

MONTHLY NEWS
of the
**Conservative Women's Reform
ASSOCIATION.**
NEW ISSUE.

President: THE COUNTESS OF SELBORNE.

Chairman of Executive Committee: LADY TRUSTRAM EVE.

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"FOLLOW LIGHT—DO THE RIGHT."

This month's issue of *Monthly News* has been so arranged as to deal solely with the work of the Association during the past twelve months. In a small central association such as ours, it is perhaps rather difficult for the general public to realise that in our way we work as hard and as keenly as, say, the National Council of Women, or any other of the larger organizations. Let us repeat, we should not work harder or more earnestly, but our power would be greatly increased by a larger membership. To those who believe that Conservative principles applied, not after the old manner of ultra-toryism, but to meet the particular requirements of the present day—and we assure our readers this can be done without any infringement of the spirit of those principles—are the best medicine that can be administered to this sick country of ours: it is surely their duty to help us in our work of patriotic Conservative Reform, and as Lady Selborne says in her letter which appears on another page, we look anxiously to the younger women to help us.

Work of Executive Committee.

The work done by the Executive Committee and by the Office, not being so obvious to those of our members who are out of London, we give below a short report of the resolutions passed and recommendations on many vital subjects, sent up during the past year.

Resolutions.

During the last year the following Resolutions have been sent by the Executive Committee:—

To the Prime Minister—

Urging the appointment of a woman as one of the three British members at the assembly of the League of Nations, and suggesting either the Marchioness of Londonderry or Mrs. Fawcett.

To the Whole Association—

To urge their friends who had a vote to go to Cambridge and vote for Form A.

To the Prime Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs—

Urging the British delegates to the Assembly of the League of Nations to press for "Universal disarmament, and unrestricted intercourse of commodities between the States which had been created or enlarged as a result of the War."

To Each Government Department—

"While fully realising the strong claims of ex-service men, this Association wishes to urge that the cases of women to be discharged from Government Departments should be considered on their merits so that married women, or women with dependants, should not be displaced by men who have no outside claims upon them, or educated women by men of lower standard."

To the Prime Minister—

"That the Government be asked to give an early date for the promised discussion of the Whitley Report on "Women in the Civil Service."

To the Meeting of the Women's Parliamentary Committee, South Eastern District of the National Unionist Association—

"That in view of the new political programme of the Co-operative Party which is uniting with the Labour Party and Trades Unions to further State Socialism—(1) By direct representatives in Parliament. (2) By capturing seats on all Local Government bodies throughout the Country, the time has come for the Unionist Association to arrange to meet this menace by selecting and supporting candidates for Local Government elections as well as for Parliament; and the Committee consider it very important that Conservative and Unionist members should be elected to Co-operative bodies."

To the Prime Minister, Mr. Bonar Law and the Secretary for Ireland—

"That this Association views with anxiety the hesitation of His Majesty's Government to disprove the statements appearing in the press of all parties as to the lack of discipline among the auxiliary forces employed in Ireland, and which is reported to be responsible for acts opposed to every British tradition of clean and even handed justice; and this Association is further of opinion that so greatly has the National conscience been shocked by these reports that every means, including if necessary an impartial enquiry should be employed to restore public confidence in the measures which have been adopted to suppress crime and rebellion in Ireland."

To the Prime Minister—

The Association unanimously supported "The Guardianship of Infants Bill" and "The Criminal Law Amendment Bill (Bishop of London's)."

Resolution to the Annual Meeting of the National Council of Women—

"That this Committee urges that the laws throughout the Empire should provide that a woman shall not on marriage with an alien be deprived of her British nationality against her will, but that she shall be given the same choice of nationality as a man."

Committees on which the Association is represented.

We also give a list of Committees on which the Association is represented.

National Council of Women.

Child Welfare—Mrs. Currie.

Education—Mrs. Currie.

International—Lady Trustram Eve.

Industrial—Mrs. Hubert Walter.

Legislation—Mrs. Currie.

Parliamentary—Mrs. Currie.

Representative—Lady Trustram Eve and Lady Lloyd-Greame.

National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship. Consultative Committee.

Society of Authors.

Lady Lloyd-Greame.

Women's Institute.

Miss Eveline Mitford.

Provisional Committee of the Women's League of Nations.

The Countess of Selborne.

Council for the Representation of Women in the League of Nations.

The Countess of Selborne.

Association for Social and Moral Hygiene.

Committee of Inquiry into Sexual Morality—Mrs. Currie.

League of Nations Union.

Lady Trustram Eve.

Consultative Committee of Women's Organization
Lady Lloyd-Greame.

And a list of members of the Executive Committee who are delegates to, and represent the views of the Association on various bodies.

Lady Grogan—

International Economic Conference, Caxton Hall, Westminster.

Lady Trustram Eve, and

Lady Lloyd-Greame—

Annual Meeting of the National Council of Women.

The Countess of Selborne—

Annual Meeting of Council for Representation of Women in the League of Nations.

Mrs. Currie—Forced Labour.

Lady Lloyd-Greame—Incipient Lunatics.

National Council of Women Conferences.

Lady Lloyd Greame—

Conference on Criminal Law Amendment Bill by Association of Social and Moral Hygiene.

Mrs. John P. Boyd-Carpenter—

The Higher Production Council.

Lady Trustram Eve, and

Lady Lloyd-Greame.

Meeting held by Lady Astor "To consider joint action by various women's organizations when necessary."

Mrs. Bucknill,

Lady Lloyd-Greame,

Lady Ware—

N.U.S.E.C. Conference.

"The Guardianship of Infants Bill."

Lady Trustram Eve, and

Mrs. Kenyon Slaney—

Lady Astor's (second conference).

Lady Amherst,

Mrs. Currie,

Lady Trustram Eve

Lady Lloyd-Greame—

Criminal Law Amendment Bill (Bishop of London's) House of Commons, 2nd June.

Conferences held by the Association.

Possibly the most important part of our work is the Education of women of our own class, so that we should be able to teach others what we learn ourselves, and also be able to give a reason for the faith that is in us.

We have had lectures on all the following subjects during the year, and the speeches are followed by debates, in which difficult questions are raised and discussions are held, resulting in new points of view being brought out which can then be forwarded to the Authorities for consideration.

Some of the lectures of the year before, on the origin and growth of Socialism, Syndicalism, etc. have, we hope, been of great use to speakers on these subjects.

"Criminal Law Amendment Bill"

Lady Nott Bower.

"Bolshevism and its bearing on our own Social Problems"

The Lady Frances Balfour.

Mrs. Nesta Webster.

"The Joint Assessment of the Income of Husbands and Wives"

The Countess of Selborne.

"Women as Jurors"

Mrs. Ross, M.A.

"National Economy"

The Lady Askwith.

"The Ministry of Health Bill"

Col. Leslie Wilson, C.M.G., D.S.O., M.P.

"The Value of Politics"

The Lady Amherst of Hackney.

Lady Lloyd-Greame.

"Industrial Laws as Affecting Women"

Miss Phillips, (Y.W.C.A.)

"Ireland"

General Cockerill, C.B., M.P.

"Trade Unionism"

W. L. Hitchens, Esq.

"The Women Police"

Commandant M. S. Allen.

Speakers' Classes.

Given by Miss Elsie Fogerty were held in the Offices during May and June. They were very fully attended and greatly appreciated. Another series will we hope be held in the Autumn.

"Monthly News."

With much regret we hear that Lady Lloyd-Greame who has been Editor for over two years is obliged to give up the Editorship owing to pressure of work. That she has consented to write the Political article each month is our one consolation.

In her place we extend a welcome to our new Editor, Mrs. Walter, and we hope that now Lady Lloyd-Greame has tided our magazine through two years of great political inertia, the awakening interest in all social and economic questions will be reflected in *Monthly News*.

We shall be glad to welcome any suggestion from members for fresh developments of the Magazine, and for new ways in which we can be useful to our members. Articles of great interest on various subjects have been given us in *Monthly News*, but these are no use unless we study them and learn to be able to answer questions and points that are often put before us by Labour and others who have been taught from a different standpoint. Perhaps those members who have suggestions to make would kindly forward them to the office for insertion in the Magazine.

The Loan Training Fund.

This sum of money was collected during the war by an appeal to our members through *Monthly News*. Later on when we closed one of our war work funds (the Hostel for Educated Women out of Employment owing to the War), the training fund was increased by a grant from the Hostel surplus; and again by a grant from another War Work, The Victoria Hut Canteen.

The fund is used as a loan to assist women to train as Midwives or Health Visitors, from time to time applications are received, and the various cases considered by the Finance Committee.

One candidate is now being trained as a Midwife, two applicants have just withdrawn their application owing to ill health, and in September the Committee will entertain applications for training fee for a Health Visitor at the National Health Society.

The candidates agree to repay the loan in instalments commencing three months after they have obtained a post, so the fund works continuously.

"The Fair" at Claridges.

As we have unable hitherto to put in a full account of the "The Fair" at Claridges, we think our readers may appreciate a fuller report now. The idea originated with—and was carried through by—our Hon. Secretary, Lady Amherst of Hackney. Unfortunately the Fair had been fixed for what proved to be the beginning of the Coal Strike, but it was decided that it would be impossible to postpone it, and that it must be carried through, and we would make what profits we could out of it.

The following Associations all had stalls of which the proceeds were credited to the funds of those Societies, Young Women's Christian Association, National Council of Women, Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee, The London Society for Women's Service, The Girls' Friendly Society, Indian Women's Education Association, The National Women's Citizen Association and the National Organization of Girls' Clubs.

The Conservative Women's Reform Association had a curio stall, over which Lady Selborne presided, assisted by Mrs. Dugald Stuart, Mrs. Hall Chambers, Mrs. Hornby Lewis, and Mrs. Kenyon Slaney. Also a Produce Stall presided over by the Lady Edward Spencer Churchill, and an Advertisement Stall presided over by Lady Trustram Eve, Mrs. Hugh Taylor, and Miss Kathleen Moore, also various Side Shows which were organised by Mrs. Torr, Lady Worthington Evans and others.

As the Sale was held at a time when everyone had ceased buying anything but necessaries, we think we were fortunate in making a profit of £165.

A number of articles still remain in hand and are to be offered for sale at one of our meetings

in December, when we hope some attractive Christmas presents will be found amongst them.

The Fair was opened by a member of the Old Association, The Lady Betty Balfour, who spoke "Of the place Women now hold in Politics" and of "The need of qualifying themselves for that new responsibility." Speeches followed by the President, the Countess of Selborne, our Chairman, Lady Trustram Eve, and our Hon. Secretary, the Lady Amherst of Hackney, and during the two days there was an hourly series of talks by representatives of the various Women's Associations present, amongst whom were Lady Selby Bigge, O.B.E., Mrs. George Arbuthnot, Mrs. Oliver Strachey, Lady Muir Mackenzie, Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon, The Hon. Mrs. Home Peel, Miss F. R. Friend, Miss Lilian Mainprice, The Hon. Mrs. Franklin, The Hon. Emily Kinnaird, C.B.E., Miss H. Ward, Miss M. A. Tata, Mrs. Hewlett Hobbs, Miss E. Western, Miss Katherine Towers, Mrs. Boulnois, M.B.E., Lady Cowan, Mrs. Boyd-Dawson, Miss Mehta, Mrs. Smithett, Mme. de L'Hopital, Mrs. Hussey; and we are sure that a great deal of useful propaganda resulted.

It is with very great regret that we publish the accompanying letter from Lady Selborne, in which she announces her pending resignation from the Presidency. Lady Selborne has been our President since 1909, and has seen us through many difficult days: we owe to her a debt of gratitude which we can only repay in one way: and that way is to carry to a successful issue all those Reforms which are so dear to her heart

To the Editor of *Monthly News*—

It is after serious consideration that I decided I would not offer myself again for the post of President of the Conservative Women's Reform Association, but I came to the conclusion that I am getting old, and that I have been President quite long enough, and that it would be much better to have a change.

I should like to stand for the Executive, if someone will kindly nominate me, as I do not want to cease work for the important objects we have in view.

A good many of the reforms we set before us have been carried into law. Women have got the vote, and several professions from which they were debarred have been opened to them. There is still much to be done, and we old ones look to the younger women to carry on the struggle, and do their bit to sweep away the old unequal dealings of the laws with our sex. I should like to thank the Association for the generous way in which it has always supported the President and Executive

Yours very truly,
Maud Selborne.

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