

The Common Cause

The Organ of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

Vol. X., No. 481.]

FRIDAY, JUNE 28, 1918.

[PRICE 2d.
Registered as a Newspaper.

Important Notice.

Under the new Paper Restriction Order, which came into force on Monday, June 24th, the supply of papers on sale or return is prohibited. It will therefore be **impossible** in future for the public to obtain newspapers without giving **definite orders**. Readers of **The Common Cause** are therefore urged to place an order with their newsagents **immediately**, or to apply for **The Common Cause** to be posted direct from this office.

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All MSS. and letters relating thereto should be addressed to the Editor, THE COMMON CAUSE, Evelyn House, 62, Oxford Street, W. 1. Telephone: Museum 2702.]

Notes and News.

Women's Suffrage in France.

We are delighted to read that a private member's Bill has been introduced into the French Chamber proposing to enfranchise French women "as a reward for their war services." Not that a private member's Bill has any great chance of success, nor that we view the political enfranchisement of women as a reward of merit, rather than as an ordinary right of citizenship. But we consider it an excellent sign of the trend of the times that, while the women of France have relinquished their suffrage activities to devote themselves to war service, public opinion is of its own accord steadily developing in favour of their full political enfranchisement.

Q.M.A.A.C.'s and W.R.N.S.

Women are still wanted for the Q.M.A.A.C., and conspicuous among the decorations of the Floral Fête at Trafalgar Square is a large recruiting hoarding urging women to enrol. The pay of the Q.M.A.A.C.'s has recently been increased and standardised, and this week we have to announce a revision of the pay of the W.R.N.S. All women enrolling as clerks will start at the minimum rate of 31s. 6d., while cooks, laundresses, etc., begin at 25s. Section superintendents in the record office receive £2 8s. per week.

D. O. R. A. 40 D.

When the Vote of Credit was under consideration on June 19th Mr. Lees Smith, M.P., raised the question of D. O. R. A. 40 D. He pointed out that the ill effects of this regulation were already becoming evident, and quoted instances of arrests for alleged solicitations, where the facts made this clear. D. O. R. A. 40 D. was nothing but a revival of the principle of the C.D. Acts Mr. Lees Smith stated, and he protested strongly against the use made by the Government of the exceptional powers conferred upon it by the Defence of the Realm Act, to pass a regulation which had virtually been repealed in the C.D. Acts, which had caused the rejection of the Criminal Law Amendment Bill, and which had no chance of securing a debate in the House of Commons. Mr. Lees Smith was supported by Mr. Chancellor, Sir W. Dickinson, and Sir W. Collins. Mr. Macpherson, in a most unsatisfactory statement, attempted to defend the regulation. "I quite frankly confess to the House," he said, "that I have not been able to get any information as to whether any soldiers were punished under this Regulation or not." We could wish that Mr. Macpherson would quite frankly confess to the House his real opinion, and that of those who defend this regulation upon the question of the State Regulation of Vice.

Women and the Juries Bill.

On Saturday, June 22nd, the Juries Bill came up for its second reading in the House of Commons. This Bill proposes to abolish trial by jury in the High Court, to limit it in the county courts, and to extend the age for jury service from sixty to sixty-five. The measure is a war measure, and is the result of the shortage of men in the country and of the inconvenience experienced by those who still remain in leaving their businesses to serve on juries. Mr. Booth, M.P., raised the question of the eligibility of women for jury service, and asked whether an amendment on this point would be in order. The Speaker ruled that an amendment to enable women to serve on juries was inadmissible until the Committee stage of the Bill, and discouraged its being introduced at all. We would point out the supreme importance at this time of opening jury service to women. The nation greatly values the system of trial by jury and sees with misgiving its application curtailed. Were such curtailment necessary misgiving might give place to resignation, but not only is there a total lack of logic, but also a total lack of common-sense in granting women the privileges of citizenship and withholding its obligations, in creating six millions or more new women voters and refusing them the right to serve on juries. Women do not wish to be relieved of the responsibility of jury service. They look upon it as a natural duty of citizenship. They are willing and competent to serve, and there is no woman shortage in the country. It is therefore absurd to restrict trial by jury on the alleged ground of scarcity of jurors. We believe that women have a special contribution to make to the administration of justice. We believe that they have experience of a kind which we should do well to have represented on British juries. It is for this reason that we have always urged the inclusion of women upon the jury bench, and it is for this reason that we now—when women have been admitted to full political citizenship, and there is need of their services in administration as well as legislation—ask that they may be granted responsibility that goes with their freedom, and may be made liable to jury service on precisely equal terms with men.

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National Baby Week, 1918.

"Let us remember that the supreme function of parenthood demands that the more valuable part of woman's energies shall be dedicated to the future, and that in protecting her motherhood we ensure to those who come after us the full heritage of this generation's great sacrifice."—CONSUELO MARLBOROUGH, Vice-President of the National Baby Week Council.

With this message for Baby Week Her Grace happily expresses what is ever present but often inarticulate in the hearts and minds of all who share in the present world tragedy. Never have we striven so passionately to keep alive the belief in immortality; never have we realised so bitterly that the nation's immortality lies with her children. Who amongst us, having lost a husband, son, or brother in this war, would regard as compensation the material prosperity which the war inevitably brings to some, since the destruction of wealth on such a scale and in such a manner involves also an extensive redistribution of what remains? There is none that would not eagerly surrender every worldly gain to redeem the toll that death has taken. But if in one family life should be held so supremely precious, how comes it that it should be so differently valued in the State?

It has been said of Nature, "So careless of the single life, so careful of the type, she seems." Does civilisation invert the principle and make us, while reverent of the single life, indifferent to the mass? How can that which is recognised as a calamity in detail, become less than a calamity in gross? Yet it is so, for as a nation we continue to acquiesce unheeding in the death and damage from preventable causes of hundreds of thousands of little children. The exact number of thousands may be in dispute, but that the number itself is very large admits of no dispute at all.

About one million babies are born in the United Kingdom every year. Of these, one in ten is stillborn, and another one in ten dies within a twelvemonth. Yet another one in ten is dead before the fifteenth birthday. Thus, out of every ten lives created, three—with all their capacity for joy and service—are doomed to unfulfilment. Malthus observed long ago—and his observation has been fully confirmed—that a high birth-rate is ever accompanied by a high death-rate. But with us the disquieting fact is that a low birth-rate is also accompanied by an unnecessarily high death-rate—at least amongst children. True, the infantile death-rate is not as high as it was, but it has not fallen as rapidly as the birth-rate, and that it is preventably high is proved by its own variations. We know the conditions that produce a high infant mortality rate. They reveal themselves unmistakably in statistics. From the locality and the employment of the people it is almost possible to predict the infant death-rate; given certain well-marked conditions, certain consequences will follow. We realise this, yet we tolerate conditions that we know will be fatal to our child life. We might, merely by taking thought and making effort, abolish these conditions or modify them immensely. But we refrain, or at best attack the problem in a tentative, half-hearted manner, as if, though the matter is one of life and death, the danger were not of doing too little, but of doing too much.

Already we are meditating all sorts of schemes of reconstruction—social, industrial, and political—for the time when the war will be ended. But while we are planning our new world, we still omit to provide for those who shall inherit it.

"What shall it profit a man, though he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" And our reproach as a nation is that we are losing our own souls at the rate of ten and even hundreds of thousands a year, when we might save them, if we would but take the trouble. It is not much that we need to do. It is only this:—to give the little children that are born to us a real chance of living; to shield them from the avoidable dangers that beset them on every hand owing to society's neglect or bad management; to realise with our whole heart and head and hands that above the cotton trade and the coal trade and the shipping trade and the drink trade and the milk trade and the newspaper trade, controlled by the captains of industry, is the key industry of Britain—Baby Saving. How is this industry to be carried on? Essentially by making sure that no baby shall perish for lack of what is needful for health—that wholesome food, skilled advice, healthy surroundings shall be at least available. Babies die by the thousand from lack of proper care, and they lack proper care because the mothers lack the knowledge and the means to give it.

The first thing, therefore, is to see that this knowledge and these means shall be made easily accessible. In the long run, the provision of decent, healthy homes will probably be found one of the most influential factors in reducing infantile mortality;

but while that immense task is in hand, much may be done simply by diminishing the power of parental ignorance and social neglect. The mother has a primary and indefeasible claim to consideration and help, in the interests of the State, for it is only through the mother that the child can be given its chance. As Dr. Saleeby puts it, the problem of infantile mortality is now not so much the medical problem of infancy, as the social problem of motherhood, and this problem starts not at the birth of the child, but at its conception. Money spent with this object is not charity, but the wisest and most profitable investment of public funds. It is sure of a rich return.

Motherhood entails responsibilities which few women can discharge unaided—especially in such an artificial environment as that which modern town life imposes. Not merely the birth itself, but the months when the expectant mother is carrying her child, and when she is nursing it, are critical for the new life, and a wise nation will surround the mother at these times with all the solicitude that reverence and wisdom can devise. It is to do these things—or to get them done—not here and there and stintedly, but thoroughly, nationally and as a matter of course, that the National Baby Saving Campaign has been set on foot. It depends for its success on the force of public opinion behind it, and there is no citizen, man or woman, who cannot do something to help in this, the most urgent and vital work that the present generation finds to its hand.

A communication addressed to the National Baby Week Council, 27A, Cavendish Square, W., will secure information as to the best way in which help can be given, immediately and in the future.

During the first week of July in London and at other times in the provinces Baby Week will be celebrated to rouse the national conscience into action by the cry of the children and their mothers. Once roused, it must never be allowed to slumber again. As Dr. Eric Pritchard puts it in his message for Baby Week, "In the final analysis, the attainment and spread of knowledge and the strengthening of character are the only real prophylactics against infant mortality. Let us fight on in faith to attain these ends."

B. T.

The Unmarried Mother.

By DR. C. W. SALEEBY, F.R.S. EDIN.

If we believe in marriage as a social institution, we must reprobate all defiance of its institution as a menace to society. This has, so far as I can find, always and everywhere been the attitude of human societies towards the unmarried mother—an attitude profoundly salutary, necessary, and wise. The only remaining question—but it is a formidable one—is as to the form which social reprobation against an anti-social act must take. The object of reprobation is to deter and to warn; and that is our duty in the social interest. If our reprobation is to take the form of punishment, then we must consider whether we are punishing for vengeance, for deterrence, or for cure; and whether our punishment does or does not effect injury to the innocent and to society, as well as to the sinners; and, lastly, whether the punishment, for whatever motive, falls justly upon both sinners—or, perchance, misses the more guilty and falls most heavily upon an innocent third person.

Thus considered, the conduct of most human societies, past and present, towards the unmarried mother, must be judged, according to the criterion we adopt, as abominably cruel, fatuously unscientific, or hideously unjust. The indictments are so manifold and evident that I need not recount them. The French lines once quoted by Mrs. Fawcett, many years ago, and remaining in my memory, of the girl tried for the murder of her illegitimate child, whilst its father sits in his café and reads the account of the proceedings in his newspaper—deal with only one of many wickednesses in which we daily acquiesce against the unmarried mother and her child.

Since early in the present century I have been continually drawing attention to the numerical disproportion of the sexes in this country. No one listened until the suffrage agitation induced certain opponents of justice and progress to use this disproportion as an argument against women's votes. But a numerical inequality between the sexes strikes directly against monogamy, and is therefore a fundamental error in any social constitution. Dr. Havelock Ellis, who has done great work for the unmarried mother, has lately quoted a foreign authority who finds that, as a general proposition, the rate of illegitimacy varies with the number of unmarried women of reproductive age in proportion to the number of virile men. The grave relative deficiency of men

in this country—which fools have foolishly called the problem of the "superfluous woman"—is becoming rapidly worse every year, as the Registrar-General has just again pointed out; and the problem of the unmarried mother, now and for many years to come, will be more urgent, especially if numbers of young men—of whom we shall be millions short—emigrate from this country after the war. Add, further, that in notable ways England—by which I do not mean Scotland—treats the unmarried mother and her child with more disastrous folly and cruelty than any other Christian or Mohammedan country; and the reader may agree that the time has now come (but that it has been time for centuries) to consider this problem afresh, in every interest there is present and future, national and imperial, subnational and transnational.

After a Conference at the Mansion House in February of this year there was formed, in April, a new body called the National Council for the Unmarried Mother and Her Child, for which I ask the reader's sympathy and support. The Chairman of the Executive Committee is Mrs. H. A. L. Fisher; the Deputy-Chairmen are Dr. E. W. Hope, the distinguished Medical Officer of Health for Liverpool and Professor of Public Health in the University, and Mrs. Jerrold-Nathan, of the London County Council; and the Hon. Treasurer is Sir Charles Wakefield.* It may be hoped that the formation of this Council may be the beginning of the end of the reproach that every decent Englishman must feel when he learns the facts of the subject. For not only do we neglect the matter in practice, but we have neglected even to study it. The National Birth-rate Commission sat for three years and issued a report of 450 pages; but only the other day did one of its members, the present writer to wit, consult that report to see what had been learnt and taught on the illegitimate birth-rate—to find, to his astonishment, that this subject had been completely overlooked. In the Reconstitution Inquiry now being held, that deplorable omission will be most thoroughly made good, as the presence of Mrs. Fisher on the Commission is itself sufficient to ensure.

The National Council believes in knowledge and is at pains, in beginning its work, to collate the facts. The following paragraphs are the product of some considerable research on the part of several of its members, and, with a description of the laws in force in other countries, are shortly to be published for the National Council. Meanwhile they are submitted to the present reader.

BIRTHS.—England and Wales.

(a) Number of births of legitimate and illegitimate children in the years 1911-1916:—

Year.	Total.	Legitimate.	Illegitimate.	Illegitimate percentage of Legitimate.
1911 ...	881,138	843,505	37,633	4.27%
1912 ...	872,737	835,209	37,528	4.17%
1913 ...	881,890	843,981	37,909	4.29%
1914 ...	879,096	841,767	37,329	4.24%
1915 ...	814,014	778,369	35,645	4.44%
1916 ...	785,520	747,831	37,689	4.79%

(b) Total decrease of 10 per cent. in illegitimacy for thirty years up to 1915.

(c) Rate per 1,000 of illegitimate births in proportion to total births:—

1906—1910 =	40.2
1911—1915 =	43.1
1915 ... =	44.5
1916 ... =	48.0

(d) About 50,000 illegitimate children are born yearly in the United Kingdom.

DEATHS.

1.—(a) In general, illegitimate infant mortality is twice as great as legitimate.

1908-1918. Deaths per 1,000 under one year:—

Year.	All infants Under 1 year.		Analysis.	
	Legitimate.	Illegitimate.	Legitimate.	Illegitimate.
1908 ...	120	116	...	233
1909 ...	109	104	...	211
1910 ...	105	102	...	195
1911 ...	130	125	...	245
1912 ...	95	91	...	181
1913 ...	108	104	...	213
1914 ...	105	100	...	207
1915 ...	110	105	...	203
1916 ...	91	87	...	183

(b) Some examples of infant mortality (where the rate was excessively high).

[Taken from an article on the Unmarried Mother, by C. Gascoigne Hartley in the "English Review," for September, 1914.]

* Address, 845-850, Salisbury House, Finsbury Circus, E.C. 2. Secretary, Miss D. L. Adler.

Proportion of deaths under one year per 1,000 :-

	Legitimate.	Illegitimate.
Bristol	96.8	223.3
Manchester	162.0	362.0
Leicester	130.0	377.0
Cardiff	124.0	349.0
Cambridge	81.0	219.0
Poplar	121.5	281.24
Wandsworth	97.0	276.0

(c) Illegitimate children are more weakly from birth owing to previous overwork of the mother. Further, they are much more frequently born infected with syphilis—a large factor in their higher mortality.

The mortality of unmarried mothers is proportionately great.

2.—“The standardised mortality of males regularly exceeds that of females . . . for the fifteen years ending with 1914, it (the excess) averaged about 20 per cent. (Report of Registrar-General for 1916.)”

3.—Excessive illegitimate infant mortality on the first day of life.

“The improvement . . . in the first day recorded for legitimate infants has not been shared by the illegitimate . . .”

“The ratio of illegitimate to legitimate mortality in the first week of life has increased from 170 per cent. in 1907 to 201 in 1916. The mortality of the illegitimates in the first day of life has increased from 23.1 in 1911 to 24.73 in 1915 and 24.10 in 1916. These facts have a somewhat ominous aspect and suggest that infant welfare organisations might well devote special attention to the first days of the life of illegitimate children.” (Report of the Registrar-General for 1916.)

SCOTLAND.

“The infant suffers before birth from the conditions imposed on its unmarried mother. It suffers after birth from all the disadvantages of a relatively casual and endangered life.”

“As with the unmarried mothers, so with their children, only one conclusion is possible: the provision is inadequate.

1901—1905 Illegitimate births =	43,046
1911—1915 “ “ =	43,491
Average “ “ =	8,600

(Carnegie Report, 1917.)

4.—The following are the recommendations which were submitted to and adopted by the Mansion House Conference :-

- 1.—That any scheme adopted should be elastic and should not exclude any mothers in need—whether married or unmarried—that it should be carried out in conjunction with the Health Authorities and existing Societies, should be linked up with Maternity and Infant Welfare work, and its aim should be to enable Mothers to keep their babies with them for two years at least.
- 2.—That provision should be made in the following forms :-
 - (a) Waiting Homes for expectant mothers.
 - (b) Maternity Homes.
 - (c) Allowances for mothers whose circumstances and home surroundings make it desirable for them to continue to live at home.
 - (d) Residential accommodation, with Day Nurseries attached, for mothers (with babies) who wish to live with their babies and go out to work.
 - (e) Foster-mothers, small Homes, or adopting parents for the babies of those who cannot keep their children with them.
 - (f) Special Homes for mothers suffering from such defect or disease as should preclude their keeping their children with them.
- 3.—WAYS AND MEANS. That the cost of the provision recommended should be met partly by grants from Government Departments and Local Authorities, partly by voluntary subscriptions, and by payments from the mothers, but in no case by the Poor Law Authorities.
- 4.—That the Law of Affiliation should be altered by offering facilities to expectant mothers, both to make known their condition in the proper quarters and to take initial proceedings, and by relieving them from all costs even if paternity is not proved.
- 5.—That the present limit of 5s. a week under an Affiliation Order be abolished, and the amount granted be in proportion to the circumstances of both parents.
- 6.—That provision be made for enabling a magistrate on application by an expectant mother to summon the parties before the birth of the child, and to hear the case in camera, and where paternity is admitted to make a final Order.
- 7.—Payment of this weekly amount to be made to run from date of child's birth in all cases, and power to be given magistrate to order an interim allowance for a period commencing at his discretion before birth—this allowance, falling payment by fathers, to be provided out of Public Funds.
- 8.—The institution of Legal Adoption with proper safeguards.
- 9.—Subsequent marriage of mother and father of child to legitimate child.

The latest date for which we have accurate figures with regard to the matter of Affiliation Orders issued was 1913. In that year 6,914 Affiliation Orders were made in England and Wales, of which 1,445 were enforced by imprisonment. In that year 37,909 illegitimate children were born. There is no provision in English Law for the adequate assistance of the mother of an illegitimate child in maintaining her offspring, unless she can muster courage to bring affiliation proceedings against the father. The utmost she can then recover is a pittance of 5s. a week, upon which she must maintain, clothe, and educate her child until it is fourteen or sixteen years of age. Should she lack courage for these proceedings, or fail to obtain the fruits of her successful action, her only refuge, in many cases, is the workhouse. If, in consequence the child dies from lack of proper care and nurture, or, unhappily, at the hands of the desperate mother, the community is an accessory to its death and should be held

equally accountable with the mother. To our disgrace, the law of England is punitive in principle and not protective or remedial.

Another and greatly needed addition to our law is a provision for the adoption of children. This would tend to assist in the care and rearing of illegitimate and deserted children where other means are unavailing. There is at present no method known to English law by which a person may take a stranger into his family and give him the title and privileges and rights of his child, and by which he may be charged with the correlative duties which should thereby be assumed. It is the common experience of those who have the temporary charge of infants at their birth to receive applications for their adoption, and with the assent of the parent or parents to hand them over to such applicants. In some cases this desire for a child is a temporary one, prompted by caprice or a flicker of maternal yearning, and the infant is regarded as a plaything of which the possessor ultimately tires. It is then returned in a damaged condition to the mother or to charitable care. On the other hand, where the adoption is likely to improve the circumstances of the child, and the child is received into the family as one of its members, and is well cared for and strong ties of affection are formed, the mother may at any time claim it. Often this claim is only a pretence and is based upon improper motives. But whatever is behind it, the mere menace of such a claim must prevent thousands of uncared for infants from being properly maintained in a good home and from being educated in the duties and responsibilities of citizenship.

[On this subject, the reader should consult the invaluable article by Mrs. Somers Ellis in the June number of *National Health*.]

England is the only country in Christendom, or even in Islam, which persists in refusing to legitimate the children born out of wedlock by the subsequent marriage of their parents. It is true that this relief, which is denied by our laws to innocent children, may be obtained in certain cases by a special Act of Parliament, but this only accentuates the injustice under which they labour, for special Acts of Parliament are beyond the reach of all but the favoured few.

The statute which would remedy this injustice need consist of only two or three short operative sections, such as that which is in force in Scotland and in West Australia.

The reader must now be assured, by the quality of the foregoing, that the National Council for the Unmarried Mother and her Child is on the right lines and must be supported by all whose religion it is to do justly and love mercy.

Tied Cottages.

When the Government realised the probability of food shortage during the war, the message “Stop all waste” rang through the country. Baby Week brings a message of even greater urgency in its appeal to stop the wastage of infant life, to save the nation's children from the daily damage wrought by bad conditions, and to safeguard the future generation.

To-day the duty of Reconstruction is pressed home with a thoroughness inconceivable before the war, which has acted as a searchlight on the social structure; a restatement of values is seen to be necessary, and nowhere is it more required than in country districts where the interests of property still precede those of life.

A case in point is the isolated “tied” cottage of the landowner or tenant farmer. The occupier may be a carter, cowman, or gamekeeper, or a labourer whose work includes the care of stock, for the convenience of which the cottage is placed far from the village, schools, shops, and church. Many of these cottages date back to the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries; they are dark and damp, with few or none of interior modern conveniences. Their water supply is of the most doubtful character, and their sanitation generally indescribably bad; they are off the beaten tracks, and protests from tenants to stewards or farmers, unsupported by inspection or by village public opinion, are simply disregarded. On model estates, newer and better buildings may be found, but the factor of isolation remains, and devastating effects, physically, mentally, and morally can be traced to the conditions which result from their occupancy. The generally-accepted idea that a country-woman is robust, courageous, and cheerful, is unfortunately not borne out by facts—many of them are suffering from some chronic weakness or ailment before they reach the age of thirty. At a meeting last week on Housing, a working-man declared that few labouring women retained their good health after the birth of their first child. It is difficult to estimate the loss of comfort and happiness to the individual and to the home which such a statement involves, or of its effect on the health of the new generation. Many of these village wives are slight creatures who were early sent to service at some neighbouring farm, with long hours of heavy, exhausting work, marrying early, and becoming mothers with little knowledge and poor means. In an isolated cottage an expectant mother lives in dread. Her trouble may come when her husband is at work or her children are away at school, and there may be no messenger to send for nurse or midwife, if either are to be found in the village,—she might as well be a colonist up-country as far as the advantages of civilisation are concerned.

To give a recent instance, five miles from a large town, a young wife's first baby was born, and her only assistance came from a woman of seventy; the child's life was saved with difficulty, the patient could not be left, darkness came before the husband's return from work, and when he set forth no milk was obtainable, and, but for the kindly gift of soup from a vicarage dinner-table, the young mother would have fared badly. Nominally, this village is cared for by a Nursing Association and a Health Visitor, but at the present time means of communication and transit have become almost negligible in this and many other rural districts, and it is evident that the proposed new schemes of the Local Government Board will need very careful working out locally, especially if the patient lives in an isolated cottage. Medical assistance for such is practically impossible to-day. The suggested “Home Helps” will be scarce, and are not likely to compete for work in these lonely spots where food is procured with difficulty and fatigue, for delivery of provisions has almost ceased in country districts. In bad weather the children would return soaked to the skin, and their clothing and boots must be dried ready for the next day. No cheerful gossip would enliven the labours of the Home Help.

For the mothers, the spread of education has increased the mental strain; they stand to-day as rural Niobes endeavouring to avert from their children the evils which they fear, but cannot alter until they have realised and used their new power of citizenship. The plea which is being forcibly advanced in the Press in opposition to any change in the case of the isolated “tied” cottage is that a humane man wishes to be near his beasts, and that the care and sacrifices which the labourers make for their comfort are worthy of all admiration. But should he be asked to do this at the expense of his family? Is not a man's first duty to his wife and children? Reconstruction in the country must find a way to harmonise these interests. Those who have read *The Village Labourer*, by Mr. and Mrs. Hammond, will find little difficulty in realising the sublime indifference which still reigns in country parts as to the proper provision of agricultural homes suited to present-day needs. The mediæval castles and beautiful Georgian houses which adorn the countryside have their bathrooms, water supplies, and the best sanitation. Is it reasonable to demand that the cottager of the twentieth century should live with the inconveniences and discomforts of the eighteenth?—and yet that is what is happening everywhere to-day. The enormous prices paid for prize stock necessitate the erection of model stables and byres by their owners: they are property; but children are still born and brought up in the old, insanitary, crowded dwellings. If stupidity is blindness to values, as has been lately written, then we are not hard enough on stupidity. It is censurable stupidity in public thought and practice which fails to find a way to deal with these agricultural problems, and to spare these sufferings of Motherhood and this wastage of health and child life. A healthy rebellion is rising against the system of “tied” cottages. A woman living in one loses her home when her husband loses his work. An isolated “tied” cottage is an anachronism no longer to be tolerated, where family life is concerned, and if Maternity and Infant Welfare are to become realities in rural England.

F. G. HAMILTON, Hon. Sec.,
Women's Village Councils' Federation.

[An article by Mrs. Hamilton on the Findon Women's Village Council, the first to be started, will be found in *THE COMMON CAUSE* of November 9th, 1917. The Council is chiefly composed of working-women, and exists to promote State-aided housing.]

The Education of the Woman Citizen.

The passing into law of the Representation of the People Bill has led to a rapid development of associations of women citizens, with the primary object of educating the woman voter for her responsibilities. Many of these associations are now arranging programmes for classes and study circles for the coming winter session, and it has been suggested to the writer that some suggestions for courses of study might be useful.

Women have entered on their new heritage with a firm resolve to prepare themselves, and it is for them to show that their idea of what preparation means is a high one. One of the difficulties that the social teacher has to contend with, as compared with the teacher of more exact sciences, is that the average grown up person has picked up a circumscribed knowledge of the more obvious and sensational aspects of social problems

without any general understanding of the structure and nature of society, and that the edge of his appetite for more thorough study has been dulled by conferences, discussions, study circles and text books, which have given him a premature and superficial familiarity with half-digested facts and theories. Women Citizens' Associations must try to counteract this tendency and create a demand for thorough study and supply the driving-power that will compel educational authorities to provide the necessary facilities.

It must, of course, be recognised that this is a very difficult time to begin. Most grown up people are already working to their outside limit of endurance. It is not easy in such anxious days to turn with a quiet mind even to the study of reconstruction after the war. Speakers and lecturers are very limited; travelling is uncomfortable, dear, and unpatriotic. But with all these difficulties there has probably never been a time when adult men and women have been more ready to undergo mental training and discipline. Many have realised that their minds, like their bodies, require exercise to meet the new demands made on them. There are new factors to reckon with, new conditions to grasp. What then can be done even now to lay the foundations of a wise and thoughtful citizenship?

The essential elements of a sound social and political education are the same whether the scheme selected be elementary and gradual or one of those of a more ambitious character mentioned below. It should contain the critical study of social institutions (Central and Local Government, besides voluntary effort, including Friendly Societies, Trade Unions, Civic Guilds of Help, &c.). It should also contain some background of history, some elementary economics, social ethics, and political theory. Such education must not be confined to social questions interpreted in a narrow sense. It should lead from the study of immediate and concrete problems in the vicinity of the student to the deeper issues on which depends the future welfare of the nation and, in natural sequence, to those affecting other nations and their international relations. There must be no political bias. The education of the citizen must come before the education of the party politician. There must be no sectarian bias, though ideals of material without spiritual well-being must be guarded against. It will, however, serve our immediate purpose best to consider first the needs of by far the greater number of members of associations who are not yet ripe for anything demanding much expenditure of time or intellectual effort.

THE STUDY CIRCLE.

The Study Circle, in wrong hands so pernicious, may, in right hands, become a valuable training ground for more advanced work. Such a circle might meet for six, eight, or ten consecutive classes in Autumn, Spring, and early Summer, and some syllabus on the lines of the following rough draft might be attempted :-

I.—Social Organisation for Children and Adolescence.

1. Infancy and Maternity.
2. The normal elementary school child.
3. The Defective child.
4. The Juvenile Offender.
5. Juvenile Employment.
6. Continuation Education and Recreation.

II.—Adult Life.

1. Education and Recreation.
2. Employment and Unemployment.
3. Organisation of Labour.
4. Friendly Societies, Insurance, Thrift.
5. Administration of Justice.
6. Relief of Distress.

III.—Public Health.

1. Prevention of Disease.
2. Treatment of Disease.
3. Housing and Open Spaces.
- 4, 5, & 6. Social Disease including Intemperance, Venereal disease, etc.

This is, of course, only one out of many possible adaptations of an introductory scheme of study and may easily be improved on, but, at least, it is an attempt to group different aspects of social life in their right values and to introduce the student to social legislation and the different types of institutions provided to meet different needs. The experience of the writer has shown that at the close of such a course, especially after Part II., the intelligent student is ready and eager for some economics and industrial history. On the other hand, many older students whose inclination lies in the direction of the practical and concrete will prefer further study of special problems touched on in Parts I. or III. It is not easy to find leaders for such circles; many questions are highly controversial; they constantly stray into the realm of party politics, and require too much expert knowledge and careful selection of the vital points for any but an exceptionally

qualified amateur leader. Where an expert is not available, a less widely extended course should be chosen, and guidance in the selection of books should be secured from someone with the necessary experience. Visits to institutions illustrating the classes will be found a great attraction and, at the same time, of real educational value, and it should always be remembered that whether in class or study circle, plenty of time should be given to discussion. An adequate supply of suitable books is often a difficulty. Local librarians are often very glad of suggestions; the writer knows of several instances where classes on social questions led to a large increase on books on these subjects in the local library. The Central Library for Students, 20, Tavistock Square, London, W.C. 1, from which full particulars may be had, is not sufficiently well known. Its object is to secure that no *bona fide* student shall be hindered in his or her studies by inability to obtain the necessary books. Books are lent to individual students or to groups and societies with no expense beyond cost of postage.

It will, of course, be necessary to organise the usual monthly meetings for the rank and file of the association who cannot be induced to attend a regular class, but it will be best not to attempt anything beyond the consideration of current matters of general or local interest on such occasions. For instance, if such a meeting were held at present, the progress of the Education Bill in Committee would be noted and discussed in such a way as to stimulate the appetite of members for more knowledge of the issues involved rather than send them away with the impression that they have mastered the subject.

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION.

Passing on to more ambitious and more expensive schemes of study, we find that the Universities already provide facilities for the systematic study of social questions through Departments for Social Study and University Extension Boards. The Workers' Educational Association is a national organisation composed largely of representatives of working people which works through districts and local branches. Tutorial classes to meet its needs are organised by a Joint Committee of Academic members of the University Extension Board and of members of the Association. At present possibly the most thorough opportunity for social study outside the University is offered by these tutorial classes, which extend over three years, though they are not by any means confined to social subjects. There is no narrow interpretation of the term "worker," and where such classes exist arrangements can often be made for an additional number of members to join. The conditions under which such classes may be arranged may be briefly summarised as follows:

(a) The teaching must aim at the standard of University Honours work.

(b) The class must occupy two hours a week for twenty-four weeks in each year for three years. (These hours are usually consecutive, and half the time is spent in discussion.)

(c) The Board of Education will make a grant of seventy-five per cent. of the lecturer's fees provided that not fewer than two-thirds of the original students attend two-thirds of the meetings of the class.

They may at first sight seem very formidable, but what it amounts to is that if twenty-one men or women are found in a town or city sufficiently keen to undertake a course of twenty-four lectures for three years, three-quarters of the lecturer's fees will be paid each year if fourteen of the original twenty-one are not absent oftener than eight times each winter. This allows of a considerable margin for absences, and the writer believes that cases are on record of women members of classes reappearing after a prolonged absence with an addition to the family in their arms, who were still eligible for Government grant! The subjects may be selected by the students; Economics and Industrial History, including what is called Applied Economics (the application of economics to practical problems) would probably be best for members of citizenship associations. The arrangements as to terms, hours, &c., of the lectures can be made to suit the class. Where no such classes have been established, application for further particulars should be made to the nearest centre, or to the Head Office of the Association, 16, Harpur Street, Theobald's Road, Holborn, W.C. 4.

For those to whom the idea of a course of study covering three years presents impossibilities, shorter courses, extending over one year or even over a few months, may be organised through University Extension Boards. It is encouraging to find that already the increased demand for systematic instruction on social questions is beginning to yield fruit. A course of study for civic workers, including conditions of health and of social and industrial well-being has just been established by the

Extension Board of the University of London. This may extend over one, two, or three years, though three sessions' part-time work will be the minimum required for a Diploma. Similarly the Oxford University Extension Delegacy has just issued an interesting scheme of social study intended for voluntary social workers, covering one, two, or three years and qualifying for a certificate. The distribution of subjects in this scheme will be of interest to those who are organising lecture courses. Out of a minimum total of forty-two, eighteen deal with social administration, eighteen with economic theory and social and industrial development, and six with social ethics. This course includes practical work, and is followed by an examination.

Where shorter schemes are required either for reasons of economy in time or money, associations should select the subjects desired and apply to the nearest Extension Board for a lecturer. Social administration on the lines suggested earlier in this paper will probably be best to start with. It is sometimes possible to have a lecturer fortnightly or even seldomer, with a discussion class in the intervening weeks. Such a combination of lectures by an expert and study circle is a very happy solution, especially for districts where lecturers on social subjects are difficult to secure. In any case it will be useful if an experienced member of the class act as tutor or secretary, and undertake the arrangements for visits to institutions suggested by the lecturer and arrange for those who desire to have practical experience in any form of social work. It is not always easy for those in different parts of the country to know to which centre to apply for information about facilities for lectures. The following may be taken as a rough guide: In Greater London, application should be made to the Registrar of the Extension Board, University of London, South Kensington, S.W. 7; in or near any University town, to the local University; otherwise outside London either to the University Extension Delegacy, Oxford, or to the Local Lectures Syndicate, Cambridge.

UNIVERSITY SOCIAL STUDY DEPARTMENTS.

The object of University Extension is to carry University facilities, usually on extra-mural lines, to those who cannot come to the University. Through some of the Social Study Departments which are now to be found in connection with most Universities an attempt has been made to bring the part-time adult student back to the University. This plan presents many advantages. Experience has shown that such students show an appreciation of the academic atmosphere as a change from the workshop, office, or committee-room, often absent in the undergraduate. The use of the library is considered a privilege, and it is often possible to offer lectures by different and well-known lecturers, which, with careful planning, can be made to form a coherent scheme of study. Such variety of presentment adds greatly to the interest. Moreover, this method is not only an economy in lecture-power, but to the purses of the student, as some of the existing courses to full-time social students, may be thrown open for a small fee. In London, the Ratan Tata Department of Social Science and Administration (London School of Economics and Political Science) and Bedford College offer such systematic part-time courses, so arranged as to make them possible for those who have only a limited amount of free time for study, and in other University towns similar experiments have been tried. We look forward to the time when each University will have its School for Social Study and Research, housed in a suitable and dignified manner, possibly under the same roof as the Workers' Educational Association and the University Extension Board. Such a school, with its library and reading-room, will become a centre not only of the training of the administrator and social worker, but for all public-spirited citizens. Perhaps the enfranchisement of women may hasten the realisation of this dream.

But women citizens are not all to be found in close proximity to a University. Their needs and the possibilities open to them are widely different in different parts of the country. Every Association in large town, village, or remote countryside must search out the best opportunities within its reach, and where none exist must see that they are created. Now is the time for action. The country is alive to the importance of reform in education, and the continued education of the adult has not been entirely overlooked, though at this moment interest has been mainly focussed on the needs of the adolescent. Some progress has already been made in the right direction. If the new voters clamour for wider knowledge, the next few years will show a remarkable growth of facilities for social and political education easily accessible to every member of the community.

ELIZABETH MACADAM.

[For further information with regard to the schemes of work outlined in this article apply to the N.U.W.S.S., 62, Oxford Street, W. 1.]

FRANCE—The Bulwark of England

DO you realise what it would mean if the war were in England,—multitudes of old men, old women, mothers and little children, the sick and the helpless fleeing from their homes foodless and terror-stricken before an enemy whose cruelty knows no restraint; our great cities deserted and the buildings lying in ruined heaps; the roar of guns and flare of fire across our beautiful countryside: mills, workshops and factories burned to the ground, and all the nameless horrors of bloodshed and death and worse things still. Yet France has endured it all and France is very like our own land. A few years ago it was just as peaceful. Now?—thousands of valiant men and women lie dead—they have given their lives to save others. Thousands of refugees are fleeing for the second and even third time before the enemy.

Many of the most beautiful and prosperous provinces are desolate and heaped with charred ruins of magnificent buildings. Millions of French soldiers have fought and are still fighting with dauntless valour which will accept death but not defeat. France by her fidelity has protected England. Had France failed, these horrors might long since have been actual for us also. Will you remember this on France's Day (July 14th), to be celebrated in London on Friday, July 12th?

Show your gratitude to our great ally by helping to care for her wounded and for her refugees. Do not be content with buying a flag for a penny. Home and Liberty and England are worth more than that. France deserves a gift that costs you something. Make some real sacrifice for her on that day.

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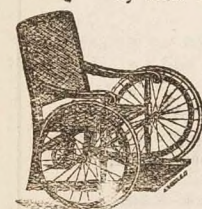


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Cranks.

By ROSE MACAULAY.

What are cranks? Wishing to know (for, personally, I never know what any word means), I have been enquiring in various quarters and have received various replies. The Oxford Dictionary says that a crank (in its figurative meaning) is "a person with a mental twist, especially one who is enthusiastically possessed by a particular crochet or hobby; an eccentric, or monomaniac." And an early Victorian gentleman whom it cites calls them, more severely, "persons of disordered mind, in whom the itch of notoriety supplies the lack of higher ambition." These two definitions seem a little incompatible; one who is enthusiastically possessed by a crochet or hobby does not usually suffer from the itch of notoriety; the itch of collecting stamps, eggs, or autographs, or of abolishing meat, war, vivisection, crime, punishment, disease, or hats, is, as a rule, itch enough for one person. Crankiness and ambition are not a good team to drive together. Ambitious persons are out for this world's goods; cranks are out for some strange ideal in their own minds; their kingdom is not of this world.

Nearer the truth than the Victorian gentleman was the person who said, "A crank is the handle which makes the machine go." Go where? That does not really matter, and is perhaps better not enquired into. Anyhow, go somewhere; be a dynamic machine, not a static.

Another authentic definition is, "Cranks? Oh, they want peace, don't they?"—Want peace, that is, so immoderately that it becomes what is theologically termed an inordinate affection. Twenty years ago it was, "They want votes." Twenty years hence it may be, "They want war." Indeed, unsatisfied desire appears to be of the essence of crankism. Satisfy desire, give your cranks their peace, their votes, their war, their nuts, and they cease to be cranks. Florence Nightingale was accounted a crank, while she only desired to go and nurse the sick. When she had achieved this desire she was called a Noble Woman, a Lady with a Lamp, and other opprobrious names, but no longer a crank. Further, the desire of the crank must be based on theory and reason, not on mere appetite and liking. Which reminds me of another definition. "Cranks? Oh, good gracious, I knew a woman who had a cold poached egg in the night whenever she woke. She was a crank." I enquired if she performed this ritual because she liked cold poached eggs, or for some other reason, and was told that it was because she maintained that wakefulness was caused by lack of albumen in the system. Since that was her reason, I was prepared to admit her into the circle of cranks. If she had taken the poached egg (as I believe H.M. King Edward VII. was used to do on similar occasions) merely because she liked it, because it comforted her when in the night she sleepless lay, she would not have been a crank, but a simple human animal. Cranks live by theory, not by pure desire. They want votes, peace, nuts, liberty and spinning-looms not because they love these things, as a child loves jam, but because they think they ought to have them. That is one element which makes the crank. Another is lack of proportion, the obsession with one desire or one principle to the minimising or exclusion of others; exaggeration, in fact. People are not cranks if the cause they have at heart is so important that its importance cannot be exaggerated. If it is, for instance, education, beauty, morality, religion, housing or international peace, they may be enthusiasts, but they are not cranks. You may, for instance, be a crank on the subject of wanting a vote, because you may exaggerate the importance of a vote as such. But you cannot be a crank about the things which you believe that a vote represents and will help you to procure; about these things your enthusiasm will make of you a more dangerous thing—a fanatic.

To sum up, the main body of cranks may be divided into two parties—the pioneers, who will be the normal of to-morrow, and the retrogrades, who were probably the normal of the day before yesterday. There is also a section of them which is the normal, we may believe, not of time but of eternity, of these are the saints; and another section which is the normal, one imagines, of Colney Hatch, of these are the world's Pemberton Billings. But for these crank is too fair a name; they sully it and render it unfit for the honourable use it deserves. Only the sad truth is that it takes all sorts of cranks to make this unfortunately mixed world.

Sophia Jex-Blake.—I.

By MRS. STOCKS.

On January 7th, 1912, Dr. Sophia Jex-Blake died in retirement at the age of seventy-two. Among the many expressions of mourning which followed the publication of this news, there is recorded a resolution passed by the university women of Toronto. It concluded:—

"Now that her distinguished career has closed, they feel that she was the helper of all university women, and they love her for many reasons."

The reader who meets her for the first time in the pages of Dr. Margaret Todd's admirable memoir* also loves her for many reasons; impersonally, for her dashing leadership of medical women in their early struggles for opportunity; personally, for her tempestuous, exacting, but exceedingly lovable humanity. Dr. Todd has certainly succeeded in bringing her subject to life.

The outstanding figure of the book is no doubt Sophia Jex-Blake in full vigour of womanhood, pressing her great frontal offensive against the powers of the British medical profession. But close behind in vital interest comes Sophia Jex-Blake in her childhood; imaginative, abnormally introspective, passionately affectionate, and, it would seem, exceedingly troublesome. So interesting indeed is this early figure, that we have been tempted to allow her a chapter of her own in the pages of THE COMMON CAUSE before passing to the wider historical interest of the medical pioneer.

No doubt when dealing with an age so many worlds distant from our own as the age of Sophia Jex-Blake's early youth, we must write off some 50 per cent. of its apparent mental and moral contrast as due merely to superficial differences of phraseology and custom. One man's "damn" is another man's "bother," and the two may represent an equal measure of genuine exasperation. Nevertheless, having discounted in this way a good proportion of the unconscious ruthlessness of Sophia Jex-Blake's early mentors, we carry away from Dr. Todd's early chapters an uncomfortable feeling that the little girl must have had a very bad time. One would not have been surprised to find her adopting the attitude of Samuel Butler's bishop, who believed in his religion, but derived so much misery therefrom that he determined not to convert anyone else to it.

She was born into a home dominated by the most rigid and uncompromising evangelical Christianity. "The Mission Field" was its ruling enthusiasm. Every parental letter contains a sermon; every childish outburst is the occasion of a soul-shaking dissertation on immortal responsibilities. If Sophia had been a good child all this might simply have given her a sense of reasoned security; if she had been a thoughtless or unimaginative child it might have passed over her head as mere formality. But she was none of these things, and the result was that she lived in a state of profound introspection and turbulent penitence. At the age of eleven we find her writing to her father:—

"I fear you are very uneasy about me, for I have indeed manifested no visible proof of a new and clean heart; but I think much of my soul, too much for me to speak even to you of it. But I cannot talk, so whenever anyone tries to talk to me of it, I always turn it into jest, but I must write (I cannot speak) to you about it, so I have written some questions down and endeavoured to answer them as before God. So do believe each word."

The following questions may be quoted:—

"1. If you died this instant, what would become of you? And could you face death unflinchingly?"

"I know not what would become of me; but I fear I should go to eternal torments, and I do not think I could face death unflinchingly for this reason."

"5. Do you really in your heart know your religion to be a mere form, or do you really feel its life-giving influence on your heart?"

"I know I often say far more than I really believe. I even have been tempted so far as to doubt in my heart the existence of a Deity, but yet I have had a few bright moments in which I could sincerely say Yes, I know it, I know that Christ is mine and I am His, but a deep gloom is generally over my spirit."

"9. Where will you be 200 years hence?"

"In Heaven, I humbly hope and trust, for I think the Lord has begun a good work in me."

An implacable parent has endorsed the epistle "very nice," possibly knowing that in fact "a deep gloom" was not generally over Sophia's spirit. And indeed we are comforted to learn in the answer to question 7 that Sophia "generally feels awfully indifferent as to her soul." Still—it is clear that she was often genuinely unhappy, that she lived in a state of mental and moral tension which really did tell upon her health, and that where a modern parent would have provided a diversion in the form perhaps of games or outdoor exercise, Mr. and Mrs. Jex-Blake,

*Life of Sophia Jex-Blake. By Margaret Todd. (Macmillan & Co., 18s. net).

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Made from "Wetoga" Cloth, which is absolutely Weatherproof.

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From 5 Gns.

UNBIASSED OPINIONS.

Southampton. "Studington" Coat received today. It is both smart, useful, and eminently satisfactory.—Miss R. A. Hunts. Mrs. C. is very pleased indeed with her "Studington" Coat, the cut and finish being perfect. She encloses cheque, and is much obliged at promptness of delivery.

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Duro Cambric 31 in.—for smart frocks and blouses with novel stripes, fine line check, and many white. 2/6 a yard

Duro Pique 40 in.—very smart and economical, in white grounds with coloured stripes and all white. 3/11 a yard

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AFTER seasons of wear and countless washings the "Duro" costume, frock, or blouse still looks new.

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recognising mental excitability, met it by a never-ending exhortation on the duty of self-control—and by nothing else. The following is a typical extract from a parental letter:—

"I am comforting myself that you are waging constant war against *self-will* and *disobedience*. You can hardly believe how happy you will be when, through God's help upon your earnest endeavours, you can obey at once and give up your own way. I send my darling child a text which I wish her to learn and pray for grace to live up to. It is 1 Peter, v. 5. I wish you to learn it perfectly and make it part of your daily prayers. Tell me when you write that you have done so. Bear it in mind all day long, and try hard, very hard, to live up to it."

And again:—

"I hardly allow myself to look forward to the treat of going to Scotland; it seems almost too much pleasure, and we shall be sure to find people who love Jesus and love the Bible there, and that will add so very greatly to our pleasure. . . . Use daily as a prayer the substance of 1 Peter v. 5."

It is very difficult to condemn off-hand the *régime* of Sophia's childhood, because of the woman who emerged from it, and because of the perfect relation between mother and daughter, which endured into later life. Indeed it is vaguely possible that without it this particular child would never have learned sufficient self-discipline to work effectively at all in a world of compromise and manoeuvre. As it was there were times when Miss Jex-Blake proved herself a difficult fellow-worker. But to the modern reader, looking back at it all from an age which is consciously bent on giving its children a better time, an age which tends sometimes to dismiss "self-control" as "self-suppression," Dr. Todd's early chapters present a bewildering and rather repellent picture. Certainly they "give one furiously to think."

(To be continued.)

Reviews.

EDUCATION FOR LIBERTY. By Kenneth Richmond. (W. Collins, Sons & Co. Ltd. 6s. net.)

"None of the ideas in this book are revolutionary, and I doubt if any of them are new. . . . The Minority to whom educational revolution is already, in thought, a thing accomplished, and in practice a thing well on the road to accomplishment in a number of pioneer schools, must bear with my Fabian methods of approach as best they may. If I put anything in a new light for them it will be an act of supererogation; the chief need at present is to move the rank and file."

Perhaps Mr. Richmond's book is old-fashioned from the voluntary's point of view, but with the rank and file, for whom it is avowedly written, it should have unqualified success. Very large numbers of teachers of both sexes and in every grade of school must have felt with despair, after reading a book of a more revolutionary type than this, that the teacher of the future would indeed inherit a Utopia if even half the reforms advocated could be brought about (and salaries doubled at the same time). But to read of the Casa dei Bambini and Roman sunshine on Sunday and then to face a class of seventy infants on Monday morning—seventy infants sitting on seventy chairs in front of seventy desks, drawing "twice two is four" with their seventy voices—surely it must either break the teacher's spirit or stop her reading revolutionary books, usually the latter, for the very good reason that she cannot afford the former. Mr. Richmond's book, however, can be read without this depressing effect, and, although it is obviously written with more direct application to the Secondary School, much that he says applies also to Elementary education. The book sets up no easily-attained ideal, but it starts, as it were, from things as they are and begins, in the most ingratiating way, with practice, "Notes on Method," leaving theory and the possibilities of the future for parts two and three.

Mr. Richmond's sympathy with the present-day teacher, though never expressed, is felt all through the book, and present-day difficulties are faced at every turn; but this does not prevent it from being of profound interest to the ordinary reader. It is not an easy book to quote from, though it is packed with good things, but the following is an example of Mr. Richmond's approach:—

"We need a new system of teaching that will greatly extend the opportunities for training a child's power of choice; but we cannot have a system in a moment. There is the usual difficulty of substituting the inner for the outer discipline, that an interregnum between the two has to be avoided. It can hardly be insisted upon too strongly that it is the duty of every individual teacher to help to pave the way for a gradual and organic change. Children have to become capable of choosing to learn, of choosing, in co-operation with the teacher, what are the best methods of learning, and of choosing rightly what thoughts and opinions to frame about the things that they are learning. But they cannot have freedom of choice all at once; they have first to develop responsibility of choice, and in this the teacher has to help them step by step. Broadly, freedom of choice can be given as soon as there is a readiness to take pains and to choose those activities that will involve taking pains. Here

the responsibility devolves upon the teacher of making it interesting to take pains for the sake of obtaining a thorough grasp of the meaning of a subject. If this is done, children will not choose for themselves the easy and superficial way and will not have to be driven or dragged to the necessary spadework."

No teacher, and no one interested in education, should be without this book. M. J.

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS. By Viscount Grey of Falldon. (Oxford University Press. Threepence net.)

"Coffee and pistols for two": the phrase hardly lingers even among the stalest of jokes. Yet a generation or two ago it represented a stern reality in many a noble and gentle family in this country, whose head laid down his life most gallantly on a point of honour. That happened in an antique world, and such gallantry seems like little more than childishness to our modern minds, because we know that the system which demanded this kind of sacrifice was hollow. Yet gallantry never dies, and it is the salt of the earth. In that "once upon a time"—July, 1914—our youth went forth to answer a call, not in ones or twos, but in an endless stream—to lay down their lives on a point of honour, honour as they understood it, new, immortal. They went not to claim booty, land, nor even, primarily, for their own country's safety, but to establish Right, the Right even of the weak against brutish force. And they are dead, and the war drags on and on until war itself seems almost to obscure the ideals for which they went out to fight. In a black hour, Lord Grey has given us again a clear view of the ideals for which we fight, in words which, as a contemporary observes, "will go round the world like wildfire, and will be translated into every European language and into every Oriental tongue."

Our readers will not wholly agree with all that Lord Grey says in his pamphlet. To some he will seem too materialistic, to others too much of the idealist, but each will read what he has to say with attention and with respect and his high spirit will inflame ours.

Only briefly then need we touch upon a few of his points.—He says we must learn or perish—more particularly, he says, we must help to form a League of Nations. He calls this a great ideal, he observes that many intellects regard all ideals as dangerous, and that idealists themselves, if weak, wilt when the difficulties to be overcome are roughly pointed out to them. But evidently he believes idealists can be strong, and to such he addresses himself. He says two things are essential if the League is to happen. (1) "The idea must be adopted with earnestness and conviction by the Executive Heads of States." Among these States he includes Germany. "A League such as President Wilson desires must include Germany." The military party in Germany has therefore to learn that "the conditions of security for one nation is a sense of security on the part of all nations." (2) Viscount Grey's second point is "that the governments and peoples of the States willing to found it (the League) must understand clearly that it will impose some limitations upon the National action of each and may entail some inconvenient obligations."

His language is plain and blunt enough. It should reach the heart and stir the will of the common people of a generous nation.

Yet a third point seems essential in Lord Grey's opinion, though here some honest difference of opinion has manifested itself among the supporters of his main "intention." He holds that "those States that have power must be ready to use all the power, economic, military or naval, they possess to bring pressure upon a nation within the League which resorts to force before other methods of settlement by conference, conciliation or, if need be, by arbitration, have been tried."

As our readers will recognise, Lord Grey's scheme is, in its main outline, familiar enough, it has been enthusiastically advocated or faintly praised by many, in and out of office. What gives this little pamphlet its unique significance is the authority of its author and the manner and the time of its appearance.

A. H. W.

Correspondence.

WOMEN CITIZENS' ASSOCIATIONS: SCHEMES X AND Y.

MADAM.—As a protagonist of the "X" and "Y" controversy, and one, I may add, who deeply deplors its existence, I read Miss Rathbone's letter in your last number with great interest. I think so much that she says is true and I find her conclusion so false, that I feel compelled to plunge into the matter once more.

As things are at the moment, there is practically no difference between "X" and "Y" in local areas. Associations do not know what they are, and they do not care. Someone helps them to start, someone calls a committee, someone comes and speaks, and the thing floats off "autonomous"; sometimes they have a committee of representatives to govern them, sometimes the members elect their own committees (it matters very little which), and then the women citizens set out upon the political path. In the the majority of "Y" societies the mayores is president; in the majority of "X" societies she is not (suffrage being still a little too compromising); but taking them on the whole, infant "Xs" and infant "Ys" are much the same. But what is to be the next step? What do we want of these "autonomous" children, and what do they want of us? Do they, as Miss Rathbone thinks, feel the need of looking to us to be their "guide, philosopher, and friend," and are we really the only people for that post? She says we are more progressive than they, and that they need our "political experience" and "clear vision." She thinks that we should try to have such a connection with the W.C.A.s that we shall be able to pump into them, as we do into societies of our own, "just what reforms they want and how they intend to work for them." But is this what the W.C.A.s look to us to provide, and is it what we want to give them?

W.C.A.s surely are not intended to be bits of political machinery; they are rather the common meeting-ground of women of all parties and of all shades of political opinion. They do not aim at becoming more and more progressive; indeed they do not, and will never, agree as to what "progressive" is. They are not a forcing-house for anyone's pet reforms, not even for our own, and they will be rightly indignant if we try to make them such. In so far as our cause is right and inevitable, the development of women's activities as citizens will lead them towards us; in so far as our own propaganda is successful among them, they will

Peter Robinson's OXFORD STREET LONDON W1 Summer Sale

July 1 ——— to ——— July 27

IN view of the continually rising prices of all dress commodities, ladies will be well advised to take advantage of the many money-saving opportunities afforded by this Sale. Some typical examples of the Values are given on this page.



B. 104



B. 105



B. 106



Y. 212



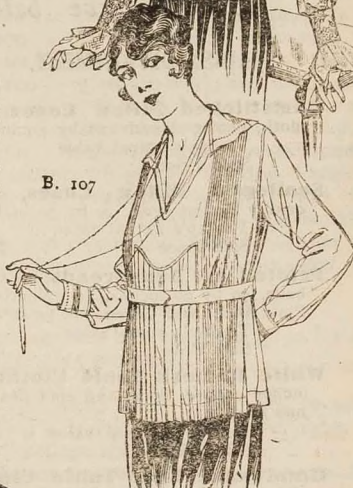
Y. 213



Y. 214



Y. 215



B. 107

B. 104. BLOUSE in white cotton voile; trimmed Cluny insertion and Val. lace. Sale Price 19/11

B. 105. BLOUSE in Cream Bretonne Net and Shadow Lace; trimmed satin ribbon in pink, sky, mauve or black. Sale Price 18/11

B. 106. BLOUSE in Cream Spotted Net; trimmed Val. lace; neck finished black silk ribbon. Sale Price 14/9

B. 107. JUMPER BLOUSE in Cotton Voile. In white, mauve, grey, pink, sky or champagne. Sale Price 17/9

GOODS CANNOT BE SENT ON APPROVAL DURING THE SALE

Y. 212. Three-quarter Smock with sailor collar of "Admiralty" Casement Cloth. In green, helio, khaki, brown, rose, and dark grey. Sale Price 10/6

Y. 214. Overall in heavy Casement Cloth. Blue Grey with navy collar and belt; very strong; suitable for hard wear. Sale Price 11/9

Y. 213. Practical Land Worker's Suit of "Bush" Jean, consisting of Breeches and Coat. Sale Price 21/6 Hat 2/11

Y. 215. Smart Overall—smocked as illustration—a limited quantity only. In useful colors. Sale Price 8/11

SALE CATALOGUES ARE GRATIS AND POST FREE ON REQUEST

This Sale is also in progress at our Regent St. House Peter Robinson Ltd. Oxford St. London W1



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Commences MONDAY, JULY 1st.
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All Drapery
goods sent
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Money refund-
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We give below a few Examples of the Bargains Offered

LINEN DEPARTMENT.

Hemstitched Pillow Cases, fine cloth, buttoned ends 20 by 30 inches.
To-day's actual value ... 2/11½
Sale Price ... 1/11½

Scalloped Pillow Cases, super quality Button ends, 20 by 30 inches.
To-day's actual value ... 4/5
Sale Price ... 2/11½

Printed Art Bedspreads, for single beds, 70 by 90 inches, art colouring in Pink, Blue, and Green.
To-day's actual value ... 8/11
Sale Price ... 5/11

White Damask Table Cloths, 60 inches square, floral and spot designs, fine quality.
To-day's actual value ... 8/11
Sale Price ... 4/11

Hand-made Lace Table Cloths, all lace 36 inches square.
To-day's value ... 10/11
Sale Price ... 3/11½

All Linen Hand Drawn Tea Cloth, 36 inches square, pure Irish Linen, hemstitched borders, with lovely hand-drawn centre.
To-day's actual value ... 10/6
Sale Price ... 5/11

White Salvage Longcloth, 36 inches wide, sea stained, worth if perfect ... 1/11 yd.
(Well washed bleaching) Sale Price 6½d.,

Hand Made Lace and Drawn Tray Cloths, 14 by 20 inches, some hemstitched with hand-drawn centres. Others hand made lace with drawn centre. All one Price.
To-day's actual value ... 1/11½
Sale Price ... 1/-

All Linen Damask Table Cloths, some 50 by 70, others 60 by 60, and 70 by 70 inches, reliable Irish Goods.
To-day's actual value ... 21/9
Sale Price ... 12/11

Hemstitched Cotton Sheets, 2 yds by 3½ fine linen finish.
To-day's actual value ... 29/9
Sale Price ... pair 21/9

Double width Silk finish Foulard, 40 inches wide in Navy and White, and Black and White Spots.
To-day's actual value ... 2/11
Sale Price ... 1/6½ yd.

Double Width Poplins, 39 inches wide in Sky, Brown, Navy, or Saxe Blue.
To-day's value ... 2/11
Sale Price ... 1/11½

Double Width Voiles, 39 inches, Cream, Sky, Black, Moss, Shrimp, Saxe or Grey.
To-day's value ... 2/6
Sale Price ... 1/6½

LADIES' OUTFITTING DEPARTMENT.

1. **Useful Moire Poplin Petticoat**, with various styles in flat pleated flounces.
Usual Price ... 12/11
Sale Price ... 8/11

2. **French Hand-made Camisole**, trimmed prettily with Valenciennes Insertion and lace.
Usual Price ... 6/11
Sale Price ... 4/11½

3. **French Hand-made Night-gown**, trimmed lace and fine Muslin Embroidery, low neck, three-quarter Sleeves.
Usual Price ... 12/11
Sale Price ... 10/11

4. **Morning Gowns** in pretty flowered Muslin, white ground and various coloured designs, beading at waist threaded ribbon, large muslin Collar and Cuffs.
Usual Price ... 21/9
Sale Price ... 12/11

5. **Ladies Pyjamas**, Wincey, in various coloured striped, well cut, with tailored revers.
Usual Price ... 14/11
Sale Price ... 12/11

6. **Corsets**. Special value in short soft Corset, lightly boned, Elastic at top, Flesh colour, sizes 21, 22, 23, 24, 25. Suitable for war workers.
Usual Price ... 6/11
Sale Price ... 4/11

7. **Washing Petticoats**, in various plain and fancy zephyrs, either plain built-up Flounce, or Scalloped.
Usual Price ... 8/11
Sale Price ... 6/11

No. 18. **Ladies Land Army Boots**, made from specially selected leather, heavy water-proof leather soles, stitched and screwed to give maximum strength. In Brown and Black.
Usual Price, 35s.
Sale Price, 30s. pair

Usual Price ... 4/6½
Sale Price ... 2/11½
Two for ... 5/10

7. 50 doz. Ladies' White woven **Night-dresses**, turn down collar, or V neck, trimmed imitation Torchon Lace, a real bargain.
Usual Price ... 13/11
Sale Price ... 8/11

8. Ladies' **Black Cotton Hose**, beautiful soft finish, fast dye, excellent wearing.
Usual Price ... 2/6½
Sale Price ... 1/6½

9. Ladies soft finish coloured Cotton Hose in good shades of Lovat, Grey and Coating, hard wearing.
Usual Price ... 2/11½
Sale Price ... 1/11½

10. Bargain, 50 doz. fine **Black Lisle Hose**, fast dye, spliced heels and toes.
Usual Price ... 2/6½
Sale Price ... 1/9½
3 pairs for ... 5/3

Usual Price ... 13/11
Sale Price ... 8/11

Usual Price ... 2/6½
Sale Price ... 1/6½

Usual Price ... 2/11½
Sale Price ... 1/11½

Usual Price ... 2/6½
Sale Price ... 1/9½
3 pairs for ... 5/3

Usual Price ... 13/11
Sale Price ... 8/11

Usual Price ... 2/6½
Sale Price ... 1/6½

Usual Price ... 2/11½
Sale Price ... 1/11½

Usual Price ... 2/6½
Sale Price ... 1/9½
3 pairs for ... 5/3

Usual Price ... 13/11
Sale Price ... 8/11

Usual Price ... 2/6½
Sale Price ... 1/6½

Usual Price ... 2/11½
Sale Price ... 1/11½

Usual Price ... 2/6½
Sale Price ... 1/9½
3 pairs for ... 5/3

GLOVES, HOSIERY & SPORTS COAT DEPARTMENT.

1. **Bargains in Ladies' smart Mercerised Sports Coats** Collar and reverses, 2 pockets and belt, perfect fitting, in White, Black, and smart range of colours.
Usual Price ... 27/6
Sale Price ... 21/-

2. **Special Sports Coat** offer, Ladies' Artificial Silk Coat, all round Collar, two pockets and sash, in Black, Sky, Saxe, Pink, Rose, Amethyst, and Bottle, a very nice coat.
Usual Price ... 40/-
Sale Price ... 31/6

3. **Indispensable Wool Spencer Coats**, in Black, Navy, Rose, Sky, Grey, Champagne, Emerald, and Purple, a most useful article for in or outdoor wear.
Usual Price ... 7/6
Sale Price ... 5/6

4. Very special offer in **Ladies' All Wool Pesco White Combinations**, fully spliced, guaranteed unshrinkable, good wearing, and washing.
Usual Price ... 18/11
Sale Price ... 13/11
Oursize ... 14/11

5. Ladies' **White All Wool Summer-weight Combinations**, high neck, short sleeves, and Women's size only, guaranteed unshrinkable, most comfortable wear.
Usual Price ... 13/11
Sale Price ... 8/11

6. Extraordinary Bargain in Ladies' very soft texture **Net Cotton Combinations**, natural colour, high neck, short sleeves, splendid washing and wearing. Women's size only.
Usual Price ... 4/6½
Sale Price ... 2/11½
Two for ... 5/10

7. 50 doz. Ladies' White woven **Night-dresses**, turn down collar, or V neck, trimmed imitation Torchon Lace, a real bargain.
Usual Price ... 13/11
Sale Price ... 8/11

8. Ladies' **Black Cotton Hose**, beautiful soft finish, fast dye, excellent wearing.
Usual Price ... 2/6½
Sale Price ... 1/6½

9. Ladies soft finish coloured Cotton Hose in good shades of Lovat, Grey and Coating, hard wearing.
Usual Price ... 2/11½
Sale Price ... 1/11½

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Usual Price ... 2/6½
Sale Price ... 1/9½
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Sale Price ... 1/6½

Usual Price ... 2/11½
Sale Price ... 1/11½

Usual Price ... 2/6½
Sale Price ... 1/9½
3 pairs for ... 5/3

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Usual Price ... 2/6½
Sale Price ... 1/9½
3 pairs for ... 5/3

Usual Price ... 13/11
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Sale Price ... 1/6½

Usual Price ... 2/11½
Sale Price ... 1/11½

Usual Price ... 2/6½
Sale Price ... 1/9½
3 pairs for ... 5/3

Usual Price ... 13/11
Sale Price ... 8/11

Usual Price ... 2/6½
Sale Price ... 1/6½

Usual Price ... 2/11½
Sale Price ... 1/11½

help our cause; but that surely is all the connection that there need be between us.

There is nothing in all the recent controversy about this movement that pains me more, and I must admit, shocks me so profoundly, as the suggestion that we shall miss our own great opportunity if we fail to attach this new movement to ours by artificial bonds. We shall indeed fail of our task if we do not convert them. But surely if we are to remain honest, we must convert them before they join us!

Miss Rathbone fears that they will bleed our societies white, that our members will be interested in citizenship and not in our own objects, and, therefore, that unless we allow them to camouflage their loss of interest we shall ourselves expire. If no one cares for our objects, then, of course, we are dead, and no camouflage in the world can save us. But it is not so. Miss Rathbone need not fear. Our members and our societies believe in the objects of the Union, and are ready to carry on its work through the time of reconstruction, and they will be able to do so if from Headquarters we help and do not hinder them. We must talk and think and work for our own objects, preach our own gospel, and strengthen our own organisation. We shall indeed commit suicide if we make associations of women citizens that are no different from N.U. Societies. We shall then indeed be eaten out of house and home by our "autonomous" children. But why should we be so foolish? Surely our course is clear.

We have the country still to convert to our great ideal, we have our objects still to attain, and we have these new associations which afford us a splendid opportunity. Let us use them, and let us help them; but as a method only and not as an integral part of our work, and let us keep our money, our strength, our organisations, and our enthusiasm for our own objects.

RAY STRACHEY.

MADAM.—When the Council met in March I was a wholehearted supporter of Scheme X in its original form, but a few months' experience of the actual working of the Union has led me to a complete change of view. Frankly, if we allow affiliation of W.C.A.s to this Headquarters we shall become an Organisation of Associations and no longer a Union of Suffrage Societies. We must face the issue. The logical conclusion of affiliation would be the scheme which was before the Council in the name of Chinley. As a scheme for turning the N.U. into a Union of Citizen Associations it was excellent—but it was not suffrage. If we wish to continue the fight for equality we must keep the Union in existence, and for this we need all the time, money, and energy at our disposal. No one rejoices more than I do in the excellent work accomplished by our organisers for the associations, but these associations, once started, should, in my view, work out their own salvation. If they are to become a national organisation they must do so independently of us.

MARGARET JONES.

ERRATUM.

In last week's issue, p. 117, the letter signed "Alice A. Lucas," paragraph beginning "With regard to Dr. Alice Corbhorn," for "alternate" read "alternative."

Reports.

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR COMBATING VENEREAL DISEASES.

The Annual Meeting of the N.S.C.V.D. was held at the Caxton Hall on Monday, June 17th. LORD SYDENHAM, the President, said that until the Local Government Board in 1912 took up the question of venereal diseases, the country remained blind to these insidious dangers. In those days the majority of members of the medical profession were scarcely more instructed; the rich were able to consult specialists who kept abreast of the times and knew of recent discoveries; but the poor remained untreated or treated by quacks. Things were changed now. The country could never now relapse into ignorance; and for this fact the National Council could take part of the credit. The Local Government Board had now undertaken a hundred and twenty-seven free-treatment schemes. Eighteen more were under consideration.

Lord Sydenham went on to say that the Society had two objects in view. One was the increase of its branches. It had at present fifty-four, including three in Scotland and one in Ulster (he regretted that Ireland was so backward in this respect). There was a Central Council in South Africa; there were hopes of a similar one in Canada; and a branch in Bombay had asked to be affiliated to the National Council. The second object of the Society was to keep in touch with the Labour Party. The whole question of venereal disease was closely bound up with social life, habits and prejudices. Co-operation with nursing institutes was also very important; nurses needed special instruction in taking precautions against infection into contact with which the exercise of their duties brought them.

There was still much work before the Society (the speaker continued). A large number of the Royal Commission's recommendations were still to be carried out. More free clinics were needed; and those existing should be open for longer hours. More facilities for free early treatment for pregnant mothers were essential, in the interests of the unborn, for most lying-in hospitals refused to take in women they found to be infected. Mental deficients also urgently needed to be dealt with, for their own and for others' sakes. Detection and treatment of disease in prisons and workhouse infirmaries would have to be more carefully carried out. At present the recommendations of the Commission in that respect were not fulfilled.

With regard to the Criminal Law Amendment Bill, Lord Sydenham expressed the opinion that Clauses 5, 6 and 7 should be passed without waiting for the others. If Clause 5 could be passed, it would counteract the effects of 40 D, which regulation, in common with any regulation which introduced the principal of the C.D. Acts, or inequality of treatment between the sexes would be opposed by the National Council. (Applause.)

MR. HAYES FISHER said that the Local Government Board was co-operating with the N.S.C.V.D. It had published three leaflets on the subject. He quoted from one:

"If every man and lad would believe *what is the truth*, that chastity is consistent with health, then venereal diseases would be reduced to a great extent."

Mr. Hayes Fisher expressed the opinion that there was little chance of

legislation this session. He agreed with all present who objected to 40 D in thinking that Clause 5, which dealt equally with both sexes, was preferable. If it stood alone it would pass at once. There was and had been scarcely any opposition to it—there ought to be no opposition.

MRS. GOTTO, organising secretary to the Society, deplored the unwillingness of some women's organisations to support Clause 5 of the Criminal Law Amendment Bill.

MR. TURNER, Chairman of the Medical Committee, said that with regard to legislation, the law of libel demanded consideration. It affected both laymen and physicians. A layman might discover that someone was in a position to spread infection, and he could do nothing for fear of a libel action. Or it might come to the cognisance of a physician that a person intending to marry was infected; the doctor could do nothing. Not only by warning the other party would he lay himself open to an action, he would also violate the sacred law of confidence that bound a doctor. But if the law were changed, if the duty of notifying disease was imposed on physicians, then they might "grouse," but they would obey.

With regard to notification; as a natural sequence to this you must have continuous treatment, without which notification was useless. An infected person should be constrained to continue treatment until infection was past.

TRAINING COLLEGE WOMEN STUDENTS' PROTEST MOVEMENT.

On June 22nd youth filled the Memorial Hall, its purpose as above. Several weeks ago a certain official was sent by authority to interview students about their first posts, and he said they would begin at £100 (= £50 pre-war), and when murmuring arose he was grieved. "I don't know why you are grumbling, as this scale of salaries has been generally accepted by the teachers." That did it. Student Howell at once founded the Students' Protest Movement. Eighteen London Training Colleges, a large number of provincial centres, and the N.U.W.S.S., support it; also Susan Lawrence, Galsworthy, Northcliffe, Arnold Bennett, and Henderson, who wrote that *the standard of education cannot be raised while the status and pay of teachers remains low.*

Resolutions to the following effect were carried:—

(a) Minimum for trained teachers not less than £130 (raised by amendment from £120) (= £75 pre-war).

(b) Annual increment of £10.

(c) "Secondary" T.C. students from University to start at £140, or with extra year's training £150, these rates to be applicable to "Froebel" college students.

Space forbids a full report of the speeches; they were concise, moderate in tone, and burning with conviction.

Student Howell opened. She told us that a teacher's life under present conditions was drab, and when another speaker disputed this in the name of idealism, Student Howell repeated it. "I tell you, if you go out now on £100 (= £50), you will lead a drab life. I have done it." For this she gave us her record:—£50 a year official, raised to £75 by private work, her day's work being: 8 a.m.—8.30, teaching small child; 9—12, in school; 12.30—1.10, teaching child; 2—4.15, in school (80 boys, standards V. and VI.); 5.30—7, teaching two boys.

One bright, blue-eyed girl told us, with merry laughter: "They like young teachers, because they say they have gaiety and brightness, that they are nearer to the spirit of the children they teach. But," she added, and the laughter, not bitter but of sheer amusement, died away, "it will not last; *the deadly enemy of such things is undue economic pressure.*" Student Michie said: "A teacher's life is a struggle for respectable existence until she sinks down into the groove, and—(here came deafening applause, with laughter)—of all grooves, the teacher's is the deepest, narrowest, and most soul destroying." Student Cope, however, had met someone who questioned—"Is it not rather unfair for teachers to be asking for an increase of salary when the Government wants so much money for other purposes?" This aspect of the case was received with extreme courtesy and amusement.

Specimen budgets were printed on handbills: one as follows: Bed-sitting room, 12s. 6d.; food, 16s.; coals, 2s.; gas, 7d.; laundry, 1s. 3d.; total, £1 12s. 4d., leaving 5s. 2d. for subscriptions, fares, doctor's bills, clothing, boots, repairs, books, lectures, examination fees, savings, insurance, and other things. With this in our hands, we understood when several students spoke of "dumps." "Dumps, or ill-health, reflect injuriously on your pupils, and yet, on the appointed salary, you cannot get out of the dumps if you are once in." The budget handbill ends: "Think of the poverty before you and come and support this strong effort to obtain social and economic justice." The students' reply: We shall stick till we win. This is not a meeting, it is a movement. Their first step is to send their resolutions to the 316 educational authorities, also, by deputation, to Mr. Fisher.

The London students have begun. Every student in big provincial centres must take their part, and feminists should stand by them, for their cause is worth it and they are worth it.

A. H. W.

JOHN BARNES & Co., Ltd. 191-217, Finchley Road, Hampstead, London, N.W.3.

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National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies. President: Mrs. Henry Fawcett, L.L.D. Hon. Secretaries: Miss Margaret Jones, Mrs. Oliver Strachey (Parliamentary), Miss Evelyn Atkinson (Literature).

New N.U.W.S.S. Leaflets.

Four new leaflets are now on sale at Headquarters. The first, entitled "The New N.U.W.S.S." describes the objects, methods, and organisation of the Union (price 3s. per 100).

"THE COMMON CAUSE" £2,000 FUND.

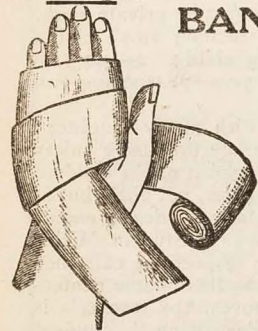
Table listing donors and amounts for the £2,000 fund. Includes names like Mrs. Burnham, Miss G. M. Clayton, Mrs. Paynter, etc.

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N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals.

LONDON UNITS.

The London Memorial to Dr. Elsie Inglis. The London Units of the Scottish Women's Hospitals (N.U.W.S.S.), with which Dr. Elsie Inglis was associated during the last years of her life, have decided on the form which their memorial to the founder of their organisation is to take.

The strong and tender feeling which made Elsie Inglis give all she had of physical and mental power to Serbia in distress could not, it is felt, be better perpetuated than by this gift for the days when Serbia's suffering is over, and the work of reconstruction begins.

For the London Memorial, a fund is to be raised, and to inaugurate this, a meeting will be held at the Mansion House, on Friday, July 5th, over which the Lord Mayor will preside.

Table listing donors and amounts for the London Memorial fund. Includes names like Mrs. Burnham, Miss G. M. Clayton, Mrs. Paynter, etc.

SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITALS FOR HOME AND FOREIGN SERVICE.

A donation of 20,000 dollars (£420 3s. 4d.) received from American Friends, per Miss Kathleen Burke, ex-marked for immediate use in Scotland, has been donated by the Executive Committee of the Scottish Women's Hospitals to the Edinburgh Hospital and Dispensary for Women and Children, and Hospice in High Street, Edinburgh, in connection therewith—the latter branch of the work was started by the late Dr. Elsie Inglis, in the interests of Mothers and Babies, and has been the means of aiding the wives and children of many of our Highland soldiers and sailors.

Subscriptions are still urgently needed, much new work is being undertaken, and should be sent to Mrs. Laurie, Hon. Treasurer, Red House, Greenock. Cheques to be crossed "Royal Bank of Scotland." Subscriptions for the London Units to be sent to the Right Hon. Viscountess Westdray, or to Miss Gosse, Joint Hon. Treasurers, 66, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S.W. 1.

Table listing donors and amounts for the Scottish Women's Hospitals fund. Includes names like Mrs. Burnham, Miss G. M. Clayton, Mrs. Paynter, etc.

*Denotes further donations.

Forthcoming Meetings (N.U.W.S.S.)

JUNE 28. Birmingham—Woodbrooke, Selly Oak—speakers: Mrs. Osler, Miss Field, Mrs. Ring—Chair: H. G. Wood, Esq. London Society—Monthly Council Meeting—8.30 p.m. (Caxton Hall)

JULY 1. Wandsworth—Springfield Hall, Wandsworth Road—Women's Meeting—Speaker: Miss Helen Downs—Subject: "The Duties of Citizenship" 3 p.m. Waltham—Oakley Place Mission, Old Kent Road—Women's Total Abstinence Union—Speaker: Miss Bell—Subject: "Opportunities and Responsibilities of the Vote" 3 p.m.

JULY 2. Bristol—Meeting at St. Werburgh's Rectory—Chair: Miss Edna Keen—Speaker: Mrs. W. C. H. Cross 7 p.m.

JULY 3. Brighton—South-Western Fever Hospital, Nursing Staff—Speaker: Miss Cynthia Tucker—Subject: "Women's Service" 8 p.m.

JULY 4. South London—Citizens' Discussion Circle—Speaker: Mr. H. G. Chancellor, M.P.—Subject: "The Drink Question—Compensated Prohibition without Payment"—Chair: Miss Ruth Young 7 p.m.

Birmingham—General Hospital—Speaker: Mrs. Ring—Subject: "Nurses and the Use of the Vote" 6.15 p.m.

Dewsbury W.S.S.—General Meeting in the Cafe, Church Street—Reports and Election of Officers—Chair: W. B. Crawshaw, Esq.—Speaker: Miss Hartop—Subject: "The Future Work of the Society" 7 p.m.

JULY 5. Cardiff—Visit of Mrs. Fawcett—Civic Reception by the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor of Cardiff—Afternoon Meeting in the City Hall—Speakers: Mrs. Fawcett, Mrs. Strachey, Mrs. Coombe Tennant, Mrs. Lewis—Chairman: The Lord Mayor 7.30 p.m.

JULY 8. Bermondsey—Bermondsey Settlement—Farncombe Street—Women's Meeting—Subject: "Women's New Opportunities and Responsibilities"—Mrs. Corbett Fisher, M.A. 3 p.m.

Coming Events.

BABY WEEK. JULY 1st, 2nd, and 3rd.—National Baby Week Council—Central Hall, Westminster—National Conference on Maternal and Infant Welfare—Short Course of Lectures—Educational Mothercraft Exhibition, open throughout Baby Week (July 1st to 6th)—For tickets and particulars, apply Miss Halford, National Association for Prevention of Infant Mortality, 4, Tavistock Square, W.C. 1.

JULY 5th.—Cardiff—Assembly Room, City Hall—Public Meeting—Chair: The Lord Mayor—Speakers: Mrs. Henry Fawcett, L.L.D., Mrs. Oliver Strachey, Mrs. Coombe Tennant, &c.—Doors open 6.45—Music 7.0—7.30 p.m.

Reports from Societies.

NAIRN.—A meeting was held on Wednesday, May 29th, and was addressed by Miss Foggo, organiser, who spoke on the Council resolutions, "40 D," and other points connected with the moral question.

On Friday, May 31st, Miss Foggo addressed a public meeting in the town Court-house, Provost Macrae being in the chair. Miss Foggo briefly reviewed the history of Women's Suffrage, explained the qualifications of the woman voter, and described the objects and organisation of Women Citizens' Associations.

The meeting unanimously passed a resolution to form a W.C.A. A collection taken to defray expenses amounted to £1 10s. Another meeting, held on Saturday, June 1st, Miss Foggo in the chair, drew up the provisional constitution of the W.C.A. On Saturday, June 8th, office-bearers and members of the committee were elected by ballot, and the Association adopted the provisional constitution, with a few unimportant alterations. The membership is now seventy-six, and the first meeting—open to the public—was held on Thursday, June 13th; Provost Macrae was in the chair, and the speaker was Sir Archibald Williamson, M.P. for Elgin and Nairn.

COVENTRY.—A successful public meeting was held on June 10th, in St. Mary's Hall. The Mayoress, who is president of the Women Citizens' Association, took the chair, and Miss Margaret Jones and Mrs. Ring spoke on the "Woman's Vote and Social Reform." The audience was very appreciative, and the meeting augurs well for the future of the W.C.A. which our Society started in Coventry under Scheme X.

HEYWOOD.—A meeting was held on June 18th, when Mrs. Errock spoke on the advisability of forming a Women Citizens' League. At the close of the address, it was decided unanimously that the representatives of all the women societies in Heywood be called together with a view to forming a Women Citizens' League.

HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS.—A Women Citizens' Association was successfully inaugurated here on June 14th. A Conference was held in the afternoon, at which representatives of most of the women's societies in the town were present, as well as individual women of importance. Mrs. Edden, C.B.E., presided, and the meeting was addressed by Mrs. Oliver Strachey, who described the work and methods of a Women Citizens' Association. The motion that a Women Citizens' Association should be formed for Hastings and St. Leonards was carried unanimously. The Mayoress was elected president, Mrs. Edden, Chairman of the Executive Committee, and Miss R. Kenyon, P.L.G., Vice-chairman. The Formation Committee, elected jointly by the local branches of N.U.W.S.S. and N.U.W.W. was re-elected en bloc as the Executive Committee for the first year, Miss R. F. Southey being hon. sec. A council of twenty-five was then elected on the nomination of those present, a thoroughly representative body being thus obtained. In the evening Mrs. Strachey addressed a large audience in the Drill Hall, her subject being, "The Vote: Women's New Responsibilities." Lady Brassey presided; some 450 people were present, and the Women Citizens' Association obtained over sixty members on the spot. More members are joining by degrees, and a Women's Information Bureau has begun work at 17, Eversfield Place.

MRS. MAUDE ROYDEN preaches in the City Temple, Holborn Viaduct, next Sunday, at the 6 p.m. Service. (Moral Problems (4) "The Future.")

MRS. GRIEVE, of "The Whins" Vegetable Drug and Herb Plant Nursery, Chalfont St. Peter, Bucks, is issuing several pamphlets on Medicinal and other useful Hedges and Herbs. These give full information in a concise and complete form, of the properties of each plant and directions as to culture, which are of value, not only to those specialising in the study of Drugs, but also to those interested in general Botanical Study. Special Leaflets on any given subject cost 7d. post free. All Medicinal Plants are grown in the "Physic Garden" at "The Whins," and are of the utmost purity for students. Mrs. Grieve, moreover, gives instruction by post, and would be pleased to send full information of the "Course," on application to "The Whins" as above.

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ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN CLERKS AND SECRETARIES (Registered Trade Union Number 16322). Hon. Secretary: Miss A. L. Lawrence, M.B.E. Secretary: Miss Dorothy Evans, M.A.—12, Buckingham-street, W.C. 2.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.—Mrs. Despard's Birthday Party, 7th year, Caxton Hall, Westminster, July 5th, at 6.30 p.m. Short Speeches, Music, Recitations, Refreshments. Presentation for the Birthday Fund. Tickets 6d., from 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1.

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INDUM HOUSE, BEXHILL-ON-SEA.—Home School on Progressive Thought lines. Large garden, cricket field, sea bathing; all exams. Special care given to backward and delicate girls.—Principal: Miss Richardson, B.A.

ADOPTION. WANTED.—Refined people to adopt healthy boy, two months old.—Particulars apply Box 7,725, COMMON CAUSE Office.

POSITIONS VACANT. ORGANISING SECRETARY required in Glasgow for next winter to take up work towards the end of August. Experience in suffrage work and knowledge of industrial and social conditions essential.—Applications with testimonials to Hon. Secretary, Glasgow Society for Women's Suffrage, 202, Hope-street.

WANTED.—Gentlewoman to share light housework and care of little girl (three).—Mrs. Pantcheva, Kinross, Buckhurst Hill, Essex.

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(Continued on page 140.)

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Continued from page 139.]

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