

THE WOMAN'S LEADER

AND THE COMMON CAUSE

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NOTES AND NEWS.

Ten Years Ago.

Our thoughts this week have inevitably turned back ten years, and we have lived over again the events of those never-to-be-forgotten days of August, 1914. Among the thoughts that are at once too serious and too commonplace and too inexpressible to express here, one keeps cropping up—the unexpectedness of things! Who could have expected, ten years ago, that a victory complete than we dared to hope would have led to a condition so far removed from peace as that which has led to the present Conference of London! Who could have expected that events which threatened certain destruction to the women's movement would have brought it fruition? Who could have expected—but why expect anything? Do we not live in a sort of looking-glass world where everything moves by contraries? We move towards a goal and it recedes, we recede from it, and lo! it is at hand.

The Nationality of Married Women.

This question has been raised again in Parliament, this time in the House of Lords, when Lord Danesfort called attention to the hardships suffered by a British-born woman who married a citizen of the United States. A British-born woman marrying an American citizen not only lost her British nationality, but was debarred from acquiring American citizenship, and is in consequence subjected to disabilities of various kinds. He reminded the House that the recent Joint Committee of Lords and Commons appointed to consider the question were unanimously of opinion that a British woman should not lose her nationality if she did not acquire that of her husband under the law of his country. Lord Danesfort moved that the Government after consultation with the Dominions should introduce legislation to give effect to this unanimous opinion. Lord Parmour stated that the Government were wholly in sympathy with the motion, though it was obvious that as consultation with the Dominions was necessary, legislation could not be introduced at the present moment.

Nationality in Sweden.

We are informed that the Swedish Government has just passed a law, which will come into force next January, which gives a married woman the right of choice of nationality. We see in the *Guardian* that the Swedish Government may request that the

subject may be placed on the agenda of the Assembly of the League of Nations in September. Obviously this is a matter on which international agreement is absolutely necessary, and women's organizations have constantly urged this policy.

We understand that the International Women's Suffrage Alliance has recently approached the Swedish and Danish Governments urging them to call upon the League of Nations to summon a conference on the subject.

Young Offenders.

A report on reforms in regard to young offenders has been presented to Members of the House of Commons by the Joint Parliamentary Advisory Council. Our readers will remember that this Council, which is composed of Members of Parliament and Women Social Workers, was established before the war by Mrs. Humphrey Ward to advise Members of Parliament on questions which specially concern women. The President is Sir Arthur Steel-Maitland, M.P., and Lady Galway is chairman of the Executive Committee. The report deals with the provision of Remand Homes for boys and girls and makes several recommendations with regard to Probation work. It is recommended that all Probation Work and Probation Officers should be under the control of Justices acting under instructions from the Home Office, and that every Court should have the services of a Probation Officer, and that women and girls should be supervised by a woman probation officer. This report makes a timely appearance as the Second Annual Report of the Children's Branch of the Home Office has just been issued. Readers of our column "The Law at Work" will find these subjects dealt with fully from time to time.

Mrs. Swanwick Consults Women Leaders.

On Thursday, 31st July, Mrs. Swanwick met a number of leaders of Women's Organizations in International House, under the auspices of the Women's International League, for purposes of consultation before she goes to Geneva.

The following organizations were represented:—Assistant Mistresses' Association, Association for Representation of Women on the League of Nations, Fabian Women's Group, International Woman Suffrage Alliance, League of the Church Militant, League of Nations Union (Women's Advisory Committee), National Council of Women, National Federation of Women Civil Servants, National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, National Union of Women Teachers, Six Point Group, Women's Freedom League, Young Women's Christian Association (British), Young Women's Christian Association (World's).

Mrs. Swanwick said that her first duty was to the League of Nations and all it stood for, but she was anxious to be as fully informed as possible on points regarded as important by the Women's Organizations. Discussions took place on the Opium Traffic, the Nationality of Married Women, Slavery, and the position of women in native tribes, the appointment of more women on the Mandates Commission and the Governing Body of the International Labour Organization, the Traffic in Women and Children, the Protection of Animals, and on Disarmament and the Treaty of Mutual Assistance. Among those who took part were Miss Margaret Ashton, Miss Nina Boyle, Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon, Mrs. Hubback, Miss Winifred Mayo, Lady Parmour, Miss Picton-Turbervill, Miss Eleanor Rathbone, Miss Evelyn Sharp, and Mrs. Stocks. Thanks were offered to Mrs. Swanwick and to the Women's International League for affording the opportunity for valuable consultation.

The Draft Treaty of Mutual Assistance.

The British Government's rejection of the Draft Treaty of Mutual Assistance has caused bitter disappointment in some quarters and intense relief in others. The sharp difference of opinion on the subjects cuts across parties, and unites many not accustomed to find themselves in the same camp. We imagine that all are united in the desire to achieve the objects of the Draft Treaty, viz. the provision of such security for all nations as would induce them to reduce their armaments and would diminish the risk of war. We are therefore in this issue placing both points of view before our readers in the form of a "Burning Question."

Birth Control.

Birth Control is a difficult subject to touch because of the very strong feelings it arouses; at the same time, it is impossible for a woman's paper to ignore it. In reply to a question in the House to the Minister of Health as to information on Birth Control methods by local authorities, Mr. Wheatley stated that institutions provided by local authorities at the cost of public funds should not be used for controversial purposes. Miss Jewson asked the Minister if he is aware that many working women attending welfare centres are unfit to bear and bring up healthy children, that doctors know they are unfit, and yet are unable to give information which a middle class woman can obtain from a private doctor. She also asked if he had considered the bearing of this on the increase of abortion in this country. We intend to publish a few articles representing different points of view on this subject.

The Housing Bill.

The Government Housing Bill has now completed its committee stage in the House of Lords. The Government accepted an amendment to institute an immediate inquiry into the possibility of utilizing other materials for building. This amendment was due to Lord Weir's proposal to make use of steel and timber. Lord Weir claims that at a much smaller cost than is estimated by the Government schemes that 500,000 houses could be built in five years. He is said to be experimenting at his works at Cathcart in the erection of specimen cottages each to cost £300. Any fresh contribution to the subject of housing cannot fail to arouse new hopes, and we shall watch these experiments with interest.

Lady Astor and Caliban.

If the outcry against the picture of Lady Astor's introduction into Parliament were genuinely based on artistic grounds or on the principle that portraits of living people should not be hung in the House, there might be something to be said for it. But we cannot believe that this is the real motive. We suspect that the opposition resembles that which Caliban might be expected to offer to a tribute paid to Ariel which reminded him how often that airy spirit teased and mocked at him. Even on its ostensible merits we do not think much of the opponents' case. The portrait is a good and characteristic likeness, whatever its merits as a work of art, and the level of the other pictures which adorn the House is not so high that it can afford to give itself the airs of an art critic. Nor is it relevant to treat the picture as the portrait of an individual or individuals; its significance is that it portrays an event—a sinister event no doubt in the minds of Banbury and his fellows—but an event of historic importance, however you look at it. All who know and love Lady Astor will unite in regretting that a controversy which must be distasteful to her and to Lord Astor should have taken place, but her place in the affections of women is so secure that she can afford to laugh at the silly slights of "Gentlemen of the Commons" who have not learned to live up to their title. We think there will be an outcry which cannot be ignored if the picture be removed.

"Our Mothers' International."

We read in the *Co-Operative News* an account of the conference at Ghent to be held in August of this year, when co-operative women of many nationalities are to meet. The Women's Co-operative International was formed at a gathering at Basle in 1921, but much remains to be done at Ghent in working out the constitution of the new organization. Among other papers for discussion will be one entitled "What can Co-operative Women do for Peace?" Among many forces which make for peace a great international organization composed mainly of mothers will, we imagine, occupy a high place.

Women in Agriculture.

Several women took part in the Conference on Agricultural Co-operation in the Empire at Wembley last week. Miss E. A. Pratt, of the Ministry of Agriculture, stated that last year 59,000 women were returned as permanent workers besides large numbers of casual workers. Miss Grace Hadow, Vice-President of the Women's Institutes and Secretary of the Oxfordshire Rural Community Committee, alluded to the great change that wireless was bringing about in conditions of country life.

Dr. Winifred Patch.

In the *Vote* of last week Dr. Louisa Garrett Anderson, under the title of "Our Beloved Physician," gives an account of the life and work of Dr. Winifred Patch, whose death as the result of a motor accident is deeply regretted by all who knew her. Dr. Patch was a prominent suffragist, and took a leading part in the Tax Resistance movement. She did distinguished work in her own profession, and did fine war service as Divisional Surgeon to the St. John Ambulance Brigade. Death came to her, as Dr. Garrett Anderson says, "mercifully swift and painless, in the prime of strength, ability, and happiness, and in full harness, but she leaves behind her many who will miss her companionship, humour, and wisdom until they also go to the Eternal Home which claims us all."

Lady Colvin.

Lady Colvin, wife of Sir Sidney Colvin, who died last week, was a remarkable woman with a genius for friendship; she will perhaps be best remembered as the friend and correspondent of Robert Louis Stevenson, but her lovable personality, her charm and her quick sympathy will live in the hearts of all who knew her.

An Honorary Degree for Mrs. Sidney Webb.

We offer our warmest congratulations to Mrs. Sidney Webb on the honour recently conferred on her by the University of Edinburgh, when she received the honorary degree of LL.B. There are few social students, whatever their school of political thought, who do not look back to their first reading of *Industrial Democracy* or the *History of Trades Unionism* as an outstanding event in their intellectual life which profoundly modified their outlook on economic problems. But there seems something incomplete in honours conferred on either member separately of that incomparable partnership. Beatrice Webb without Sidney Webb or Sidney Webb without Beatrice seems as impossible as conceive without convex. We hope that, say, Glasgow, will follow up this excellent example in a completer form by conferring simultaneous honours on that other example of intellectual partnership between husband and wife, Lawrence and Barbara Hammond.

A Brave Woman.

A very brave woman has been cruelly done to death in Mexico by mounted men said to be part of Rural Guards. This is the tragic end of Mrs. Evans' gallant struggle to protect her ranch and carry on after the death of her husband, who fell in the Great War. Much indignation has been aroused in the United States and in this country, and already many arrests have been made. We understand that every effort had been made to protect Mrs. Evans, and that it was thought the danger was over. Perhaps she was wrong to risk her life to save her possessions; perhaps she was right; but she had dauntless courage and her gallant struggle will long be remembered among other golden deeds of bravery.

Equality in the Civil Service.

We have received the report of the Committee to examine the case for common seniority lists for men and women which has just been published, and at the same time a valuable pamphlet dealing with the subject issued by Miss Smyth, of the Federation of Women Civil Servants. We propose to deal fully with the findings of the Committee, which were not unanimous, in our next issue.

Errata.

We regret that in the account of the Memorial gathering it was stated that Mrs. Wilson undertook the musical part of the service. It should have been Mrs. Walker.

NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER.

FROM OUR PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT.

ON GOING OUT AND COMING IN.

The life of the Commons like individual life consists of going out and coming in. Its adventure and repose, its gains and its losses, its beginnings and its endings, are all either comings or goings. The passing of Members and the passing of the Sessions mark stages in the life of the House. London University and the Holland Division of Boston lose their Members, and with scarce a breathing space a search begins for the newcomers. So with Bills! Everyone knows that postponement until the Autumn Session means the slaughter of scores of small but valuable measures as well as the end of Ice Cream and Vinegar Bills, so these last few days have been full of desperate attempts to get facilities and but few have succeeded.

The other chamber is working overtime putting amendments into such measures as the Unemployment Insurance No. 2 Bill, the Housing Bill, and the Agriculture Wages Bill. Most of these will "go out" when the Bills come back to "another place!" While the Commons wait for the peers to debate these principal measures of the Session, the ordinary Member is expected to make up his or her mind upon such diverse propositions as the East African Commission, the Sale of Grenna Buildings, the League of Nations, the Treaty of Mutual Assistance, Supply, and a hundred other subjects, while two storms disturb the quiet of the end of the Session. The first arose suddenly over the picture of Lady Astor recently placed on the main staircase, and I am bound to say that in my judgment the House, and especially some of the members of the Member for Sutton's own party came very badly out of the incident. I hope no hasty step will be taken in the matter, as there are many Members, like myself, who are in favour of the view which regards the event of the first woman Member to sit in the Chamber as historic. The other storm is upon us as I write, and its effects will be quite incalculable. The cause is Ireland, and I need add no more at present save that the Colonial Secretary is to go to Ireland at once.

The Housing Bill will pass into law with its main features unaltered, but very fine team work on the part of one of the Housing Groups has improved it in many directions. In this connexion I hear stories of a joyous dinner last Thursday, where the best speech of the evening was made by the wife of the guest of the evening. The menu card was designed by the able Member for Central Hackney, and contained a joke in every line.

The autumn recess is at present designed to last until 28th October, but I have my doubts.

The whole House is pleased that a measure of success has attended the Inter-Allied Conference, and is waiting to hear how the decisions will be received by the German delegation.

The joke of the week has been the disappointment of a number of Members who turned up on two successive evenings at ten o'clock when outstanding votes were put automatically from the Chair in the hope of improving their division averages.

A SUMMER STOCKTAKING.

By EVA M. HUBBACK.

The end of the Summer Session is an obviously convenient time to inquire into what has been accomplished since Parliament met and to endeavour to forecast what is likely to be achieved before the Parliamentary year ends at Christmas. At first sight little seems to have been done; certainly no measure in which women's organizations, as such, are specially interested has reached the statute book, and many cases can be cited of Government pledges broken or imperfectly carried out. But we feel we must enter a caveat against coming to a final judgment as to what will, and what will not, have been attained during the first year in office of a Labour Government. So many measures are partly through their parliamentary career, and a certain proportion of these—though we dare not prophesy how many—are pretty certain to reach harbour. Nevertheless, we are bound to say that far too much has been left to a short Autumn Session, which already shows signs of being overburdened.

At the risk of repeating much that is already familiar to the readers of this paper, we will endeavour to sum up the present position with regard to Bills specially affecting women and children. To turn first to the matter dearest to our hearts—that of Equal Franchise. The *WOMAN'S LEADER* has never disguised its opinion that this reform should have been dealt with boldly by the Government in a simple measure (introduced sufficiently early in the Session), to give the franchise to women on the same

terms as to men. This is, in fact, what the Representation of the People Act (1918) Amendment Bill has in the end become, but after a long and troublesome delay and possibly too late for ultimate success. The Bill promoted by private members of the Labour Party and encumbered, it will be remembered, by many clauses dealing with other aspects of electoral reform, had a stormy time in Committee, and was only assisted by the Government to a limited extent; only, in fact, after its fight against the obstructionist methods of the Conservative Party was virtually won in Committee, did Mr. Henderson announce that the Government would take charge of the Bill and see it through its later stages. That was on 19th June; pages of Conservative amendments to the Report Stage of the Bill have since been put down, but the Report Stage itself has been postponed until after the recess. What will happen then? Will time be allowed for what is bound to be a protracted debate? And, if and when it has passed its House of Commons stages, what is likely to happen in the House of Lords? Or, later, if the Lords see fit to amend or reject the measure? We cannot tell.

Let us take next the Guardianship of Infants Bill—the controversy concerning which is doubtless fresh in the minds of the readers of this paper. What is likely to be the fate of the Government measure introduced instead of Mrs. Wintringham's Guardianship of Infants Bill? The Government measure does

As no votes were challenged by the Opposition on this occasion, the belated devotion of these Members was in vain, and other Members whose attendances had been more frequent throughout the Session did not disguise their glee in the Chamber. Those of my readers who follow Parliamentary proceedings closely, may find a sequel to Mr. Speaker's refusal to select Mr. Evelyn Jones's Amendment for a 30s. per week minimum wage for agricultural workers in a motion now on the table to repeal the Standing Order giving the right of selection to the Chair. The Ministry of Labour Vote gave Mr. Snowden an opportunity of making a speech as to plans for making work, and I may quote one passage as one of the signs of the times:—"I come to the possibilities of electrical development. We find that intensive development of electricity on sound business lines will help probably more than any other way in achieving the objects which we have in view. . . . But I want to warn the Committee that these schemes will be expensive. . . . The essential thing is to get these schemes of electrical development in hand, too." So "Coal and Power" are likely to bulk largely in our future political discussions, and Mr. Shinwell must be sorry he called the Member for Carnarvon's book a "joke."

We also had a long discussion of naval matters which the House decided to leave to the experts, and at one time not forty Members were present, and while Mr. Amery was speaking there was no other Cabinet or ex-Cabinet Minister in the House with the exception of Mr. Lloyd George. Singapore was once more voted down as a naval base, and Members went home to get ready, some of them, to do their good deed on the morrow by showing hundreds of Scouts round the House. The Appropriation Bill provided another Parliamentary precedent for early this morning, at 2 a.m. the House was counted out, and as the Government could not find forty supporters within the precincts Mr. Speaker had perforce to adjournment—a very animated and one-sided discussion on the problem of ex-ranker officers' pensions. The Members, in all parts of the House, who kept the discussion going, will probably in the end get a concession for these particular ex-Service men.

One of the best jokes of the week was made by Sir Geoffrey Butler in the discussion on the Colonial Office Vote. It was, I think, too subtle or too quiet to get into the daily Press, so I disinter it from the pages of the Official Report. "The truth is that the Secretary of State, when he finds himself faced with a crisis, is apt to take refuge in an attitude a little mysterious and esoteric. So esoteric is his attitude on this occasion that I am reminded of the definition of the schoolboy of the Kangaroo. 'This animal has a pouch into which he retires in moments of what he conceives to be great peril.'" GREEN BENCH.

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

not give that complete equality of rights and responsibilities between parents that women's organizations have always demanded, but it does maintain that the welfare of the child and not the rights of either parent shall be the determining factor in cases brought before the Courts; it does give equal rights with regard to the appointment of a guardian after death; it does give a mother the right to obtain maintenance for the child when it is in her custody, and it does provide for all such cases being heard in police courts as well as in High and County Courts. The Bill has passed through all its stages in the House of Lords, in spite of a few critical moments when it was feared that certain of the hard-won clauses would be wrecked. If the House of Commons treats it as a non-contentious Bill, and does not attempt to wreck it by amendments which would unduly widen or unduly restrict its scope, there is no reason why it should not easily and quickly complete its stages in the autumn.

The Legitimacy Bill and the Summary Jurisdiction (Separation and Maintenance) Bill are the two most advanced in their parliamentary life. The former has passed through all its stages in both Houses, but awaits the consideration of the Lords' amendments by the Commons; the latter has passed its Second Reading in the House of Lords. The Legitimacy Bill—to legitimise children by the subsequent marriage of their parents—has emerged from the House of Lords as a measure much reduced in scope from what its promoters intended. Two limiting amendments have been carried. The first excludes from the benefits of the Bill those children, one or both of whose parents were married to a third person at the time of their birth; and the second excludes those children whose parents do not avow their paternity at the time they marry "in a prescribed manner."

The Summary Jurisdiction (Separation and Maintenance) Bill—always "only a little one" has become yet smaller during its Third Reading. The changes it provides for in the law dealing with separation and maintenance orders are useful, of course—but the Bill is hardly of sufficient importance to arouse very much enthusiasm.

So much for the Bills which have at any rate materialized. What about those which have drawn a complete blank? The most important of the reforms not touched is undoubtedly that of Widows' Pensions. It is an incredible thing, that in spite of the prominent place allotted to this subject on Labour platforms, and of the overwhelming support given to a motion in its favour debated early in the Session, not even the shadow of a scheme has been presented; the Chancellor of the Exchequer's "confident hope" may produce something in the autumn, but we very much doubt it.

Lastly we come to the question of equal pay for equal work in the Civil Service. In view of the fact that the time had arrived for a review of this question as provided for by the Resolution of 5th August, 1921, and that the Labour Party stands for "equal pay for equal work" some satisfactory solution might have been hoped for. But, no—not only has the request of the Women Civil Servants been refused, but the Chancellor of the Exchequer has even denied that any pledge exists. It may be true that no specific pledge was made to the Civil Servants, but, surely, it was reasonable to expect that this would have been covered by the general statement.

We do not intend to convey the impression that the Labour Government has been less dependable than other Governments have been in the past, nor that we do not recognize that its hands have been full of matters such as International Relations, Unemployment, and Housing, which we all recognize as of outstanding importance. But the depth of our disappointment must be measured by the height of our expectations—which, based on the Labour Party's programme, were unusually high. Even now, with the autumn session still ahead, we refuse to give up hope.

MR. CECIL CHAPMAN.

Mr. Cecil Chapman's approaching retirement after twenty-five years of service as a Metropolitan magistrate, comes as a shock to many who know what he has done for the Woman's Movement both in his official and non-official capacity, as well as to those who know of his keen interest in the welfare of juvenile offenders. Mr. Cecil Chapman was a strong advocate of women's suffrage, and of women in the legal profession, and has on many occasions given generous help to women's societies on the legal aspects of reforms affecting women and children. We cherish the hope that his retirement from regular work may mean that he has more time to devote to many causes with regard to which his long experience has made him an acknowledged authority.

¹ Since the above was written this Bill has passed its third reading in the House of Lords and returned to the Commons.

WHAT I REMEMBER. XLVIII.

By MILLICENT GARRETT FAWCETT, J.P., LL.D.

REAL VICTORY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE IN SIGHT AT LAST (Continued).

I now come to the second contributory cause of our victory in 1917-18. We have not yet forgotten that under the old franchise law the names on the Parliamentary register for the whole United Kingdom numbered roughly 8,000,000; of these, still quoting in round figures, 7,000,000 qualified as householders, and it was necessary for the occupier before he could get on the Register to show that he had been uninterruptedly in occupation of the qualifying premises for twelve months previous to the preceding 15th July. This meant, after the outbreak of the Great War, that the very men who had been most eager to join the army and had given up everything to offer their services to their country had by that very act in numerous cases forfeited their qualification as voters. That this disfranchising result affected a very large number of the best men in the country cannot be doubted. By the end of the war Great Britain was maintaining in the field more than eight and a half million men, of these, 7,000,000 were white men enlisted within the British Empire (see Report of War Cabinet Committee published in August, 1918). What was the exact proportion of those who had thereby lost their votes in Great Britain cannot be ascertained, but it must have been very considerable.

The Government quite early in the war had suspended the annual revision of the Parliamentary Register, and therefore there are no means of judging exactly what elements in the former electorate ceased to be qualified as voters, but when an occasional bye-election had taken place it was found that the existing Register was so imperfect as to be practically useless. Candidates and agents reported the existence of street after street in which only a handful of voters remained. Under these circumstances Mr. Asquith had declared that a Parliament elected on such a Register would be "lacking in moral sanction." In 1915, another political change had taken place which materially strengthened our prospects of success: a minor Ministerial crisis occurred during the spring, and a Coalition Government had been formed. This necessitated the re-casting of the whole Government and Cabinet, and resulted, with one or two notable exceptions, in the removal of men in the old Liberal administration who were our inveterate enemies and the substitution of men who had long been convinced and devoted supporters of women's enfranchisement. I will not dwell on the names of those who "came out" but among those who "came in" were Lord Robert Cecil, Lord Selborne, representing the Conservatives, and Mr. Henderson, representing Labour. This obviously strengthened the Suffrage party in the Government. Sir John Simon, whose work for us later was of great importance, was promoted from being a law officer to be Secretary of State for Home Department. On the other hand, however, we lost Lord Haldane, who up to 1915 had been Lord Chancellor and in all respects a thorough and trustworthy friend of our cause. I always felt that he had been very unjustly thrown to the wolves of a newspaper stunt. When, therefore, the necessity of passing a great reform bill during the war was more and more recognized, our chances of having women included in it were greatly improved. Still, we believed we had to reckon with the continued opposition of the Prime Minister, Mr. Asquith, a past master of the manipulation of the Parliamentary machine, who would use all his arts and crafts against us. In 1916, therefore, the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies addressed to him the following letter. It will readily be believed that we discussed every sentence of it before it was finally agreed upon:—

4th May, 1916.

DEAR MR. ASQUITH,

I am venturing once more to address you on the subject of the enfranchisement of women.

A very general rumour has prevailed since last autumn, supported by statements made by responsible persons and by its own inherent reasonableness, that the Government will, before the General Election following the end of the war, find it necessary to deal with the franchise question in order to prevent the hardship and injustice which would arise if men who have been serving their country abroad, or in munition areas in parts of the country other than those where they usually reside, should in consequence of their patriotic service be penalized by losing their votes.

This has caused a certain amount of restlessness and anxiety among the 500 or 600 societies forming the N.U.W.S.S., as well as among other Suffrage organizations. Not, of course, that any of us are in any degree hostile to the enfranchisement of men who have been suffering and working for our country, but it is feared that the Suffrage may be dealt with in a manner prejudicial to the future prospects of the enfranchisement of women. To allay this feeling of restlessness and anxiety, we

desire to bring certain considerations before you and to ask you for an expression of your opinion upon them.

When the Government deals with the Franchise an opportunity will present itself of dealing with it on wider lines than by the simple removal of what may be called the accidental disqualification of a large body of the best men in the country, and we trust that you may include in your Bill clauses which would remove the disabilities under which women now labour. An agreed Bill on these lines would, we are confident, receive a very wide measure of support throughout the country. Our movement has received very great accessions of strength during recent months, former opponents now declaring themselves on our side, or, at any rate, withdrawing their opposition. The change of tone in the Press is most marked.

These changes are mainly consequent on the changed industrial and professional status of women, and the view has been widely expressed in a great variety of organs of public opinion that the continued exclusion of women from representation will, on these grounds, be an impossibility after the war.

If I refer to what the N.U.W.S.S. has done in the way of service to the country since the war began, it is not that I claim for it any greater degree of patriotism than has been shown practically by all women. I only mention it because I can speak with personal knowledge of it. Within two days of the declaration of war, the N.U.W.S.S. determined to suspend its ordinary political activities, and to devote its organization and money-raising powers to alleviate distress arising out of the war, and to other work calculated to sustain, as far as might be, the vital energies of the nation during the great struggle which lay before it.

In this work we have had a considerable measure of success, but I will not trouble you with any detailed recital of it. We know from our own experience, and we trust that you also realize, that women of all classes are eager to bear their full share of the work and the suffering demanded from the country, and that wherever opportunity has been given them they have devoted themselves with whole-hearted eagerness to the national work they have found to do. The record of our own Scottish Women's Hospitals bears proof of this fact, which is now widely recognized throughout the world.

We believe that it is the recognition of the active, self-sacrificing, and efficient national service of women which has caused the recent access of strength to the movement we represent.

We should greatly value an expression of your views upon the subject of the possibility of the Government dealing with the Franchise question in the direction indicated above.

Believe me, dear Mr. Asquith,

Yours very faithfully,

MILLICENT GARRETT FAWCETT.

On behalf of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

Mr. Asquith's reply ran as follows:—

10 Downing Street, S.W.

7th May, 1916.

DEAR MRS. FAWCETT,

I have received your letter of the 4th. I need not assure you how deeply my colleagues and I recognize and appreciate the magnificent contribution which the women of the United Kingdom have made to our country's cause.

No such legislation as you refer to is at present in contemplation; but if, and when, it should become necessary to undertake it you may be certain that the considerations set out in your letter will be fully and impartially weighed without any pre-judgment from the controversies of the past.

Yours very faithfully,

H. H. ASQUITH.

Although Mr. Asquith said in this letter that no such legislation was "at present in contemplation," that is on 7th May, 1916, it was very soon in contemplation and was the subject in a few weeks of repeated debates and questions asked and answered in Parliament.

Mr. Asquith for a considerable time entertained the idea and endeavoured to induce the House of Commons to entertain it, that the situation created by the breakdown of our electoral system could be dealt with by a mere tinkering with the Register: the Government therefore began a series of futile attempts to persuade the House to adopt a "special Register" Bill. Sir Edward (now Lord) Carson, was at the same time pressing for a new franchise giving the vote to sailors, soldiers and airmen as such, on the ground of their war services. Our friends retorted "had not women given war services too?" and the Press comment generally was that the Bill could not include soldiers and exclude women. In the meantime, soldiers themselves were giving indications that they had no wish to exclude women. In Canada, Women's Suffrage and women's eligibility had been granted a little in advance of our victory in Great Britain. A General Election was held and under Canadian law, the election for the province of Alberta was practically in the hands of 38,000 soldiers and 75 army nurses, then serving in France. There were twenty men candidates and one woman, Miss R. C. MacAdams. Before the war, Miss MacAdams had been a science teacher in the Alberta public schools, and had held other important educational posts: at the time of the election she was working as a nurse in the military hospital at Orpington, Kent. Her election address was simple and to the point: reconstruction would, she said, be the main duty of the new Parliament when the war was over, and she held that while men were apt to think in terms of territory, money, and material wealth, women were apt to think in terms of

human life. She did not claim that either of these terms should be neglected, but it was surely desirable that the more human aspect of economic and political questions should be considered. She was elected on the soldiers' vote. This was another great encouragement to us. Moreover, I was told by one of our fighting men, who was also a Member of Parliament, that when with the army in France he had had a letter from Mr. Arnold Ward, then acting as whip to the anti-Suffragists in the House of Commons, begging my informant to come over and vote against Women's Suffrage in important divisions which were in prospect. The reply was that if he came at all he should vote for and not against the enfranchisement of women. I thought of the time when Mr. (afterwards Lord) Bryce, speaking against us in the House of Commons some 15 years earlier, had said that Women's Suffrage was an untried experiment. "It is a very bold experiment," he said, "our Colonies are democratic in the highest degree, why do they not try it?" This was followed almost at once by the adoption of Women's Suffrage in New Zealand and South Australia: it was also adopted by the Commonwealth of Australia as soon as the States resolved to form themselves into a Union, and by all the separate States in turn.

The diminishing ranks of the anti-Suffragists in England had seemed to assume as a matter of course that our fighting men, then actually in the field, would be unanimous against allowing women any direct influence in political affairs. They discovered that they were wholly wrong. War was a great revealer of the reality of things. Shams and subterfuges withered in its great glare, and the men subjected to it saw men and women and the real and false values of life as they actually were. There was a tide in the affairs of men, a great wave, a wave of vitality which seemed to inspire men and women to live greatly and to do nobly. It was a tide which moved men: it was not moved by them.

A CHOICE OF BOOKS.

A SELECTION FROM THE POEMS OF MICHAEL FIELD. (The Poetry Bookshop, 5s.)

The poems of "Michael Field" give expression to a double personality, that of Miss Katherine Bradley and Miss Edith Cowper. They were aunt and niece, and were so united in sympathy and vision that, while they often composed together, they believed that poems written by one of them were inspired by the other. Their companionship lasted through life and both died of cancer at almost the same time. Their first volumes, which appeared in the eighties, had a considerable success and were praised by Browning. Mr. Sturge Moore has made a selection of what he considers the best poems, and for them he puts forward in his preface a very high claim.

MY RHINELAND JOURNAL. By HENRY T. ALLEN, Major-General, U.S.A. (Hutchinson, 24s.)

This is the diary of the General Commanding the American troops on the Rhine. Extending over three years and written with greater frankness than is usually met with in documents from such a source, General Allen's journal cannot fail to interest those who attach importance to the smooth working of international relationships. While opposed to French policy, the Americans got on better personally with the French than with ourselves, and his comments on the lighter side of official contacts are illuminating.

WITH MY WIFE ACROSS AFRICA BY CANOE AND CARAVAN. By Col. J. C. B. STATHAM. (Simpkin and Marshall, 12s. 6d.)

Colonel Statham's title states the bare facts of his wedding journey. The difficulties and dangers of the trip fill many thrilling pages. The little party of two were at different times in peril from thirst, hunger, crocodiles, lunatics, snakes, and sickness, any one of which might have ended the journey for one and probably for both. There are stories of game stalked with the camera when not urgently needed for food, and of the wild tribes on whom they depended, and they record much courtesy received at the hands of the Portuguese outposts. The book is published with the purpose of attracting settlers to the parts of Africa described. These would certainly need the pluck and endurance shown by Colonel Statham and his wife.

FIVE IN FAMILY. By E. H. ANSTRUTHER (Mrs. J. C. SQUIRE). (John Lane, 7s. 6d.)

Readers of Mrs. Squire's earlier novels, *The Farm Servant* and *The Husband*, will be glad to renew their acquaintance with characters which appeared in both, even though it began some time ago. They are people worth knowing, and we like to see them develop, and watch with interest the adventures of their children.

THE DRAFT TREATY OF MUTUAL ASSISTANCE.

IN FAVOUR OF THE REJECTION OF THE TREATY.

Those of us who approve the British Government's action in rejecting the Draft Treaty, believe that the Draft Treaty is pursuing a wrong path, would be ineffective in promoting security or disarmament, and would divert the League of Nations from its real functions.

The Draft Treaty proposes that reduction of armaments should be made in return for a general agreement for mutual assistance in case of aggression, supplemented by special treaties between two or more nations for mutual defence.

The onus of deciding who is the aggressor falls upon the Council of the League, which is to give its decision within four days of notification. The Council has the further responsibility of applying economic sanctions, summoning to arms the nations whose help it desires, and taking general military measures against the offending nation.

Now, in the first place, the Council of the League is not a body suited to take such action. It is composed of representatives of eight of the victor states in the late war and two neutrals, no representative of the vanquished states, nor, of course, of the two great powers—Russia and the United States. Its impartiality would therefore be open to suspicion. The first difficulty to face it would be a definition of "aggression," a definition which the Draft Treaty has found impossible. Is it likely that the Council be would able to decide impartially and decisively such a point? Nothing is easier for a Government than to provoke war, while throwing the appearance of being technically the aggressor on its victim. The old fable of the wolf and the lamb still holds good.

The Council is, in fact, unsuitable to act either as a judicial arbitrator, still more as an executive military body. Moreover, it has hitherto shown itself unable to take the responsibility of taking important decisions where the Great Powers are involved, even without sanctions. Then, the "complementary defensive agreements"—what are these but the military alliances such as France is promoting all over Eastern Europe, and which have roused alarm and suspicion over the rest of Europe? What are they but repetitions of the old Triple and Dual Alliances which by inflaming nationalisms and rousing rivalries in arms led to the last war?

The last state of Europe would surely be worse than the first. The strength of the League of Nations is in bringing the nations together for constructive work, not in being a super-state with armies and navies and air fleets and all the paraphernalia of force. It is likely, as is pointed out by the British Government, that far from leading to Disarmament, the Draft Treaty would impose such heavy obligations on nations that they would increase their armaments. This aspect is felt by some of the small neutral Powers. A very important objection to this proposed scheme is the disapproval of the three great Powers who are still outside the League.

Germany has expressed her objection to the Draft Treaty on the grounds that to meet force by force is no remedy, that violent settlement of disputes must be forbidden altogether, and that a Court of Arbitration for Political Disputes should be set up with guarantees for the judicial independence of its members. The United States, which is kept out of the League by her objections to Articles X and XVI of the Covenant, objects still more strongly to the Draft Treaty, which amplifies and enforces Acts X and XVI.

The unofficial American plan of those who favour the League and wish to co-operate in securing European Peace, combines the British suggestion for a further Disarmament Conference, with the German proposal for a world Court of Arbitration for political conflicts. Russia is strongly opposed to all use of force by the League. The most urgent task for the League is to secure the adhesion of these three great Powers who are still outside; if, therefore, there were no other objections to the Draft Treaty but their hostility, that would be enough to render it futile.

Armaments depend on policy. Let us now try to prepare for disarmament by a constructive peace policy, that is first of all by tackling one by one outstanding problems and causes of friction. Something was achieved by the Washington Conference to secure peace in the Pacific. Similar conferences

(Continued at foot of next column.)

AGAINST THE REJECTION OF THE TREATY.

At the fourth Assembly of the League of Nations held last September, after many months of discussion and criticism by the civil and military representatives of the nations concerned, the Treaty was passed subject to the usual ratifications. Briefly it was the first practical attempt to make effective the two clauses of the Covenant which aim at (1) security of nations against aggression, (2) reduction of armaments.

Mr. R. MacDonald rejects it on four main grounds: (1) That the whole Empire is not in agreement with it—this could, no doubt, be met by amendment to meet Canadian criticism. (2) That the League is not all embracing, and therefore not competent to carry out disarmament, or give security. (3) That the Council is only competent to give advice and talk, not to make decisions. (4) That it would lead to increased armaments. If the second and third objections hold good, why have a League of Nations at all? The Prime Minister's action is particularly disturbing while taken in conjunction with his recent refusal to become one of the Vice-Presidents of the League of Nations Union, though every party leader has accepted this as a matter of course before.

Now whatever may be said in criticism of particular points in this Treaty, one must bear in mind that it is France's and Germany's feeling which prevents a peaceful settlement of reparations, and France's large armies which prevent disarmament. France, or at any rate Liberal France led by M. Herriot, believed in this Treaty, and were prepared to evacuate the Ruhr and reduce their armies, if it were put into effect. It meant to France a real security under the League. A mutual guarantee treaty between Great Britain, Germany, and France, under the League, and dependent on its decision for action of any party, would replace the guarantee treaty of the United States and Great Britain to France, made in the Treaty of Versailles. Surely this would be more calculated to bring Germany into the League than anything else. The Prime Minister, by his abrupt rejection without even consulting Parliament, has probably wrecked the International Conference. France sees no prospect of mutual security and is therefore reluctant to give up the right to invade Germany if she considers Germany is in default. The bankers, in consequence, are reluctant to lend to Germany and the Dawes Report is endangered.

With regard to the fourth criticism, one can only ask oneself if the Prime Minister has really studied the Treaty, because it is absolutely conditional on whatever reduction of armaments the League chooses to decide upon, and France, the worst offender in this respect, is prepared to accept this.

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald resorts to the vague promise of an International Conference to carry out more effectively the same end. The greatest ground for optimism with regard to the League of Nations is its permanency—no Conference has the power to act continually, or to see that decisions already made are carried out. Are we to revert to Hague Conferences—or does the Prime Minister wish to set up a rival League of Nations to deal with disarmament and security?

One can only hope that the Prime Minister will reconsider his attitude to the League when he sees it at work in September: at the present moment his complete failure to appreciate what the League has already done, and in what way Great Britain can strengthen it by her own action, bids fair to be disastrous both to Great Britain's influence in European affairs, and to the chances of making the League of Nations in the near future a world-embracing League.

DOROTHY LAYTON.

(Continued from previous column.)

might deal with other problems and lead to further limitations of armaments.

The German and American suggestions for a Court of Arbitration or Conciliation to deal with political as apart from legal disputes are worth consideration.

The League of Nations must be strengthened by the inclusion on its Council of the Powers at present outside, and by amendments to its constitution.

These lines are more likely to lead to a sense of security which will make disarmament possible,

MARY SHEEPSHANKS.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

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WINTER PROGRAMME.

We hope that those among our Societies whose secretaries are not having holidays this month will acquaint us with their winter plans of work, more especially with their winter programme of meetings. Our speakers are rapidly becoming booked, it will economize both the speakers' time and the societies' money if a group of societies can be visited at the same time.

THE GUARANTEE FUND.

No further list will be issued until the autumn, when a report giving the position up to date and a complete list of guarantors and donors will be printed and circulated and a final appeal made. Any sums contributed by individuals or societies before the end of September will be included in the list. We wish to offer our most grateful thanks to all those who have given help in the form of large or small sums. We feel that not the least satisfactory feature of the present appeal is the unexpectedly large number of those who are responding. We are planning a vigorous programme for the autumn and winter, and we trust that those who have not contributed will do so as soon as possible, so that we may know what backing we can rely on.

MRS. TAYLOR'S NINETIETH BIRTHDAY.

We congratulate our Vice-President, Mrs. Taylor, on the celebration of her ninetieth birthday. Mrs. Taylor, who is in excellent health, received many tributes of affectionate admiration, including a telegram of congratulation from the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship. A correspondent writes:—"A musical At Home was arranged in honour of Mrs. Taylor's ninetieth birthday, which she herself thoroughly enjoyed. The performers included Miss Phyllis Robinson, Mrs. Robinson Guppy, a devoted worker for women's causes, who recited her own verses; Mr. Jack Bellamy and Mr. Edwin Wolseley, nephews of Lord Wolseley, who sang Mrs. Taylor's favourite songs. Professor Bickerton, of New Zealand, himself in his 83rd year, warmly congratulated Mrs. Taylor." We hope in these pages, with Mrs. Taylor's kind permission, to give some reminiscences of her long and very interesting life.

THE JUDGMENT OF POSTERITY.

We print below the substance of a letter from Mr. Edward Wood, M.P., to *The Times*, on Monday, 4th August, which will, we think, help to put the matter of the painting of Lady Astor in its correct bearings. A letter signed by the Joint Hon. Secretaries of the Women's Housing Councils National Federation, also dealing with the historic interest of the picture, appeared in *The Times* on 1st August. "All controversy is apt to beget confusion, and in the discussion about Lady Astor's picture it seems important to appreciate clearly the principal considerations on which the decision as to removal or retention of the painting should depend.

To my mind these are:—First, Will the next generation and its historians think that the introduction of the first woman Member to the House of Commons was or was not an event of sufficient historic interest to warrant commemoration within the walls of Parliament? Secondly, Is the quality of the painting such as to enable it to pass what should rightly be a very jealous scrutiny of artistic merit? Upon this latter question I am not competent, and should not venture, to pronounce. With regard to the first, I can feel little doubt of the judgment of posterity. Then, as now, some may deplore that the House of Commons ever decided to throw its doors open to women; others will wonder why the reform was so long delayed. But the reform itself will surely rank as a fact of definite interest in our constitutional evolution. For these reasons I venture to suggest that it is very desirable that no decision should be taken hastily or without due regard to the real perspective of the question."

THE LATE SIR GEORGE BEILBY.

We hear with very deep regret of the death of Sir George Beilby, who was one of many distinguished men who loyally supported the causes for which this paper stands. Sir George was a scientist and inventor, and his work brought him many honours. He made a special study of fuel economy and smoke prevention in connexion with coal consumption, and his scientific researches in this direction were widely recognized. For many years he was President of the Glasgow Society for Equal Citizenship, and only a week or two ago a joint gift of £300 from Lady Beilby and himself was recorded in these pages. The Women's Movement owes much to the men who have given it support, and Sir George Beilby is an outstanding example of those, though he took no conspicuous part. The sympathy of our readers will go out in no small measure to Lady Beilby and Mrs. Soddy, his daughter.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

(British Section: 55 Gower Street, W.C.1.)

The news of the appointment of Mrs. H. M. Swanwick as British substitute delegate to the Assembly of the League of Nations in September comes with a sense of special fitness to all her friends.

The W.I.L., of which she was Chairman from its inception in 1915 till 1923, feels this particularly, for it in connection with this society that much of her work on international politics has been done. From the beginning the W.I.L. has been the champion of a true League of Nations, and has taken a keen, if friendly critical, interest in all the doings of the present League. Mrs. Swanwick early wrote a suggestive pamphlet on the League Covenant, pointing out modifications which would tend to make it the enlarged and morally strengthened League we all desire; and she recently served (often as Chairman) on a Conference convened by the W.I.L., which spent a year considering the minimum of revision necessary to that end.

The solid work she has put for years into following League proceedings will bear fruit at Geneva, and the honour is one of the most appropriate which could have been accorded to her. K. E. INNES.

CORRESPONDENCE.

STATE MANAGEMENT OF THE LIQUOR TRADE.—SECOND WEEK-END CONFERENCE.

MADAM,—The Week End Conference held at Wetheral in the Carlisle area during the Whitsuntide holiday, which was attended by representative Licensing Magistrates, Labour Leaders, and Social Workers, proved so successful that it has been decided to organize another similar Conference at Wetheral from Friday evening, 26th September, to Monday morning, 29th September, inclusive.

In view of the promised Government inquiry into Licensing questions, including disinterested management, and particularly the Carlisle system of State management, this Conference should prove attractive to Licensing Magistrates, Members of Parliament, Social Reformers, and, indeed, to all who desire to secure the development of Temperance reform on definitely constructive lines.

Membership Forms and all information concerning the Conference may be obtained on application to the Temperance Legislation League, Parliament Mansions, Victoria Street, London, S.W. 1.

A. F. HARVEY, Secretary.

UNIVERSITY WOMEN AND EQUAL PAY.

MADAM,—I am directed by the Executive Committee of this Federation to forward to you the following resolution in the hope that you will be good enough to give it publicity in your columns. The proceedings of the Association of Education Committees, to which the resolution refers, have already had considerable publicity, and my Committee is anxious that the views of the Federation on the question of equal pay for work of equal value in the teaching profession, as in others, should also be put forward.

"The British Federation of University Women, through its Executive Committee, records its emphatic disapproval of the resolution passed by the Association of Education Committees at their meeting in Bournemouth (18th-20th June, 1924) in favour of greater differentiation in the salaries of men and women teachers; and reaffirms the adherence of the Federation to the principle of equal pay for work of equal value." E. E. NEWLAND,

Office Secretary, British Federation of University Women.

A NEW OPENING.

MADAM,—I am delighted to see another article by Ann Pope in this week's issue of the WOMAN'S LEADER, but for almost the first time I find myself in disagreement with her. Surely the work of an administrative or medical "dietitian" must require much more scientific training than she describes. To waste the precious years 16 to 18 as a scullery-maid in different institutions working, as seems not improbable, under those with no scientific training at all, and then to proceed to train as hospital nurse seems to me a very clumsy method of training for a new profession which obviously calls for accurate and scientific knowledge. Is it not the case that training for this new and most important occupation can be had at King's College for Women and possibly at other centres for Domestic Science training, such as for instance the Battersea Polytechnic. I always enjoy Ann Pope's articles so much that I hesitate to appear critical, especially as I am no authority on domestic matters, but even a slight knowledge of the importance of dietetics in health or illness leads me to hope that some more thorough and systematic training is provided in this country, as well as in America, than that outlined in the scheme referred to. E. H.

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LADIES visiting Wembley will find comfortable BED-SITTING-ROOMS within half an hour's distance of Exhibition. Meals optional. Telephone, Western 1,201.—Box 1,079, WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

MARGATE.—APARTMENTS, booking now. Bed-sitting, bedroom.—Harrison, 4 Dane Park Road.

TO LET.—Unfurnished, large attractive Room; gas-ring, cupboard, sink, all first floor; off Holland Park Avenue; to gentlewoman engaged all day; moderate.—Box 1083, WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

TO LET.—Large south Room, furnished or unfurnished, with partial board; vacant middle September.—Ladies' Residential Club, 15 Kensington Park Gardens, Notting Hill Gate.

LADY, leaving house and two servants in Golders Green, wants Paying Guests for August. Direct bus route to Wembley. 2½ guineas.—Box 1,078, WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

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PROFESSIONAL.

PUBLIC SPEAKING.—Miss Geraldine Cooke, 2 George Street, Portman Square, W. 1, is free to address meetings on Citizenship and kindred subjects. Terms on application.

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

INCOME TAX RECOVERED AND ADJUSTED. Consult H. M. Baker, 275 High Holborn, W.C. 1, the only Income Tax Agency owned and managed by a woman. Telephone: Holborn 377.

POST VACANT.

CANNING TOWN WOMEN'S SETTLEMENT, LONDON, E. 16.—Full-time Voluntary Workers Wanted in the Autumn for all departments of Settlement Work. Vacancy for student to train in social work.—Full particulars from the Warden.

FOR SALE AND WANTED.

IRISH LINEN PILLOW-CASES.—Plain linen pillow-cases made from real good quality of Irish linen, which we can recommend. Four plain cases, size 20x30 ins., for 14s. Hemstitched linen pillow-cases, real good quality, size 20x30 ins., 2 cases for 13s. 6d. Write for Bargain List—TO-DAY.—HUTTON'S, 41 Main Street, Larne, Ireland.

SECOND-HAND CLOTHING wanted to buy for cash; costumes, skirts, boots, underclothes, curtains, lounge suits, trousers, and children's clothing of every description; parcels sent will be valued and cash sent by return.—Mrs. Russell, 100 Raby Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. (Stamped addressed envelope for reply.)

DRESS.

MISS MALCOLM'S DRESS ASSOCIATION, 239 Fulham Road, London, S.W. 3. Bargain Gowns, Evening and Afternoon, at 21s.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE, 35 Marsham Street, Westminster. Secretary, Miss P. Strachey. Information Bureau. Interviews, 10 to 1, except Saturdays. Members' Centre open daily. Restaurant open to 7.30 (not Saturdays).

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

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Sunday, 10th August, 7 p.m., Miss Maude Royden, "Don Quixote."

THE HOUSE ASSISTANTS' CENTRE, 510 King's Road, Chelsea, S.W. 10,

is now definitely CLOSED, as Ann Pope has, by medical advice, had to discontinue all active participation in social work. An article on the work of the Centre (which is being carried on as a fresh undertaking at Ealing) will appear shortly in the WOMAN'S LEADER.

HOME-MADE CAKES, made with butter and eggs (no substitutes), can be obtained from Nan's Kitchen, 15 Funnival Street, Holborn, London, W.C. Layer cakes, éclairs, meringues, etc. Regular orders undertaken. A room for tea and light luncheons. Recommended by Ann Pope.

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