as Mr. and Mrs. Hammond point out, separate him from such Evangelicals as Hannah More. "Hannah More reminded the starving labourers that they could have as much of the Gospel as they liked for nothing; Shaftesbury never looked on distress in this spirit, and he never thought that the rich had fulfilled their duties to the poor when they had given them a cheap copy of the Bible and a few improving tracts. He set to work to try to put destitute men and women on their feet."

But Shaftesbury was something more than a great philanthropist, for one aspect of his philanthropy constituted a challenge to the dominating and all-pervading social philosophy of the age—"a challenge in the name of the mercy of God" to the belief that "the misery which disfigures the life of great societies is beyond the reach of human remedy." And the concrete result of his challenge was that as leader of the campaign for factory legislation he "persuaded Parliament, in the teeth of the most solemn warning from economist and manufacturer, to interfere, for the sake of human welfare, with the industry which of all our industries seemed the most important, the most delicate, and the most exposed to foreign competition. This was in itself a triumph of the order that makes an epoch in history, but it has been followed by a greater. The risk had been taken; all the sombre predictions of his critics had been falsified, his chief opponents had recanted."

The book is so good that the reviewer is tempted to quote it freely and to the uttermost limits of available space. But as a matter of fact it is too good to quote. Everybody must read it.

M. D. S.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS.

We have been glad to welcome in London this week Madame Charorie, one of the leaders of the Woman's Movement in Egypt, and Madame Malaterre-Selmer, who is President of the Paris Society for Woman's Suffrage.

THE IRISH ELECTIONS.

By our IRISH CORRESPONDENT.

At the time of writing, the results of the elections are not yet fully known, but in only eighteen cases are the returns still incomplete. To quote to-day's *Irish Independent*, "The Treaty is perfectly safe. Should the Republicans continue their policy of abstention, the Government will be in a stronger majority than in the last Dail." If the Republicans did decide to take their seats, the Government could count on the support of the other groups on all vital questions, above all, on the observance of the Constitution.

On the very important question of the actual working of Proportional Representation in an election where the issues are complicated and the electorate is largely new and not very experienced, it may be said that as an electoral method, it has made good. The actual percentage of votes given to the Government was 39.5. On this figure the number of representatives returned, if in exact proportion to the votes, would have been 56. It is, in fact, 54. The exact percentage of votes given for the Republicans was 27.5. The exact number of representatives should have been 37. The actual number is 38. Similar exactitudes is shown in the other cases. Proportional Representation thus really gives the voter that share in the personnel of the elected Assembly to which the numerical strength of his group entitles him. The question of transfers must be left until the report of the Proportional Representation Society is issued. The cross voting in some cases where a first preference was given to a Government candidate and the second to a Republican, is partly due to the confused issue. One party asked the electors to vote for the Treaty and peace; another offered a tempting programme of reconstruction (drafted, it is said, by one of the remarkable group of Republican women), with the unacknowledged possibility that the accompanying claim of status as an independent sovereign state might involve war with England. So, many gave first preference to a candidate who was pledged to peace, and a second or third to Opposition candidates, as it was generally felt the Government has had matters too much its own way. The Flogging Act, for instance, is responsible for many preferences going against the Government.

As for "the new electorate . . . it is fair to assume that many of them voted Republican, as women between the age of 21 and 30 now voted for the first time." This remark of a leading Dublin paper leaves one marvelling whether there are no young men newly enfranchised under the universal suffrage clause of the Constitution, and why the figures for the National University where these dangerous young women are found in the greatest number, show no trace of their malign influence. As a matter of fact, on results to hand to-day, the number of those returned pledged to the Treaty is 54. In the last Dail, elected on a limited suffrage, the number was 53. The majority of pro-Treaty against anti-Treaty in the present Dail is 16; in the last it was 10. Thus, with the aforesaid young women voting, the Government will have the strongest single party in the new Dail, and has received by far the largest number of votes.

As regards women candidates, seven stood, and five were elected. In one instance, the Republican woman was defeated by one of her own party; in another a woman of the same party was returned head of the poll. The figures show four Republican women elected, and one member of the Government party, sister of the late General Collins. Feminism had little to do with the matter in any case.

DOMESTIC AGENCIES OR ADVERTISEMENTS?

II.

As a matter of fact, as a domestic servant I learnt to be careful of advertisements and to appreciate good agencies. I also learnt very speedily to distinguish between those registries that are useful and those that are not.

Those advertisements that give the proper name and address are sometimes all right and those of reliable agents can be depended upon, but box office numbers I always avoid. You don't know to whom you may be applying.

It may be as well to remember that Irene Wilkins, the lady cook who was murdered at Bournemouth, met her death through advertising for a post instead of going to a good agent. She was a gentlewoman. I knew her personally, and there wasn't a nicer nor better girl in the world.

Glass Houses.

People who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones! Small ads. are extremely useful; I advocate them strongly in their place, but when they are used as a means of bringing ruin on a class of women I thoroughly respect and to whom I owe much my blood boils. As a matter of fact, there isn't a pin to choose between the dangers of advertisements and those agencies that are simply out to make money; but a good agent is a real friend in need, and any advertisement she inserts may be safely answered. She won't let you down. Apart from the fact that it wouldn't pay her, the successful woman agent is a very human, understanding, sympathetic being. What she doesn't know of domestic and employment difficulties isn't worth knowing.

The Sorrows of Agents and Servants.

Employers have every reason to complain of unconscientious treatment from servants. During the short time I have run the "House Assistants' Centre" I have known mistresses suffer very considerably from girls and women who have left them in the lurch at the last minute, and my sympathies have gone out to them. May I say that I have suffered with them, because each servant who has failed anyone in this way has robbed me of time and strength and prevented my earning fees that might have helped me pay covering expenses.

But, apart from the employers' and agents' sides to this question, there is the servant's side, which, as a domestic servant, I also know; mistresses who cannot get servants through agencies have no other means of getting them except through advertisements. One reason why it is difficult to get a girl to go to a country place is because if the place be not suitable she has the expense of coming back.

Advertisements that Mislead.

I remember once answering an advertisement and entering into correspondence with a widow lady who advertised for a superior working housekeeper. It all sounded very delightful, and I was engaged. When I arrived I found she was a real nigger-driver (and, incidentally, a pious Church-worker), more than that she did not supply sufficient food; I was able to pay for my own, but what of the poor girls who can't? No local agency for miles round would send her servants; no local girl would apply, *that was why she advertised!* It is quite true that an agency once let me down equally badly, but it was a cheap registry, one of the sort where the mistresses go to engage the servants, who all sit round.

On the other hand, I know more than one good agency (and I often recommend them in spite of the fact that I am Hon. Secretary to the House Assistants' Centre) that acts in a protective capacity to both mistresses and maids. Once, in particular, I was looking for a servant for an acquaintance, and went to a friend (one of these good agents) to see if she could supply the need. Her reply was: "Servants are scarce, and you will understand if I have only six I send them *first* to the best places I know; if they don't get fixed up then the next best places are given. I have many ladies on my books whose places I can thoroughly recommend, and servants I can trust tell me the place you mention is not very comfortable." ANN POPE.

(More revelations next time.)

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

Offices: 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.
Telephone: Victoria 6188.SUMMER SCHOOL, PORTINGS-SCALE, 21st-28th September.
Preliminary Time-table.

Saturday, 22nd September.

- 9.30 a.m.
A. Three Methods of Elections Compared . Miss Morton.
10.45 a.m.
B. The Theory of Wages . Mrs. Anne Ashley.
C. The League of Nations in 1923 . Mrs. Layton.
8.30 p.m.
D. Women's Legislation in Parliament, 1923-4.

Monday, 24th September.

- A. Proportional Representation at Work (I) Miss Morton.
B. Industrial Legislation for Women . Miss Ashley.
C. The Situation in the Ruhr and the League Mrs. Layton.
D. The Economic Status of the Family . Mrs. Stocks.

Tuesday, 25th September.

- A. Proportional Representation at Work (II), including the recent Irish Election . Miss Morton.
B. The Present Position of Women in Industry.
C. Future Developments of the League . Mrs. Layton.

Wednesday, 26th September.

- A. Democracy and the Franchise . Mr. J. L. Stocks.
B. Unemployment in the Coming Winter.
C. Stabilization of the Currency .
D. Political Parties . Mr. J. L. Stocks.

Thursday, 27th September.

- A. Democracy and the Franchise . Mr. J. L. Stocks.
B. The Living Wage . Mrs. Stocks.
C. The International Situation .
D. Public Meeting at Keswick.

Small classes on Special Subjects can be formed on request. Lodgings close to Portingscale are still available, but application should be made as early as possible.

THE WOMAN'S LEADER

Every Friday. One Penny.

On 14th September will appear the first of a Series of Articles by Mrs. HENRY FAWCETT, J.P., LL.D.

which will extend throughout the Autumn and Winter months, entitled

"WHAT I REMEMBER"

Send 6/6 to the office of the paper, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1, and you will receive THE WOMAN'S LEADER every week for a year. It may be had for 3 months for 1/8.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

WHAT THE RUHR OCCUPATION HAS MEANT TO WOMEN.

Duisberg was yesterday relieved from the majority of the penalties which have been imposed on its inhabitants since 30th June. People are no longer forced to be indoors behind closed windows and without lights by 8 p.m.—*The Times*, 17th August, 1923.

The Social Democratic Party and Trade Unions at Duisberg, in a protest against this order, stated that if people opened the windows they ran the risk of being shot. The signatories pointed out that owing to the dearth of houses, and the necessities of the occupation, often ten or twelve persons had to sit in a little garret without light or fresh air from eight in the evening till five in the morning in the terrible heat.

One of the most heart-rending results was the condition of women about to become mothers. Many women who were expecting their confinement were terrified lest they should die, simply because at night no medical aid can be called to their assistance. Many women have brought their children to birth without any help, and in consequence have become seriously ill.

The Women's International League realizes that only when co-operation and goodwill take the place of the war spirit will such sufferings become unheard of, and it therefore urges all women to do all in their power to bring such a change about.

DAVIS & SON, DYERS LONDON LTD.

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EVERY DESCRIPTION OF LADIES & GENTLEMEN'S CLOTHES CLEANED OR DYED.	254 BRIXTON HILL S.W. <small>PHONE: BRIXTON 1852.</small>	OTHER BRANCHES IN ALL PARTS OF LONDON AND AT CARDIFF.
	181a HIGH ROAD STREATHAM <small>PHONE: STREATHAM 2736.</small>	
EXCEPTIONAL FACILITIES FOR CLEANING FURNITURE, Etc. CARPETS.	13 CENTRAL HILL UPPER NORWOOD S.E. <small>PHONE: SYDENHAM 2019.</small>	

DELICIOUS FRENCH COFFEE

RED WHITE & BLUE

For Breakfast & after Dinner

In making, use LESS QUANTITY it being much stronger than ORDINARY COFFEE

THE PLANE TREE RESTAURANT, LTD.

106 GREAT RUSSELL ST., W.C.1. Mus. 6027.

LUNCH and TEA at moderate prices.
HOME-MADE CAKES AND CHOCOLATES.

Orders delivered or sent by post.

A BOOKLET AGAINST BIRTH CONTROL.

"A CITY FULL OF BOYS AND GIRLS"

By A CATHOLIC WOMAN DOCTOR.

Written in simple language and with great sympathy and understanding.

Price 2d. For distribution, 1/6 per dozen.

CATHOLIC TRUTH SOCIETY, 72 Victoria Street, London, S.W. 1.

"QUALITY
AND
FLAVOUR"

BOURNVILLE COCOA

See the name "CADBURY" on every piece
of Chocolate

MADE UNDER
IDEAL
CONDITIONS

COMING EVENTS.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNION.

- SEPT. 10. Bristol.
11. Tunbridge Wells and Worthing.
12. Bognor and Heathfield.
13. Steyning and Crawley.
14. Mortimer.

N.U.S.E.C.

SEPT. 21-28. Portinscale, near Keswick, Summer School.

EDINBURGH S.E.C.

OCT. 5-8. Week-end School at Dunblane.

INTERNATIONAL HOUSE CLUB, 55 GOWER STREET, W.C.1.

SEPT. 13, at 8.15. A speaker from the English-Speaking Union: "Anglo-American Friendship and the League of Nations."

TYPEWRITING AND PRINTING, Etc.

M. McLACHLAN and N. WHITWHAM—TYPISTS.—
4 Chapel Walks, Manchester. Tel.: 3402 City.

EXPERT TYPEWRITING and Visiting Secretarial Work; meetings reported verbatim; Stenciling, etc.; Ladies trained as Private Secretaries, Journalists, and Short Story Writers.—The Misses Neal & Tucker, 52 Bedford St., Strand, W.C. 2.

TEMPLAR PRINTING WORKS, BIRMINGHAM.

SPECIALISTS IN WORK FOR NATIONAL SOCIETIES.

ENQUIRIES SOLICITED.

WHERE TO LIVE.

THE GREEN CROSS CLUB FOR BUSINESS GIRLS, 68 and 69 Guildford Street, Russell Square, W.C. 1.—Spacious accommodation for resident and non-resident members; large dining, common, library, and smoking-rooms; excellent meals at moderate prices; hockey, gymnastic classes dancing, tennis, etc.; annual subscription £1.

HOSTEL FOR VISITORS AND WORKERS; terms from 4s. 6d. per night, or from 18s. 6d. per week, room and breakfast.—Mrs. K. Wilkinson, 59 Albany Street, Regent's Park, N.W. 1.

LADIES' RESIDENTIAL CLUB offers single bedrooms to residents between the ages of 18 and 40. Frequent vacancies for visitors also. Excellent catering, unlimited hot water. Airy sitting-room. Only 2 min. from Tube and Underground. Rooms with partial board, 35s. to 38s. weekly.—Apply, 15 Trebovir Road, Earls Court.

COMFORTABLE BOARD RESIDENCE (gas-fires, phone, etc.). Single or double rooms at moderate terms; convenient for all parts.—19 Endsleigh Street, W.C. 1.

THE ISIS CLUB, 79 Fitzjohn's Avenue, Hampstead, for professional women. Two minutes Hampstead Tube. Warm house; sandy soil. Lectures, "listening-in," dancing, tennis. Excellent cuisine, also vegetarian dishes. Some vacancies now.

BIRMINGHAM.—MAYFIELD RESIDENTIAL CLUB, for Professional Women and Students (affiliated to National Council of Women), 60 Harborne Road, Edgbaston. Common and silence rooms; open-air shelter; music; tennis clubs; convenient centre for meetings and holidays. Terms: permanent residents from 38s. (partial board). Vegetarians catered for.

FOR REST AND HOLIDAYS.

LOW GREEN HOUSE, Thorally, Aysgarth, Yorks.—Paying guests received; good centre for walks, charabanc to Hawes.—Particulars from Miss Smith.

YORKSHIRE HILLS, Farmhouse Apartments.—Mrs. Kevill, Ralphs Farm, Denshaw, near Oldham.

PROFESSIONAL.

"MORE MONEY TO SPEND" (Income Tax Recovery and Adjustment).—Send postcard for particulars and scale of charges to the Women Taxpayers' Agency, Hampden House, 84 Kingsway, W.C. 2. Phone, Central 6049. Estab'd 1908.

LEARN TO KEEP ACCOUNTS.—There are especially good lessons in book-keeping at Miss Blakeney's School of Typewriting and Shorthand, Wentworth House, Mauresa Road, Chelsea, S.W. 3. "I learnt more there in a week," says an old pupil, "than I learnt elsewhere in a month." Pupils prepared for every kind of secretarial post.

MISS MARION McCARTHY'S specially graduated Course of PUBLIC SPEAKING is indispensable to those engaged in Public Work. Class re-opens 17th Sept.—Apply, 16 Hallam Street, Portland Place.

FOR SALE, WANTED AND HIRE.

100 PAIRS snow-white Irish Linen sheets, made from real good heavy linen yarn, standard quality which will wear for a lifetime. Bleached on the green fields of Northern Ireland. These sheets will always retain their silky snowy sheen. Single bed size, 2 x 3 yards, 35s. per pair; double-bed size, 2½ x 3 yards, 45s. per pair; double-bed size, 2½ x 3 yards, 55s. per pair. These sheets are 20s. per pair below today's shop prices. Write for Bargain List—TO-DAY.—HUTTON'S, 41 Main Street, Larne, Ireland.

PURE HOME-MADE JAM AND BOTTLED FRUIT.—Orders taken at the House Assistants' Centre for 1 lb., 2 lb., 3 lb. or 7 lb. jars. Single small jars can be bought at the Centre. Write and enclose stamped addressed envelope for price list.

SECOND-HAND CLOTHING wanted to buy for cash; costumes, skirts, boots, underclothes, curtains, lounge suits, trousseaus, 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.

CAR FOR HIRE, 8d. per mile, no tips taken; car open or shut; by hour, day, or week; owner driver.—Miss Ibbotson, 51 Lancaster Gate, Hyde Park, W.2. Tel. Padd. 3895.

DRESS.

KNITTED CORSETS.—Avoid chills, no pressure. List free.—Knitted Corset Co., Nottingham.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE.—Secretary, Miss Philippa Strachey. Change of Address: Wellington House, Buckingham Gate. Enquiries: Room 6, 3rd floor.

THE PIONEER CLUB has reopened at 12 Cavendish Place. Town Members £5 5s.; Country and Professional Members £4 4s. Entrance fee in abeyance (*pro tem.*).

THE FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Eccleston Guild House, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1: Sunday, 2nd September, 6.30, Dr. Dearmer.

ALLEVIATE LONELINESS by forming Congenial Friendships, home or abroad.—For particulars write, Secretary, U.C.C., 16 L, Cambridge Street, S.W. 1.

JOIN INTERNATIONAL HOUSE CLUB, 55 Gower Street, W.C. 1. Subscription, 7s. 6d. per annum. Luncheons, and Teas in the Cafeteria and in the garden. Thursday Club Suppers and Discussion Meetings re-open in September, 13th September, at 8.15. A speaker from the English-Speaking Union: "Anglo-American Friendship and the League of Nations."

INTERNATIONAL FRANCHISE CLUB, LTD., 9 Grafton Street, Piccadilly, W. 1.—Subscription: London Members, £3 3s.; Country Members, £1 5s. (Irish, Scottish, and Foreign Members, 10s. 6d.). No Entrance Fee till January, 1924. Excellent catering; Luncheons and Dinners à la Carte. All particulars, Secretary. Tel.: Mayfair 3932.

THE HOUSE ASSISTANTS' CENTRE,

(Licensed annually by the L.C.C.)

510 King's Road, Chelsea, S.W. 10.

Closed until further notice
on account of illness.

ANN POPE.

DOUBLE YOUR MONEY and buy for 1½d. what is worth 3d.!

THE WOMAN'S LEADER can be supplied direct from this Office for 1½d. including postage. Send 6/6 to the Manager, WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1, and the paper will be sent to you at any address for a whole year. Persuade your friends to do the same.

Please send THE WOMAN'S LEADER to me for twelve months. I enclose 6/6.

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