

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

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## OUR WORK.

Monday, November 28th, at 3 p.m. ...	... Council Meeting.
Tuesday, November 29th, at 3 p.m. ...	... Sale of Xmas Presents.
Wednesday, November 30th, at 3 p.m. ...	... Annual Meeting.
Wednesday, Nov. 30th, 9.30 p.m. to 2.30 a.m. ...	... Ball.
Wednesday, December 14th, at 3 p.m. ...	... Drawing Room Meeting.

We are sending this number of *Monthly News* free to all our members. With it is included, instead of an annual report, a reprint of extracts from the July number. We believe that our members, if they read this publication carefully, cannot fail to be convinced of the value of the work which is being done by the Association, the only existing organisation which represents the point of view of Conservative women in regard to the social questions of the day.

It is obvious that the driving force of this association is in proportion to the size of its membership. In view, therefore, of the urgent need of combating the extremist propaganda, which is remarkably well organised, and is growing in influence, we beg all members to do their best to secure fresh members. We find that it is impossible to keep our members in touch with the Association without the link supplied by *Monthly News*. This publication, however, is, not unnaturally, run at a loss, and the number of members who do not subscribe to it is far greater than it should be. These are earnestly invited to give effective evidence of their interest by subscribing the 2s. a year which entitles them to receive *Monthly News* post free.

**Meeting of the Council.** This meeting on November 28th will be addressed on "London Education," by our chairman, Lady Trustram Eve, whose large experience of the subject as a member of many L.C.C. Education Committees should make her address particularly valuable.

**Sale of Xmas Presents.** Mrs. G. H. Currie has kindly lent her house, 83, Cadogan Place, at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, November 29th, for the sale of

articles remaining over from the Fair at Claridge's. These include a life-size doll's house, a spade guinea, bead necklaces, some books, china, and many other useful articles, which will be sold very cheap as they cannot be stored. All members are requested to come and buy.

**Annual Meeting.** This meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 30th, at 3 p.m., at 29, Park Lane, by kind permission of Mrs. Hornby Lewis. After the formal business is concluded, Sir Philip Lloyd Greame, M.C., M.P., Parliamentary Secretary of the Board of Trade and of the Overseas Department, will speak on the Government proposals for dealing with Unemployment. It is hoped that there will be a very large attendance on this exceptionally interesting occasion.

**Ball.** A Ball will be given at the Hyde Park Hotel on Wednesday, November 30th, from 9.30 p.m. till 2.30 a.m. Tickets (25s.) may be obtained from the office of the Association, 48, Dover Street, W.1.

**Drawing Room Meeting.** On December 14th, a drawing room meeting will be held at which Mr. H. G. Williams will lecture on National Finance. We hope our members will make a point of being present to hear this well-known authority.

**Second Chamber Reform.** Mr. J. H. R. Marriott, M.P. gave a most interesting lecture on October 28th, at the house of Winifred, Countess of Arran, 50, Eaton Square. Mr. Marriott was a member of Lord Bryce's Committee in 1917, the report of which (Cmd. 9038) can be bought for 3d.



## POLITICAL NOTES.

The Session which has just closed has, during the last few weeks proved to be of even greater interest than at any time since Mr. Lloyd George's Government swept the country in December, 1918. Parliament met after the adjournment with the single programme of the treatment of unemployment. Despite Labour's repeated statement that the proposed Government measures did not go far enough, the country as a whole has shown its approval of the four Bills, all of which have passed into law with practically no opposition, and already Mr. Lloyd George has discerned distinct signs of a slight revival of the trade of this country. But, on the other hand, ever since the decision of the League of Nations on Upper Silesia, the German mark has dropped with an increasing velocity, until it now stands at M.5 to a penny. The seriousness of the German financial position is bound to give our statesmen food for thought, and there are not wanting experts who advocate a revision of the Reparations Treaty and who think that a solution may be found on some such lines as that of the Wiesbaden agreement.

**The Irish Situation.** The Irish situation still holds the centre of political interest and we are living through a period of grave crisis still. Everyone remembers the great speech made by the Prime Minister on the occasion of the revolt of the 43 Unionist members led by Colonel Gretton, when the Government secured the overwhelming majority of 396 votes.

But it is to be feared that the revolt is not over. During the last few days, since the arrival of Sir James Craig and his Cabinet, rumour and the Press have been busy with speculations as to the attitude of the 43. Reading between the lines it is apparent how grave is the situation—graver and more anxious than at any other time during the prolonged negotiations. The next few days will be fraught with peril, and we can only wait, hoping that Armistice week will not be without its lesson of peace.

**The Washington Conference.** Very reluctantly Mr. Lloyd George has had to abandon for the present any hope of attending the Washington Conference. The Dominions and India have sent very able representatives, and Lord Beatty and Mr. Balfour, both peculiarly endeared to Americans, have gone over on our behalf.

Yet another Prime Minister will not be there—Mr. Hara, the late Premier of Japan, foully murdered on the eve of his departure for Washington. Our sympathy goes out to his country who, by his death has lost a gallant and patriotic statesman. His death will be amply avenged by the success of the Conference, for which he worked so hard.

**Party Politics.** Mention has already been made in this article of the "Die-Hard" revolt of last week, and its possible continuance, though under what leadership is still obscure. Much speculation is expended upon the position of Mr. Bonar Law, who is reported to be uncompromising in

his support of Ulster. Next week's Annual Meeting of the National Unionist Association will prove of unusual interest, as any divergencies in the Unionist ranks will be revealed in their nakedness.

**The Budget.** For this year at least, Sir Robert Home is fairly satisfied with the financial position of the country. There is to be no surplus, indeed we shall have to borrow 60 millions, but at the same time things might have been much worse, and our present position compares favourably with that of other countries. There has been a remarkable yield from Customs and Excise, and also from Income Tax, both of which sources of revenue have produced more than was expected. But next year income tax, owing to the operation of the three years' average will show a considerable decrease, and our revenue will be further depleted by a fall in the receipts from war sales. We shall further have to pay America 50 millions a year as interest on our war debt. Meantime some of us are wondering whether the Chancellor might not find a lower rate of income tax more lucrative for 1922 than the present 6s. in the £. It was during the discussion of the financial position that Mrs. Wintringham made her excellent maiden speech.

M. LLOYD GREAME.

## THE MODERN JURY.

In the earlier and more primitive conceptions of Trial by Jury, there were some vital and fundamental ideas which still survive. The first is that the Jury shall be composed of the peers, or equals, of the accused; the second, that the power of challenge is reserved to the accused, and is an expression of his eternal right to fair trial; and the third, that the essential duty of the Jury is to weigh, without prejudice, the facts elicited in the course of the Trial.

The word "Jury" is used in four well-known phrases, (1) the Coroner's Jury; (2) the Grand Jury; (3) the Special Jury; (4) the Petty or Trial Jury.

(1) The "Coroner's Jury" and its function is so well known as hardly to call for comment, except to note that its qualification is under the "Coroners Acts," not the Juries Acts, and is vaguely that of "good and lawful" persons, householders in the district. They are summoned under warrant from the Coroner to his own special officer, or to a constable of the place where the dead body lies. The function of the Coroner's Jury has a strange and moving significance in the life of a people. The "Coroner," although now elected by County Council or Borough Council (over 10,000, where there is a Quarter Sessions) is, in his origin, a King's officer, and stands for the Majesty of the Realm personified, to announce to all whom it may concern that the defenceless body of even the meanest subject in the Kingdom lies within the protection of that Majesty.

Reprinted from the "Monthly News" of July—August, in place of an Annual Report.

## WORK OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

We give below a short report of the resolutions passed by the Executive Committee and recommendations on many vital subjects sent up during the past year.

## Resolutions.

## To the Prime Minister—

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

## To the whole Association—

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

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

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

## To all Government Departments—

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

## To the Prime Minister—

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

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

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

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

"That this Association views with anxiety the hesitation of His Majesty's Government to disprove the statements appearing in the Press of all parties as to the lack of discipline among the auxiliary forces employed in Ireland, and which is reported to be responsible for acts opposed to every British tradition of clean and even handed justice; and this Association is further of opinion

that so greatly has the National conscience been shocked by these reports that every means including if necessary an impartial enquiry should be employed to restore public confidence in the measures which have been adopted to suppress crime and rebellion in Ireland."

## To the Prime Minister—

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

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

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

## COMMITTEES ON WHICH THE ASSOCIATION IS REPRESENTED.

## The following is a list of Committees on which the Association is represented—

National Council of Women—  
 Child Welfare—Mrs. Currie.  
 Education—Mrs. Currie.  
 International—Lady Trustram Eve.  
 Industrial—Mrs. Hubert Walter.  
 Legislation—Mrs. Currie.  
 Parliamentary—Mrs. Currie.  
 National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship  
 Consultative Committee.  
 Society of Authors.  
 Lady Lloyd-Greame.  
 Women's Institute.  
 Miss Eveline Mitford. ...  
 Provisional Committee of the Women's League  
 of Nations.  
 The Countess of Selborne.  
 Council for the Representation of Women in the  
 League of Nations.  
 The Countess of Selborne.  
 Association for Social and Moral Hygiene.  
 Committee of Inquiry into Sexual Morality—  
 Mrs. Currie.  
 League of Nations' Union.  
 Lady Trustram Eve.  
 Consultative Committee of Women's Organisation  
 Lady Lloyd-Greame.

## The following is a list of members of the Executive Committee who are delegates to, and represent the views of the Association on various bodies:—

Lady Grogan—  
 International Economic Conference, Caxton  
 Hall, Westminster.  
 Lady Trustram Eve, and  
 Lady Lloyd-Greame—  
 Annual Meeting of the National Council of  
 Women.



(CONTINUED)

The Countess of Selborne—  
Annual Meeting of Council for Representation  
of Women in the League of Nations.  
Mrs. Currie—Forced Labour.  
Lady Lloyd-Greame—Incipient Lunatics.  
National Council of Women Conferences.  
Lady Lloyd-Greame—  
Conference on Criminal Law Amendment  
Bill by Association of Social and Moral  
Hygiene.  
Mrs. John P. Boyd-Carpenter—  
The Higher Production Council.  
Lady Trustram Eve, and  
Lady Lloyd-Greame.  
Meeting held by Lady Astor "To consider  
joint action by various women's organ-  
izations when necessary."  
Mrs. Bucknill,  
Lady Lloyd-Greame,  
Lady Ware—  
N.U.S.E.C. Conference.  
"The Guardianship of Infants Bill."  
Lady Trustram Eve, and  
Mrs. Kenyon Slaney—  
Lady Astor's (second conference).  
Lady Amherst,  
Mrs. Currie,  
Lady Trustram Eve  
Lady Lloyd-Greame—  
Criminal Law Amendment Bill (Bishop of  
London's) House of Commons, 2nd June.

#### CONFERENCES HELD BY THE ASSOCIATION.

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

We have had Lectures on all the following  
subjects during the year, and the speeches are  
followed by Debates, in which difficult questions  
are raised and Discussions are held, resulting in  
new points of view being brought out which can  
then be forwarded to the authorities for consider-  
ation.

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

#### List of Lectures given in the course of the year:

"Criminal Law Amendment Bill"  
Lady Nott Bower.  
"Bolshevism and its bearing on our own Social  
Problems."  
The Lady Frances Balfour.  
Mrs. Nesta Webster.  
"The Joint Assessment of the Income of Hus-  
bands and Wives."  
The Countess of Selborne.  
"Women as Jurors."  
Mrs. Ross, M.A.  
"National Economy."  
The Lady Askwith.

"The Ministry of Health Bill"  
Col. Leslie Wilson, C.M.G., D.S.O., M.P.  
"The Value of Politics."  
The Lady Amherst of Hackney.  
Lady Lloyd-Greame.  
"Industrial Laws as Affecting Women."  
Miss Phillips, (Y.W.C.A.)  
"Ireland"  
General Cockerill, C.B., M.P.  
"Trade Unionism."  
W. L. Hichens, Esq.  
"The Women Police"  
Commandant M. S. Allen.

#### SPEAKERS' CLASSES.

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

#### MONTHLY NEWS.

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

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

#### THE LOAN TRAINING FUND.

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

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

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

The candidates agree to repay the loan in in-  
stallments commencing three months after they  
have obtained a post, so the fund works contin-  
uously.

#### "THE FAIR" AT CLARIDGES.

A very successful Fair was held at Claridges,  
organised by our Hon. Sec., Lady Amhurst of  
Hackney, through which our funds benefited by  
£165. Much useful propaganda work was also  
done.

(2) Nor need long time be spent over the  
function of the "Grand Jury," which has been in  
abeyance during the War and since. There  
is some difference of opinion as to the value of  
this Jury, whose special duty it is to investigate  
the indictment against an accused and examine  
the prosecution so as to decide whether a  
*prima facie* case is being brought of sufficient  
weight to bring the accused to trial. In general  
practice the Grand Jury consists of Justices of  
the Peace, or other persons of recognised posi-  
tion.

(3) The "Special Jury" is a "selected" Trial  
Jury. When the Book of Jurors is drawn up,  
the Overseers mark the names of persons of  
a certain standing. The persons so marked  
are liable to be called whenever there is a demand  
by either party in a case for a special Jury.  
Except in the case of misdemeanours in the  
King's Bench Division, this is not a "criminal"  
Jury. Special Jurors receive a guinea a cause,  
with a further guinea and travelling expenses  
when a view is ordered. Common Jurors are not  
paid but are entitled to a small fee varying from  
1d. to 5d. with five shillings a day and expenses  
upon views. "Special" Jurors are, generally  
speaking, persons occupying a house rated  
at £100 in a town of 20,000 inhabitants, or £50  
elsewhere, a farm at £300, or premises other  
than a farm rated at not less than £100.

(4) Before proceeding to consider the "Trial  
Jury," it is well to remember that this is a transi-  
tion period with regard to this whole matter.  
In 1919 the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act  
removed the barrier which had hitherto pre-  
vented women from serving on Juries, even  
though qualified otherwise. The Act itself left  
power to the judge to make an order that the  
jury be composed only of men, or only of women,  
or to grant exemption to any woman who applied  
for exemption because of "the nature of the evi-  
dence to be given." Further adaptation was made  
by the Rule Committee of the Supreme Court  
(1920), when regulations provided that a hus-  
band and wife shall not both be summoned to  
serve on the same occasion; that the number of  
women on any panel of jurors "shall be in the  
same proportion, or as near as may be, to the  
number of men as the total number of women is  
to the total number of men in the Juror's books  
or other list of jurors from which the panel is  
drawn; "also that wherever possible there shall  
be not less than fourteen women on a Jury panel.

Further, it must be noted that a Bill presented  
to the House of Commons in August this year  
will simplify the Registration of Jurors.  
Jury Lists will, if this becomes law, be based on  
the Register of Electors. According to this Bill  
of the Home Secretary, those electors who are  
qualified for "jury" service as well as those  
qualified for "special jury" service will be  
specially marked in the ordinary Register, thus  
doing away with the existing system of prepar-  
ing Jury Lists in England and Wales. The Bill  
will cover those cases of Burgesses in towns (with

separate courts of Quarter Sessions or civil  
courts), in regard to which there was a certain  
difficulty of adjustment only temporarily met by  
the Juries Emergency Provisions Act of 1920,  
and the present Renewing Act.

At the present moment, however, we must  
still deal with the old qualification, which runs:  
the man or woman must be (1) between 21 and  
60 years of age, (2) Resident possessed in real  
estate or rent-charge of at least £10 a year, or of  
long leaseholds worth at least £20 a year, or else  
the occupier of a house rated at £20 (in Middle-  
sex and London £30). And all Burgesses unless  
exempt or disqualified are obliged to serve at  
assizes in towns with separate Quarter Sessions  
or Civil Courts.

The woman who wishes to serve on Juries  
must carefully study the above qualifications;  
then, in September, if she thinks she is legally  
qualified, she must search the Jury Lists as they  
hang on all places of public worship on the three  
first Sundays of September. If her name  
is not there, she may apply to the clerk to  
her own Local Authority for help; and in the re-  
vision of the List by the Justices during the last  
week in September, her claim will be considered.

If a woman is determined not to serve—sad  
to say there are still some thus determined—it is  
for her to study the exemptions, of which there  
are many, including Peers, Members of Parliam-  
ent, County and Borough Councillors, mem-  
bers of the public services, such as the Army,  
the Navy, medical services, ministers of relig-  
ion, Justices of the Peace within their own juris-  
diction and many others (schedule to the Juries  
Act, 1870). To this list has been added, by a  
Rule of the Supreme Court, exemption to women  
on account of pregnancy or other feminine con-  
dition or ailment provided the application is re-  
ceived by the Summoning Officer within three  
days of the receipt of the Jury summons by the  
applicant." Instruction is also given to the  
Summoning Officer that on every Jury summons  
there shall appear a notice to this effect.

The non-appearance of a juror when sum-  
moned renders the Juror liable to a fine.

An essential feature of Trial by Jury has been  
the right of challenge. A challenge "for favour"  
may be made against the whole panel (the  
"array") and must be made in writing before  
any juror is sworn, with the stated cause. The  
ground of such a challenge must be the non-im-  
partiality of some officer concerned in the sum-  
moning of the Jury. A challenge to individual  
jurors may be made and must be made before the  
swearing of the individual Juror concerned. This  
challenge may be peremptory (35 in treason, and  
20 in felony). There is no peremptory challenge  
for the lesser offences known as misdemeanours.  
The challenge, which may be repeated again and  
again, "for cause" must be based on the charge  
that the jurors are not qualified, or are incapable  
or are not impartial, or have already served on  
a jury in regard to the same case.

The final duty of the jury is to return a



"general verdict" of "guilty" or "not guilty" in criminal cases, and in civil trials, a statement of the party in whose favour the finding is returned, with the assessed damages. The Jury may give a "special verdict" on some specific fact in the case which might influence the judgment. The verdict must be given in open court, all the Jurors being present, and in cases of treason and felony, the defendant must also be present. The verdict must be unanimous in criminal cases, although a majority verdict may be accepted by consent in civil cases.

MARGARET ROSS, M.A.

### COMMENTS.

#### Miss S. Margery Fry, J.P.—

The presence of women on juries is, in my opinion, necessary for just the same reason as their presence upon the magistrate's bench. It is part and parcel of their mature citizenship that they should perform the functions of citizens in things relating to the administration of justice. They are not to be thought of as specially there in the interests of women and children; a woman has no more right to her sex prejudices on a jury than a man to his; they are there in the interests of justice, and so far as their experience and knowledge differ from that of man so far would these interests run a risk of injury by their absence. On the whole the recognition of this fact seems to be fast gaining ground. Controversy still rages, but mainly upon the question of "unpleasant cases." There are sordid and bestial aspects of life which not women, but "respectable" women were, till this generation, largely ignorant. The knowledge that such things exist is painful and terrible; it might be dangerous to the informed and unbalanced mind of a child. But women are not children and, moreover, unfortunately, women, yes and young girls too, are all too closely concerned in cases of this sort.

If the "respectable" or sheltered woman is aghast at the knowledge of evil that is coming to her, it is not from fear of contaminating her own purity, but for remorse at realising how for all time such things have been, and she, in her fool's paradise, has done nothing to build up the ruin that they bring.

Where a child or a woman has to go, as plaintiff, as defendant, or as witness, there no woman who understands what citizenship implies will refuse to follow to give her best service to the cause of truth, and I cannot think that any judge is well advised to exclude them. In fact, I consider that the power of excluding either men or women on the ground of their sex should only exist, if at all, in cases where all the parties concerned, and the witnesses called, are of one sex only. That of course, would in practice mean that it would rarely be exercised. I do not for a moment believe that public opinion will support any attempt to relieve women of the general duty of acting as jurors, but it does seem to me very important that the tendency to exclude her from such cases as those of assaults upon children should be jealously watched, and combatted. It is so easy to let a custom grow up, and so hard to uproot it when once it has grown.

#### Mrs. Ada Summers, J.P., (retiring Mayoress of Stalybridge—

It seems to me there is little to say about the Woman Juror that does not apply equally well to the man juror. Some are suitable for the work and others not, and we have to take them as they come and try to make the best of things. The system of swearing in the jury is a tedious one; the thought arises, why not take the whole twelve at once, instead of laboriously taking each name and occasionally getting too many in the box, then having to sort them out again?

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### LECTURES.

	<b>WEDNESDAYS. 8.15 p.m.</b>	
November 16th.	"The Extinction of Liberty"	Mr. G. K. CHESTERTON
	Chairman: Lady BORHAM CARTER.	
November 23th.	"Psycho-Analysis"	Mr. WILLIAM BROWN, M.D., D.Sc.
	Chairman: Dr. CHRISTINE MURRELL	
November 30th.	"Woman's New Horizon"	Miss ADELINE BOURNE
	Chairman: Miss WINIFRED MAYO.	
December 7th.	"Nationalism"	Captain COLIN COOTE, D.S.O., M.P.
	Chairman: Mrs. JERVIS.	
December 14th. 5.15 p.m.	"The Mandate for Palestine"	Miss FRANCES E. NEWTON, F.R.G.S., A.R.C.I.
	Chairman: Mrs. FAWCETT, LL.D.	

Invitations to Lectures given to Non-Members on application to the Secretary.

### Luncheons, Teas & Dinners.

All particulars from Secretary. Telephone: - - 3932 Mayfair.

### STEINWAY MALL, LOWER SEYMOUR STREET, W.

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