

WOMEN'S SERVICE  
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# THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S NEWS

## JUS SUFFRAGII

THE MONTHLY ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

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## The Economic Crisis is World Wide

### **SUPPORT**

**The International Alliance for Suffrage & Equal Citizenship**  
and  
**The International Women's News**

Work for the establishment of the Right of Women  
to take their full share in the reconstruction of  
economic and political life.

## NOTES AND NEWS.

**The Franchise in India.** Mrs. Subbarayan is adding to the reputation she made for herself at the first meeting of the India Round Table Conference. She is a woman of fine political sense, and her contributions to the debates are always useful and enlightened. Last week, with regard to the methods of electing candidates for the Federal Legislature, while pressing for the admission of women to equal civil rights with men, she urged also the need for special privileges during the first few years. She asked the Conference to provide for the co-option of women to the Legislature until such time as a reasonable number of women come to be returned by the constituencies. On this point Mrs. Subbarayan differs from the three leading Indian women's Associations who have disclaimed all desire for the special privileges which she contemplates, while pressing for full civic rights. The case of Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy is an argument for the expedience of Mrs. Subbarayan's proposal; if Dr. Reddy had not been nominated by the Government she would never have sat in the Madras Legislature where she had done work which is universally recognised as of the highest importance.

**German Women in Council.** The Society of German Women's Organisations, which has now 86 affiliated societies, is holding a General Meeting in Leipzig this year. The subject for discussion on the first day is one of vital interest at the moment, namely, the future of women in the professions. Dr. Baumer and Dr. Gaebel will be the principal speakers. The second day will be devoted to a discussion on the Disarmament Conference of 1932, especially in regard to German women, and Dr. von Herwarth, Dr. Ulich Beil and Dr. Salomon will speak on the political and military problems of the Disarmament Conference and the position of the women of the world with regard to disarmament. In the evening there will be another important speech on the Disarmament Conference by Ina Seidel. 'The Task of the Woman's Movement To-day' will be the theme of a speech by Dr. von Zahn-Harnack, followed by lectures on the respective importance of the profession and the family in the life of a woman.

**An Eminent Woman Scientist.** The distinguished naturalist, Miss Joan Beauchamp Proctor, has died at the age of thirty-four. Curator of reptiles and amphibians at the London Zoological Gardens, Miss Proctor was for many years an authority of international repute on her subject. The new Reptile House in Regent's Park, which has attracted the admiration of naturalists from all over Europe, was her creation; she was an expert surgeon, performing delicate operations on her charges with instruments of her own invention. Physically she was always extremely delicate, and only her indomitable will made her career, now prematurely ended, a possibility.

**International Peace Society of Mothers and Teachers.** A new organisation has recently come into existence in Germany which aims at promoting world friendship and peace, and especially wishes to establish a direct contact with French-women in order to work together in the interests of peace. In 1929 the 'Ligue Internationale des Mères et Educatrices pour la Paix' was founded in France with the object of educating youth in the spirit of understanding between nations, and mothers and teachers are called upon to teach their children respect for other nations and the necessity of peaceful co-operation. The activities of the League have already met with remarkable success in France. Two years after its

foundation it has 29,000 members drawn from all classes, parties and creeds. From the beginning this feeling of sympathy with women all over the world has urged them to establish another section to undertake propaganda for the ideas of the League in other countries. And now there is a section in Germany under the name of 'Weltfriedensbund der Mütter und Erzieherinnen' with one branch in München under the leadership of Frau C. Hallgarten, and one in Berlin directed by Dr. S. Engelmann and Frau A. Dullo. The Committee has begun its work by sending out an appeal, signed by many prominent German women, pointing out the horrors of war and asking women to join the Society in order that their children shall reap the benefits of their great campaign for peace.

**A Peace School in Paris.** Louise Weiss, Editor of 'l'Europe Nouvelle,' has recently established a Peace School in Paris, which is to be a centre for the study of foreign politics—especially in regard to the activities of the League of Nations—and which will emphasise the necessity for settling international disputes by peaceful methods. The School has succeeded in obtaining the services of several prominent people connected with the League who will give lectures to which students from all countries willing to serve the cause of peace are invited. The opening ceremony of the Peace School was attended by many representatives of the French Diplomatic Corps, Statesmen and savants.

The following is a full list of the Women Delegates and Substitute Delegates to the XIIth Assembly:—

Australia	.....	Dr. Ethel Osborne (sub.).
Austria	.....	Mme. von Matsch (technical advisor).
Canada	.....	Mrs. Henry Pemberton-Plumptre.
Chili	.....	Mme. M. Vergara (technical advisor).
Czechoslovakia	.....	Mme. Frantiska Plaminkova (sub.).
Denmark	.....	Mlle. H. Forchhammer (sub.).
Germany	.....	Frau von Zahn-Harnack, Fraulein Pünder (technical advisors).
Great Britain	.....	Mrs. Alfred Lyttelton (sub.).
Hungary	.....	Countess Albert Apponyi (sub.).
Lithuania	.....	Mme. Sophie Ciurlionis (sub.).
Netherlands	.....	Mme. Schonfeld Polano (technical advisor), Mme. A. C. Kluyver (technical advisor and secretary to the delegation).
Norway	.....	Mme. Ingeborg Aas (sub.).
Poland	.....	Mme. Anna Szelagowska (sub.).
Roumania	.....	Mlle. Hélène Vacaresco (sub.), Mme. Alexandria Cantacuzene (technical advisor).
Spain	.....	Mlle. Clara Campoamor (sub.).
Sweden	.....	Mlle. Kerstin Hesselgren (sub.).

**DISARMAMENT**

A Review of the League of Nations and of Governments, Parliamentary Debates and other Trend of Public Opinion relating to the World Disarmament Conference 1932.

Price: 0.75 Swiss francs. Subscription rate: 3 Swiss francs per 6 numbers.

Editorial and Publishing Offices:  
3, Rue Chateau-Banquet, GENEVA.

## WORSE THAN REACTIONARY.

This is a publication which should be in the hands of every international worker interested in the woman worker, because it shows so clearly the attitude of mind of the International Labour Organisation to these women. The special task of the woman's movement in this connection is to show the I.L.O. that its attitude is wrong and to endeavour to have it changed.

The publication is a report originally drawn up by Dr. Fuss of Geneva and revised by the Correspondence Committee of the I.L.O. on Industrial Hygiene. It is therefore one for which the I.L.O. must accept responsibility. It is one of a series of brochures brought out in what is called an Encyclopaedia of Hygiene, Pathology and Social Welfare. It purports to be a scientific review of the position of the woman industrial worker, but instead of taking for granted the fact that paid work is as necessary for a woman as a man, and then examining the question of what conditions are best for the worker, the whole report is written from the point of view that work, i.e. paid industrial work, is, essentially, bad for women. Many of the statements are quite incredible, as is also the frequent lack of correspondence between the English and French versions; indeed the writer of this review was only convinced that they were as heinous as had been represented to her when she read them with her own eyes. To take some examples—the report solemnly states that "the injurious effects of labour on the female organism are established by quite a series of statistical data." Another general statement is this: "the injurious effects of labour on the female organism are proved by the sickness statistics of sickness insurance societies." What about the injurious effects of unemployment? The report has actually solemnly quoted a statement by one Bernays to the effect that "the rhythm of machinery is not adapted to the female organism." I hope all housewives will at once dispose of their sewing machines and vacuum cleaners and never again enter a train or a motor bus or an aeroplane. Intellectual work is said to be a still heavier cause of sickness among women, and the same is supposed to hold good of office work. And so blind is the committee to the need of the woman for decent pay if her physical condition is to be good, that they have actually allowed to appear in the report the statement that fatigue and overwork are without doubt a greater cause of female sickness than poverty, as if fatigue and overwork had nothing to do with the amount and quality of food put into the stomach. But the high-water mark is reached when the report quotes with approbation the statement of a person called Vicarelli—"the pregnant woman suffers from her surroundings, which in turn are none the better for her presence." Some of the statistics quoted—the writer of this review can speak only of those which she has personal knowledge—are obsolete and misleading. To take an example: in support of a statement by Newsholme that general infant mortality increases in parallel lines with the increase in industrial employment of women, figures referring to one county only and those for not later than 1900 are given. This is to ignore entirely a review of infant mortality over the whole of England (1910 Cd. 5263) in which it appeared that the four counties in which infant mortality was highest were those having "the lowest proportion of industrially employed married and widowed women" (p. 58). Obsolete and misleading statistics having been used in one place by the committee, the value of anything quoted elsewhere in the report becomes doubtful.

The want of correspondence between the English Women's Work. No. 152 of Occupation and Health, published by the International Labour Office. 28 pages. English. (French Edition No. 162).

and French versions is, as mentioned above, another very serious charge to be laid against the report. There is no room to quote at length, but one paragraph may be referred to. In this the French version runs "que la femme soit plus à sa place à la maison qu'au travail, et que théoriquement il serait souhaitable de l'exclure, surtout si elle est mariée, de tout travail industriel," whereas the only words in the English version which, by guessing, one may assume are supposed to correspond are: "Under the present social conditions the acceptance of paid work by women is an imperative economic necessity for a great number of women and whether it be a desirable state of affairs or not", etc! It is to be hoped that women's organisations all over the world will express in strong terms to the International Labour Office their views on the publication of a report of this character; it is an attack upon and propaganda against the personal and economic rights of half the human race.  
CRYSTAL MACMILLAN.

## THE DISARMAMENT COMMITTEE AND WOMEN'S ORGANISATIONS

Now that the Disarmament Conference of February, 1932, has become practically a certainty, and the statesmen of all countries have plainly said in their speeches in the XIIth Assembly that only by means of disarmament and the re-establishment of confidence between nations can the world be saved from its present crisis, it is a hopeful fact that the Women's International Organisations have united in an active campaign to show the world-wide wish for disarmament and peace.

The following eleven organisations joined the Disarmament Committee of Women's International Organisations, which was founded in Geneva on September 5th:

International Council of Women.  
International Alliance for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship.  
World's Young Women's Christian Association.  
World Union of Women for International Concord.  
National Committee on the Cause and Cure of War.  
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.  
World's Women's Christian Temperance Union.  
International Federation of Business and Professional Women.  
European Federation of Soroptimist Clubs.  
International Federation of University Women.  
International Co-operative Women's Guild.  
The International Federation of University Women and the International Co-operative Women's Guild are acting as "observers" only.

The officers of the Disarmament Committee are:  
President: Miss Mary A. Dingman.  
Vice-President: Miss K. D. Courtney.  
Vice-President: Mme. Dreyfus-Barney.  
Secretary: Miss Rosa Manus.  
Treasurer: Mme. Clara Guthrie d'Arcis.  
Headquarters are established in Geneva, 2 rue Daniel Colladon. The World's Young Women's Christian Association has kindly offered hospitality to the Committee and has given an office in their beautiful building.

At its first meeting, the following resolution was adopted by the Committee and was submitted to the Liaison Committee for approval, and sent to the President of the Council of the League of Nations, to the Chief of the Disarmament Section of the League of Nations, to the Chairman of the Disarmament Committee of the League of Nations, to Sir Eric Drummond and the Press.

**Resolution:**

"The great International Organisations of Women, assembled at a meeting of their special committee for united action in support of disarmament, beg to express their wholehearted support of the forthcoming Disarmament Conference and their earnest desire for its success.

Further, they pledge themselves, by every means in their power, to help in organising the vast and growing public opinion in favour of the Conference and the realisation of the world-wide cry for disarmament and security."

Some organisations began their peace work on a large scale some time ago and published petitions in favour of disarmament. The Disarmament Committee, however, will centralise the work, facilitate the co-operation of the organisations, and finally direct the presenting of the petitions to the Disarmament Conference. The Committee had endorsed a few months before the English text of the petition of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, but it also approved of the continental text of the petition of this League, of the petition published by the National Committee on the Cause and Cure of War, and of the Alliance petition.

The final presenting of the petitions to the Disarmament Conference will probably be by countries. The plan of demonstration will be simple and dignified, and it will show the result of the work which the women of the world have done for peace.

In most countries there is an active movement in favour of disarmament. The petition of the Alliance is being published in several countries, some of which added a special strong appeal to the original text. In addition to the list given in the July number of "Jus" the following countries have responded:

Ceylon, Syria, Australia, Turkey, Italy, Luxemburg and the Dutch East Indies. These two last countries have already sent in the forms of their petition.

Switzerland used the W.I.L. petition, and has achieved over two million signatures, which means that 48.4% of the population have signed. Great Britain comes next with a percentage of 28.5% of signatures.

Various peace meetings are planned for November in the different countries where the women's organisations are making a mutual effort on behalf of disarmament. A tremendous international conference will be held at the Trocadero in Paris, under the chairmanship of Mr. James MacDonald.

The future work of the Disarmament Committee will mainly consist in stimulating interest in the work for disarmament in the countries where as yet little work is being done, gathering the petitions, and in the working out of the method of their presentation and the starting of a press campaign to influence public opinion.

The resolution, proposed by the Spanish delegation, first presented by Princess Cantacuzène in an eloquent speech to the Third Commission of the 12th Assembly, unanimously adopted by the Council and finally adopted by the Assembly itself, reads as follows:

"The Assembly,  
Convinced of the great value of the contribution of women to the work of peace and the friendly relations between the peoples, which is the principal aim of the League, requests the Council to examine the possibility of increasing the collaboration of women in the work of the League of Nations.

This resolution is a first step to the co-operation of men and women for the Disarmament Conference and a first opening for closer contact with the League of Nations. May our future work along these lines prove salutary to the world.

ROSA MANUS,  
Hon. Secretary of Disarmament Committee.

**REVIEWS.****ACTIVITIES OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.**

**The League from Year to Year.** 1929-1930.  
(George Allen & Unwin, Ltd. 1s.)

This is the official report of the activities of the League of Nations for the year 1929-1930, published by the Information Section and is the 4th of the series. The first pamphlet covered the period from Oct. 1st, 1926—Sept. 30th, 1927; the 2nd from Oct. 1st, 1927—Sept. 30th, 1928, and the 3rd from Oct. 1st, 1928—Sept. 30th, 1929. It is also possible to get a summary of the League Work from 1920—1926 in a pamphlet "The League of Nations—a Survey."

In the account of the period 1929—1930 the League activities are given very fully—and there is also a description of the work done on the two fundamental problems of present-day international life: the organisation of peace, and the problem of economic depression. The principal accomplishment in the first of these fields is the conclusion of the work of the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference.

Women will be specially interested in the subjects in Chapter XII. They include the League work in Traffic in Women and Children, Child Welfare and Slavery, and the question of Opium Traffic.

It is not possible to give a list of all the matters dealt with in this account; they cover all the League work for the period. Among the more interesting are Arbitration, Security and the Reduction of Armaments, the work of the Permanent Court of International Justice, Mandates, and in Chapter VII, headed Intellectual Co-operation, such things as University Relations, Intellectual Property and Instruction of Young People.

Unlike the publications of many societies, this account is brief and very concise. It is well arranged under its various headings and it is very easy to find in it the information wanted.

The President of the Assembly, M. Titulesco, in his summary of the League's work during the year, said: "There are two facts which I think are particularly characteristic of the work of the 11th Assembly: the first is that you now regard it as a mere matter of course to register the accomplishment of things that once seemed so difficult of attainment; the second is the manifest desire to emerge from general and sometimes purely theoretical conceptions and to move forward into a field, more limited perhaps but far more practical."

This is encouraging reading and bears out the watchword M. Titulesco would like the League to adopt: "Never content; never discouraged."

F. R. H.

**THE FUTURE OF RELIGION.**

**The Church of To-morrow**, by Kenneth Ingram.  
(Philip Allan. 6/-.)

Many books dealing with religion make little appeal beyond some particular sect, but here is one which by its sincerity and frankness challenges all types of mind to reconsider their attitude in spiritual matters.

"The Christian Church has been obviously and rapidly losing the general allegiance of mankind—can she recover it?" "Of what use are ecclesiastical institutions, or do they appeal only to a class of lower mental virility?" "How shall we interest the average girl or boy in religion so that it becomes a vital part of life?" These are some of the issues faced by the author, and it is inevitable that in attempting to solve them he should raise dissentient feelings among his readers. But Mr. Ingram disarms us by his allowance for difference of opinion and the breadth of his ideal.

He longs to see "a church whose doors are open and which preserves a contact with men and women who remain outside in the grounds"—a spirit of co-operation between units such as is the aim of the League of Nations, in which no individual has the right to think solely of his own interests.

He shows clearly that the Church must be able to meet the criticisms of the keenest intellects of the age with strong constructive arguments; and in "The Church of To-morrow" he offers a valuable contribution to the controversy.

To those who say they are not interested in Church matters he replies: "It is as possible for the human race to outgrow religion as to outgrow love," and to those who are burdened with the difficulties of the problem he brings the stimulus of a sincere faith.

"Only the temporal passes—the Eternal remains, untouched, unspoiled"

A. M. W.

**A USEFUL PAPER.**

**Disarmament: A Review of the Acts of the League of Nations and of Governments, Parliamentary Debates and the Trend of Public Opinion relating to the World Disarmament Conference, 1932.**

This Review is published by the Disarmament Information Committee at Geneva. The International Federation of League of Nations Societies and the Inter-Parliamentary Union have combined in its creation and other great international societies will probably co-operate later. Its purpose is to give a true impression of the movements of opinion, official and unofficial, in the different countries (whether members of the League of Nations or not) concerning the prospects

of disarmament. There will be no editorial comment, and no penchant for any particular scheme for the reduction and limitation of armaments. The sole object of the paper is to provide information, the real facts of the situation, for the use of parliamentarians, journalists and all students of disarmament.

A sensible idea, and, to judge by the first number which we have before us for review, efficiently carried out. It is refreshing in a time when we are too often exposed to vague generalisations and pious aspirations in the name of disarmament to see a piece of practical non-emotional work being done on its behalf. There are editions in English, French and German.

**NEWS IN BRIEF.**

Miss Enid Goulden Bach, a niece of the late Mrs. Pankhurst, has been commissioned to compile a text-book on the emancipation of women for the guidance of the youth of Germany. Connected with the suffrage movement from childhood, in 1928 Miss Bach was one of five girls who made an almost successful effort to get a letter to the King, petitioning for votes for women at 21. The letter reached the steps of the Palace before a capture was effected.

Miss Edith Beesley, who was the first woman to be appointed a branch manager of an insurance company—the Southern Life Association—is organising a new insurance firm, Women's Insurances, Ltd., which will be the first enterprise of the kind to be entirely controlled by women. Miss Beesley, who has twenty years' experience of the insurance business to her credit, began her career in South Africa as an insurance agent. The names of the women who will serve on the board of the new firm have not yet been decided. It will be a board of women, with possibly one man member, and the firm will be represented at Lloyds, transacting all kinds of insurance business.

Florence Klingensmith, an American, has set up a new record in stunt flying. Making an advance in the women's loop-to-loop record from 980 loops to 1,078, Miss Klingensmith averaged nearly four loops a minute. The record was previously held by Laura Ingalls.

Mrs. George Cadbury, J.P., was the only woman whose name was on the agenda for the World Alliance for Promoting International Friendship through the Churches Conference, which took place at Cambridge from September 1st to 5th.

With the recent election of Judge Ida May Adams to judgeship in the Municipal Court of Los Angeles, this California city leads the country in the number of women judges serving in its courts. Judge Adams has the distinction of being the first woman attorney in the United States elected to the bench by direct vote of the people without prior appointment.

Two London-trained policewomen—both in the early thirties—have been chosen by the commandant of the Cairo police to serve in his force in the Egyptian capital. They are Miss Hoskyn, of Dublin, and Mrs. Baillie, of Woburn Sands, Bedfordshire. Both are members of Commandant Mary Allen's Women's Auxiliary Service, and they will be Cairo's first women police.

On the occasion of the International Radiological Congress in Paris the gold medal of the American Radiological Association was awarded to Mme. Curie, who assisted in the discovery of radium and who also holds the Nobel Prize.

# WOMEN AND POLITICS

BY

THE DUCHESS OF ATHOLL,  
M. P.

6/- (postage 4d).

"As a guide to practical idealism the book is as stimulating as it is well-informed and excellently written."

Scotsman.

"This very interesting and superlatively useful book."

Spectator.

Philip Allan & Co. Ltd., 69 Gt. Russell St., London.

A group of American business women arrived in London recently on the fourth annual Good-will Tour arranged by the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs of the United States.

Miss Elizabeth FitzGerald, of Salt Lake City, an educationalist, is the leader of the delegation, which is composed of 21 women representing widely diversified occupations. Several are teachers, but they also include an operator of a transfer and storage business, the proprietor of an antique shop, and a druggist and pharmacist.

Miss Irene Dible, of Southampton, is the first woman Commissioner of Oaths in the British Isles.

Mrs. Sidney Webb is the first woman to be elected a Fellow of the British Academy. In conjunction with her husband, now Lord Passfield, she made a contribution to the study of local government, co-operation and trade unionism which many economists and publicists regard as the most important intellectual work of the first quarter of this century.

Mrs. McQueen holds the position of first Aerial Police Inspector in Beverley Hills, U.S.A. She is herself an intrepid airwoman.

Four American women now hold vice-consulships abroad, they are: Margaret Warner (Geneva), Frances E. Willis (Santiago), Nella B. Stoydall (Beirut), and Constance Nardey (Milan).

The "Open Door International for the Economic Emancipation of the Woman Worker" meeting in Stockholm, adopted a draft convention to be presented to the International Labour Office, demanding that the principle that "men and women should receive equal remuneration for work of equal value" should be put into effect. A resolution upholding the right of married women to work for pay was passed unanimously.

Dr. Elizabeth Bruni, an Italian Woman Surgeon, has been appointed honorary Surgeon to the Crown Princess of Italy.

Miss Bessie Davidson, an Australian of Scottish descent, has been awarded the Legion of Honour for 25 years of life and work as an artist in Paris.

The first speech by a woman in the Spanish Cortes was delivered last month by Senorita Clara Campoamor, one of the two women deputies returned in the recent elections. Senorita Campoamor made a plea for easier divorce.

According to *Reuter*, admission of women students into the law college and women as members of the legal profession, both as proctors and advocates, is provided for in an amendment to the Council of Legal Education Ordinance, which is to be introduced into the State Council of Ceylon.

Miss Dorothy Werner, of Kansas City, is in charge of an aeroplane service between St. Louis and Omaha. She is the only woman traffic manager of a major air line.

More than 150 delegates will attend the first united gathering of the Townswomen's Guilds next month. As our readers know, the Townswomen's Guilds were founded by the National Auxiliary of the Alliance for Great Britain, with the object of doing for women in towns what the women's Institutes have so successfully done for women in the villages. The new Association

has been heartily welcomed, particularly in the new housing estates, where social centres were very badly needed.

Miss Elaine Tankard has been elected by the City Council of Liverpool to the post of Keeper of Archaeology in the City Museums. If she is elected Miss Tankard will be the first woman to be the head of a museum department in Liverpool. We announced recently the appointment of as Keeper of Manuscripts in the British Museum. It is extremely satisfactory to see that the value of the work of women scholars is being honourably recognised.

Women are now admitted to the marine training school at Stamboul, and the first women officers in the Turkish mercantile marine should be qualified next year.

The National Union of Women Teachers (Great Britain) has passed a resolution protesting against the proposed reduction in the Education Grant, and the reduction in teacher's salaries and calling for the establishment without delay of the principle of equal remuneration for men and women for work of equal value.

The Goethe Prize of the town of Frankfurt, worth 10,000 marks, instituted in 1927 as a reward to leaders in the world of science or art, has been awarded to Ricarda Huch, the well-known writer.

Seven hundred and nine living women hold the decoration of the Legion of Honour. The figure shows plainly the recent growth of feminine influence, since not more than 1,000 have belonged to the Legion since its creation.

The Council of the League of Nations has appointed Dr. Gertrud Bäumer, member of the Reichstag and Ministerial Counsellor, as Government Representative on the Council of the International Cinematograph Institute in Rome. The appointment is the result of a report of the Italian Foreign Minister, Signor Grandi. Dr. Bäumer is well known as one of the most prominent women both in Germany and in the international woman's movement.

#### SECOND CONFERENCE OF THE OPEN DOOR INTERNATIONAL.

Stockholm, August, 1931.

The Open Door International, which was founded two years ago in Berlin to work for the economic emancipation of the woman worker, has just held its Second Conference in Stockholm in August, which was followed by a Summer School at Sigtuna. Membership of the Conference was limited to those who supported the object of the O.D.I. There were more than a hundred members present, and these represented ten different countries—Australia, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Great Britain, Czechoslovakia, Sweden, Norway and the U.S.A. Among these members were several women doctors, including a gynaecologist and obstetrician, a factory inspector, several factory workers and a well known international trade unionist. There were also present a number of visitors including an observer sent by the Polish Government.

The report showed that the organisation is developing steadily; it has already six national branches, namely, those of Great Britain, Germany, Belgium, Denmark, Sweden and Czechoslovakia, besides national affiliated societies in Finland, France, Hungary and the United States of America, with individual members in Uruguay,

India, Japan, Palestine, Australia, Norway, the Netherlands and Switzerland. A Headquarters has been established in London and also an office and permanent representative at Geneva. The O.D.S. publishes an official quarterly organ "The Open Door" which appears in two editions, English and French. Other publications issued during the year include a Memorandum on General Policy, the Working Mother's Right of Choice, besides a number of supplements to the "Open Door" on Night Work in Finland, Women in Mines, Women and Lead Paint, the History of the Night Work Convention, and a Commentary on the Report of the Directors of the I.L.O. One important piece of work undertaken by Headquarters is indexing and supplying international information about the woman worker, information which is desperately needed and is unobtainable elsewhere. This involves among other things reading and indexing the relevant parts of all the publications issued by the International Labour Organisations, so that information can now be supplied about what that body is saying and doing about women. A beginning has also been made towards indexing the laws of different countries which affect the woman earner.

The O.D.I. devotes much of its energy to seeking to make its policy effective in the work of the International Labour Organisation, and it is already well known there, as is indicated by the following facts. The Bureau of the Governing Body of the I.L.O. in January last received a deputation from the O.D.I. urging that the Convention which prohibits the work of women during the night should either be abrogated, or so amended as to make any regulation or prohibition of night work apply equally to men and women. At one of the sessions of the last International Labour Conference, one of its prominent members stated that it was unnecessary to hear a deputation from the O.D.I. as all the members of the conference were so thoroughly informed on its policy. On two different occasions a question which has been proposed to be issued to the Governments by the I.L.O. has been amended so as to make it apply equally to both sexes, after the O.D.I. had urged that such policy be adopted. A number of other important international organisations have also given special consideration to the programme of the O.D.I. and have circulated their national branches on the subject. The Women's Advisory Committee of the Labour and Socialist International indeed had devoted one of its sessions to discussing the question.

The Conference adopted a draft Equal Pay Convention to give effect to the seventh principle of the constitution of the International Labour Organisation—"the principle that men and women shall receive equal remuneration for work of equal value"—and this is to be promoted in that body. The Conference protested against the attitude of the I.L.O. to the woman worker as shown in one of its publications entitled "Women's Work," declared that brochure to be unscientific and in the nature of misleading propaganda and that it was a scandal that such an article should have been published by a responsible organisation, and asked for its withdrawal. Resolutions were adopted protesting against the present world attack on the Married Woman as earner, against the attack by the I.L.O. on the woman earner in Agriculture, and against the use of Unemployment as a pretext for ousting the woman worker. Another urged the need for equality of treatment for men and women in connection with sickness and unemployment insurance and old age pensions. It was pointed out that the restrictions on the working hours of women not placed on those of men were going to put women at a disadvantage by limiting their choice of employment under rationalisation schemes which may involve the running of machinery for many consecutive hours and make necessary the two or three shift systems.

It was declared by resolution that, where the women members of a mixed trade union found themselves obstructed because the union deliberately forbade women to work in certain processes, or sought to turn women out of certain jobs, or negotiated for them a lower wage rate, the formation of a separate women's union should be encouraged. It was declared that the difficulties of the present crisis were not a reason for postponing the consideration of the position of women, but were the very reason why the position of the woman worker should be dealt with at once, before there was built up the new economic system which was being established as the result of the present industrial revolution. With regard to the pregnant and child-bearing woman, it was declared that when a burden is placed on the employer ostensibly in the interests of the woman this burden is in fact passed on to the woman, as for example, where the employer is required to provide special accommodation for the nursing mother. It was also pointed out that a solution was to be sought in a way that would not be to the woman's economic disadvantage by providing proper rest room accommodation for all workers, male as well as female. A distinction was also made between the contributions which it might be necessary to provide in the interest of a child in connection with its birth, which ought to be provided under the Child Welfare legislation of a country, and the benefits payable to a woman incapacitated from work by reason of pregnancy which should be paid under the same conditions as those paid to a man or woman incapacitated by reason of sickness. It was declared that a fallacy was involved in the suggestion that legislation which imposes on women restrictions not placed on men is beneficial when it has the support of 'the women themselves,' and that the rightness and justness of basing regulations on the nature of the work and not on the sex of the worker is not dependent on the views of any section of the community. The Conference further drew attention to the fact that the I.L.O. had adopted the convention which prohibits the employment of women during the night without considering the effects of this prohibition on women.

Besides the generous hospitality extended to the members of the Conference by Swedish women, the delegates were entertained by the City of Stockholm in their famous Town Hall.

The newly elected Board of Officers are as follows: President: Chrystal Macmillan; Hon. Secretary: Winifred Le Sueur; Hon. Treasurer: Anna Westergaard (Denmark), and Elizabeth Abbott (England); Gertrud Baer (Germany); Thyra von Beetzen Östman (Finland); Ingeborg Walin (Sweden); Ruth Vandeer Litt (U.S.A.); Frantiska Plaminkova (Czechoslovakia); and Louise de Craene van Duuren (Belgium). Edith Rogers is the representative at Geneva.

In the following week, a Summer School was held at the People's High School, Sigtuna, one of the most beautiful and historical places in Sweden, with an attendance of 47. The papers read, which were all followed by good discussions, were "Women in Agriculture," by Anna Westergaard; "The Philosophy of Feminism," by Louise de Craene van Duuren; "Night Work," by Julie Aarenholt; "The Physiological Function of Women," by Ada Milssen; "Weight Lifting and the Heavy Trades, including Mining," by Chrystal Macmillan; "Woman as a Producer throughout the Ages," by Elizabeth Abbott; "Dangerous Trades," by Winifred le Sueur; and "The Earnings of the Married Woman," by Marcelle Renson.

There is no cartoon this month as our cartoonist is on holiday. The series will be continued in our next number.

## BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S CONGRESS.

The International Federation of Business and Professional Women held a Congress in Vienna last July. The great interest aroused was evident from the attendance at the opening evening, when there were greetings from the President of the Austrian branch of the Federation, Dr. W. Loewenstein-Brill, Dr. Resch and some delegates. Lena Madasin Phillips, the founder, and President of the U.S.A. National Federation made a brilliant speech.

The following new suggestions for the woman's movement were put forward at the Congress; international hospitality between professional women, the organisation of commercial exchange, the establishment of a travelling exhibition of women's artistic work.

The second suggestion was put forward by Mary Laudner, a Frenchwoman. A fellow countrywoman of hers, Mme. Vernier-Heriot, who was not able to attend the Congress, had paved the way appreciably for exchange of commerce and had even arranged a model exhibition in Paris. Discussion on this question revealed that the organisation of commercial exchange still had difficulties to contend with. First of all the question of who is to pay freight, customs, and insurance must be settled; also the questions of protection against imitations and of the arrangement of exhibitions so as to draw attention to each object whether cheap or expensive, hand-made or machine-made. Would it not be practical if only the best product of each country was exchanged? Is it not true that the women who are studying these problems have knowledge and experience which hitherto have not had much outlet in the woman's movement? During the discussion there arose also the question of the exchanging of young employees in order to improve their professional experience,—as Miss Phillips says 'a new adventure of the woman's movement'—and this question is also to be studied.

The establishment of a travelling exhibition of women's works of art was proposed by the Italian sculptress, Antonetta Paoli Pogliana. This is no simple matter either. The question of arranging an exhibition next year to start in Vienna and then be sent by steamer along the Danube to the Black Sea was discussed.

The principal question for discussion at the Congress was "The cause and cure of unemployment." Dr. Hilde Oppenheimer, Oberregierungsrätin and a member of the German Ministry of Labour, explained the causes of world-wide unemployment in a clear interesting speech founded on a thorough political knowledge of social and economical conditions. She pointed out that the extraordinary circumstances of to-day are not only an economic but also a spiritual problem which affects the destiny of untold masses of people. She suggested the following means of improving conditions; the establishment of unemployment insurance; more employment through official bodies, who must make special efforts in bad times; systematical distribution of existing possibilities for employment, which entails shorter working hours; systematic international co-operation. This last offers scope especially for women, and it is for them also to see that the standards of civilisation already achieved are maintained and improved, so that women's work is not suppressed. During the discussion several practical suggestions were made—the formation of an International Committee of Women to keep statistics of women's work and to investigate the possibilities of still further professions; the establishment of an international bureau with branches in each country to give advice and particularly to obtain professional positions for unemployed women. A resolution was adopted to make an intelligent effort to investigate the causes of unemployment among women, and the possibilities of remedying it in all the affiliated countries, and to reward the best work by prizes.

## THE INDIVIDUALIST LUNCHEONS

## SIXTH SERIES—October, 1931—June, 1932

October 14th, Wednesday—SIR ERNEST BENN, Bt., C.B.E.

November 10th, Tuesday—HIS EXCELLENCY A. KERENSKY  
December 9th, Wednesday—SIR MICHAEL SADLER, C.B., K.C.S.I.

January 13th, Wednesday—SENATOR ENRICO CORRADINI.

February 10th, Wednesday—LORD LLOYD OF DOLOBRAN.

March 9th, Wednesday—LT.-COL. JOHN BUCHAN, M.P.

April 13th, Wednesday—SPEAKER WILL BE ANNOUNCED LATER.

May 11th, Wednesday—ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET, SIR ROGER KEYES, Bt.

June 8th, Wednesday—SPEAKER WILL BE ANNOUNCED LATER.

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After the Congress, a Board Meeting was held with the re-elected President, Miss Phillips, as Chairman, and it was decided to work for the appointment of women judges, for pensions and marriage allowances for professional women, and to study the possibilities of establishing an international women's bank.

And the result of the Congress? We are satisfied that questions of importance to business and professional women have been lifted out of the rut of academical theory into the sphere of practical realisation. Of no less importance is the fact that those women who attend the Congress have been strengthened in their aims to cooperate for world understanding and peace. This was repeatedly emphasised during the Congress, it is to be hoped that all those present will, on returning home, do what they can to help the task of unravelling the chaos now dominating the world.

The Congress provided an opportunity for arranging an exhibition featuring "The creative Austrian Woman" showing in pictures and actual exhibits the scope of women's works in arts and crafts. A specially interesting feature was an exhibition of photographs, shown for the first time, of leaders of the women's movement, and of social and political work, as well as prominent women poets, writers, actresses, stage designers and sportswomen, etc.

GISELA URBAN.

## HINDU WOMEN AND THE LAW.

During the past year we have noticed some legislative reforms which in effect and quality reflect a new outlook on social questions which were long considered as too sacred to be discussed in a spirit of change. Most of these have been concerned with Hindu Law, both in British India and in the Indian States, and chiefly dealt with the problems of child-marriage, widow-re-marriage, devadasi, marriage-brokers and barter—akin to other movements which have in common one salient feature, the liberation of woman from the shackles of tradition. Nowhere is this new trend more discernible than in the advanced State of Mysore which has set the pace before now in many movements for social reform. At a recent session of the Mysore Representative Assembly, by the overwhelming majority of 257 votes to three, support was accorded to a new Bill which is calculated to recognise women's rights of inheritance under Hindu Law, and more lately leave to introduce it has been granted in the Mysore Legislative Council. It will be remembered that some time back a Special Committee was appointed in Mysore to examine in what respects the existing Hindu law could be reformed in the light of growing public opinion especially with a view to raise the legal status of Hindu women by removing old disabilities and granting new rights. Consequent on this Committee's recommendations, the present Bill

## SECTION FRANCAISE.

## LES ACTIVITES FEMINISTES A GENEVE.

## LA NATIONALITE DE LA FEMME A LA SOCIETE DES NATIONS.

C'est sur tout en des périodes extrêmement chargées d'activité et riches en faits intéressants comme celle que nous traversons que l'on regrette que notre "Jus Suffragii" ne soit qu'un organe mensuel de notre Alliance et ne nous permette pas, par une parution plus fréquente de tenir nos lecteurs au courant des événements au fur et à mesure qu'ils se produisent. Car les situations changent et se transforment si rapidement, les prévisions sont si vite déjouées, les événements surgissent en surprise si inattendues que ce que l'on écrit un jour n'est déjà plus vrai le lendemain: à plus forte raison, que peut dire une chronique sur l'Assemblée de la S.d.N. rédigée maintenant, et qui ne sera lue que dans plus de deux semaines? Tout le monde prédisait une Assemblée courte et terne, et la voici qui dure ses trois semaines bien comptées, et qui enregistre en une seule journée des nouvelles palpitantes telles que la guerre en Mandchourie, les événements financiers en Angleterre, et la demi-entrée des Etats-Unis dans la Ligue, ou toute au moins dans sa Commission de Désarmement! Dans ces conditions, comment s'aventurer à écrire quoi que se soit avant la clôture?

C'est pourquoi je viens prier mes lectrices de bien vouloir patienter jusqu'au prochain No. de "Jus" pour avoir une vue d'ensemble détaillée sur les activités féminines à Genève, et puisque, des deux grandes questions qui nous ont surtout préoccupées cette saison-ci, l'une, celle des préparatifs de la Conférence du Désarmement, doit être traitée à part par ma collègue Mlle. Rosa Manus, je consacrerai cette chronique à l'autre de ces questions, parvenue à une étape importante: celle de la nationalité de la femme auprès de la S.d.N.

Il n'est pas besoin de rappeler ici comment s'est constitué le Comité Consultatif féminin, composé de deux représentantes de huit grandes organisations féminines internationales, pour condenser en un rapport remis à la S.d.N. les points de vue et les revendications des femmes en ce domaine. Notre présidente, Mrs. Corbett Ashby, qui avec Mme. Bakker-Nort, députée de la Chambre hollandaise, représente l'Alliance dans ce Comité, a analysé ici même ce rapport, qui a été publié par les soins de la S.d.N., annexé à un rapport du Secrétaire Général, et distribué à tous les délégués à l'Assemblée. Tous nos efforts allaient donc tendre à le faire accepter par l'Assemblée. Un Comité spécial fut constitué dans ce but, comptant un membre par organisation, et présidé par Mme. von Matsch (Autriche): en effet, le Comité Consultatif ayant été constitué pour élaborer un rapport ne pouvait pas en bonne correction faire lui-même de la propagande en faveur de ce rapport. A ce Comité spécial, où l'Alliance a été représentée par la signataire de ces lignes, a donc incombé la tâche de voir les délégations nationales à l'Assemblée et surtout les membres de ces délégations siégeant dans celle des Commissions de l'Assemblée qui traite des questions juridiques. Il y aurait de nombreux détails intéressants à donner sur l'accueil que nous avons reçu, les observations qui ont été formulées, les sympathies rencontrées, les objections qui nous ont été opposées, etc. Il va bien de soi que l'objection la plus fréquemment faite était que demander que la femme puisse avoir une nationalité différente de celle de son mari portait atteinte à l'unité de la famille. D'autres critiques portèrent, non pas sur le fonds de la question, mais plutôt, et peut-être non sans raison, sur la tactique adoptée par les organisations féminines dans leur rapport à la Conférence de la

has been introduced, and it gains greater importance from the fact that it is sponsored by the Mysore Government itself.

The Bill seeks unequivocally to define the principles that should govern succession in a Hindu joint family, and assigns a definite place to women in the order of succession, particularly to those females or relatives connected through females who, though belonging to the family, were altogether dropped from the line of inheritance. In Hindu law, sons are given such unqualified preference over daughters that there is an old text which says that "there is no heavenly region for a sonless man," and on this is based the artifice of adoption. The average Hindu family is joint and undivided in food, worship and estate, and as family property passes by survivorship, females are normally excluded, and even as to the separate property of a Hindu male, ordinarily sons, grandsons and great grandsons inherit to the exclusion of widow, daughter and mother. The widow in this case gets no more than a bare maintenance allowance. Even where a widow does succeed, however, she takes only what is called a widows' estate, that is a limited interest entitling her to the interest and not to the corpus which devolves, on her death, not to her heirs but to the next heirs of the deceased husband, however remote they may be in a particular case. Apart from the question of the nature of the interest which a woman is capable of enjoying, even the number of female heirs recognised is peculiarly small. They are only five, in number—namely widow, daughter, mother, father's mother and father's father's mother. In Bombay and Madras, a larger number is recognised, and in Bombay alone daughters take the property not as limited owners but as full heirs. It is thus obvious that this state of things works a hardship which results, as one of the lady members of the Mysore Assembly pointed out, in the present deplorable condition of women in the Hindu family.

In addition to this, Sir K. Puttanna Chetty has given notice of a Bill against child-marriages in the State on the lines of the Sarda Act, and, though a few orthodox Brahmmins have held protest meetings in Bangalore and in Mysore, the bulk of enlightened opinion in the State appears to be in favour of introducing these measures. Only the other day a deputation of fifteen ladies representing the All-India Women's Conference waited upon H.E. the Viceroy to urge the need for adequate representation of Indian Women in order to ensure the success of the Round Table Conference in view of the growing strength of the Indian Women's movement. But this change in the status of women in the social and national life of the country can only be finally achieved through liberal and courageous reforms, primarily in the sphere of domestic relations, for which public opinion is undoubtedly prepared.

Times of India.

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Haye a été si difficile à élaborer nous disait-on, qu'il aurait été plus diplomatique de chercher à l'améliorer dans celles de ces dispositions que nous critiquons plutôt que de vouloir en faire table rase pour la remplacer par autre. Et enfin, il sera bien permis de dire aussi ici qu'on n'a pas toujours usé dans cette campagne de *lobbying* de toute la discrétion et de tout le tact désirable, et que l'on a trop perdu de vue dans certains groupements que, s'il est utile de frapper un clou pour l'enfoncer, une insistance trop marquée finit par produire une exaspération nuisible à la cause que l'on cherche à défendre, ceci d'autant plus que ces méthodes de propagande varient d'un continent à l'autre, et que ce qui peut être excellent d'un côté d'un Océan heurte au contraire toutes les traditions et les coutumes de l'autre côté de ce même Océan. Et enfin, et malheureusement, il n'y eut pas cette unité de front que les hommes réclament toujours de toutes les femmes, quand bien même ils ne prêchent certes pas d'exemple en ce domaine, tout au contraire: l'Union Internationale des Ligues Féminines Catholiques adressa à la S.d.N. une lettre en opposition à notre mouvement, qui fut, O, logique masculine, recommandée au Conseil de la S.d.N. par les mêmes délégués, qui, en janvier dernier s'étaient fait le porte paroles des féministes inter-américaines pour demander la constitution des organisations féminines en un Comité. A leur tour, quelques sociétés féminines catholiques protestèrent contre cette lettre, et notamment l'Alliance sociale et politique de Ste Jeanne, affiliée à notre Alliance Internationale, qui groupe en Grande-Bretagne des féministes si convaincues.

Tout ceci pour indiquer dans quelle atmosphère se sont engagés les débats, tout récents au moment où cet article est écrit, de la Première Commission. Plusieurs pays ayant spécialement chargé le membre féminin de leur délégation de les représenter pour cette occasion à cette Commission, le premier orateur fut une oratrice, Dame Edith Lyttelton, déléguée suppléante de Grande-Bretagne, qui défendit notre cause avec autant d'autorité que de conviction et de savoir-faire, et qui déposa au nom de son gouvernement une résolution à laquelle notre Comité s'était rallié à l'unanimité moins une voix. D'autres délégations, l'Allemagne, le Chili, l'Inde (celle-ci par un discours d'une large inspiration féministe) l'Autriche, le Danemark, lui apportèrent leur appui, alors que les Pays-Bas, par la voix malheureusement d'une déléguée féminine, et l'Italie lui faisaient opposition. Sur la proposition de la Grèce de clôturer le débat, en dépit de la douzaine d'orateurs encore inscrits (dont plusieurs femmes déléguées) une sous-Commission de rédaction fut nommée (dont ne faisait partie aucune femme) qui apporta le lendemain cette résolution, assez semblable comme inspiration à la résolution britannique, et qui fut votée sans opposition aucune:

L'Assemblée,

Ayant examiné avec le plus grand intérêt le rapport du Secrétaire Général sur la question de la nationalité de la femme présenté conformément à la résolution du Conseil du 24 janvier 1931, ainsi que le rapport et les propositions du Comité des représentants des organisations féminines internationales qui y sont annexés,

Constata le désir exprimé par ce Comité que des mesures soient prises afin de soumettre à un nouvel examen la Convention de la Haye sur la nationalité en tenant compte du principe d'égalité entre les hommes et les femmes,

Remercie le Comité de représentants des organisations féminines internationales pour son rapport et prie le Conseil, conformément à la Recommandation No. VI de la Conférence pour la codification du droit international tenue à la Haye en mars-avril 1930, de transmettre à tous les gouvernements le rapport du

Secrétaire Général sur la question de la nationalité de la femme, avec le rapport du Comité de représentants des organisations féminines, et la lettre de l'Union Internationale des Ligues Féminines Catholiques en date du 19 août 1931, ainsi que les procès-verbaux de la Ie Commission de l'Assemblée concernant ce sujet, et de demander aux Gouvernements de présenter leurs observations sur cette question (y compris leurs vues relatives à la Convention de la Haye) pour que la dite question puisse être étudiée de nouveau par la XIIIe Assemblée, à qui seront communiquées les observations que le susdit Comité jugera utile de présenter.

Ce que cela veut dire en langage ordinaire? Eh bien, que la question reste à l'étude en tout cas jusqu'à l'an prochain; que le Comité de représentants des organisations féminines continue son activité; que les gouvernements sont consultés, tous documents, soit en faveur de notre thèse, soit contre elle, leur étant impartialement remis pour cette étude à entreprendre par eux. A notre avis, c'est beaucoup, et Dr. Luders pouvait à juste titre, dans une séance organisée le même soir par l'Alliance, parler d'une victoire féministe. Certes, un formidable travail nous incombe actuellement sur la base nationale pour gagner à nos idées les gouvernements dont va dépendre surtout la discussion de l'an prochain, mais ce travail ne nous fait pas peur, et nous savons qu'en ce qui concerne l'Alliance, nous pouvons compter sur le concours de nos Sociétés affiliées.

Cette résolution n'a, bien entendu, été adoptée, au moment où ces lignes sont écrites, que par la Ie Commission, et doit encore être votée par l'Assemblée. Mais elle a toutes les probabilités de succès pour elle—à moins de ces surprises imprévisibles pour les articles qu'il faut écrire longtemps d'avance. Et voilà un résultat tangible de la "saison de Genève." Nous espérons pouvoir en indiquer d'autres encore le mois prochain.

E.Gd.

#### LISTE DES FEMMES DES DELEGATIONS A LA XIIe ASSEMBLEE DE LA S.D.N.

Allemagne: Mme. von Zahn-Harnack, conseillère technique; Mlle. Punder, conseillère technique.  
Australie: Dr. Ethel Osborne, déléguée suppléante.  
Autriche: Mme. von Matsch, conseillère technique.  
Empire Britannique: Dame Edith Lyttelton, déléguée suppléante.  
Canada: Mrs. H. Plumtree, membre du Ministère de l'Instruction, déléguée.  
Chili: Mme. M. Vergara, conseillère technique.  
Danemark: Mlle. Henni Forchammer, déléguée suppléante.  
Espagne: Mlle. Clara Campoamor, députée aux Cortès, déléguée suppléante.  
Hongrie: Comtesse Apponyi, déléguée suppléante.  
Lithuanie: Mme. Sophie Ciurlionis, déléguée suppléante.  
Norvège: Mme. le Dr. Aas, déléguée suppléante.  
Pays-Bas: Mme. Schönfeld-Polano, conseillère technique; Mme. C. A. Kluyver, conseillère technique et secrétaire de délégation.  
Pologne: Mme. Anna Szelagowska, déléguée suppléante.  
Roumanie: Mlle. Hélène Vacaresco, déléguée suppléante; la princesse Alex. Cantacuzène, conseillère technique.  
Suède: Mlle. K. Hesselgren, sénateur, déléguée suppléante.  
Tchécoslovaquie: Mme. F. Plaminkova, sénateur, déléguée suppléante.

Soit 19 femmes représentant 16 pays. Il est à noter que l'Autriche, l'Espagne, la Pologne, la Tchécoslovaquie et le Chili ont envoyé pour la première

fois une femme à Genève,—et nous sommes tout spécialement heureuses de saluer en la déléguée de l'un de ces pays notre amie, Mme. Plaminkova, vice-présidente de l'Alliance Internationale pour le Suffrage et du Conseil International des Femmes. D'autre part, la Finlande n'a délégué cette année aucune femme à Genève, ce que nous regrettons. A part cela, la liste des pays représentés reste sensiblement la même que celle des années précédentes.

Quant à la place des femmes dans les Commissions de l'Assemblée, aucune femme ne préside cette année une Commission, comme cela avait été le cas l'an dernier, mais Mlle. Hesselgren (Suède) a été élue vice-présidente de la Ve Commission (Questions humanitaires), et la Comtesse Apponyi rapporteur à cette même Commission pour la question de la protection de l'enfance. Mme. A. Szelagowska est la seule femme qui fasse partie de la IIIe Commission (Désarmement), et Mme. Kluyver de la IVe (Finances). La plupart des femmes déléguées siègent, selon la tradition, à la Ve Commission (Questions sociales et humanitaires) mais nombre d'entre elles ont été déléguées à la Ire Commission pour le moment où celle-ci discutera de la question de la nationalité de la femme mariée, et Dr. Ethel Osborne et Mrs. Plumtree font toutes deux partie de la IIe Commission (Questions hygiéniques et économiques).

#### REVUE DE LIVRE.

"Le Travail Féminin." No. 152 du rapport l'occupation et l'Hygiène publié par l'office International du Travail—28 pages en Anglais—(Edition française No. 162).

C'est là une publication que tous ceux qu'intéressent les problèmes internationaux se feront un devoir de lire, car elle révèle l'attitude prise par le B.I.T. à l'égard des travailleuses. Notre tâche en tant que féministes est de protester contre cette attitude.

Le rapport a été compilé à l'origine par le Dr. Fuss de Genève et revu par le Comité de Correspondance de l'Hygiène industrielle au B.I.T. Il prétend être un compte-rendu scientifique de la position de l'ouvrière dans l'industrie. Dès l'abord, au lieu d'accepter le fait que le travail rétribué est aussi nécessaire à la femme qu'à l'homme, le rapport semble maintenir que le travail payé dans l'industrie est essentiellement mauvais, pour les femmes.

Certains passages du rapport manifestent une partialité haineuse, à peine imaginable.

Il y est par exemple, avancé, solennellement "que les effets malsains du travail sur l'organisme féminin sont établis par la statistique"—en particulier "par les statistiques de maladies des compagnies d'assurance"—Et les ouvrières sans-travail, ont-elles moins de maladies ou de souffrance?

Un certain Bernays déclare que "le rythme de la machine n'est pas adapté à l'organisme féminin." Que les femmes abandonnent donc tout de suite leurs machines à coudre, leurs aspirateurs électriques et se gardent bien de monter dans un train, un autobus, ou un aéroplane!

Le travail intellectuel, nous assure-t-on, est encore une plus grande cause de maladie chez les femmes; le travail de bureau ne leur convient pas.

L'aveuglement du Comité quant à la nécessité pour l'ouvrière de s'assurer une rémunération suffisante à son bien-être matériel, le conduit à cette opinion que "la pauvreté est une moindre source de maladie que la fatigue et le surmenage." Comme s'il n'existait aucune corrélation entre la fatigue et le surmenage d'une part, et d'autre, le besoin de nourriture. Mais le comble, s'est la remarque hautement approuvée par le Comité d'un sieur Vicarelli, à savoir que la femme enceinte souffre de son entourage, lequel bénéficierait à coup sûr de son éloignement.

Certaines statistiques données par le rapport sont fausses parce que surannées. Par exemple: comme preuve à l'opinion de Newsholme, que la mortalité infantile s'accroît parallèlement au travail des femmes dans l'industrie, des chiffres sont donnés, pour une seule province, et ces chiffres datent de 1900. C'est faire fi d'un autre rapport daté de 1910 qui couvre toute l'Angleterre et où il est dit que les quatre provinces où la mortalité infantile est la plus élevée sont précisément "celles qui ont la moindre proportion de femmes mariées ou veuves employées dans l'industrie." Cet exemple suffit à infirmer la sincérité et la valeur du rapport tout entier.

Un autre défaut c'est, en bien des endroits, la dissimilarité entre les textes français et anglais. Dans un paragraphe la version française dit: "Que la femme soit plus à sa place à la maison qu'au travail—que théoriquement il serait souhaitable de l'exclure, surtout lorsqu'elle est mariée, de tout travail industriel" tandis que le texte anglais correspondant porte: "Under the present social conditions the acceptance of paid work by women is an imperative economic necessity for a greater number of women, and whether it be a desirable state of affairs or not, etc." littéralement:

"Dans les conditions sociales actuelles l'acceptation du travail payé, est pour la plupart des femmes une impérieuse nécessité économique, et, que cet état de choses soit désirable ou non . . . ."

Nous espérons que les organisations féminines du monde entier feront savoir au B.I.T. qu'elles reprochent une publication de ce caractère, qui est au fond une œuvre de propagande antiféministe et une attaque contre les droits individuels et économiques d'une moitié de la race humaine.

Traduit du compte rendu par  
CRYSTAL MACMILLAN.

#### NOUVELLES BREVES.

Miss Enid Goulden Bach, une nièce de Mrs. Pankhurst est en train de compiler un manuel, à l'usage de la jeunesse allemande qui sera un résumé historique du mouvement d'émancipation féminin.

Miss Bach était une des cinq jeunes filles qui réussirent à approcher les degrés de Buckingham Palace avec leur pétition pour le vote des femmes à 21 ans.

Miss Edith Beesley, la première femme chef de service d'une grande compagnie d'assurances organise une nouvelle firme "Women's Insurances, Ltd." qui sera représentée chez Lloyd, bien que dirigée exclusivement par des femmes.

La récente élection de Ida Mary Adams comme membre de la Cour municipale de Justice à Los Angeles donne le premier rang à la dite ville parmi les cités qui ont élu des femmes juges.

Deux policières de Londres, membres du Service auxiliaire de Commandant Mary Allen, ont été choisies par le directeur de la Police du Caire pour service en Egypte. Ce sont Miss Hoskyn de Dublin et Mrs. Baillie de Woburn Sands (comté de Bedford.) Toutes deux ont à peine plus de trente ans.

Mrs. Sidney Webb est la première femme élue membre de l'Académie britannique. De concert avec son mari, le présent Lord Passfield, elle a fait une étude approfondie de l'administration municipale, des coopératives et du syndicalisme. Les économistes estiment que c'est la contribution la plus importante qui ait été faite à l'étude des problèmes sociaux et des institutions actuelles.

Mrs. McQueen, une aviatrice distinguée des Etats-Unis, détient la position d'Inspecteur de la Police aérienne à Beverley Hills.

Miss Dorothy Werner, de Kansas City assume la responsabilité du service aérien entre Saint Louis et Omaha.

Quatre femmes américaines sont vice-consuls à l'étranger. Ce sont: Margaret Warner (Geneva), Frances Willis (Santiago), Nella B. Stoysdall (Beirut) et Constance Nardey (Milan).

"La Porte Ouverte Internationale" pour l'Emancipation Economique de la Femme au Travail à sa conférence de Stockholm a adopté une convention qui sera présentée à l'Office International du Travail demandant que le principe d'égalité de salaire pour le même travail soit mis en pratique. Une autre résolution maintenant le droit des femmes mariées à un travail rémunéré fut voté à l'unanimité.

La doctoresse Elizabeth Bruni a été nommée médecin honoraire de la Princesse Royale d'Italie.

Miss Bessie Davidson, une artiste australienne de descendance écossaise a reçu la Légion d'Honneur pour 25 ans de travail artistique à Paris.

Señorita Clara Campoamor a prononcé le mois dernier son premier discours aux Cortès, sur la question du divorce.

Miss Elaine Tankard vient d'être nommée Conservateur du musée archéologique de Liverpool.

Les femmes sont désormais admises à l'Ecole de préparation maritime de Stamboul, et les premières femmes officiers de la Marine marchande auront leurs titres l'année prochaine.

Louise Weiss, Rédactrice en chef de "l'Europe Nouvelle" a récemment fondé à Paris une Ecole de la Paix qui sera un centre pour l'étude des politiques étrangères et particulièrement du travail de la Société des Nations. Plusieurs conférenciers notables ont promis leur concours. A la cérémonie d'ouverture assistaient des représentants du Corps diplomatique des hommes d'Etat et des Savants.

La Ligue Internationale des mères et des éducatrices pour la paix qui a été fondée en France en 1929 et qui a trouvé 29,000 membres dans toutes les classes de la Société vient de s'étendre à l'Allemagne. La section de Berlin est dirigée par Dr. S. Engelmann et Frau A. Dullo, la section de Munich par Frau C. Hallgarten.

La Ligue a pour objet l'élargissement des rapports de sympathie entre la jeunesse des deux pays, la propagande contre la guerre et pour la paix par des méthodes de coopération.

#### DERNIÈRES NOUVELLES.

##### LA NATIONALITE DE LA FEMME.

Resolution adoptée par l'Assemblée de la S.d.N. le 26 Septembre:—

"L'Assemblée,

"Ayant examiné avec le plus grand intérêt le rapport du Secrétaire général sur la question de la nationalité de la femme, présenté conformément à la résolution du Conseil du 24 janvier 1931, ainsi que le rapport et les propositions du Comité des représentants des Organisations féminines internationales, qui y sont annexés:

"Constate le désir exprimé par ce Comité que des mesures soient prises afin de soumettre à un nouvel examen la Convention de La Haye sur la nationalité, en tenant compte du principe d'égalité entre les hommes et les femmes;

"Remercie le Comité de représentants des organisations féminines internationales pour son rapport, et

"Prie le Conseil, conformément à la recommandation No. VI de la Conférence pour la codification du droit international tenue à La Haye en mars-avril 1930, de transmettre à tous les gouvernements le rapport du Secrétaire général sur la question de la nationalité de la femme, avec le rapport du Comité de représentants des Organisations féminines et la lettre de l'Union internationale des Ligues féminines catholiques en date du 19 août 1931, ainsi que les procès-verbaux de la première Commission de l'Assemblée concernant ce sujet, et de demander aux gouvernements de présenter leurs observations sur cette question (y compris leurs vues relatives à la Convention de La Haye) pour que ladite question puisse être étudiée de nouveau par la treizième Assemblée, à qui seront communiquées les observations que le susdit Comité jugera utile de présenter."

##### CONGRES DES FEMMES EMPLOYEES DANS LES AFFAIRES ET LES PROFESSIONS LIBERALES.

La Fédération des Femmes employées dans les Affaires et les Professions libérales a tenu son Congrès à Vienne au mois de Juillet. L'assistance était nombreuse. La Présidente de la Fédération autrichienne prononça le discours d'ouverture. La Présidente de la Fédération des Etats-Unis continua par un autre discours brillant et plein d'autorité.

Deux propositions furent examinées, la première ayant trait à l'hospitalité de pays à pays entre les membres de la fédération, la deuxième aux échanges de produits commerciaux et artistiques et particulièrement à une exposition ambulante du travail féminin.

La seconde proposition fut faite par une Française. Une autre Française, Madame Vernier Hériot, qui n'avait pu assister au Congrès, avait cependant préparé la voie, en organisant à Paris une exposition modèle. La discussion révéla que bien des difficultés surgissent dans l'établissement de ces échanges commerciaux: questions de frets, douanes, assurances, fraudes possibles. Ne serait-il pas pratique d'échanger seulement les meilleurs produits de chaque pays? N'est il pas vrai que l'expérience de ces femmes d'affaires n'a pas jusqu'à présent trouvé d'issue dans le mouvement féministe? Ne serait-il pas excellent d'échanger de jeunes employées de pays à pays, de façon à accroître leur expérience? Une femme sculpteur italienne, Antoinetta Paoli Pogliana, proposa une exposition artistique ambulante du travail féminin et on discuta les moyens de transport entre Vienne et la Mer Noire.

Le sujet principal de discussion fut: Le Chômage, sa cause et son remède. Dr. Hilde Oppenheimer, membre du Ministère allemand du Travail expliqua les causes de la crise économique dans un exposé lucide et bien informé. Elle signala qu'il existe à côté un problème spirituel auquel les femmes ne peuvent rester indifférentes. Comme remède elle proposa: l'établissement de l'assurance chômage, l'organisation de travaux publics par des groupes officiels, une distribution systématique des occupations et un système de coopération internationale. Il appartient aux femmes de veiller à maintenir les progrès de la civilisation actuelle, en particulier le droit au travail féminin, et l'extension des professions féminines, choses qui ont été si ardues à acquérir. Le Congrès adopta une résolution d'enquête sur le chômage dans les professions féminines et la possibilité d'y remédier.

Après le Congrès, le Comité se réunit sous la présidence de Miss Phillips, et il fut décidé de presser la nomination d'un plus grand nombre de femmes juges et l'obtention de pensions, d'allocations pour femmes mariées. Le Comité discuta aussi la possibilité d'établir une banque internationale pour les femmes.

En résumé, quel est le résultat du Congrès?

Pour la première fois nous sommes sorties des discussions académiques et nous avons porté les intérêts des femmes qui travaillent sur le terrain pratique. Nous avons aussi compris la nécessité d'une entente internationale et le principal résultat du Congrès est bien le désir de toutes les femmes de collaborer à l'ordre économique et à la paix mondiale.

A l'occasion du Congrès on organisa une exposition des travaux de "La Femme autrichienne créatrice" où l'activité multiple de la femme dans les arts, l'artisanat, les professions, fut amplement et glorieusement illustrée.

d'après GISELA URBAN.

##### LES FEMMES INDOUES ET LE CODE.

L'année passée a vu s'accomplir des réformes législatives, que l'opinion aurait à peine osé discuter il y a quelque temps parce qu'elles touchent au domaine sacré de la famille. Que ce soit mariages d'enfants ou de veuves, marchandages entre familles, devadasi etc. le trait commun est désormais pour la femme, la rupture des chaînes ancestrales et le mouvement de libération. Le cas de l'Etat de Mysore est typique. Par une énorme majorité de 257 votes contre trois, la Chambre des représentants de Mysore a voté une loi dont l'application garantira aux femmes le droit à l'héritage familial.

Cette loi définit, sans équivoque, les principes qui devront gouverner les partages dans la famille indoue, et assigne à la femme sa place dans l'ordre de succession. On se rappelle que d'après la Loi Indoue, les fils ont en tout la préférence sur les filles. Un vieux texte dit: "Il n'existe pas de place au ciel pour un homme sans garçon." Si un mariage n'a pas d'issue mâle, l'adoption est coutumière. La famille indoue normale est un tout indissoluble quant à la nourriture, le culte et la propriété—et comme celle-ci passe au survivant, les femmes en sont exclues. Si un mâle Indou a une propriété séparée, en général, les fils, petits fils et arrière petits fils héritent à l'exclusion de la veuve, de la mère ou de la fille.

La veuve reçoit à peine de quoi couvrir sa subsistance. Il y a des cas cependant où elle peut hériter, mais sa propriété se limite à l'intérêt du bien capital qui à sa mort revient, non pas à ses héritiers personnels, mais à ceux de son mari quand même ce sont des cousins éloignés. Cinq degrés seulement peuvent hériter de cette portion restreinte: la veuve, la fille, la mère, la grand-mère paternelle et l'arrière grand-mère paternelle. A Bombay et à Madras, on en reconnaît un plus grand nombre, et à Bombay seulement les filles héritent de leurs pleins droits. Ainsi que le signale une des femmes membres de l'Assemblée de Mysore c'est là un état de choses qui rend la condition des femmes dans la famille indoue, particulièrement déplorable.

En plus de cette législation favorable à la femme, Sir K. Puttanna Chetty a prévenu qu'il allait proposer une loi contre les mariages d'enfants suivant en cela les lignes principales du Sarda Act; en dépit de l'opposition de certains Brahmanes à Bangalore et à Mysore, l'opinion est en faveur de ces mesures. L'autre jour seulement, une députation de quinze femmes de la Conférence panindienne représenta au Vice-roi la nécessité d'avoir une délégation féminine adéquate à la Conférence de la Table Ronde en égard à l'importance croissante du mouvement féministe dans l'Inde. Ce changement dans le Statut politique des femmes ne

peut s'achever que par le moyen de réformes libérales et courageuses dans la sphère des relations domestiques—que l'opinion publique est, du reste, toute prête à accepter.

d'après le *Times of India*.

##### LA CONFERENCE INTERNATIONALE CONTRE LES STUPÉFIANTS.

Le monde a attendu pendant de longues années la réunion d'une Conférence internationale pour la limitation de la fabrication des stupéfiants. On a reconnu, dès 1909, que cette limitation était le seul et vrai moyen de résoudre le problème du trafic illicite international des stupéfiants qui n'a pas d'autres causes que la surproduction. Depuis la première Conférence de Shanghai, qui eut lieu il y a 22 ans, le chemin parcouru est long; en voici les différentes étapes: la Convention de La Haye de 1912, le Traité de Versailles de 1918, dont la signature entraîna ipso facto l'adhésion aux dispositions de la Convention de Genève de 1925; puis, en 1928, fait nouveau, c'est la présentation par l'intermédiaire du Gouvernement des Etats-Unis d'Amérique d'un plan qui, s'il était appliqué, rendrait possible la limitation quantitative et directe; les dix ans pendant lesquels la Société des Nations s'est efforcée de recueillir des indications sur la situation mondiale quant à l'opium et aux stupéfiants, années au cours desquelles lentement, patiemment et avec difficulté même on éduqua l'opinion publique. Puis retentit, en 1929, l'appel clair et unanime de l'Assemblée de la Société des Nations en vue de la convocation d'une Conférence chargée d'établir une Convention pour la limitation quantitative et directe de la fabrication de tous les dérivés de l'opium et de la feuille de coca aux besoins médicaux et scientifiques légitimes du monde.

Le 27 mai 1931, les représentants des 57 pays se sont réunis pour élaborer cette Convention et ont réussi, d'une façon que peu de gens espéraient. Cette Convention n'est peut-être pas parfaite, mais elle constitue un progrès énorme sur les précédentes.

En outre, au cours de la préparation de cette Conférence, une quantité considérable de données très précieuses concernant le problème ont été étalées au grand jour et constituent une source de renseignements de grande valeur pour le chercheur, le législateur, le réformateur, la presse et les Gouvernements.

On vivra mieux et en plus grande sécurité dans ce monde si cette Convention est mise en vigueur.

Nous recommandons à tous nos amis qui veulent suivre dans le détail les travaux de cette Conférence de demander au siège social de l'Association internationale de défense contre les stupéfiants (5, rue Buténi, Genève), le Bulletin d'Information de l'Association (Juillet) qui relate les travaux de la Conférence et des rapports documentés (les bulletins sont envoyés sans frais).

A. E. BLANCO, *La Française*.

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