

# THE WOMAN'S LEADER

## AND THE COMMON CAUSE

Vol. XVIII. No. 9. One Penny.

REGISTERED AS  
A NEWSPAPER.

Friday, March 26, 1926

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Annual Subscription for Postal Subscribers: British Isles and Abroad, 6/6.

Common Cause Publishing Co., 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

### NOTES AND NEWS.

#### The Crisis of the League.

The last act of the Geneva tragedy (farce, comedy, melodrama, a revue—we hesitate for the right word) was played out in the House of Commons on Tuesday night. Sir Austen Chamberlain buried a simple issue under a great cloud of words. His unforgettable peroration summarized the great debt which this country owes to its Foreign Secretary. He has "restored the old confidence and intimacy between the French and British Governments", he has secured the co-operation of Italy; he has, in fact, so acted that "the influence of Great Britain stands higher than it has stood at any time since the war". It is strange that the peroration of a practical statesman should somehow mostly forcibly recall the pathetic closing words of "The Immortal Hour": "My dreams—my dreams—give me my dreams".

#### Factories Bill.

On Friday, 26th, Miss Wilkinson will be moving the second reading of the Factories Bill in the House of Commons. This Bill is virtually the same as that introduced by Mr. Henderson when the Labour Government was in power, and was drafted by the Home Office as a result of reports issued at intervals between 1911. It aims at consolidating the improvements that have taken place in the last twenty-five years (no Factory Act having been passed since 1901), at codifying the existing law and at introducing certain improvements. It seeks to secure greater safety for machinery and to make compulsory better conditions of lighting, ventilation, etc. It also makes the provisions of the Factory Acts applicable for the first time to outside building and shipyard engineering. The Bill is, of course, being introduced solely for propaganda purposes, and the amendment which has been put down by Captain Macmillan and other Members of the Conservative Party will doubtless be carried in its place and will impose on the Government the obligation to introduce a Bill of its own, at a later date. Cordially though we support any efforts to improve conditions for the workers in our factories, we regret that certain clauses in Miss Wilkinson's Bill apply to women only, and if carried in that form would tend to impose further restrictions on the work of women. In none of these is there any reason why similar protection should not be offered to men. The clauses in question include, for example, the establishment of the eight-hour day for women, the prohibition (of women only) to lift excessive weights, and the prohibition of the employment of women in certain processes connected with lead, etc., etc. We are hoping that the principle for which this

paper stands, viz., that such restrictions should be imposed in accordance with the nature of the work and not with the sex of the worker, will be voiced during the debate, and in the Government measure we all hope to see, any protection which may be considered necessary will be sauce for the gander as well as for the goose, and apply to men and women alike.

#### Resolution on Birth Control in the House of Lords.

Owing to the discussion on the League of Nations in the House of Lords having been fixed for Wednesday, 24th inst., Lord Buckmaster's resolution on Information on Birth Control has been postponed until 28th April, when it will appear on the paper in a somewhat different form.

#### The Adoption of Children Bill.

Various alterations were made in the Adoption of Children Bill, when it came before Standing Committee A last week, of which perhaps the most important was in connection with succession under an intestacy. As the Bill was originally drafted, the fact that a child had been adopted did not deprive it of its right to inherit from its natural parent or parents; nor were the natural parents debarred from inheriting from a child, under an intestacy. Amendments to transfer the right of succession from the natural parent to the adopter, in the case of the adopted child dying intestate, and giving an adopted child the right of succession in the event of the adopter dying without a will, were proposed by Mr. Gerald Hurst, and supported by Sir Malcolm Macnaghten, Sir Robert Newman, Col. Headlam, Lady Astor, Mrs. Philipson, Miss Wilkinson, and others. The Government was represented by the Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department (Captain Hacking) who said that although the right of succession between the adopted child and the adopting parents had been advised by the Hopkinson Committee, it had been "found in practice among the leading lights of the country that it was impossible to work". He stated that it was on the recommendation of Mr. Justice Tomlin, who had great experience in the High Court, that the Bill had been drafted without giving any right of succession. Captain Hacking said that if the proposal was accepted, it would be quite inconsistent with the whole structure of the Bill and might well wreck it. However, in spite of the opposition of Mr. Galbraith and the Home Office Representative, the amendments were carried. Mrs. Philipson proposed a new sub-section which would put the adopted child as regards death duties on an equality with legitimate children, on succeeding to money left by adopting parents. Captain Hacking stated that the Government was prepared to accept the amendment in principle and it was withdrawn on this condition. The clause which prohibits an adopter, except with the sanction of a Court, from receiving any payment or reward in connection with an adoption, was widened, to debar also the natural parent or parents of the child from receiving any such payment.

#### Hours of Labour.

Against the great international failure of Geneva we can at any rate set the small sectional international success of Great Britain, France, Germany, Belgium, and Italy in the matter of the eight-hour day. On Friday last the representatives of these five powers signed an agreement concerning the interpretation of the Washington Convention on the eight-hours day. It is to be presumed that this agreement now clears the way for a ratification of the Washington Eight Hours Day Convention by all the governments concerned, and that the competing industrial nations of the world will discard at least one noxious weapon in the armoury of commercial competition: the weapon of long working hours for men and women alike.

### The Prime Minister on Equal Franchise.

On Tuesday evening Mr. Thurtle asked the Prime Minister if he was in a position to give a pledge that legislation for the purpose of establishing sex equality in regard to the franchise would be introduced in the course of the present Parliament. The Prime Minister answered as follows: "I am not in a position to make any announcement on this subject at present." We can hardly believe that the Prime Minister realizes the interpretation which may be put on his answer. He intends doubtless to re-emphasize his attitude of refusing to say anything about the date at which the Conference is to be set up. And if this is so, we need not interpret his answer as involving a repudiation of his pledge that Equal Political Rights shall be granted during the present Parliament. The Home Secretary, less discreet than his Chief, has of course "let the cat out of the bag" and stated that the Conference will be set up next year.

### The Equal Franchise Campaign.

We print below some notes on the forthcoming Hyde Park Demonstration, which will be the culminating point of the Spring and Summer Campaign for equal political rights for men and women. St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance offers a strong platform of speakers for the meeting in Caxton Hall on 29th April. The National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship is about to embark on a special effort to arouse interest in the Universities, and through its affiliated societies is making plans for demonstrations in the constituencies similar to that held in Liverpool, reported last week. After all, it is pressure in the constituencies that counts in the long run and we welcome to our columns short reports of representative meetings or other indications of the state of public opinion throughout the country.

### Pageantry and Politics in London: Plans for a Women's Demonstration.

Processions seem rather to have gone out of fashion since the War, though most people remember the picturesque displays of the years before 1914. This summer, however, it seems that Londoners may look forward to a series of free pageants in their streets and parks. The latest to be arranged is a demonstration in support of Equal Political Rights for men and women, to be held on 3rd July, in which over twenty women's organizations have already agreed to take part. They include social and political groups like the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, the Six Point Group, the Women's International League, the League of the British Commonwealth, St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance, the Women's Freedom League, the Women's Co-operative Guild, and the Women's Guild of Empire, as well as professional associations like those of the Women Engineers, the Women Teachers, the Women Sanitary Inspectors and Health Visitors, and others. The International Woman Suffrage Alliance has expressed its support for the movement. Among individual supporters are Lady Rhondda, Miss Ellen Wilkinson, Mrs. Drummond, Mrs. Despard, and Mrs. Pankhurst. The demonstration will take the form of a procession from the Embankment through Trafalgar Square to Hyde Park, where a mass meeting will be held. Seven of the most prominent women's organizations have agreed to take platforms and some of the leading women speakers will be present to put the case for votes for women at 21 and equal franchise qualifications at all ages. The question is one which especially concerns women under 30, and special efforts are being made amongst the younger women to rally in force to the support of the demonstration.

### Labour Women and Family Endowment.

Last week-end and the week-end of 13-14th March have been occupied by a series of women's delegate conferences held under the auspices of the I.I.P. A number of subjects of peculiar interest to women have been under discussion, including equal franchise—though with regard to this last not much discussion was involved; it was rather a case of passing unanimous resolutions for immediate dispatch to the Government. But the most popular and keenly debated subject proved to be Family Endowment. At Dundee, March, North St. Pancras, Norwich, and Manchester this subject was given special prominence, and in each case vigorous resolutions were carried. We are glad to note, too, that in each case insistence was laid on the

importance of Family Endowment as an essential condition of the economic independence of women. We regret, however, that in some cases the advocacy of a State scheme of Family Endowment was coupled with a refusal to consider immediately practicable alternative methods such as family income insurance, or industrial schemes on the lines of that advocated by the Coal Commission. It is natural and logical that Labour women should strive for the attainment of a scheme which is in full accordance with their party principles, but we feel that they are ill-advised to turn their backs upon the possibility of immediate sectional applications of the principle they have at heart. In Great Britain reforms have a way of appearing by instalments. Indeed in Norwich and Manchester this fact appears to have been recognized by the Labour women; for in both cities the resolutions demanding a State scheme of Family Endowment were coupled with the reservation: "While not refusing to consider other schemes."

### Nothing like News!

A correspondent has forwarded us a cutting from the *Gentle-woman*, from which we retail the following item of information: "Most people know that the creator of the 'Peter Rabbit' books, which struck the freshest and most entertaining note since Caldecott, is the gifted wife of that remarkable personality, Sidney Webb, and herself an enthusiastic student of sociology." We are glad to learn that the wife of Mr. Sidney Webb takes an intelligent interest in social and economic questions. Though as a matter of fact our contemporary's "Most people know" was unduly optimistic. To us, at any rate, the information struck "the freshest and most entertaining note" since the report of a German newspaper that "the bodyguard of Sir Edward Grey" (i.e., the Scots Greys) had left for the Western Front."

### Deputation on Women Police.

The Home Secretary and the Secretary for Scotland received a deputation on women police organized by the National Council of Women on Tuesday, 23rd March. The Hon. Mrs. Franklin, in introducing the deputation, said that there were twenty-two societies represented. The first speaker was Miss Tancred, who dealt with the shortage of police matrons. She added that their pay was bad and was not standardized, and that a large number of these women were entirely unsuited to the delicate work they had to perform. She also drew attention to the conditions ruling in some of the cells, the bad lavatory and washing accommodation, ventilation, and the unfortunate practice of putting old and first offenders in the same cells. She further urged the Home Secretary to use his powers to enforce statutory regulations regarding the employment of women police. Sir William Joynson-Hicks, in his reply, said that we had to remember that fewer women were arrested every year, and so fewer women police and police matrons were necessary. There was no time for a reply, otherwise doubtless Miss Tancred would have pointed out to Sir William that while crimes committed by women may be decreasing, sexual offences against women and children are, unfortunately, increasing. He agreed very cordially with the need for more police matrons. On the question of ventilation he said that he thought the prisoners on the whole preferred a frowst. He was, however, in entire agreement with the need for the improvements in the conditions in cells. On the question of women police he said he had always been in favour of policewomen and had himself increased their number in the Metropolitan area. Regarding his own position he was not quite sure how far he possessed the powers attributed to him by the N.C.W. He pointed out that women had a great deal more power than he himself possessed by virtue of their vote. He was, however, prepared to send out another circular to local authorities pointing out the desirability of adding to the number of women police. We are glad to note that Sir William agreed with the desirability of improving conditions in police cells, and hope that he will take such steps as may be necessary to ensure a speedy and permanent improvement. Regarding his own powers, women's organizations have been asking him for many years to enforce those which we understood him to possess, and on each occasion he has replied that he does not quite know what his position in the matter is. We would respectfully suggest that it is time he did know his own position. Sir John Gilmour, Secretary for Scotland, said he was in general agreement with the views expressed by the Home Secretary.

## NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER.

BY OUR PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT.

The week has been overshadowed by the crisis in the League of Nations. Before these notes are read the debate in the House of Commons will have taken place, which may clear the air, or may not. Unfortunately the question is becoming a party issue. The Liberals, who have the right to settle the subject, which is to be discussed on the next Supply Day, have chosen this very matter. Such a procedure is, of course, entirely within their rights, but the effect will be to harden, rather than to clarify, opinion. However, it is dangerous to prophesy, especially where the event will precede the utterance, or at any rate precede the reading of it. It is, however, worth repeating that in the view of those best able to judge the present trouble does not endanger the League. In fact, some go so far as to assert that it may give rise to a new and a stronger phase.

On Tuesday, 16th March, came the much-trumpeted Economy Bill. Mr. Churchill moved it in a speech of brilliance and versatility. So forceful was he that criticism retired into the background; but, now that time has gone by, it is permissible to point out that only a fraction of his oratory was devoted to the Bill, and the rest spent on a diagnosis of our financial health. This diagnosis was wide and deep, but the treasures fished up from it were meagre, and Mr. Churchill told a distressful country that it would be foolish to hope for any reduction of expenditure below 800 millions a year. Mr. Snowden fell upon the Bill with vigour. He attacked the lowering of the Government's contributions to Health, Unemployment, and Education, and set the frame into which subsequent opposition fitted itself. The debate swung to and fro, speakers rather inclining to assert their own views than to meet the argument of their opponents, and was not concluded until 8 o'clock on the evening of Wednesday, 17th March. Until the end of the debate the tide ran against the Government: Mr. Sydney Webb, on the first day, made an attack all the more forcible for being moderately phrased, and it was not until Mr. Neville Chamberlain spoke at the very end of the discussion that the real case for the Bill was made. He rose to a height he had never reached before, and the Government got a good majority.

On Thursday, 18th March, an announcement was made of which more will be heard. The Prime Minister told us that Cash-on-Delivery would be started. This old and bitter quarrel

## THE EXTRAORDINARY ASSEMBLY.

After waiting for a week while the diplomatists were settling their disputes, why could the Assembly not have waited another day to see how the real League itself could deal with the final difficulty? Dr. Nansen made it clear at the last tragic session that the League had never had a chance to show what it could do. The thunderbolt of the news the evening before that Brazil would stand out against the rest of the League gave no time for the States not represented on the Council to plan how to meet the blow. They could not judge whether it would be wise or practicable to demand a consideration of the suggestion thrown out by the delegate from Albania at the end of the morning that the Assembly should withdraw its mandate to Brazil, who had been elected to a non-permanent seat by the Assembly and therefore might be held to be subject to recall by that body. This suggestion was not given in the form of a definite resolution to the President, and therefore the latter could not put it before the meeting, and, since no one else had sent in his name to speak, he was able to close the discussion and declare the resolution moved by M. Briand to adjourn the Assembly to be carried unanimously. The Albanian delegate's suggestion was further complicated by the fact that he ended his speech by expressing the wish that the Assembly should vote on the admission of Germany, and on her admission to the Council. Since under the covenant the admission to the Council must depend on a unanimous vote by the Council as well as a majority vote by the Assembly, this was clearly useless. There does not appear, however, to be any reason why the Assembly should not withdraw its mandate from a member of the Council whom it has elected and who it decides has acted contrary to its wishes. It is undoubtedly a very extreme measure, and legal opinion may prove to be against it, but it is surely within the competence of the Assembly to discuss it and it is quite clear that the majority of members of the League had no time to consider whether they would wish to do so. The hurry in which the proceedings

were ended adds very greatly to the general suspicion that some other Power was really supporting M. de Mello Franco, the representative of Brazil, in his apparent isolation. Nor must it be forgotten that the hurry and confusion were greatly increased by the week's delay due to the disputes over the claims of Poland and Spain to permanent seats on the Council. Sir Austen Chamberlain and M. Briand both did their utmost to make the Assembly realize how much they regretted the difficulties between the Powers concerned in the Locarno pact, the former, with characteristic honesty, even admitting that there had been "a regrettable failure on either side to mention a point which was of critical importance," and they expressed the greatest admiration for the sacrifices which other people were prepared to make to put it right, and condemnation of the country which had wrecked things in the end by putting its own interests before those of the world. The Assembly could but applaud these sentiments, but I am confident no one was deceived or failed to realize that it was the methods of pre-war diplomacy used by the Great Powers that had brought this crisis on their heads, that tied their hands in dealing with the intransigence of Brazil and that prevented the thirty-eight members of the League present who were not on the Council from having a chance to use their influence effectively.

The hero of the Assembly was Uden, the Swedish delegate, clearly even more because of his stand in opposing the admission of any other state than Germany to the Council at this Assembly than for his sacrifice in offering to resign his temporary seat to Poland. The youngest man in the Council, he reminds one that we may hope for something better when the old diplomacy dies out.

There was no doubt about the desire of the large majority of the Assembly to admit Germany with warmth and sincerity, nor of its extreme dissatisfaction at the postponement. It was so cordially expressed that one may feel that everything

possible was done to support the German Government in its difficult task of explanation to its people. But in everyone's mind persists the fear that Germany may not return to the "Wacht am Rhône." Perhaps this anxiety, this feeling that she has been badly treated, will make the European countries careful to treat her with justice and consideration, so that the expression used by M. Briand that she has been "morally admitted to the League" may have a real meaning, and may influence this attitude of her Nationalist party.

The League was started in war conditions that made its foundations insecure, but it is a growing tree, not an edifice of stone, and its roots can and must spread out into firmer ground. M. Briand said at the Assembly that the difficulties which have arisen point to the need for reform in the Constitution of the League.

It is urgent that all who realize what the League can do for the world should set themselves to the study of how this can be achieved, because the coming months are certain to bring proposals towards this end and we must be prepared to understand them and to judge whether they should receive our support.

HILDA CLARK.

### A REFORMER IN THE MAKING.<sup>1</sup>

When Sydney Webb's election to Parliament broke through the close partnership which has borne such rare fruits, even those who knew the authors only from their books found themselves regretting it and wondering respectfully to what account the one who was left outside would turn her solitary hours. The answer is given by this fascinating book, in effect volume 1 of Beatrice Webb's autobiography, to be followed, one gathers, by volume 2, *Our Partnership*. This book carries one through thirty-four years from the author's birth in 1858 till her marriage in 1892. "Carries" is the right word, for the reader's experience is not unlike that of a voyage in a powerful steamer down a great river, say the Thames, with a current always deep and full, but rising in rural England, passing through academic groves, gay pleasure places, wealthy suburbs, stately official buildings, till it reaches the mean houses, docks, warehouses, and crowded craft of industrial England, the journey becoming all the time more full of interest and romance, as well as in closer touch with the people, things, and events which matter most. It is on the whole not only a historically and scientifically valuable book, but an unusually satisfying and satisfactory one. At its close one feels as though somehow one had been reading simultaneously an introspective novel (ending, for once, with a happy marriage), a blue-book, a volume of gossip political memoirs, and an economic treatise, each of the best of its kind. The feminist finds it easy to forgive Mrs. Webb for her brief attack of anti-suffragism (only she might have waited less than 20 years to confess her mistake), because of the magnificent example she affords of the "Homo sum" attitude of the modern woman. She confesses that at a gathering of American suffragists (who had forgotten to give her a cigarette) she vented her irritation by declaring, "I have never met a man, however inferior, whom I do not consider to be my superior!" But of this hyper-modesty there is not a trace in her self-revelations. We can fancy the faces of her former dance partners if their ghosts could have heard her make this declaration!

The most interesting parts of the book, psychologically at least, are the frequent extracts from the diaries which she kept from the age of ten. In reading most autobiographies, one is troubled by the suspicion that the writers' recollections of their early mental experiences are "touched up" like photographers' photographs. But the Beatrice Potter of the early teens seems to have been as meticulous a note-taker as the author of "Industrial Democracy". Her self-revelations in these diaries will correct an injustice which probably many thousands of her readers and hearers have done her in their minds if they concurred in the verdict which she quotes from Nevinson's reminiscences: "A rather hard and learned woman, with a clear and analytic mind." The present reviewer remembers the mingling of repulsion with admiration caused by one of Mrs. Webb's lectures in the early nineties, when she poured contempt on "the poor widow" who was made the excuse for opposition to restriction on Home Work. But after reading this book one suspects that Mrs. Webb's hardness about individual cases was partly the self-protected hardness which the medical student assumes to defend himself from his own sympathies. Like all scientifically minded reformers she cannot lose sight of the quantitative aspect of social problems.

<sup>1</sup> *My Apprenticeship*, by Beatrice Webb (Longmans, 21s.)

"To me a million sick" have always seemed actually more worthy of self-sacrificing devotion than the "child sick in a fever" preferred by Mrs. Browning's Aurora Leigh.

But it is clear that her motive power is utilitarian, the desire to promote human happiness by the method which appeals to her as most effective, by working out a science of social organization or reorganization; not merely a delight in the science of organization for its own sake, as some of us had suspected before. The extent of her output in her later years has always been astonishing; this record shows how she prepared her mind for it, by voluminous but carefully planned reading, by methodical observation and note-taking, and by the laborious laying of the foundations of her economic thinking. Completely as she separated herself early in life from Herbert Spencer's conclusions, her intimate friendship with him probably infected her in part with his immense intellectual laboriousness. But indeed "the infinite power of taking pains" seems to have been born in her. At the age of 26, she notes

"When I think of the minuteness of my faculties which, so far as persistent work goes, are below the average, and of the really herculean nature of my persistence, my own nature puzzles me."

Mrs. Webb is essentially a propagandist of methods, even more than of Socialism, and the propaganda value of this book as a treatise on method should be very great. We cannot imagine a more educationally valuable book to put into the hands of intelligent school girls (or boys) or University students. Its standards, in matters of work and morality, belong to the Victorian era, rather than to this lazy and disillusioned generation. But it has so much of the romance and adventure of the life of thought about it that it will thrill any youthful reader who has a mind above best sellers.

E. F. R.

### "THE SINCLAIR FAMILY."

In reading *The Sinclair Family* one is haunted by the feeling that it has all happened before—the story seems already written on the memory. Is it Charlotte Yonge, or *The Young Visitors*, or *The Caravanners*? or Rhoda Broughton? Or is it one's own youth? Or perhaps Mrs. Lyttelton, with her more intimate knowledge of things unseen, would tell us that in a previous existence we ourselves went to that wedding, or at journey's end, slept on one of the mattresses filled with straw, "either not full enough when bones found the wooden bed, or too full, so that the poor would-be sleeper rolled on the top of a solid mass like a pea on a drum." Whatever is the truth about these things, the fact remains that Mrs. Lyttelton tells a simple tale of a family of two girls and five boys, whose mother, "of rare courage," appears to have measured the success of a holiday more by the extremity of its physical discomforts than by any more ordinary standards. This particular holiday was in Sweden and "sounded rather attractive, only none of them knew a word of Swedish, and there was a long sea journey, first across the North Sea and up the coast of Norway in and out of fiords, to Trondhjem, and then a train journey across Norway and into the province of Jemtland in Sweden; after that, an immense drive. . . . Fortunately there were diversions en route as, for example, the wedding referred to above, which took place at Bergen, and which was enlivened by a surprising incident, described as follows:—

"To the strains of a wheezy harmonium, there descended slowly from the roof a huge wooden angel, with outspread wings. His cheeks were red, his eyes were blue, his skinny arms stuck out at right angles to his body. He was fearfully and wonderfully made; his figure could be seen through the dirty muslin and tinsel draperies, and it was curious. . . . As he creaked and wriggled on his way down, the visitors were all transfixed with anxiety, lest he should descend too far, and rest on the bridegroom's head, or, worse still, knock off the bride's gold crown. But no! with great skill he hovered just out of reach. It was then realized that he held a gilded trumpet in his hands like the angel of the Day of Judgment and Doom—the last trump, in fact." But, alas, this un-English way of solemnizing matrimony had an effect the reverse of what was intended, for the family fell a-giggling. Well for all concerned that they were only birds of passage.

Though the family is an institution approved by all right-minded persons, the fact remains that it will behave, as a group (or, to use the more fashionable word, a herd) in a way in which any one individual of it, as an individual would be ashamed to behave. Families, however, even in the herd, often conduct

<sup>1</sup> *The Sinclair Family*, by Edith Lyttelton (Hon. Mrs. Alfred Lyttelton, D.B.E.). (Heath Cranton, 7s. 6d.)

### ROYAL COMMISSION ON HEALTH INSURANCE. III.<sup>1</sup>

By JOSEPH L. COHEN.

A SIGNIFICANT REPORT.

The great opportunity of making a significant contribution to the study of Social Insurance, wasted by the Majority, is taken up by the Minority. Here is no "irresponsible" proposal, advocated sometimes, of a non-contributory scheme, or impossible benefits, but a practical, well-thought-out programme which Parliament can be asked to adopt. Criticisms may be made, but no one will accuse the Minority Commissioners of having made a great subject appear trivial and petty.

One serious criticism we will permit ourselves here. They have worked out the problems of health insurance in relation to a programme on public health. They have not attempted to develop it in relation to other branches of social insurance. If they did, would they urge the local authority as the administrative unit? They are fully aware of the criticisms of that machinery for administration of health insurance, but for other branches of social insurance the criticism is more serious. One is even more surprised to note that they have not recommended the inclusion of workmen's compensation and burial insurance, although this would provide the money necessary for the extension of benefits.

CONCLUSIONS.—DEMAND FOR A ROYAL COMMISSION.

An examination of the reports of the Majority and Minority Commissioners on Health Insurance forces upon us a number of lessons. Once again we see how unsatisfactory are the results when, impelled by the desire for an immediate or practical programme, one ignores the question, what is the purpose of this type of legislation? Given a clearly realized aim, a consistent policy is possible, even though it may have to be carried into effect gradually, step by step, and even in spite of unforeseen delays and obstacles. But without such a goal Government action will be confused and based on contradictory principles. In the desire to remedy some of the resultant evils there will follow decades of tinkering, of supplementary schemes, amendments, committees of inquiry, Royal Commissions, developments, extensions, curtailments, in short the bewildering maze of Government action that we now experience. What price in time and energy has Parliament and Whitehall had to pay for the natural shrinking from thinking out a rational policy of health insurance!

Let us then boldly hoist our flag to the mast. A *minimum of security for the workman's family in all social emergencies*. A programme embodying this object must be worked out. Anything which interferes with it must be fought. Such a policy is dictated to us on humane grounds. It will win support as an inevitable part of any plan of social justice. It can be sustained on grounds of national efficiency. The obscurantist view and reactionary impulses disguised under the cloak of "economy" can be successfully fought under this banner. We repudiate the assertion that investment must be made in capital goods rather than in human life. Narrow, selfish, short time views must not be allowed to stampede a nation in an anxious mood.

The working out of a broad programme covering all the social emergencies will require study and careful investigation. A Royal Commission on the Unification of Social Insurance is long overdue. We must cut through the tangle and maze into which a decade and a half of legislation has led us. This Commission would inquire into the best use of the 200 million pounds per annum we are now spending on the related group of services, and what is the best machinery for its administration. It could perhaps justify or alter a situation in which family endowment is granted to those not at work or unable to earn their livelihood, and yet denied those employed in gainful occupations. Above all it must view the problem of emergencies not as one confined only to wage earners, but to the middle classes, not to those who gain a livelihood but to their dependents, a problem affecting women and children as well as men.

### WOMEN IN THE CHURCH.

With reference to the article under the above heading in our issue of 12th March, Mrs. Taylor wishes to withdraw the sentence comparing the size of the Church of Scotland with the United Free Church of Scotland as she is uncertain of the exact figures.

<sup>1</sup> Parts I and II appeared in our issues of 12th and 19th March.

themselves more creditably when in the presence of strangers than when unattended. And strangers are absolutely necessary if a novel is to run its course. A cousin (male) and the cousin's friend (also male) therefore accompany the Sinclair Family during a great part of the book, by name respectively John Barington and Peter Fellowes. But in order to introduce the element of surprise, also essential to the development of plot, the cousin loved dumb animals, better than he loved Betty or Ann Sinclair, while both Betty and Ann fixed their affections upon one Eric Tollander "a Swedish journalist and quasi scientific biologist," with clouded blue eyes, thick lips, a small mouth, and straw-coloured straight hair, and hands which might let a tea-cup drop but could shift a microbe under a microscope. Here are the elements of tragedy, the eternal three, but the story is a holiday story and all ends most happily. For, towards the end of the two hundred and fifty pages, the two sisters sought themselves out and Ann decides to take Peter for better or worse. Tollander it is true is found to possess a spouse already, but Betty was a well-balanced girl, and at nights "went to sleep at last. She was not happy, but it was a relief to know where they both stood." Space forbids to tell of the excellent maid, Jane, the one who bore the burden and heat of Mrs. Sinclair's enthusiasms for discomf, or of the goat whom John Barington understood and who understood John Barington, or of the "man of wrath" (i.e. the father—they called him something else, but man of wrath gives the idea), or of the Baron, or of the hardy and lovable Lapp, Lovisa, or even of the stout, middle-aged and musical family friend, Alice. Suffice it to say, in regard to this last, that her creator tells us she had a "sense of burlesque rather than of humour," and when acting, for example, "she could not speak her lines for laughing at her own jokes, and Algy's naming of the hero as Count Phosphoroso Stink upset her equilibrium each time he was mentioned."

Acting, eating, fishing, reading, courting, the holiday time wore away, and at last it was time to go home, all perhaps, a little of the opinion that "however delightful it is to live an out-of-door life, never to dress for dinner, never to see a visitor, or go to a meeting or catch a train, there is something equally delightful about getting back to town life." The question remains what, if any, was the attraction of a holiday such as this? read the book and guess at the answer. To the present reviewer one answer is plain, given by the author in a paragraph of word painting, one of several of exquisite beauty scattered through her pages. "There followed two or three days of a summer weather, known only to the very north, a clean freshness as of a world untouched even by youth—a world created before the articulated stages of life were defined; an impersonal brightness, a warmth floating on the top of ice; a perfume, solid, trenchant, and yet without a trace of decay; an exhilaration without desire a passion without pain; the essence, as it were, of life distilled in a vacuum." Here is given us that sense of worlds unrealized which is the secret joy of the mystic, which Mrs. Lyttelton so well understands, and which gives distinction and grace to a story in parts naive and clumsy, with the charming clumsiness of a puppy at play. Here maybe, is the reason why, though Mrs. Sinclair said, "Never again, never will I take the Sinclair family across the sea," she did—many times.

A. H. W.

### OBITUARY.

Suffragists have long political memories, and such memories were stirred at the end of last week by the news of Mr. H. Baillie-Weaver's death. Mr. Baillie-Weaver was an incorrigible campaigner on behalf of oppressed live creatures. We were about to use the phrase "oppressed humanity", but desisted—since Mr. Baillie-Weaver laboured not merely on behalf of human beings but also on behalf of animals. But we remember him pre-eminently as a Suffragist: one of that small group of memorable men who worked actively for Women's Suffrage in the days before it was a popular and respectable cause.

### INQUIRIES.

A correspondent asks the six points of the Six Point Group. The points are as follows:—(1) Satisfactory legislation on Child Assault. (2) Satisfactory legislation for the Widowed Mother. (3) Satisfactory legislation for the Unmarried Mother and her Child. (4) Equal Rights of guardianship for Married Parents. (5) Equal Pay for Teachers. (6) Equal opportunities for men and women in the Civil Service. We do not quite understand the second part of her question. Would she please explain it more fully?

### THE LAW AT WORK.

#### THE SCOTTISH REPORT ON OFFENCES AGAINST YOUNG PERSONS.

The Departmental Committee which was appointed in Scotland to consider these offences has just issued its Report, and it is interesting to compare it with the English Report recently reviewed in these columns. The Committee held far fewer meetings, and saw fewer witnesses, and their Report is a good deal the shorter of the two. But the number of recommendations is about the same, and on some important points the two Committees have come to the same conclusions.

Some proposals on which there is practical agreement are that the time for taking proceedings under the Criminal Law Amendment Act, Section 5, should be extended to twelve months, that the provisions in the Children Act for the protection of children offended against should be enlarged, that the words "from birth or early age" should be omitted from the definition of mental deficiency in the M.D. Act, that women police should take statements from children, a woman doctor should examine them, a woman probation officer should be with them in court, that the advisability of having all sexual offenders mentally examined should be considered by the Government in consultation with experts. There is also an excellent series of recommendations on Preventive Measures, dealing with the duties of parents, with cinemas, women police, and housing. Of special value are the paragraphs which deal courageously with the education of children on matters of sex. The Report also upholds the English one in the view that as a rule the child victim is best left with its parents in its home; special institutions are not advocated, and the useful warning is given that "the after care of these children must be undertaken in their interest alone and not in a spirit of fear that others may be corrupted by them."

There are some recommendations which are open to grave criticism. It is urged that (with the consent of the accused) the authorities should have power to clear the court during the whole hearing of a case, and that the clearance is to apply to the representatives of the Press. However desirable it may be to secure greater privacy for the child witness, we must not overlook the importance of these cases being made known both as a warning to possible evil-doers, as a means of making parents more alive to the dangers their children may encounter, and also that the general public may know what is done in our courts of justice.

A doubtful recommendation is that all persons who have knowledge that a girl under 16 is infected with venereal disease or is about to become a mother should be required to notify the fact to the police authorities. This would surely be a breach of confidence on which the medical profession would have something to say and which might in some cases deter parents from bringing their children for treatment. There might be cases in which the girl's parents might strongly object to legal proceedings being taken and nothing could be more disastrous than any inducement to conceal either venereal disease or pregnancy.

It is to be regretted that there is no recommendation to raise the age of consent or to abolish the defence of "reasonable cause to believe." It is noticeable throughout that considerable stress is laid upon Juvenile Depravity. It is stated that older children are sometimes unwilling witnesses because of their complicity in the offence, that the child may be gratified and have no wish to tell, that hyper-sensuality is more common in girls than in boys, that the girl is sometimes the temptress, and, if consciously so, is then the real offender.

A most deplorable recommendation is one to which attention has already been drawn in the correspondence columns of this paper, namely that the court be authorized to order flogging for certain sexual offenders (if physically and mentally fit) and that the flogging shall be "applied at intervals during the period of imprisonment." It is almost incredible that the proposal contained in these last words could have been seriously made. The committee say on the same page that imprisonment should be "educational and reformatory, and not merely vindictive." Is this consistent with a weekly or monthly flogging in prison? We must imagine the prisoner attending a class at six o'clock one evening when it is within the knowledge of all that he is to be flogged again at nine the next morning. A proposal more brutalizing and degrading to the prison officials, to the other prisoners, and to everyone concerned in its imposition can hardly be imagined, and it is much to be regretted that it should be included in this Report.

CLARA D. RACKHAM.

### INDIAN WOMEN IN INDUSTRY.

On Friday of last week, Lady Chatterjee, adviser to the Government of India on the industrial employment of women and children, delivered an address in the hall of the Royal Society of Arts. Her survey covered an astonishing range of information on the subject of Indian industrial life, and throws a somewhat disquieting light upon the vastness and complexity of its problems. Between 1892 and 1922, she pointed out, the number of women employed in factories had increased five-fold, the number of children threefold. In 1922, the coal mining industry employed 40,000 and 787 children underground. Since 1924, however, the underground employment of children under 13 has been prohibited. A similar prohibition is under consideration with regard to women. The problem is of course further complicated by the fact that the bulk of these workers are of the migratory type, and that the proportion of women to men in the industrial districts is very low. Thus normal family life is rendered impossible for the majority. Moreover, the number of women factory inspectors is appallingly inadequate. Bombay has one. None of the other provinces have any. Anyone who is familiar with the conditions which developed in this country a hundred years ago, as a result of rapid and indiscriminate industrialization, and who has sufficient imagination to temper that deplorable picture with certain peculiar features of Indian economic life, will not be cheered by the contemplation of Lady Chatterjee's information. Consideration of the moral and constitutional tie which exists between the British voter and the Indian worker does not lighten the darkness of the situation.

### THE MARIAN BERRY TESTIMONIAL FUND.

Our readers will be glad to hear that the Committee formed in April, 1925, to organize a testimonial to Miss Marian Berry, the able secretary of the Women's Local Government Society, have been successful in their efforts. The sum collected enabled Miss Berry to spend some time abroad, for much-needed rest and change. In addition to this Miss Berry has recently been presented with a gold wristlet watch and a book with a charming frontispiece and a tribute to her work, followed by a complete list of contributors. We are glad to know that Miss Berry's health is now restored and hope that she will find many ways of using her wide knowledge of local government questions.

### ANNUAL MEETING OF THE FAMILY ENDOWMENT SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the Family Endowment Society was held at 35 Marsham Street on 19th March, when a good attendance of members were present. The report was adopted and showed a great growth of interest in the subject, and of work on the part of the Society. It was reported, however, that the number of meetings for which speakers were asked was far greater than the number of speakers and volunteers, and an urgent appeal was made to the members present to go on the speakers' list. Lord Balfour of Burleigh, one of the Presidents, opened the discussion with an account of the evidence given by Miss Rathbone and himself before the Coal Commission, and congratulated Miss Rathbone and the Council on the inclusion of Family Allowances among the recommendations in the Report. His tribute to Miss Rathbone's constructive work was enthusiastically received. The Council then discussed the best action to be taken in connection with the report, and resolved to embark on a big propaganda campaign. It was also agreed to approach the Prime Minister suggesting that, in the event of any form of subsidy being continued after May, some portion of such a subsidy should take the form of a contribution towards family allowances.

### THE HOME SECRETARY AND EQUAL FRANCHISE.

The following letter has been received by the N.U.S.E.C. from the Home Secretary:—

DEAR MRS. HUBBACK, 16th March, 1926.

I regret that you should have read any inconsistency into my public utterances regarding the Prime Minister's pledge to grant equal electoral rights to men and women. On behalf of the Government I repeated that pledge in the debate in the House of Commons on 20th February, 1925, and I stand by the statement I then made, but I would draw your attention to the fact that during the same debate I took the matter a step further and referred to the Government's proposal that a Conference, at which all parties should be represented, should be convened to consider how the Prime Minister's pledge could best be carried out. It was to the decision which the Government will have to take on the recommendations of the Conference that I was referring in the passage you quote from my speech at the Caxton Hall on 4th March.

W. JOYNSON-HICKS.  
[We are glad to receive the Home Secretary's assurance, but wish that his public speeches on the Government's intentions with regard to Equal Franchise were less ambiguous.—ED.]

### NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

President: MISS ELEANOR RATHBONE, C.C., J.P. Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. SODDY.  
Hon. Secretary: THE LADY BALFOUR OF BURLEIGH. Parliamentary Secretary: Mrs. HUBBACK.  
Offices: 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.  
Telephone: Victoria 6188.

### EASTER HOLIDAYS.

The Office will close on Thursday, 1st April, at 4 p.m., and open on Wednesday, 7th April, at 9.30 a.m.

### REPORT OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE COAL INDUSTRY.

We shall be glad to supply copies of this Report, price 3d. (6½d. post free). In view of propaganda in connection with Family Allowances, we hope that there will be a very large demand for this Report.

### NEWS FROM SOCIETIES.

#### BARNSELY S.E.C.

The last meeting of the Session 1925-26 was held on the 17th March in St. Mary's Parish Room, when two of the Delegates to the Council (Mrs. Willis and Mrs. Davies) gave Reports. Great interest was shown in the questions discussed, and it was decided to hold similar meetings next winter.

#### LEWISHAM W.C.A.

On Friday, the 5th March, Miss Whately spoke on the Economic Position of Women at the monthly meeting, which was held at the Courthill Road Hall. Mrs. White, one of the Guardians, was in the chair. Miss Whately made a very spirited speech in favour of a woman's right to work, which, judging from the Press notices received, seems to have been unusually challenging.

### LETTER FROM MISS BEAUMONT.

MADAM.—It is only fair to the Societies who helped to elect me to the N.U.S.E.C. Executive Committee that they should know my position with regard to the new Immediate Programme.

I am unable to support the second item on our fifth point under the heading of "Status of Wives and Mothers," namely the giving of information as to Artificial Contraceptive Methods at State-aided Infant Welfare Centres. I believe that such teaching is morally wrong, and it appears to me that for our Societies to use their energies in this direction is inevitably to endanger the really feminist reforms for which we have stood so long. I understand, however, that no member of the Executive Committee is obliged to agree with the whole of our Immediate Programme; and as there is still so much work to be done to attain an Equal Franchise and the Equality of Liberty, Status, and Opportunity is still our slogan, I am remaining on the Executive Committee in order to give what help I can for our old programme; whilst dissociating myself entirely from any contraceptive propaganda.

FLORENCE M. BEAUMONT.

### PENRITH AND COCKERMOUTH CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST ASSOCIATION.

A correspondent writes:—The first conference arranged by the Women's Advisory Council for the Northern area of the National Union of Conservative and Unionist Associations was held with conspicuous success at Newcastle-upon-Tyne on 12th March. The packed hall testified to the interest taken. The resolutions were all more or less interesting and the proposers and seconders spoke to the point and with commendable brevity, thus considerably lightening the duties of our courteous and businesslike chairman, Mrs. Cuthbert Headlam, who emphasized in her opening remarks the useful part these Advisory Councils are playing in organizing conferences and promoting co-operation amongst Unionist women in their own areas. The always exacting task of summing up was discharged by Lady Elveden with practised ability and one feels the work of the Women's Association will not be allowed, in her hands, to suffer through the loss of her predecessor, Dame Caroline Bridgeman, whose appointment to even greater responsibilities is a matter of congratulation to all Unionist women. In the afternoon a Mass Meeting was held in the Olympia Picture Palace, every seat was filled, and many applicants had to be refused. The chief speaker was the Right Hon. Ronald McNeill, M.P., and we can assure him and any other outstanding speaker who may contemplate visiting us in the far North that the time spent in doing so is not wasted.

M. R.

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### ST. JOAN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ALLIANCE.

The 14th annual meeting of St. Joan's S.P.A. was held on Saturday, 13th March, at St. Patrick's Club Room, Soho Square, Councillor Mrs. V. M. Crawford in the chair. The Chairman urged the necessity of concentrating on the Equal Franchise campaign, and begged all members to do their utmost to ensure the success of the Equal Franchise Meeting which is to be held under the auspices of the St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance, at Caxton Hall, on Thursday, 29th April, at 8 p.m., when the speakers will be:—The Right Rev. William F. Brown, Bishop of Pella, Dame Millicent Fawcett, G.B.E., LL.D., Sir Robert Newman, Bart., M.P., Miss Ellen Wilkinson, M.P., Miss Barclay Carter, Lic.-ès-L. Resolutions dealing with equal political rights, equal moral standard, equal pay and opportunities, nationality of married women, age of marriage, women police, sexual offences against young persons and other subjects were passed.

### COMING EVENTS.

From many announcements which have reached us we select a few of special interest to our readers. The Woman's National Liberal Federation holds its Council Meetings in the Kingsway Hall on 11th and 12th May. Among other subjects of interest which will come up for discussion are Equal Franchise and Family Endowment. The Guildhouse has issued the syllabus of its seventh course of lectures on "Some Suggested Reforms." Mr. Lloyd George will speak on "My Policy for the Land," and other speakers include Mr. Compton Mackenzie, Mr. H. Hamilton Fyfe, and Mr. M. L. Jacks. Animal lovers will be interested in a conference on an Animals Charter which will be held during Animals Welfare Week from 2nd May to 8th May. A mannequin parade of dress without fur, feather or leather goods, has been arranged. Full particulars may be had from the Secretary, 11 Lincoln's Inn Fields.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### AMERICAN WOMEN AND THE RIGHT TO WORK.

MADAM.—The editorial entitled "American Women and the Right to Work" appearing in the issue of the WOMAN'S LEADER for 29th January, gave evidence of such scanty information concerning the Conference called the previous week by the United States Women's Bureau, that it has seemed to some of us only fair to you and your readers to put at your disposal a more adequate account of the meetings.

The Conference was called by Miss Mary Anderson, chief of the Women's Bureau for educational purposes. It was hoped that a gathering of representatives from many organizations interested in questions of women in industry might result in clearer and more widespread definition of their problems; that the fundamental concern of the conference was educational, and not legislative, as your editorial suggests, may be seen from the enclosed programme.

Account of the Conference from the standpoint of the women trade unionists themselves is given in the enclosed issue of *Life and Labor*, the official organ of the National Women's Trade Union League.

The matter of the blanket or so-called "equal rights" amendment, whose purpose is mainly the abolition of special protective legislation for women, was raised by the delegates of the National Women's Party, who numbered 24 out of 291 official delegates at the Conference. The "excessive solicitude" suggested by your editorial happens to have been manifested, not by the working women, but by the advocates of the blanket amendment. The working women are concerned to secure slow and steady gains through protective legislation as well as through collective bargaining. They have the same problems to meet in organizing women workers that you face in England, and that Miss May MacArthur has so ably outlined. They appreciate the complexity of a legislative measure which tries to secure uniformity through 48 States and the Federal Government, each with its own constitution. They know the uncertainty of predicting the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States, or its interpretation of a blanket amendment. They are loath to give up specific gains in hours or conditions for hypothetical equality. They point to the fact that the advocates of "equal rights" come mainly from professional or business women's groups that have nothing personally to gain from protective legislation, and nothing to lose, industrially, by the removal of such laws.

The Women's Party delegates asked at the beginning of the conference for an entirely different programme from that which had been planned, and which had drawn the delegates to Washington. This was voted down, but the women trade unionists in a spirit of fair play, asked for a special session in which both sides of the "equal rights" amendment could be heard. Though the burden of the discussion of this topic was assumed by the women trade unionists at this and at other sessions, the voting, when there was any, showed that the Women's Party was alone in its stand and that the other organizations were aligned in thinking with the trade union women.

I should deeply appreciate your printing this letter in the interest of fair discussion of better international understanding.

MOLLIE RAY CARROLL.

National League of Women Voters,  
Washington D.C.

## COMING EVENTS.

## CROSBY HALL, CHELSEA.

MAR. 27, 2.30 p.m. and 8.15 p.m. Performance of "Sir Thomas More" in aid of Crosby Hall Endowment Fund. Particulars from Secretary, Crosby Hall Endowment Fund, 92 Victoria Street, S.W. 1.

## ELECTRICAL ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN, 26 GEORGE STREET, HANOVER SQUARE, W.

MAR. 26, 3 p.m. Visit to Showrooms of Messrs. Holophone, Ltd., Elverton Street, Vincent Square, Westminster. Talk on "Scientific Illumination."

## NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

Rotherhithe Guild of Women Citizens. APRIL 13, 8 p.m. Southwark Park Hall. Miss Lillian Barker on "The Work of the Borstal Institute."

St. Pancras S.E.C. MAR. 26, 4.30 p.m. Meeting at 155 Camden Road, N.W. 1, by kind permission of Mrs. Macdonald Allen. Mrs. F. W. Hubback on "Family Allowances."

Southampton W.C.A. MAR. 20, 3 p.m. "Adyar Hall," Carlton Crescent. Lady Balfour of Burleigh, "Women and Questions of To-day."

## ST. JOAN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ALLIANCE.

APRIL 20, 8 p.m. Caxton Hall, Westminster. Public Meeting to demand Equal Franchise. Speakers: The Rt. Rev. William F. Brown, Bishop of Pella, Dame Millicent Fawcett, G.B.E., Sir Robert Newman, M.P., Miss Ellen Wilkinson, M.P., and Miss Barclay Carter. Chair: Mrs. V. M. Crawford.

## SIX POINT GROUP.

MAR. 20, 5 p.m. 92 Victoria Street, S.W. 1. Mrs. Corbett Ashby on "Citizenship—National and International." Chair: Lady Maclean.

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LARGE FURNISHED BEDROOM AND SITTING-ROOM; bathroom, constant hot water; S. Kensington. Also Bed-sittingroom, attendance if desired; 25s. room.—Apply, Box 1,232, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

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THREE friends offer CHARMING HOME in country near Folkstone; long or short period; tennis, garage.—Miss Haslam, The Grey House, Lynging, Kent.

COMFORTABLE LODGINGS in cottage on Longmynd; beautiful country; sittingroom and two bedrooms.—Mrs. Duckett, Yew Tree Cottage, Minton, Church Stretton, Shropshire.

LEATHERHEAD.—HOUSE to let for May or June, with excellent maid; six rooms, good garden, telephone, all modern conveniences; close to station, omnibus.—Details from Miss Slesser, Leatherhead.

CORNWALL.—Few GUESTS received in lady's bungalow. Beautiful sea view; excellent country produce.—Miss Wood, Boskenna, Trethevy, Tintagel.

PAYING GUESTS received in comfortable house; country, Ruislip, 14 miles Town; excellent train service, near station.—Box 1,239, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

MRS. SMITH, Hampton Bishop Rectory, Hereford, can recommend cheap, very clean LODGINGS on Wye. Pretty village. Garage.

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EASIER (or permanently)—ACCOMMODATION for lady, or two ladies, on very moderate terms.—76 Windermere Road, Ealing, London, W. 5.

BED-SITTINGROOM to let; gas, electric, telephone, bath, kitchen; no service.—Write first, Carter, 105 Maida Vale.

THE HOSTEL FOR WOMEN STUDENTS AND WORKERS, at 100 GROSVENOR ROAD, WESTMINSTER, has been enlarged and the next-door house secured. This house also overlooks the river. Bedrooms have gas-fires. Bus 24 passes the door.—Applications for accommodation to Miss Purves.

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LIVERPOOL WOMEN POLICE PATROLS.—Wanted Patrol immediately, age 25-30, height over 5 ft. 4 in.; good education, some experience of social work necessary.—Application forms from Director, 5 Cases Street, Liverpool.

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IRISH DRESS LINENS.—Owing to the great success of Hutton's "Never-Fade" Dress Linens, guaranteed absolutely fadeless to sun and washing, they are this year offered at the reduced price of 3s. per yard instead of 3s. 6d. Ten gorgeous new and up-to-date shades have been added, making 64 colours in all to select from. These are the finest Dress Linens to be had anywhere; 36 inches wide, every yard stamped "Hutton's Never-Fade Linen." Send for full range of patterns, FREE.—HUTTON'S, 41 Main Street, Larne, Ulster.

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.)

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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.)

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Sunday, 28th March; 3.30. Music. Sir Francis Younghusband on "The Basis of All Education." 6.30. Maude Royden, on "The Importance of Knowing Christ."

C.B.C. Society for Constructive Birth Control and the Free Birth Control Clinic, founded by Dr. Marie Stopes and Councillor H. V. Roe. New address: 108 Whitfield Street, off Tottenham Court Road.

EDUCATED HOME HELPS BUREAU, Philbeach Hall, Philbeach Gardens, Earl's Court, requires and supplies educated women for all branches of domestic work. Registration: Employers 2s. 6d., Workers 1s. Suiting, 7s. 6d. and 2s. Telephone, Western 623.

MORTIMER HALL, 93 Mortimer Street, W. 1 (near Queen's Hall).—LECTURE by CLEMENT JEFFERY, M.A., on Wednesday, 31st March, at 3 p.m.: "Poise, instead 'Nerves.'" Admission free. Silver collection for Pearson's Fresh Air Fund.

TO PARENTS ABROAD.—Trained hospital NURSE, experienced delicate children, and certificated experienced GOVERNESS, officer's daughters, receives one or two children over 6 years to educate with boy; country house, large garden; permanent or holidays; exceptional references required.—Apply, Box 1,243, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

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