

THE WOMAN'S LEADER

AND THE COMMON CAUSE

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NOTES AND NEWS.

Women and Parties.

The *Observer* last week had an interesting article on the probable effects of the new women voters if the Representation of the People's Bill becomes law. It is often said that this increase in the electoral roll will chiefly swell the strength of the Labour Party, but the *Observer* pointed out that in five constituencies already the numbers of women exceeded the number of men, and in none of these five cases was a Labour Member returned. South Kensington, where there are nearly 6,000 more women than men on the electoral roll returned a Conservative unopposed; Cheltenham, Hastings, and South Edinburgh, with a majority of women voters, all returned Conservatives, and Montrose Burghs a Liberal. Other constituencies quoted were Bournemouth, Ilford, Chelsea, and Tonbridge, where the number of men and women electors are approximately equal; they also all returned Conservative members. It is, perhaps, unwise to stress the point, or we shall probably be told by Labour Members that they can't support the Bill because it would strengthen the Conservative vote. The truth is, any prophecy as to the effects on the parties of the new woman voters is little better than guesswork. The constituencies mentioned above are all constituencies where one would expect a Conservative majority from the character of the district. We fancy it will always be the social and economic circumstances rather than the division of votes between the sexes which determine party results, though the effects on party programmes are a different matter.

Mrs. Swanwick.

We congratulate the Government on its choice of Mrs. Swanwick as British proxy delegate to the forthcoming League of Nations Assembly in Geneva. With Mrs. Swanwick's political opinions (she is a member of Mr. MacDonald's own party and shares his views regarding the rejection of the proposed Draft Treaty of Mutual Assistance) many of our readers no doubt heartily disagree, though it will be admitted that she holds such opinions with a singular absence of fanaticism. To us, it is a matter of keen satisfaction that the British women should be represented

in so weighty a mission by a former editor of this paper, an ex-member of the National Union of Suffrage Societies' executive committee, and one of the most brilliant public speakers of the pre-war suffrage campaign. It may be added (though our readers can hardly stand in need of such information) that Mrs. Swanwick is an acknowledged expert on international affairs, and a contemporary journalist of high repute. Her forcible and decisive intelligence will make its mark upon whatever deliberations she may be called upon to assist. That is to say, she will be hotly opposed or vigorously supported—never ignored.

Bills in the House of Lords—A record for Lord Banbury.

The Summary Jurisdiction (Separation and Maintenance Bill) has passed its second reading in the House of Lords. The Lord Chancellor explained the main principles of the Bill, and Lord Banbury welcomed it as the first measure of the Labour Government which deserved commendation. Would he, we ask, have welcomed it so warmly if he had remembered that this Bill was initiated by the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship and only taken over by the Government on the occasion of its third reading in the House of Commons? The Legitimacy Bill has passed its third reading in the House of Lords. Lord Middleton's amendment with regard to the need for the avowal of paternity by the parents of an illegitimate child at the time of their marriage has been made still more restrictive by a provision that this avowal shall be made "in a prescribed manner."

Child Assault: An Important Committee.

As we go to press we hear that the Home Secretary has appointed a Committee to collect information as to the prevalence of sexual offences against young persons and to report upon the subject, indicating any direction in which in their opinion the law or its administration might be improved. Our readers will be glad to know that Mrs. Rackham, J.P., who is a well-known contributor to our columns, has been appointed to serve on this Committee. Miss Clara Martineau, J.P., and Miss E. H. Kelly, C.B.E., J.P., of Portsmouth, are the other women members, and Miss J. L. Wall, of the Home Office, has been appointed secretary. The Chairman, Sir Ryland Adkins, K.C., has been a friend of the causes for which this paper stands in the House of Commons, and Dr. A. H. Norris, M.C., of the Home Office, and Mr. R. J. Parr, O.B.E., of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, are members whose selection will be approved by everyone.

Committee of Inquiry on British Trade.

The names of the Members of the above Committee were announced in the House of Commons on Tuesday last. The Committee consists of sixteen men and one woman, Mrs. M. A. Hamilton. We regret that no more women were appointed, but we feel that Mrs. Hamilton is admirably qualified for the work. An old student of Newnham College, she has for many years been connected with journals such as the *Economist*, *Common Sense*, and the *New Leader*, all of which brought her in contact with trade and industry. To some Mrs. Hamilton is perhaps better known as a novelist and a literary critic.

A Tax-free Scheme of Subscriptions to Charities.

We call the special attention of our readers to the interesting scheme outlined in Mr. D'Aeth's short article. Methods of money-raising is a subject which interests everyone, and new ideas are very welcome.

"QUALITY
AND FLAVOUR"

BOURNVILLE COCOA

See the name "CADBURY" on every piece of Chocolate

WRITE
CADBURY, BOURNVILLE
ABOUT GIFT SCHEME

Another Conservative Woman Candidate?

We hear that a movement is on foot to invite Professor Dame Helen Gwynne-Vaughan, LL.D., D.Sc., F.L.S., to stand as Conservative Candidate for the University of London at the approaching bye-election. It is not for us to enter into Dame Helen's party views, but we want to see more women of all three parties in the House, and we know that Dame Helen would add to the group of women who represent the causes for which this paper stands. She was at one time the Hon. Secretary of the Consultative Committee of Women's Suffrage organizations, which did so much to concentrate women's forces before the victory in 1918. Her work in a wider field during the war as Chief Controller Queen Mary's Auxiliary Army Corps, and Commandant Women's Royal Air Force, is well known. There are few women who combine scholarship, practical experience, and inside knowledge of the women's movement in the same remarkable degree, and we hope that her candidature will shortly be definitely announced.

The Queen and Mary Macarthur Home.

The Queen recently visited the Mary Macarthur Holiday Home for Working Women at Ongar, and received purses for the endowment fund. We are glad to learn that £1,270 was collected. Miss Gertrude Tuckwell, in her speech spoke of the interest and sympathy the Queen had given to the work of Mary Macarthur, especially in connexion with the Central Committee for Women's Employment during the war. Miss Macarthur's favourite quotation, she said, was the verse from the Koran: "Let any one of you having a loaf sell half, and buy with it the flowers of the narcissus." It had always been Miss Macarthur's aim to bring something of that beauty which is typified by the flowers of the narcissus into the lives of the working women. The rest and peace that they can get at the Home is one aspect of this. The Queen, before leaving, asked if the Home had any special need, and on hearing that they wanted mats for the side of the beds offered to send them, a practical sign of her sympathy which will surely be much appreciated.

Women and the Wesleyan Ministry.

The decision of the Wesleyan Conference with regard to women in the Ministry is undeniably disappointing. The special committee appointed to consider the subject had presented a report to the Representative Session which passed two resolutions on this point. The first stated categorically that "there is no function of the ordained ministry for which a woman is in principle disqualified merely on the ground of sex," whilst the second urged, not the immediate opening of the Ministry to women as the logical result of the first resolution, but that "whatever the ultimate goal may be" the first step should be the development of a Ministry of women parallel to the Ministry of men. This of course would not be doing away with the sex disqualification, but at least the report did recognize that the present attitude of the Churches towards women is not satisfactory. At the pastoral session of conference, however, the matter was further discussed, and objections raised to the parallel Ministry of women in that it gave to the women missionaries and deaconesses full recognition as colleagues with the ordained ministers. Judging from the summary of the speeches the conference seems to have felt it impolitic definitely to refuse this status to its women workers, and consequently agreed to compromise by referring the report back to the committee for reconsideration next year. The Rev. Russell Maltby, in presenting the report, said that Methodism had been a pioneer in the movement for the emancipation of women; we share his regret that at present it can hardly claim that title.

Women's Organizations and Penal Reform.

The Home Secretary received a deputation from the Standing Joint Committee of Industrial Women's Organizations on the subject of penal reform on 28th July. The points urged by the deputation were the increased use of probation in all courts, fuller consideration of foreign experiments in penal reform, fuller assimilation of the régime in Borstal and Industrial Schools to that in non-penal establishments, an increase in the number of women employed in the higher ranks of the Prison Service, increased facilities for legal aid for poor persons at the petty sessional courts, and the abolition of capital punishment. The reply of the Home Secretary will be sent in writing, and it will certainly be looked for with the greatest interest by all who are interested in the subject.

Educated Women Settlers.

A letter from Dame Meriel Talbot, of the Society for the Overseas Settlement of British Women, 3 and 4, Clement's Inn, Strand, which appeared in *The Times* of 30th July, states that a request has been received for a number of educated girls to go to Australia. The Society, acting in conjunction with the Victoria League and with the Australian authorities, sent a small party of girls last November with excellent results. Happy, contented letters have been received, in one of which a skilled stenographer writes: "A thousand thanks for sending me out to this wonderful country, a land of sunshine, welcome, and continual happiness." Candidates for the second party must be within the ages of 18 and 35; they must have had an education of secondary school standard, and have had some practical experience of ordinary household work and be willing to undertake it. They receive an assisted passage and guaranteed employment on arrival. Moreover, they receive, to quote Dame Meriel, "the better chance which life in a new country offers to women, where individual work and worth are not lost in a crowd but are quickly recognized." Full particulars may be had at the office of the Society.

"The Call to the Younger Generation."

The annual meeting and conference of the National Council of Women of Great Britain and Ireland will be held in the Dome and Royal Pavilion, Brighton, from 6th to 10th October. A conference of Women Justices of the Peace has been arranged, and the subjects of public meetings will include "The Call from the Home," "The Call from the Nation," and "The Call from the World," when Lord Cecil will speak of the Work of the League of Nations. Other speakers will be Frank Briant, Esq., M.P., Captain Reiss, and Colonel Levita. Important resolutions will be brought forward on the Care of the Mentally Deficient, Women Police, Press Reports, Training in Skilled Trades, Equal Pay for Equal Work, House Property Management, and, of course, Equal Franchise. This annual conference, coming just as work is being resumed, has something of the quality of an invigorating tonic, and the united attractions of a remarkably interesting programme and Brighton itself will ensure a most successful gathering.

The Views of an American Woman Lawyer.

Miss Florence Allen, Judge of the Supreme Court of Ohio, to whom we referred in last week's issue, is not the only distinguished woman amongst the American lawyers who have recently visited this country. Another woman visitor who holds a high legal position in the States is Miss Nellie Carlin, of Illinois, the first woman Assistant State Attorney, who has been a member of the Chicago Bar for 25 years. Miss Carlin, in a Press interview, commented on the greater spirit of tolerance in this country, and mentioned as an example men's attitude to cigarette smoking amongst women, which is far less generally accepted in America than is the case here. It is consoling that the American women cannot find signs of greater freedom in this country, but perhaps our women lawyers would give up their cigarettes for the sake of so assured and responsible positions as Miss Carlin and Miss Allen have won. A quarter of a century's practice at the Bar makes the newly won right of entry of our women lawyers seem very young indeed.

The Woman's Leader in August and September.

We regret that "News from Westminster" had not arrived when we went to press. "Green Bench" is much appreciated, and we hope we shall be able to induce him to continue after the Vacation. Next week a summary of the work of the Session up to the present time will be contributed by Mrs. Hubbard. We suggest that secretaries of Societies might order additional copies in advance.

Mrs. Fawcett's delightful memories will be continued throughout August and part of September, and in view of the interest in the proposed schemes of Social Insurance before the country, and their relation to Pensions for Civilian Widows, we have arranged for a short series of articles examining each of these schemes in detail. In addition to this, we begin in this week's issue a short series of articles on rural questions, which will be continued at intervals throughout the next two months. Next week, by special request, we propose to print as a "burning question" two articles on the draft Treaty of Mutual Assistance.

REPARATIONS.

Writing at the beginning of last week, we saw the London Conference dominated by the familiar tug-of-war between economic and political interests. Writing at the beginning of this week we see the same conflict in operation, its features perhaps more clearly defined. Everything that has transpired in the seven days' interval has served to "clear the air." And we would remind our readers that the clearest air may nevertheless be, by virtue of its chemical composition, very poisonous, or very inflammable, as the case may be.

Most people are, by now, pretty familiar with the main structure of the controversy. Upon the application of the Dawes Reparations Scheme, with the consent and co-operation of Germany, depends our hope, and France's hope, not to mention Italy's and Belgium's hope, of securing such reparation payments as (in the view of accredited financial experts) can still be secured. But the successful application of the Dawes scheme carries with it two inevitable assumptions. There are, of course, very many more than two, but two will suffice for the present bare bones of analysis. In the first place it assumes the existence of a productive, efficient, and moderately well-fed German nation, with a sufficient modicum of political and economic hope to make productiveness and efficiency worth while. In the second place it assumes that the Allies and Germany between them will be able to provide a sufficient guarantee of security to satisfy those persons who will set the ball rolling by raising that international loan which is the keystone of the Dawes scheme. No Dawes scheme, no reparations! No loan, no Dawes scheme! No satisfied bond-holders, no loan! No guaranteed security, no satisfied bond-holders! That seems at the moment of writing, to be the essential line of reasoning. And across the immediate and early realization of the last condition stride the French requirements for what the Paris Press and the late French Government conceive to be the necessary guarantees for political security; the complete or partial retention of control in the Ruhr district, or the right of the Reparations Commission to impose or reimpose in the event of aggression or default, sanctions which would, in the opinion of potential bond-holders, endanger the security of their money. Hence the significance of the American and British bankers' appearance at the Foreign Office in a guise which may, in the opinion of some of our readers, suggest the elusive cut of the pacifist or pro-German.

Nor must we, in attempting to visualize the progress (or stagnation) of these highly technical discussions, forget that there are three distinct and, in the eyes of many reputable persons, reasonable reasons for regarding the payment of reparations as in itself not a particularly desirable end. There are persons who agree with Mr. E. D. Morel that, being all miserable sinners of more or less equal calibre with Germany, the Allies had better call quits with Germany and abandon their punitive pretensions. There are those, and we believe that they have the support of the Rothermere Press, who regard Germany as a potentially dangerous trade rival whose power to produce reparations would do more harm than good to the economic interests of her trade competitors. And there are persons (to be found mainly on the other side of the Channel) who frankly care less for reparations and economic stability than for the lasting impotence of a menacing and populous neighbour power.

What will come of it? Alas, week-end conference gossip gives us no clue; though by the time these reflections appear in print our readers may be better informed than we are. In the meanwhile it is fortunate that the known and harmonious views of Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Baldwin, and Mr. Asquith enable us to express our hopes without compromising our non-party faith. We hope that the French representatives will give the bankers their security; that the bankers will give Germany an international loan; that an international loan will give us the Dawes scheme; and that the Dawes scheme will give us reparations. Some there be who desire reparations for the relief of taxation. Some there be who desire reparations for the satisfaction of justice or revenge. Yet again, some there be who desire reparations because the first condition for reparations is material economic stability and prosperity, whose first condition is peace.

HOLIDAYS.

Our readers are reminded that they can receive the paper by Friday morning as usual during the holidays if they will send their change of address to the WOMAN'S LEADER Office, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W.1.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTES AND POLITICS.

The Women's Institutes pride themselves on being a non-party and non-sectarian movement, and there are those who interpret this to mean that their members are forbidden (at all events at W.I. meetings) to exhibit the slightest interest in religion or politics; they are, in fact, to confine themselves to the two first of the three k's—Kinder and Küche, since even Kirche would fall under the ban of sectarianism. It is small wonder that those who hold this view regard the movement either as dull but harmless, or as pernicious. I do not propose in this article to touch on the question of religion, but I fail to see how anyone can take even the most elementary interest in children and cooking without inevitably taking an interest in politics. "Politicks," according to Dr. Johnson, is "the art or practice of administering public affairs." How are you going to discuss such intimate and personal matters as the age at which your children go to, or leave, school; the type of house (including the type of kitchen range) to be put up by the County Council; the provision of district midwives or nurses, without knowing something of Local Government, of the powers and duties of County Councils, of the Board of Education or the Ministry of Health? It was no mere academic interest in economics which led one Women's Institute to ask for a lecture on Wages and Prices and another to discuss Vaccination. A friend's cook returned last winter from a lecture on "Parliament": "Well," she said, "I understand a bit better now what a vote means"; and many of our members learn the forms and methods of public business by learning to conduct their own election and annual meetings, to keep their own minutes and records of meetings, and to understand the meaning of a statement of accounts or a balance-sheet. Look at the resolutions sent in, not by the National Executive, but by individual Institutes and County Federations, for the annual meeting of the National Federation of Women's Institutes held each year in London: they include such subjects as Widows' Pensions, Protection of Food from Contamination, and Housing.

The real peculiarity of the W.I. movement lies not in the fact that it eschews politics—it does not—but in the fact that it studies such questions with the simple object of learning about them; and so far from wishing to convert any member to this or that view, one of its chief aims is to bring together women of all shades of political opinion and show them ways in which they may work together. It was an ardent supporter of the Church of England who was overheard when washing up after a W.I. tea to say: "I always take special care of these Baptist cups; it is so good of them to lend them." More than once, after an address on some subject such as Education or Housing, the members have said: "What we liked best was that it wasn't party." Personally, I can conceive no better training for citizenship than to acquire the habits (a) of managing your own affairs, (b) of thinking of things from the point of view of the community, (c) of discussing them amicably with people who differ from you. To these I would add the value of finding yourself part of a movement which links village to village, county to county, and so insensibly carries the countrywoman into the heart of a national movement. If Women's Institutes can help countrywomen to become articulate, to formulate and express their needs, and to realize their responsibilities as voters, whether for Parish or County Council or for Parliament, if they help them to grasp the meaning of rates and taxes, and to study national housekeeping as they do their own, then the members can join what political party they like, they will at least bring into party politics a sanity and judgment of which there appears to be need, and we shall no longer find legislation enacted exclusively from the point of view of large cities.

GRACE E. HADOW, *Vice-Chairman N.F.W.I.*

SOME OF OUR CONTEMPORARIES.

The International Woman Suffrage News, or "Jus," as it is popularly called, is an indispensable monthly to all who are following the progress of the Woman's Movement. The current number contains an interesting account of the Third Northern Women's Congress at Helsingfors by Mrs. Corbett Ashby, and an interesting account of the twenty-eight women in the German Reichstag. Unfortunately there are six women fewer than before, due to the general decrease in the Socialist party. Eighteen of the twenty-eight women were members of the last Reichstag or of the National Assembly of 1919. In addition to international news, Miss Mary Hayden contributes a delightful article on an Irish social worker of the eighteenth century—Lady Arabella Denny.

WHAT I REMEMBER. XLVII.

By MILLICENT GARRETT FAWCETT, J.P., LL.D.
REAL VICTORY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE IN SIGHT AT LAST.

There were two political events in the latter part of the Great War, which in combination made the victory for Suffrage certain.

The first was the very great impression made throughout the country by the national value of women's war services, and the ungrudging, unbargaining generosity of spirit with which they had been rendered.

The second was the extremely defective character of our old Franchise law, which made it absolutely necessary to carry a Reform Bill throughout its stages, before the war ended. Dwelling first on the first of these, there was not a paper in Great Britain that by 1916-17 was not ringing with praise of the courage and devotion of British women in carrying out war work of various kinds, and on its highly effective character from the national point of view. The Prefect of Constanza was quoted as having said of the women orderlies of the Scottish Women's Hospital in Serbia, "It is extraordinary how these women endure hardships; they refuse help and carry the wounded themselves. They work like navvies. No wonder England is a great country if the women are like that." Another story which moved the whole country was this: a ship coming from Australia, bringing troops and a group of women nurses, was torpedoed in the Mediterranean. The captain ordered the lifeboats out, and gave the usual order "Save the women first," but the nurses drew back and said, "Fighting men first, they are the country's greatest need." Men could hardly speak of these things without tears in their eyes. The industrial women brought the same spirit to their work. They were out for what they could give and not for what they could get. Dame Adelaide Anderson, then Chief Woman Factory Inspector, wrote repeatedly in her reports of the wonderful and unsparring work of the industrial women everywhere, especially when they were working on Government orders for the supply of our fighting men. The Press was full of unmeasured praise for the efficiency of this work and the zeal with which it was performed; the words "wonderful," "amazing," "extraordinary" were sprinkled over the articles and rather irritated some of us to whom it seemed as if the writers had never before realized the skill and efficiency of women's pre-war work, whether in the home or in the factory. By special arrangements with the Trade Unions, women in 1915 were allowed to undertake industrial work hitherto closed to them. The relaxation of the Trade Union rules was temporary, and was thoroughly understood on both sides to be so. The first time I perceived what a factor this industrial freedom, temporary though it was, was going to become in our political work was when I read in the trade journal, *The Engineer*, in August, 1915, quoted by Miss Lowndes in her valuable magazine, *The Englishwoman*, "that women were doing work in engineering requiring great skill and intelligence"—no mere routine work requiring only patience and endurance, but "work of which any skilled mechanic might be proud." Sir William Beardmore, the President of the Iron and Steel Institute, referred in his Presidential address, 1915, to the high productivity of women's labour. He spoke of a machine recently introduced by his firm of which they desired to test the utility. A good workman was induced, with some difficulty, to try and to lay aside, for the sake of the experiment, the traditional restriction of output. The machine did well, but not so well as the firm had expected. Then a further experiment was made, and women were put on the job, "using the same machine and working the same hours, their output was more than double that of the trained mechanic." Another case was often quoted—that of a former charwoman who had been put on to do gun breech work. Her job was to bore a hole $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch in diameter dead true through 12 inches of solid steel. The test was the tally of broken tools, and at the time of writing, the reports said, this woman, the former "char," had a clean slate. When the women were put on munition work every successive Minister of Munitions spoke enthusiastically of the value of what they were doing for the country. Mr. Lloyd George led off, and said their work was "indispensable and of extraordinary value, I am anxious," he said, "to bear testimony to the tremendous part played by the women of England in this vital epoch of human history." His successors, Mr. Montagu and Mr. Winston Churchill, were no less enthusiastic, one said, "It is not too much to say that our armies have been saved and victory assured by the

women in the munition factories," while the other declared that "Without the work of women it would have been impossible to win the war," and also referred to its excellent quality as well as its enormous volume. Sir Lyndon Macassey, in a Quarterly article, said that "Where the work required constant alertness, a sure and deft touch, and delicacy of manipulation, women were invariably superior to men." Evidence of this kind, piled up as it were day after day in the Press, brought about a very significant change in public opinion on the whole question of women's place in industry and in national life. Even the great anti-suffrage fortress, manned by Mr. Asquith, and those to whom his light was a guiding star, showed signs of hanging out a flag of surrender. This was first noticed in October, 1915, on the occasion of Mr. Asquith's comment in the House of Commons on the heroic death of Edith Cavell. Referring to what had happened during the fifteen months of war to justify faith in the manhood and womanhood of the country, he added, speaking of Miss Cavell, "She has taught the bravest man among us a supreme lesson of courage; yes, and in this United Kingdom and throughout the Dominions there are thousands of such women, but a year ago we did not know it." Pathetic blindness! especially as a great deal of it must have been wilful.

Throughout the years 1916 and 1917 conversions of important public men and of leading newspapers kept coming in, not by ones and twos, but by battalions. The anti-Suffrage Press, which in earlier days had been such an obstacle in the way of our success, was almost wiped out. The three Posts, as we called them, *The Morning Post*, *The Birmingham Post*, and the *Yorkshire Post* alone remained obdurate, but I believe that two out of these three have now revised and modified their position. What a contrast to the time when a leading journal could write, "The female sex has nothing whatever to complain of; its merits, where they exist, are fully recognized; does not the epicure prefer the female herring?" The wave of appreciation of women's work and place in the world rose higher and higher, and had permanent results; the value of it is felt in many directions; we see evidence of it in the greater courtesy extended to women everywhere, in the greater appreciation of the value of infant life, in the greater willingness of men to share in and help women in their domestic work. Instances will occur to almost everyone. I believe also that the institution of the Boy Scout and Girl Guide movement was very helpful in the same direction. It was an inspiration to require from every Boy Scout that he should do at least one kind action every day.

WELFARE OF THE BLIND.

A deputation from the National Union of the Professional and Industrial Blind was recently received by the Minister of Health. The deputation, through Mr. Ben Purse, the General Secretary, advanced reasons for objecting to the provisions contained in the Blind Persons Act (Amendment) Bill now before Parliament. Mr. Purse pleaded for the further development of the present system of co-operation between the State, the Local Authorities, and the Voluntary Organizations. Mr. Wheatley was more particularly asked to take all possible steps for the prevention of blindness both in infancy and in adult life, and a number of administrative improvements were urged upon his attention.

In reply, Mr. Wheatley congratulated the deputation on the eloquence and lucidity with which their case had been presented. He was to see other deputations with regard to the blind in the course of the week, but he felt no difficulty in promising the most sympathetic consideration of all the points raised.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE.

The Royal Commission on National Health Insurance announce that they will commence to hold meetings for the hearing of evidence in October next.

Any persons or bodies desiring to give evidence should, in the first instance, communicate in writing with the Secretary of the Commission, Mr. E. Hackforth, at the Ministry of Health, Whitehall, S.W. 1, stating the main heads of the evidence they desire to submit.

REVIEW.

CHINESE LANTERNS. By GRACE THOMPSON SETON. The Bodley Head. 12s. 6d.

Mrs. Grace Thompson Seton, who has already published several travel books, has written in *Chinese Lanterns* a book that those interested in the East and in women's status and progress should read.

In her foreword she tells her readers why she called the book *Chinese Lanterns*, because "of all the many-sided impressions that the East leaves upon the heart and imagination of the traveller, none stand out so clearly, next to the people themselves, as the glittering, gleaming, dancing light-givers. . . . No wedding, funeral, festival, pilgrimage, nor procession is complete without them: no temple, shrine, nor holy place: no shop, no dwelling." She says that using her own lantern she has tried to throw a little light on what is happening there, especially upon the "dark places of the women's quarters." She has certainly succeeded in presenting to us vivid pictures of the China of to-day, grouping her sketches, which are essentially journalistic, under her many lanterns.

Her first of the Wedding Lantern and the Yellow Imperial Lantern, tells of the remains of old China as she saw it in the elaborate wedding ceremonies of the young Emperor, Son of Heaven, and the Treasure Empress. The whole story of this is fascinating, and many readers will envy the writer her opportunity of seeing it all from the initiatory ceremonies till through the Gate of Resplendent Harmony, bedecked with wedding lanterns, she went to the congratulations ceremony and saw the Gates of the Forbidden City close again on the outer world.

Another part of the book covers five days of revolution, and has a long sympathetic account of Sun Jat-Sen and his wife, with some effort to deal with the difficult and tangled conditions of China to-day. But the best part of the book to most women will be the part Mrs. Thompson Seton groups under the Tai Tai Lantern, in which she deals in a series of studies with leading women, wives of leading men, and women leaders in the suffrage movement, in education, in medicine, banking, commerce, and in social movements.

The story of what large numbers of Chinese women are doing is extremely interesting, and nothing is lost in the telling, as the writer has an eye not only for the facts of their work and enterprise, but a flair that frequently amuses, for the picturesque and attractive in personality, clothes, jewels, houses, and everything else, and a very friendly enthusiasm.

She found that in her view "her (the Chinese woman) emancipation has progressed beyond examples and pioneers, and was distributed so widely that she could be classified into groups, as with us in America or in Europe." She attributes this partly to foreign education and commercialism, and everywhere in her book one finds the links with America in many of these women, and men too. Those of us who know American colleges and universities know the steady trickle of Chinese women through them.

Mrs. Seton talks of social problems, secondary wives, concubinage, "women of pleasure," and the attitude of the new leaders to these.

There are chapters on the women workers, in varied fields, though nowhere does Mrs. Seton attempt to give us any real perspective of the whole, a thing that would need, not a visit like hers, but years and years of knowledge, and even then it would be difficult; but what she does give is of considerable interest and value.

Mrs. Thompson Seton gives us the seven demands made by Miss Chou, the suffragist leader in 1922, and here they are:—

1. The opening of all educational institutions in the country to women.
2. Adoption of universal suffrage and the granting to women of all constitutional rights and privileges given to men.
3. Revision in accordance with the principle of equality of those provisions in the Chinese Civil Code pertaining to relations between wife and husband, and mother and son, and to property rights, disposing capacity, and the right of succession of women.
4. The drafting of regulations giving equal rights to women in matters of marriage.
5. Prohibition of licensed prostitution, girl slavery, and foot-binding.
6. Addition to the Criminal Code of a new provision to the effect that anyone who keeps a concubine shall be considered guilty of bigamy.
7. Enactment of a law governing the protection of female labour in accordance with the principles of "Equal work, equal pay" and "A woman is entitled to full pay during the time that she is unable to work owing to childbirth." H. F.

A CHOICE OF BOOKS.

HELIODORA AND OTHER POEMS. By H. D. (Jonathan Cape, 5s.)

H. D. is a mistress of free verse, and in this volume makes the interesting experiment of translating Greek poetry into this medium. Her aim is to evoke the spirit rather than to set down the verbal equivalent of the original she has chosen, and the result is full of delicate and finished beauty.

SMALL HOUSES FOR THE COMMUNITY. By C. H. JAMES and F. R. YERBURY. (Crosby Lockwood, 31s.)

Those who are attracted by the name of this interesting book will find themselves rewarded. It contains plans, photographs, and specifications for a scheme of town-planning, and a number of illustrations of a large variety of small foreign houses. A study of these plans and of the accompanying estimates will make the reader wonder whether the present schemes of wholesale building at a fixed rate will not result in the suppression of all invention and initiative and the crystallizing of a type of house which may be neither the most convenient nor the cheapest which could be designed, while it is almost certain not to be the most pleasing.

A PASSAGE TO INDIA. By E. M. FORSTER. (Arnold, 7s. 6d.)

Mr. Forster brings charm and imagination to the making of this book. There is real beauty in the descriptions of India and an almost uncanny precision in his drawing of character, whether Indian or British, yet the reader is left with the feeling of being under a spell. The characters behave as if bewitched. A reasonable, kindly young lady brings a charge against her Indian host at a picnic, turning in a moment, and for no visible reason, into a hysterical lunatic. Her "nerves" infect the whole British community of the small station. A trial is held, which reads like a comic opera, in the middle of which the young lady takes back her accusation, and is immediately and cruelly "dropped" by all the English except the one man who had always sided with the accused, and therefore incurred the unreasonable wrath of all the rest. The book is marred by the air of unreality created by the heroine's incomprehensible behaviour. The main conclusion reached is that there is no common ground on which English and Indian can meet and be friends, and there are endless examples of the incalculable causes of misconception and offence which crop up at every turn to defeat the most amicable intentions. It is a pity that a picture of Indian station life so fantastic and so skilfully written should give a distorted impression of the real effort at understanding that does undoubtedly exist.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO CHARITIES—A TAX-FREE SCHEME.

For a number of years charities have been exempt from the payment of Income Tax, and in consequence, charities have claimed back from the Inland Revenue Authorities the tax paid on dividends on shares. There has, however, been no machinery by which charities could secure their subscriptions free of income tax on the part of the donor.

When the Income Tax rose from one shilling in the pound to the heights it has reached in recent years, donors were in many cases no longer able to continue their support on their former scale, and charitable effort generally has been seriously affected. Under the pressure of the Income Tax and Super Tax, a number of legal agreements of various kinds came into being assigning income temporarily in such a way as to exclude the owner from payment of these taxes on such sums. This practice became so extensive, that restrictions had to be introduced which are set out in the Income Tax Acts and notably in section 20 of the Finance Act, 1922.

The restrictions therein set forth permit however, the definite setting aside under a legal agreement of a portion of one's income for a period of, at least, over 6 years (e.g. 7 years) for charitable purposes, and for the claiming of the Income Tax on such portion of the income on behalf of the charities benefiting. Further, the donor who pays Super Tax may write off the portion thus set aside in his Super Tax return, as a charge upon income. For this provision to be of any general utility to charities, it is necessary for some properly constituted charitable body in a town to set up a scheme. The matter has been taken up by local Councils of Social Service in Liverpool, Manchester, Sheffield, etc., and by the National Council of Social Service for localities in which no local Council is operating the scheme.

The scheme embodies subscriptions and donations to religious, educational, and general charities, and its main outlines are as follows:—A donor enters into an agreement with a local Council of Social Service to give, say, £100 a year to charities. The

donor remits to the Council this amount less Income Tax. The local Council recovers the Income Tax from the Inland Revenue Authorities and remits the £100 to such charities as the donor may direct. Directions may vary each year according to the wishes of the donor, but the full amount of £100 must be distributed to charities before the end of the year. The scheme has already proved of great use in the maintenance, and in many cases, in the increased support of charities. Unless some such scheme of encouragement is allowed, many charities will fail, and the result would probably be a considerably increased expenditure from rates and taxes as the services rendered by these charities are in many cases essential. Further particulars of these schemes can be obtained from the National Council of Social Service, 33 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C. 1.

F. G. D'AETH.

ISABELLA O. FORD—IN MEMORIAM.

The memorial gathering arranged by the Women's International League and the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, held in the Guildhouse on Monday, 28th July, drew together many friends and fellow-workers of Isabella Ford. The short service opened with the playing of the final chorus from Bach's St. Matthew's Passion Music, played by Mrs. Wilson, whose mother, Mrs. Layton, was an honoured worker in the suffrage movement. After Lady Parmoor read passages from the Psalms and the seventh chapter of Revelations, short speeches in loving testimony to her memory were given by Mrs. Henry Fawcett, Miss Margaret Bondfield, Mrs. Swanwick, Mr. T. E. Harvey, and Miss Picton-Turbervill. Others present included Mrs. Philip Snowden, Lady Betty Balfour, Sir Michael Sadler, Dr. Jane Walker, Miss Garrett, Miss Kilgour, Miss Leigh-Browne, Mrs. Sanger, Mrs. Dighton Pollock, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Mrs. Sheepshanks, Miss Chrystal Macmillan, Mrs. Richard Armstrong, Miss Pye, Fräulein Heigmann, and Dr. Augspeng, of Munich. Mrs. Fawcett spoke of a friendship which had extended over fifty years. She described Isabella Ford as one who loved "passing things passingly and lasting things lastingly," and the beautiful things which were to her lasting she was always ready to share. Miss Margaret Bondfield said that from the moment Isabella Ford came forward with the clothing workers in the early days of the Labour movement her influence had been a power; she had the gift, Christ-like in its nature, of getting at the inner meaning of the lives of those with whom she came in contact. The workers accepted her not as a middle-class woman but as one of themselves. Mrs. Swanwick spoke of her work for suffrage and for peace, and described the humour and gladness with which she faced her lifework, though, even to her, humour and gladness was sometimes an effort. She sometimes said, when physically weary and when she was trying to brace herself to speak at a meeting: "They will expect me to be funny, and it is not always easy." Mr. Harvey gave personal reminiscences dating back to his own childhood, and Miss Picton-Turbervill told of a last meeting with her shortly before she died. After the speeches, Miss Eleanor Rathbone, who presided, asked those present to stand in silence remembering Isabella Ford and the causes to which her life was given. The silence was broken by Beethoven's Funeral March, after which the little company dispersed.

A TRIBUTE FROM M. E. S.

M. E. S. (many of our readers will recognize in these initials a distinguished fellow citizen of Isabella Ford) writes in *The Times* of 18th July:—

"Miss Isabella Ford, whose death has brought sorrow to friends in many countries, but especially to those who had the privilege of knowing her and her sisters at Adel, on the edge of Leeds, was one of the finely cultivated and public-spirited women whom the Society of Friends has bred for social work. Her sensitive and eager mind felt many "concerns" in England and abroad. The struggle for such political rights as women need in the traffic of modern politics, national and international, the healing of what she thought economic wrongs, the protection of animals from cruelty, the furtherance of peace, stirred her to brave and unselfish effort. She spoke at many meetings, attended many congresses, but her sympathies were not shop-worn. She was animated, frank, and tender, a good fighter, and a gay friend. You might disagree with her, but never quarrel. She commended her cause by something deeper than argument. No home was more typical of what is best in the West Riding or more responsive to the call of Europe than the little house at Adel to which, on the death of their elder sister, Isabella Ford and her painter sister Emily retired."

THE LAW AT WORK.¹

CAMP HILL.

Camp Hill is the institution in the Isle of Wight to which "habitual criminals" are transferred after they have completed their term of penal servitude. The sentence to Camp Hill, or Preventive Detention as it is called, is passed by Recorder or Judge, and can only be used in very bad cases of recurrent crime. The scheme of Preventive Detention was first established, in 1908, under the Prevention of Crimes Act, when Lord Gladstone was Home Secretary, and Camp Hill itself was actually opened in 1912.

The idea in thus detaining habitual criminals after they had completed a sentence of penal servitude was "for the protection of the public"; it was not for the purpose of inflicting a severer punishment. Some old offenders, who have got into the way of defrauding the public, appear unable to adopt any other mode of getting a living, and it was therefore thought wise to keep them for an additional period from preying upon society. The maximum sentence of preventive detention that can be given is ten years, but a prisoner can be released under conditional license after a period of two years. He remains on license until the end of the term for which he was sentenced, but if he commits any breach of the conditions during that time he can be brought back to Camp Hill for a further period of detention. While on license he does not report to the police as an ordinary convict would do, but is under the definite care and supervision of the Central Association for the Aid of Discharged Convicts, and has to observe their instructions. This Association does all in its power to find the men work—not an easy task as they are mostly getting on in years, and have spent a considerable part of their lives in prison.

There is at Camp Hill a considerable relaxation of the severe discipline to be found in convict prisons. It has a more pleasing appearance; the inmates can earn by their labour threepence a day, which they can spend at the canteen; cells are better furnished, and weekly papers are provided. Quiet talking which does not interfere with work is permitted when the men are together. At the same time Camp Hill strikes the visitor as unnecessarily penal in its regime. It must be remembered that the inmates have already suffered severe punishment for their crime. They are not allowed to go free because it is desirable that society should be protected from them for a longer period. This being so, it would appear that the life most suitable for them would be one that was ordered, occupied and disciplined, but as much like that of the outside world as is possible within prison walls. On the contrary, we have again the whole paraphernalia of grades and privileges, the prisoner starting in the ordinary grade where he takes his meals in his cell, and is confined there every day from 5 in the afternoon until the next morning. Daily papers, tobacco, letters, and visits are the prisoners' rewards as he passes through the successive grades. The system savours of a penal establishment, and nothing else, and seems a childish method of treating adult and even elderly men. It bears little resemblance to ordinary existence as lived in the world. At the same time, very little educational work is done at Camp Hill; there are no classes, and only very occasional lectures and concerts.

Camp Hill is far from full. There are only about 137 inmates, while there is accommodation for 400. It is felt by some people (including the Lord Chief Justice) that the treatment comes too late and it should be possible for an aged criminal to be sentenced to preventive detention without being first sent to penal servitude. At present it is difficult to know what is intended. If preventive detention is to be regarded as a protection for the public it is far too penal in character; if it is a punishment, then why should the offender first serve a term of penal servitude before he goes to Camp Hill?

Camp Hill has been a very valuable experiment, and, in the light of what has been done there, many modifications might well be introduced into convict establishments. The inmates have to some extent been trusted, and have not abused the confidence placed in them. Considering also the material on which the authorities work the results are not unsatisfactory. But the time has now come when it should either be regarded as a modified kind of penal servitude, to which certain offenders can be sent straight from trial, or else as a place of segregation not of punishment for those who are incapable of conducting their lives in the outside world.

C. D. RACKHAM.

¹ Under the direction of Mrs. C. D. Rackham, J.P., Miss S. Margery Fry, J.P., with Mrs. Crofts, M.A., LL.B., as Hon. Solicitor.

**WHAT TO DO WITH OUR GIRLS—
A NEW OPENING.**

ADMINISTRATIVE AND MEDICAL DIETITIANS.

Economy and efficiency, according to the recent Report of the Committee on Dietaries in County and Borough Hospitals, demand a unified food department in each institution, under a competent and responsible head, for dealing with the supply, cooking, distribution, and service of food; adequate kitchen equipment; kitchen workers more highly skilled in cookery; and better cooking, distribution, and service. The Committee also adds that it would be a great advantage if an officer skilled in all these details could be appointed on the Board of Control Staff temporarily to advise and assist Local Authorities in regard to the adoption of a model dietary.

Do you realize what this means? Perhaps not.

It means that another profession is open to girls and women—a profession that offers boundless, world-wide opportunities. One that will appeal to eager and enthusiastic girls because it will give them opportunities of using their brains as well as their hands; scope for business and organizing abilities; a means of applying scientific tastes, as well as providing generous natures with unrivalled occasions of service and self-expression. It is known in America as that of administrative, or medical, dietitian.

Perhaps the best thing of all about this new profession is that it is not beyond anyone's ambition: a domestic servant who uses her brains might rise to any position as a dietitian, particularly on the administrative side. Because the basis of all dietetic study is skill in cooking and cleaning.

We must, however, banish from our minds the idea that a three months' course of training will qualify anyone. Probably the best thing would be for a girl of 16 to serve as kitchen or scullery-maid for two years in different institutions, beginning with a small hospital, and only serving six months in each; then, at 18, taking three years' training as hospital nurse, after that applying for a post as assistant matron or housekeeper. She must use her brains all the time; exercise them on her work supplementing practical work by reading and lectures. She will get heaps of help if she keep her aim in view; and please notice she will be earning some money, enough to clothe and keep her in pocket-money all the time she is training, as well as board and lodging, and she will only be 21 when she will have quite a good position as assistant and time and opportunity for further study, because she trains as she works.

On this homely foundation she must build a knowledge of administration, hiring help, planning and caring for equipment, making menus, purchasing and accounting for foods, interviewing doctors, patients, or clientele, besides the planning of diets, laboratory work in the pathology of those diets, and the disposal of the waste products, all of which should be learnt in a small institution. From this she may go on to take the head of some department in a larger hospital, until gradually she is qualified for the best that is open to anyone.

ANN POPE.

**NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES
FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.**

President: Miss ELEANOR RATHBONE, C.C., J.P. Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. SODDY.
Hon. Secretary: Miss E. MACADAM. Parliamentary Secretary: Mrs. HUBBACK.

Offices: 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.
Telephone: Victoria 6188.

NEWS FROM SOCIETIES.—REPORTS.

EDINBURGH W.C.A., and BEBINGTON W.C.A.

We have recently received Annual Reports from two of our largest affiliated Associations—the Edinburgh W.C.A. and the Bebington W.C.A. Both show a record of excellent work in many departments, and a full programme of meetings addressed by eminent speakers has been carried out during the past year. The Bebington W.C.A. has been particularly active in pressing for equal responsibilities to be offered to and taken up by women in Local Government work. "In spite of the removal of all legal disabilities and the enormous increase of women Local Government electors, the number of women serving on local authorities is as yet deplorably inadequate," states this Report, giving the figures for England and Wales. We feel, having read these Reports, that the realization of the value of women's services in public life, and a desire on the part of women to undertake these responsibilities, must soon become a dominant factor in the civic life of communities which possess such active Women Citizens' Associations as Edinburgh and Bebington.

HOLIDAYS AT HEADQUARTERS—IMPORTANT.

The office will be closed on Saturday, 2nd August, and Tuesday, 5th August, as well as on the Bank Holiday. It will open during the remainder of the month. The President and Hon. Secretary expect to be in London most of the month, and will be glad to meet officers of Societies who happen to pass through London by appointment.

RESPONSES TO GUARANTEE FUND, 15th July-28th July.

	£	s.	d.
Total from last list	1,348	2	0
From a Member of Parliament	10	0	0
Brunner, Miss C.	5	0	0
Manners, Mrs. Emily	3	3	0
Foster, Mrs. G. E. (Ilkley)	3	3	0
Hampstead S.E.C.	2	2	0
Marriage, Mrs.	2	0	0
Holyoake, Mrs.	2	0	0
Lupton, Mrs. L. M.	1	1	0
Wood, Miss M.	1	1	0
Smith, Miss E. H. (£1 Is. paid in advance)	7	0	0
Atkinson, Miss E. M. L.	5	0	0
Wade, Miss M. I.	5	0	0
	£1,378	9	0

DONATIONS, June 18-July 28.

TO GUARANTEE FUND.			
	£	s.	d.
Total from last list	48	11	1
Huddersfield S.E.C.	5	0	0
Malvern S.E.C.	5	0	0
New, Miss M. R.	5	0	0
Evans, Miss A. G.	3	3	0
Barnsley S.E.C.	2	2	0
Church Stretton S.E.C.	2	2	0
Mrs. Thornton (Ilkley)	1	10	0
Hampstead S.E.C.	1	1	6
Mrs. Chadwick (Darven Local Correspondent)	1	0	0
Hoggan, Miss F. M. D.	13	6	0
Ford, Miss S. O.	10	0	0
	£75	13	1

TO GENERAL FUND.			
	£	s.	d.
Birkenhead W.C.A.	12	0	0
Croydon W.C.A.	6	3	0
	£18	3	0

THE WOMAN'S LEADER

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THE ISIS CLUB (15 minutes Oxford Street).—Holiday visitors and permanent residents. Large garden; beautiful situation, sandy soil. Magnificent reception rooms. Central heating; electric fires. Excellent cuisine. Lectures, dancing, wireless, tennis. From 2½ guineas.—79 Fitzjohn's Avenue. Telephone: Hampstead 2869.

LONDON, S.W.—Ladies' Residential Club offers single bedrooms with partial board. Holiday vacancies in July, August, September. Good catering. Unlimited hot water. Two minutes from Tube station. Terms, 35s. to 40s. inclusive.—Apply, 15 Trebovis Road, Earls Court.

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.

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.

LOW GREEN HOUSE, Thoraby, Aysgarth, Yorks.—Comfortable BOARD-RESIDENCE. Good centre, moors and dales. Three guineas per week.

BRASTED CHART, KENT.—To let, for six months from October to April, a well furnished TEN-ROOMED HOUSE; garden; rent moderate. Lovely country, healthy district. Apply, Mrs. Hope-Pinker, Brasted Chart, near Sevenoaks.

PROFESSIONAL.

LEARN TO KEEP ACCOUNTS.—There are especially good lessons in book-keeping at Miss Blakeney's School of Typewriting and Shorthand, Wentworth House, Maurea 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.

FOR SALE AND WANTED.

UNCRUSHABLE DRESS LINEN.—Direct from Ireland. Ideal for Summer dresses. Made from all pure flax and the best quality linen yarn in 60 fast colours. 36 inches wide, 38. 3d. per yard. A full range of colour patterns sent post free. 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.

"FROCKLETS." Mrs. Elborough, c/o Madame Sara, 163 Ebury Street (5 min. Victoria Station). Tel., Ken. 3947. Children's Dresses of original and practical design, Coats, Caps, etc., etc. Smocks a speciality. Fancy Dresses. Open daily (Saturdays excepted) 10 a.m.—4 p.m.

LACE.—All kinds mended, cleaned and restored, embroidery undertaken; church work, monograms, initials.—Beatrice, Box 1,017, WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

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, 3rd August, 7 p.m., Rev. L. T. Reed, D.D., of Brooklyn, New York.

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, eclairs, meringues, etc. Regular orders undertaken. A room for tea and light luncheons. Recommended by Ann Pope.

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