

WOMEN'S SERVICE  
FILE COPY  
NOT TO BE TAKEN AWAY

# THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S NEWS

## JUS SUFFRAGII

THE MONTHLY ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

Volume 25. No. 8.

PRICE 6d.  
Annual Subscription, 6/-

MAY, 1931

### CONTENTS.

	Page.		Page.
Events of the Month	114	Section Française :	
Looking Ahead, by F. M. Sterling	116	Vision ou Réalité	123
Peace Conference at Belgrade	116	Nouvelles Internationales	123
Bermuda	117	Un Livre utile et indispensable	124
The Status of Women in India	118	Conférence de la Paix : Belgrade	125
News in Brief	119	Une Reine Arabe aux XI <sup>ème</sup> et XII <sup>ème</sup>	
The Economic Issue	120	Siècles	126
Jus Cartoons: No. XIV. A Cure for Bad Times	121	Quelques Statistiques.....	126

## THE WAYFARERS TRAVEL AGENCY

(FOUNDED IN 1920 BY GEOFFREY FRANKLIN & DAVID GOURLAY)

**Managing Director :**  
David Gourlay.

**Directors :**

The Hon. Mrs. H. Franklin.  
Norman W. Hatton.  
Francis F. L. Birrell.

33, GORDON SQUARE,  
LONDON, W. C. 1.  
Museum 2312.

**PARIS :**  
1, Rue d'Alger.

**NEW YORK :**  
19 West 44th Street.

TICKETS.

TOURS.

PASSAGES.

**TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS MADE  
TO ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD**

*A STAFF OF EXPERIENCED TRAVELLERS OFFERS ADVICE AND  
PERSONAL SERVICE.*

AIR PASSAGES, SEAT RESERVATIONS, SLEEPERS, PASSPORTS, VISAS, FOREIGN CURRENCY,  
TRAVELLERS' CHEQUES, THEATRE TICKETS.

BRITISH RAILWAY TICKETS.

## EVENTS OF THE MONTH.

## OBITUARY.

## Ida Husted Harper.

It is with the deepest regret that we have to announce the death of Mrs. Ida Husted Harper. The announcement came too late for us to get from the United States



Ida Husted Harper.

those full particulars of her life which we should have liked to give, and it is perhaps characteristic of her quiet work that we possess no personal details about this noted suffragist. For very many years, almost from the beginning indeed, Mrs. Harper contributed to "Jus." Until the suffrage was finally won, she sent us regular news, even when she was most deeply absorbed in her great work, "The History of Woman Suffrage." This really monumental work was begun by Susan Anthony and Mrs. Stanton. Mrs. Harper was associated with the fourth volume, and the last two volumes bear her name alone. It is, of course, mainly a detailed account of the suffrage movement in the United States, but it has valuable chapters on the work in other countries, and internationally. Mrs. Harper's other great work was the three-volume "Life and Work of Susan B. Anthony."

Mrs. Harper was a delegate from the United States to the first three Congresses of the Alliance, in Berlin, Copenhagen and Amsterdam, and her name is so familiar to all those connected with the Alliance in the early days, that with the news of her death we feel the passing of a friend whom we took for granted.

**Unemployment and Bad Economics.** We regret to hear from Gisela Urban, our Austrian Correspondent, that an attempt is being made in that country to prevent married women from earning money by their own efforts. Gisela Urban writes: "The serious unemployment from which Austria, in common with many other countries, is suffering has aroused protests against those people who earn two incomes. The persecution is not aimed at men—who, nevertheless, frequently have two sources of income, as, for instance, a pension as well as a profession—but almost exclusively at women. Among women it is, of course, especially the married woman whose employment is threatened, and this although by far the greater number of married women who work practise only one profession, and that in order to secure the support of the family or to give the children a better education. The campaign especially singles out women who are teachers, government employees or otherwise employed in the public services, particularly if the husband also has a regularly paid post."

Yielding to the popular clamour, the Government announced some weeks ago that it would bring in a law for the regulation of the earning of a double income. As women naturally fear this law will be directed mainly against them, they are hastening to take up arms in defence. The Austrian National Council of Women, which includes organisations of women teachers, doctors and officials, arranged a meeting at which delegates from these bodies put the women's point of view and explained that, while it might be necessary to forbid men and women alike to have more than one source of income from work, it was not right that women following a single profession for which they had been trained, and which they were practising usefully, should be forced to give it up. It is satisfactory to be able to report that women of all political parties are prepared to defend the right of a woman, whether married or single to practise her chosen profession, and if the Government brings in a bill which discriminates against women in general or married women in particular, the united opposition of women will make its passage difficult."

We sincerely hope that the Austrian National Council of Women will be successful in their struggle against this exhibition of selfishness and bad economics. The situation has been repeated in one country after another since the war, and must be taken as an hysterical symptom of the strain caused by the bad times, for no one in his senses could maintain that it has an economic justification. The people, whether men or women, who work voluntarily either for the love of their work or in order to raise their standard of living are a most valuable asset of the nation to which they belong, and if their efforts are frustrated the nation as well as these good citizens will suffer in the long run, and no one at all will benefit.

**Ireland.** The Belfast Women Citizens' Union has found it possible to carry on its work with some success this winter, although the times are very hard in Northern Ireland. The principal industries, linen and shipbuilding, have specially suffered from the general depression in trade, and unemployment is greater and more concentrated than it is in other business centres. The winter session of the Union was concluded by a Daffodil Tea and Sale, organised on behalf of the funds of the Alliance and most enthusiastically supported by members. Twenty-five pounds was realised and has been paid to the Treasurer of the Alliance through the National Council. It is satisfactory to find that funds can be raised for international work by a local society, and under difficult conditions, for it proves that although the value of international work is not easy to demonstrate and the growth of interest in international affairs is slow, still there is growth.

DORA MELLONE.

**A Good Augury.** Senorita Victoria Kent, a Spanish woman lawyer, who has practised at the Bar for the last two years, has been appointed Director General of Prisons by the new Republican Government. The appointment has been enthusiastically welcomed by Spanish feminists. It is accepted as an indication that under the new régime women are to have full rights and citizenship.

**Nationality of Married Women.** The organisations forming the Committee which has been set up at the invitation of the League of Nations to consider this question will meet in the Secretariat of the League on July 2nd, when its report must be finally adopted.

As a preliminary to this meeting, a meeting has been

called for May 20th, and in the meantime a report is being drafted for the consideration of the Committee by the following distinguished women: Mesdames Bakker Nort, M.P., Macmillan, Paul and Vêrone. The other members of the Committee are:

Miss v. Eeghen, Mrs. Corbett Ashby, Mrs. Meller, Miss Doty, Mme. Schreiber Favre, Mme. d'Arcis, Mme. Ruesch, Miss Stevens, Miss E. D. Evans, Miss Whittemore, Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddi, Dr. Welt Straus, Miss Enfield.

**In Quebec.** Three bills of feminine interest have been discussed in the course of the last session. The bill to amend the legal status of married women, the admission of women to the practice of law, and, finally, the bill for woman suffrage.

Women have acquired the right to become tutrix, a privilege formerly bestowed exclusively upon the mothers or the ascendants.

The new law affecting the salary of the married woman states that the latter has the exclusive administration of her earnings. Formerly a woman obliged to work for her own existence and that of her children was not entitled by the law to the administration of her salary. At any time her husband could claim from her employer the fruit of the work of his wife and the latter was compelled to remit it to him. In future the married woman who works will be the mistress of the money which she earns.

The greatest victory won by the amendments sponsored by the Prime Minister is, without doubt, the one which states that the woman separated from her husband by the court will enjoy the same rights as the unmarried woman or the widow.

Mr. Oscar Drouin has constituted himself the sponsor of the bill seeking the admission of women to the Bar, another lost right which we are endeavouring to reconquer. Under the French regime, from the year 1667, French-Canadian women acted as lawyers in all the courts of the Nouvelle France. Although at that period there were no lawyers in the strict sense of the word, women were virtually fulfilling this function, and enjoyed the right to plead in first instance before the *cour seigneuriale*, before the *cour royale de la prévôté* and finally they could sustain an appeal before the *Conseil Souverain de Quebec*, presided over by the Governor and the Intendant.

The most important bill was certainly the one sponsored by Mr. Vautrin to introduce suffrage for the women of our province, a right which is enjoyed by all Canadian women of the eight other provinces of the Dominion. But the measure was defeated. After expressing our gratitude to all the members who gave us a favourable vote, we desire to assure the friends of our cause that we consider every defeat as a step to success and that we will fight until the complete triumph of our right.

IDOLA SAINT JEAN.

**An Efficient Business Woman.** In Austria, since the war, many women who were formerly well-off have established businesses. Factories for *petit-point* and knitted goods are prominent among these, and the goods are for the most part exported to the United States. This export business is threatened by the new American tariff proceedings. In order to get over the difficulty, Ida Jolles, owner of a *petit-point* factory, went to America and was successful in securing that *petit-point* handkerchiefs, whether made up or not, should be allowed into the country at a substantially lower rate of duty than had been fixed originally.

**An Enlightened Native Chief.** Koinange, a senior chief of the Kikuyu tribe (Kenya), in giving evidence before the Joint Standing

Committee on East Africa now meeting at the House of Lords (Great Britain) made the following excellent suggestions:

Chief Koinange asked that native taxation should be levied on males only. It was difficult for females to find the money, because some women were old and some were poor. They wished to have further schools provided, which should be open to both boys and girls. There should be secondary schools and schools of the status of colleges. More money should be spent on education for women and girls, because after all it was the women who looked after the children and made the race.

**Jury Service for Women in U.S.A.** A determined attempt to secure the eligibility of women to serve on

Juries is being made in many of the State capitols of the United States this Spring, when forty-eight of the States hold legislative sessions. Only twenty-two of the States permit women to serve on juries. To secure this privilege various legal technicalities must be overcome and in many States the women have set out to do it. Immediately upon the convening of State legislatures early in 1931, the women busied themselves with having bills drafted and introduced, arranging for support at legislative hearings and lobbying in favour of the measures they desired.

A number of the delegates to the Conference on the Cause and Cure of War in January presented an evening of impressive playlets dealing with the cause of war and peace. The first of the *Pieces*, called "The Naval Conference—a Cynicism," was written by Carrie Chapman Catt. As a satire on the London Naval Conference it caused much laughter and met with great applause. The second production called "District School on the Rapidan—or—Studying War No More," was produced by representatives of the American Association of University Women. It portrayed the importance of the discussion of President Hoover with Premier McDonald at the former's camp on the Rapidan River in 1929. In "Mother Earth and Her Daughters," given by the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Mother Earth experienced many difficulties with her daughter *Militaria*, who bewitched every suitor who came to call on her sister *Pacifia*. In an inspiring playlet called "Voices," staged by the Young Women's Christian Association, the voices of twenty figures in black on a weirdly lighted stage clashed and reverberated as they uttered the opposing opinions of well-known people on the subject of War and Peace. Militaristic quotations from so-called patriotic addresses, and public declarations of the world's statesmen crossed the calm voice of the student, the wise voice of the economist, and the gentle voice of the mother. The rising and falling discord was in the end quieted by the *Great Voice* rising from the tumult and declaring for Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men.

## GERMANY.

All members of the Alliance are cordially invited to visit the

HOUSING EXHIBITION (BAU-AUSTELLUNG),  
Berlin, May-July (inclusive).

The International Section:

May 11th-13th: Women's Conference.  
June 1st-5th: International Housing Congress.

The Deutscher Staatsbürgerinnen-Verband will act as hostess on May 20th, June 3rd and 17th, and July 1st and 15th.

Visitors are invited to communicate for programme, general information, etc., with our Office, Berlin W. 35, Derfflingerstr. 17. II.

DOROTHEE VON VELSEN.

DR. ELSE WEX.

## LOOKING AHEAD.

We begin to see, gleaming faintly out of the mists of the future, the outline of the Acropolis—that form so familiar ever since our school-days, and yet, so far, unbeheld in its actuality by most of us. There is a prospect that an Alliance Congress, with its ultra-modern preoccupations will be held in that ancient setting, and we may say, the great Athena herself was very much of a feminist, so why should there be anything incongruous in the idea?

But if our dream is to come true, there is much to be done between now and next year. The Alliance Board and the Greek Auxiliary must work together to plan a Congress which will be worthy of such august surroundings; Headquarters must find a means to transport in comfort to Athens hundred of delegates from all over the world, and so cheaply, that even in these hard times no one is prevented by considerations of cost from undertaking the journey, and expenses on arrival must be kept low enough for it to be possible for delegates to see something of the wonders of Greece.

But this is not all. In order to make it possible to hold the Congress the Auxiliaries will have to raise, between them, £1,000. If each country in the Alliance raised £25, the thing would be done. We have seen in the result of the money-raising campaign in Holland what can be achieved, even in this poverty-stricken year, by a combination of generosity, enthusiasm, and good business sense (and do not let us forget that, as our President pointed out in her account of the Dutch effort, Holland is a country which is suffering as acutely as any from the effect of the financial depression.) Our beloved and indefatigable Secretary, Mlle. Gourd, during her recent tour of Alsace conducted a most successful individual campaign on our behalf. Our friend, Mrs. Gauntlett, has just sent over a gift of Japanese printed cottons to be sold for our funds in Belgrade. These examples should inspire every friend of the Alliance to do her share; given a concerted effort, goodwill and ingenuity, our difficulties will be overcome. Support of our stamp and post-card scheme should not be forgotten. The initial expenses have now been met, and profits will increase rapidly if all will lend their aid.

Just as the concluding words of this article were being written, news was received that the Belfast Women Citizens' Union has realised £25 for our funds by means of a Daffodil Tea and Sale. On behalf of the Alliance, I tender my most grateful thanks for this aid, and I think our readers will agree with me in expressing admiration as well as thanks, for this money has been raised as the result of devoted effort in a single town, and a town which is suffering to a peculiar degree from the present trade decline. I take it as the happiest augury of our success.

F. M. STERLING, Treasurer.

## PEACE CONFERENCE AT BELGRADE.

## PROGRAMME.

Sunday, May 17th.

**Morning Session.** Chairman: Miss Ruth Morgan.

9-30. Welcome by Civic Authorities and President of the Reception Committee.

10-15. Aims of the Alliance: Mrs. Corbett Ashby.

10-35. The Aims of the Conference.

Miss Ruth Morgan.

10-50. Greetings from Fraternal Delegates (10 minutes each.)

(a) International Council of Women.

Mme. Petkovitch.

(b) International League for Peace and Freedom.

Mme. Ramondt Hirschman.

(c) World's Y.W.C.A.

(d) International Federation of University Women.

(e) La Petite Entente Féminine (Balkans).  
Mme. Theodoropoulos.

Lunch with brief speeches: 12-30—2-30.

President: Miss Rosa Manus.

Speakers: Mlle. Atanatskovitch, Mme. Malaterre Sellier, Mlle. Gourd, Frau von Velsen, and representatives of local societies.



Milena Atanatskovitch  
(Member of Alliance Board).



Leposava Petkovitch  
(President of the National Council of Women).

**Afternoon Session.** Chairman: Miss Ruth Morgan.

3-30. The Economic Situation and European Co-operation,

M. Nintchitch.

Princesse A. Cantacuzène.

M. Delaisi.

4-0. Dr. Ulich-Beil.

Discussion.

Monday, May 18th.

**Morning Session.** Chairman: Miss Ruth Morgan.

9-30. DISARMAMENT.

(a) The Pledge to Disarm.

(b) Draft Disarmament Convention drawn up by the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference.

Commander B. F. Adam, D.S.O. R.N., Representative of the League of Nations, and others.

Discussion.



Alojsija Stebi  
(President of Zenski Pokret).

**Afternoon Session.**

3-30. Chairman: Miss Ruth Morgan.

DISARMAMENT (Continued).

(c) Security, Sanctions, Disarmament.

M. RUYSEN.

(d) Percentage Reduction in Armaments.

Admiral Drury-Lowe.

(e) Disarmament and Unemployment.

Discussion.

**Dinner with Speakers.**

Chairman: Miss Ruth Morgan.

Speakers: Mrs. Corbett Ashby.

Members of the Peace Committee.

Tuesday, May 19th.

**Morning Session.** Chairman: Mrs. Corbett Ashby.

9-30. Summary of the Proceedings of the Conference.

Miss Ruth Morgan.

What Women can do to Influence Public Opinion:

(a) In Time of Peace.

(b) In Time of War.

Mme. Theodoropoulos.

Mme. de Reuss Jancoulescu.

Reports and Suggestions from Delegates:

Frau A. Ulich-Beil (Germany).

Miss A. Szelagowska (Poland).

Frau D. Iwanowa (Bulgaria).

Mme. de Reuss Jancoulescu (Roumania).

Mme. M. Vambéry (Hungary).

Miss H. Löfgren (Sweden).

Dr. Paulina Luisi (Uruguay).

M. Giorgio Quartara (Italy).

Mme. Julie Noesen (Luxembourg).

Miss Rosa Manus (Holland).

..... (Brazil).

Mrs. Corbett Ashby (Great Britain).

..... (Ukraine).

Formal Adoption of Resolutions.

**Afternoon Session.** Meeting of the Peace Committee.

**Evening.**

7-0. Public Meeting.

Chairman Mlle. Atanatskovitch.

Speakers: Mrs. Corbett Ashby.

Mme. Malaterre-Sellier.

Frau A. Schreiber.

Dr. Paulina Luisi.

Mme. Plaminkova.

Miss Ruth Morgan.

N.B.—Although this programme is as accurate as possible, names of speakers, etc., are liable to alteration.

## BERMUDA.

I regret that an inaccuracy with regard to the franchise system in Bermuda appeared in a paragraph headed "An old Injustice" in a recent number of the paper. As we can now reasonably hope soon to hear that women have won the vote there, the résumé of the history of the struggle which it is our custom to print when a victory has been won might usefully appear at once.

The island of Bermuda was colonised by the British in the seventeenth century, and in 1691 an Act was passed laying down that four representatives to the Assembly be chosen from each of the nine Parishes into which the island is divided. No change in this number or in the distribution of seats in the Assembly has since been made; the Parish of Pembroke, which now contains about a third of the whole population of Bermuda, still returns only four members of the Assembly.

In 1789, an Act was passed which introduced a property qualification for voters and candidates which required that they be possessed in their own right of freeholds rated at the last assessment at no less than £24 and £120 respectively.

In 1834, on the abolition of slavery in British Colonies, black and coloured persons were given the same legal and political status as white persons, but by the same Act as conferred this benefit, the property qualifications of voters and candidates were raised to £60 and £240 respectively. The same Act introduced for the first time property qualifications for voters and candidates at Municipal and Parochial Elections. These have remained unchanged since 1834, and no extension of any franchise has been made since that date. When the Married Women's Property Acts came into force, the right of a husband to qualify for the parliamentary franchise on his wife's real estate was expressly preserved, and there are at present a large number of male voters who owe their enfranchisement to their wives' possessions.

The first Woman Suffrage Bill was introduced in 1895—"An Act to enable unmarried women to vote at certain elections." It was passed by a large majority in the House of Assembly, but was rejected by the Legislative Council on the motion of the Colonial

Secretary that it be postponed until a measure was brought before the House for the alteration of the franchise in respect of the property qualification. The same Bill was passed by a large majority in the Assembly in 1896, and again rejected by the Legislative Council on the same grounds as in the preceding year.

In 1919, a Committee of the House was appointed to prepare a Bill to extend the franchise to women, but the Committee never reported and no Bill was ever introduced by it.

In 1923, the Bermuda Woman Suffrage Society was formed, and since then organised attempts have constantly been made to have amended the franchise laws in respect to Parliamentary, Municipal and Parochial elections. A Bill having for its object the conferring on women of full Parliamentary, Municipal and Parochial franchises on the same terms as men, and one pressing for the amendment of the Jury Acts in order to allow women to qualify as Jurors were defeated in 1925, and in 1928, woman suffrage amendments to the Parliamentary Election Act were also rejected by the House, without being seriously debated.

During the passage in the Assembly of the Parish Vestries Act (1929), in December 1928, an amendment was passed whereby the Parochial franchise was for the first time explicitly confined to males. A number of women attended Parish meetings in December and claimed the right to vote at such meetings, thus creating a test case which was heard before the Supreme Court in Bermuda, and it was ruled that women were not entitled to the Parochial Franchise in Bermuda even before the passage of the Bill which inserted the word 'male' before the word 'persons.' Having regard to the ruling of the Privy Council in the case of the Canadian women on the significance of the word 'persons,' Bermudan women naturally believe that if they too had had the means of appealing to the Privy Council the ruling of the Supreme Court would have been reversed.

A Bill to grant the Parochial Franchise to women was defeated in October, 1930, and feeling that they had exhausted their means of obtaining justice from the House of Assembly, the organised women of Bermuda addressed an appeal in the form of a detailed Memorial to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, asking that they should be granted the same rights as women already enjoy in most other parts of the British Dominions and Colonies. The Secretary of State replied that he felt confidence in the ability of the Colony to work out its own future political and constitutional development. (Seeing that the system of plural voting is still in force in Bermuda, that the distribution of seats has not been altered since 1691, that the Poor Law Relief Act is still that of 1876, and that other social services are equally antiquated, it is difficult to understand the reason for his optimism).

The time had come for action. In December of last year, Mrs. Morrell, Chairman of the Suffrage Society, and a property owner, refused to pay her taxes on the classic plea of no taxation without representation. The authorities threatened her with imprisonment, but finally distrained upon her property for the amount of the tax. *Mid-Ocean*, one of the Bermudan papers, says: "So ends tamely the *cause célèbre*, with Mrs. Morrell emerging victorious and with dignity unruffled, while the Overseers are made to look very uncomfortable indeed. . . . the suffragists have won a clear point and this first effort in militancy has been decidedly successful." It is pleasant to record that the Press generally is on the women's side.

A further appeal was now addressed to the Secretary of State for the Colonies (Lord Passfield), drawing his attention to the grievances set out in the Memorial of 1930, and asking that he take steps to redress them, "in view of the political history of Bermuda which shows no

extension of the franchise since 1834." This last action has had a satisfactory effect. Lord Passfield remarks, in a dispatch to the Officer Administering the Government of Bermuda that the narrow restriction of the franchise in Bermuda has attracted considerable attention from Members of the House of Commons.

"It has been brought to our notice that the proportion of registered electors to the total population of Bermuda is less than 6 per cent., which must be regarded as an abnormally low figure. I wish also to take this opportunity to point out that the franchise has by now been very generally granted to women in the British Empire at ages varying from 21 to 30 years, and that in this respect also the position in Bermuda would appear to call for review. I should be gratified if the Bermuda Legislature could see its way clear in the near future to consider the advisability of such an extension of the local franchise as would bring it into closer conformity with contemporary British institutions elsewhere."

We hope in an early number of the paper to offer our congratulations to the enfranchised women of Bermuda. A.M.R.

#### THE STATUS OF WOMEN IN INDIA.

The Women's Indian Association convened a meeting last month of thirty-five women, representative of various Associations, political views and interests, to consider the status of women in the future Constitution of India. The result of these discussions is now embodied in a Draft Memorandum which is being circulated for opinion, suggestions and support. It is hoped that it may form the basis of an All-India Mandate from women with regard to their place in the future Constitution.

The document is highly interesting to Western readers, both as revealing the remarkable growth of feminism in the East, and also for the insight it gives into the women's problems there—in many cases widely different from our own.

They record with gratitude that in the past no special difficulty has been encountered by women in their attempts to gain their enfranchisement or to enter public life. As Members of Legislative Councils, Local Bodies, etc., they have had sympathy, help and co-operation from men.

The Recommendations of the Commonwealth of India Bill, Lekru Report, Simon Report, etc., were fully discussed. The various committees and groups who have examined the franchise question for the new Constitution have been unanimously in favour of a large increase of women to the electorate. Women were enfranchised "on equal terms" with men, the franchise being based on property rights, both for men and women, but as, according to Hindu Law, women cannot inherit property, it follows that a property qualification is practically equivalent to non-enfranchisement for Hindu women. The general average ratio of voting for the whole of India is one woman to every twenty men.

The proposal, made by the Simon Commission, supported by the Memoranda of the British signatories and of the two women members of the Round Table Conference that (1) "The wife, over 25 years of age, of a man who has a property qualification to vote; (2) the widow, over 25 years of age, whose husband was so qualified," shall be enfranchised is not approved of by the Women's Indian Association. Objection was taken to "wifehood" as a necessary qualification for the vote; it was also argued that as women both by custom and existing laws hold a subordinate position in the household in India, the husband would coerce his wife to vote for his candidate. There is also a conviction that such a qualification would encourage polygamy.

The Memorandum suggests that: Women be allowed to retain their present right to contest seats in the general constituencies, subject to the same qualifications as apply to men, but that a certain proportion of seats be reserved for women in each Provincial Council and in the Central Legislatures for the next two elections as a transitional necessity. It was agreed that a reservation of 20% of the seats would be acceptable, and that the women who fill those seats should be drawn from a panel of names selected by recognised Women's Associations, not by nomination. The principle of Universal Adult Franchise is supported, but in case it is considered premature two transitional methods by which the extension of the women's franchise might be made were discussed and approved, namely: the granting of the vote to every literate woman, and the granting of the vote to every widow of the age of twenty-one, irrespective of any property qualification.

A.M.R.

#### NEWS IN BRIEF.

It was reported at a meeting of the Board of the National Council of Women of Ireland that the Government had appointed Miss Louie Bennett, Secretary of the Irish Women Workers' Union, Vice-Chairman Irish Trade Union Congress, as a member representative of the workers of the Irish delegation to the International Labour Office Conference in May. Satisfaction was expressed at the meeting at the action of the League of Nations in arranging officially for consultation with women's organisations on the question of the Nationality of Married Women. It was decided to take steps to bring this before the Irish public by Press paragraphs.

The Brazilian Federation for the Advancement of Women will hold its second Feminist Congress and its first Exhibition from June 19th—30th this year.

The Congress will discuss many questions of interest to-morrow, including Education, welfare of Mothers and Children, Labour Conditions in Business and Industry (Economic Emancipation of Women is the fundamental feature of the programme); Women's Activities (exhibits and programmes); Social Service, Civil and Political Rights, Women and World Peace.

We have to record the death of Mrs. Travers Lewis, better known as Ada Leigh. She was the founder of the famous hostels in Paris for English girls. She began her work nearly sixty years ago, when such an enterprise on the part of a young woman was regarded as rather too daring to be quite nice—even the great Lord Shaftesbury, himself a life-long philanthropist, warned her not to be too audacious. But her work continued, and last year the Homes and Hostels provided 33,000 beds for British and American girls. More than 16,000 situations have been found for girls through the Homes.

The cause of education has lost a champion by the death of Margaret McMillan. She had a reputation which transcended the boundaries of her own country as a pioneer in work for poor children. She began her active career as a member of the Bradford School Board in 1895. From the beginning she worked with all the power which her great gift of eloquence and her strong compelling personality gave her for the betterment of the health of children in school. When she began her work, the necessity for school feeding, school baths, school basins and clean towels was entirely unperceived by the authorities, and it is directly owing to her tireless enthusiasm that school hygiene is now an accepted fact. In 1914 she established, in conjunction with her sister, the first open-air nursery school, in a slum area in London, and since then, the McMillan Nursery School and College at Deptford has become a necessary pilgrimage for educationists from all over the world when visiting Great Britain.

Dr. Hansi Diech has been employed since 1926 in one of the higher technical positions in the Austrian Postal Service. She took her degree in physics and mathematics and is now engaged in practical work in the Research Laboratory of an electrical works where she deals with the testing of telephone extensions. As Director of the Laboratory of the General Postal Service she is concerned with the measurement of extensions and cables and the construction of testing instruments. She bears the title of "Commissary."

The President of the Austrian Republic has conferred the title of "Kommerzialrat" (Commercial Councillor)

on Elisabeth Kohlhaupt, the proprietor of a Travel Bureau in Graz. She is the second woman to obtain this title.

The Brazilian Feminine Federation, under the direction of Dra. Bertha Luisi, pleaded for the inclusion of women on Juries during the last Congress on Penal and Penitentiary Laws in Rio de Janeiro. Judge Dr. Herotides de Lima in S. Paulo has since included nine women on Juries. In the State of Rio Grande do Norte women have served on Juries for some time.

A second woman judge, Mme. Wanda Kaminska, has been appointed to the Children's Court at Warsaw.

The Open Door International is holding its second conference in Stockholm this year, August 17th—21st, after which a Summer School, at Sigtuna, will be held from August 24th—29th.

The South African Government is taking measures to remove the anomaly which was created by the terms of the Bill granting the franchise to women last year. The European woman was given the vote without qualification; but in two Provinces there was a literary qualification for men. It has been stated that 10,000 European men are excluded from voting by this barrier. The new Franchise Laws Amendment Bill will extend the franchise on an adult basis to Europeans throughout the Union. The literary qualification was laid down in the Cape Colony when natives and Eur-Africans who complied with it had the right to vote—its removal in favour of adult European Suffrage throughout the Union means therefore the complete disenfranchisement of the native.

A Bill was passed recently in Nanking (China) giving daughters equal rights with sons in their parent's property. A month after it was passed, a girl in Tsinanpu brought an action under it against her brothers, and won her case.

On the occasion of the meeting in Lille this month of the Executive of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, a meeting was held of Associations having international Peace as one of their objects. The I.A.W.S.E.C. was represented by Mrs. Bakker van Bosse, who came from the Hague for the purpose. Local Representatives were present among others from the Ligue des Droits de l'Homme, from the Ligue des Anciens Combattants pour la Paix, and from several Trades Unions.

Mrs. Bakker spoke of the pledges to disarm given by the Allied Powers both to Germany and in the Covenant, and described how these pledges might at last be fulfilled if public opinion were roused to bring pressure to bear on the delegates to the General Disarmament Conference next February. Mrs. Bakker described the formation by the Liaison Committee of International Women's Organizations of an Ad Hoc Disarmament Committee and emphasised the importance of working through that Committee for a substantial measure of Disarmament on Land and Sea and in the Air. The meeting listened with the greatest interest to this practical speech and, as evidence of their agreement with it, everyone without exception signed the International Declaration for Total and Universal Disarmament.

The Council of the International Federation of University Women was held at Wellesley College, near Boston, April 1—4. Among the well-known women

who came to the United States for the meeting were Dr. Winifred Cullis, of England, Madame Nelly Schreiber-Favre, of Switzerland, and Professor Johanna Westerdyk, of Holland.

Dr. Mary E. Woolley, President of Mt. Holyoke College, heads the American Association of University Women which held its fiftieth birthday party in Boston April 8-11.

The story of the work of women on the committees of the League of Nations, the difficulties they have met as delegates at the Assembly and the ways in which they are influencing important international activities is being made very real to the women of the United States through the visit of Miss Henni Forchhammer of Denmark. A regular attendant at the League of Nations Assembly, first as a technical adviser on women's questions and later as a substitute delegate, and the possessor of a record of years of work on behalf of women throughout the world, Miss Forchhammer is being eagerly and graciously received wherever she goes.

#### THE ECONOMIC ISSUE.

The Twenty-fourth Annual Conference of the Women's Freedom League was held at Caxton Hall, Westminster, Saturday, April 18th. Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence was unanimously re-elected as the President of the League, and a copy of her speech is appended.

The objects of the League were reaffirmed with enthusiasm, and the Conference pledged itself to work more strenuously than ever for the establishment of equal rights and opportunities between the sexes in every branch of our national and international life.

#### MRS. PETHICK-LAWRENCE'S ADDRESS.

For twenty-four years the Women's Freedom League has been carrying on an active and strenuous campaign for women's complete freedom and equality. During those years the position of women has completely changed from one of political, legal and domestic nonage to one of full citizenship in the body politic and of emancipation in the home. The emancipation of women has reacted upon the whole community and has brought to pass, amongst other beneficial effects, freedom of the young from that domestic tyranny which was accepted a few generations ago as the natural order of things. It has revolutionised the whole attitude towards children and has lifted intolerable tragedy from child-life.

It is well to refresh our spirit with this consciousness of great things achieved in the past; for a new crisis has developed and there are many evidences at the present moment that those forces which have always been hostile to women's advancement, are mustering on a new front in formidable array. A very determined attack is being made upon the whole position of women, in the professional, the business and the industrial world.

The long period of world-wide unemployment has brought some very powerful allies not fundamentally hostile to women's freedom, to the side of the die-hard anti-feminists who are always with us. For example, there are the Trade Unions which were founded by men to defend men's interests and which tend to regard women as new-comers and interlopers in the employment market. Opinion in the Trade Unions at the present moment is definitely in favour of any legislation which tends to secure all available employment for men, and the political influence of the Trade Unions is very great, especially when the Labour Government is in power. So that in the present severe unemployment crisis any attack upon women's freedom to work for wages, and more particularly any refusal to open to them the higher and more remunerative positions, finds a large measure of support in the organised Labour Party.

Then again mothers of working-class families are living in constant dread of the husband and father losing his job, and naturally enough the immediate interest of their own children means more to them than any other consideration whatever. It is extremely easy to represent to these working women that the presence of other women in the Labour market is a danger to men, and that the quickest way to secure well-paid work for husband and father is to prevent other women from getting it.

"We have run into an economic blizzard." "Throw the women overboard." "Let us lighten the ship and hope that the storm will abate."

Therefore it comes about that from day to day we are learning of new regulations against employment of married women; of new demands for unequal and inequitable scales of payment; of new legal enforcements of different minimum wage standards founded entirely on sex; of new restrictions on women's labour which tend to oust them from those industries in which those restrictions operate; of new refusals to admit women to positions which they have earned by their ability and for which they have proved themselves eminently fitted.

It is interesting, and in a certain sense amusing to turn back, as I have been doing lately, the pages of the "Vote" during the present year and to read week by week, some new illustration of this attempt to stem the tide of women's economic independence. One week for example, we learn that a woman possessing all the qualifications specified for competing in examinations necessary for getting positions in the Post Office Engineering, has received a note from the Post Office Department to the effect that the examinations are only open to male candidates, although nothing in the regulations suggests any such discrimination. Then next week we read that in Great Britain no woman is eligible for the higher posts in the banks, though China has a bank entirely staffed by women. When asked by Mrs. Hamilton, M.P. (member of the Royal Commission of the Civil Service) whether any justification could be offered for this denial of opportunities to women, the general manager of the Midland Bank could only reply, "I do not think I will try to justify it." Following upon this, comes next week's story of the refusal of the Stock Exchange to admit to membership a woman who after nineteen years' work in a stock broker's office wants to set up in business for herself.

The story in this week's "Vote" "takes the Cake." It points to the survival in modern days of the bygone age when women's inferiority, because of sex, was definitely and openly asserted. A fully qualified and accredited headmistress has been deprived of her position simply and solely because men assistants refuse to serve under a woman.

The Women's Freedom League while deeply sympathising with the individual hardships suffered under these reactions, nevertheless regards the position without dismay. Over and over again in our experience we have proved that it is the darkest hour that precedes the dawn. This issue of women's economic equality has to be fought out just as the issue of political equality had to be fought out; the sooner the position is defined the better. It is the same old battle—the battle between the past and the future, between outworn traditions and new vision, between the older and the younger generations, between the Winter and the Spring.

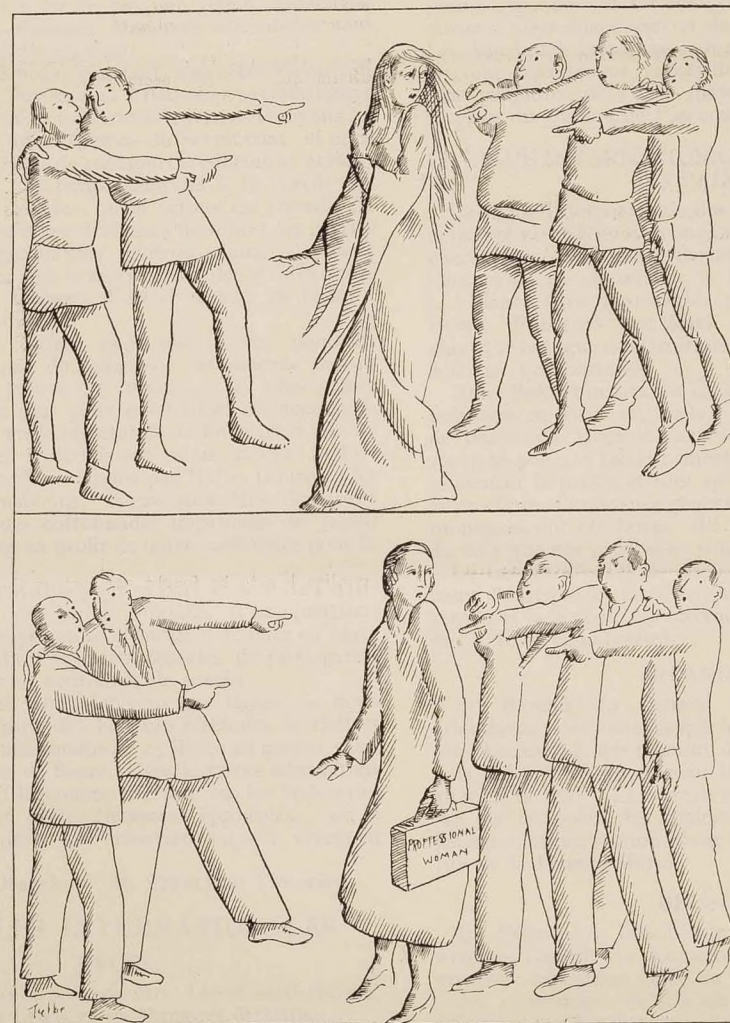
The long-drawn out battle that ended in women's political enfranchisement was, as we always said, "not a conflict of women on one side and of men on the other." Neither is it in this new battle to secure women's economic equality. We have, and shall have, many women against us and many men for us. On our side will be all the lovers of justice, all the sporting instincts of fair play, all the believers in the full development of human capacity and genius, and all the children of the dawn. The more completely successful the attack upon women's economic equality may appear to be, the more quickly will new recruits, both women and men, be brought to our side. We need not fear the issue, but we need to be very courageous, very dogged and persistent in holding our ground until other recruits gather to our standard, as undoubtedly they will. We believe that we are bound up in our struggle with the eternal principles of justice, and if that is so, we are assured of ultimate victory.

I have devoted so much time to the economic issue, which I feel to be the dominant one of the moment, that I can only briefly refer to the other principle objects of the Women's Freedom League campaign. The question of the nationality of married women has made great progress during the year, but it needs all our concentrated attention and work if we are shortly to see the solution that we desire.

The inclusion of women in the police force, which we have advocated for many years, has found greater acceptance, and a promise has been given by this Home Secretary that in London the number of women police will be doubled. Many women have successfully contested seats in Parliamentary and Municipal elections. We have to concentrate and re-double our efforts to get women representatives on all National Boards, Benches and Committees, and on National and International Councils. We have to insist that Article 7 of the League of Nations Convention shall be duly carried out. This article explicitly states that women are to enjoy the same status as men in all activities of the League of Nations. There is a great programme of work before us in the coming year, but we are ready to face up to it because of our complete and joyous confidence in those who are in charge of the campaign.

EMMELINE PETHICK-LAWRENCE.

#### JUS CARTOONS: No. XIV.



#### A CURE FOR BAD TIMES.

16th Century: "Burn the Witch!"

20th Century: "Sack the Woman!"

## SECTION FRANCAISE.

## VISION OU REALITE.

Le futur prochain de l'Alliance est encore dans les limbes du "devenir." Et voila pourtant qu'à travers la brume, se dessinent, encore à peine distincts, les escarpements de l'Acropole. Serait-il donc possible que l'année prochaine nos membres puissent se retrouver en Congrès triennal au pied du Temple de Pallas Athéna, et n'est ce pas une vision audacieuse que celle de ces Femmes Modernes assemblées sous l'égide de l'Eternelle Sagesse!

Il ne tient qu'à nous, pourtant, que cette vision soit une réalité. Si le Bureau de l'Alliance et ses auxiliaires se mettent des à présent au travail, si nous trouvons les fonds nécessaires aux dépenses du Secrétariat, si nous organisons des moyens de transport confortables et dont le prix soit, par ces temps difficiles à la portée des bourses les plus légères, nous serons en chemin de réaliser notre rêve et les déléguées de toutes les parties du monde convergeront vers Athènes pleines d'ardeur et de joie à penser que le merveilleux décor de la Grèce ancienne, encore inconnu d'elles, servira de cadre à leurs délibérations.

La Présidente estime que 1000 livres pourront couvrir les dépenses du Congrès. Si chacune des 40 nations affiliées trouve 25 livres—et les plus riches peuvent aider les plus pauvres—l'effort est accompli. Nous avons déjà vu le résultat de la levée en masse de nos enthousiastes Hollandaises—nous savons l'effort récemment accompli en Alsace par Melle. Gourd et les féministes de Strasbourg. Notre amie Mrs. Gauntlett vient d'envoyer des cotonnades imprimées du Japon qui seront vendues au profit de notre conférence pour la paix à Belgrade.

Que chacune travaille pour sa part au sein de l'Alliance, s'armant de bonne volonté, d'imagination, d'altruisme. Que personne n'oublie d'acheter en toute occasion nos timbres et cartes postales de propagande et nos efforts seront couronnés de succès.

Au moment où nous écrivons ces lignes on nous annonce que l'Union des Femmes électeurs de Belfast vient de réaliser une somme de 25 livres au moyen d'un thé suivi de vente de fleurs. Nos lectrices admettront que dans une ville comme Belfast où les industries féminines ont été particulièrement éprouvées, c'est là un effort méritoire. La Trésorière en est vivement touchée.

D'après F. M. STERLING, Trésorière.

## NOUVELLES INTERNATIONALES.

## DECES.

Nous déplorons la perte de Mrs. Ida Husted Harper, de Mrs. Travers Lewis et de Margaret McMillan.

Mrs. Ida Husted Harper une des notabilités du mouvement suffragiste américain laisse bien des regrets aux Etats-Unis et en Europe. Son travail patient et inlassable demeurera parmi nous sous la forme de "l'Histoire du Suffrage des femmes" commencé en collaboration avec Susan Anthony et Mrs. Stanton. Son autre important ouvrage est une Biographie de Susan B. Anthony, en trois volumes.

Margaret McMillan a consacré sa vie du Service des Enfants pauvres, de leur éducation, de leur hygiène dès l'âge le plus tendre. C'est elle l'initiatrice du Mouvement pour les Nursery Schools—écoles enfantines en plein air dont l'institution de Deptford est le modèle et qu'on vient visiter de tous les pays.

Mrs. Travers Lewis, plus généralement connue sous le nom d'Ada Leigh était une des grandes figures de la

philanthropie internationale. Il y a soixante ans elle fonda à Paris le premier foyer ou maison de retraite pour les jeunes filles de langue anglaise, en particulier pour celles qui ayant embrassé la profession théâtrale, se trouvaient seules, sans soutien, à la merci de multiples tentations.

Le grand philanthrope Lord Shaftesbury, frappé de l'audace et de l'esprit altruiste de cette jeune fille, en pleine époque victorienne lui recommandait lui-même d'aller doucement et de ménager sa réputation. Les Ada Leigh Homes se sont agrandis et multipliés et peuvent maintenant recueillir 33,000 pensionnaires, sans préjudice de l'aide matérielle accordée par les services du Bureau de Placement qui leur est adjoint.

## LA LIGUE INTERNATIONALE DES FEMMES POUR LA PAIX.

La Ligue Internationale des Femmes pour la paix et la liberté vient d'avoir ce mois-ci une réunion à Lille de concert avec d'autres Associations ayant entre autres buts celui de contribuer à la Paix Internationale. L'Alliance était représentée par Mme. Bakker van Bosse. Plusieurs syndicats avaient leurs délégués ainsi que la Ligue des Droits de l'Homme et la Ligue des Anciens Combattants.

Mme. Bakker insista sur la nécessité de tenir l'opinion publique en éveil et décrivit le formation du comité de liaison des Organisations féminines avec sa section spéciale pour le Désarmement, comment il travaille à influencer la presse et tout spécialement les délégués à la prochaine Conférence générale du Désarmement. Des promesses ont été faites, dit Mme. Bakker; à nous de voir que ces promesses soient tenues.

La tendance pratique de ce discours intéressa vivement l'assistance, et tous les délégués, sans exception signèrent la déclaration internationale pour le Désarmement, total et universel.

## IRLANDE.

Le Bureau du Conseil National des Femmes Irlandaises nous annonce que le Gouvernement a nommé Miss Louise Bennett membre de la délégation irlandaise à la Conférence du Bureau International du Travail, au mois de mai. Le Bureau exprime sa satisfaction du fait que la Société des Nations ait consulté directement les Associations féminines sur la question de la Nationalité de la Femme Mariée.

## BRESIL.

La Fédération brésilienne pour l'Avancement des Femmes tiendra son deuxième Congrès Féministe et sa première exposition du 15 au 30 juin de cette année.

Au programme de discussion du Congrès sont les questions: d'Education, d'Assistance Publique, les difficultés économiques résultant de l'entrée des femmes dans le Commerce et l'Industrie. Mention spéciale sera faite des droits civils et politiques et de la part des Femmes dans la propagande pacifiste internationale.

## AFRIQUE DU SUD.

Le Gouvernement de l'Union sud-africaine se prépare à remédier d'une façon curieuse à l'anomalie que la nouvelle franchise accordée aux femmes d'origine européenne apportait dans le système électoral de l'Afrique du Sud. Certaines conditions de cens et de cultures intellectuelle restreignaient le vote masculin pour les blancs et plus encore pour les races de couleur, tandis que le général Hertzog avait d'un coup accordé le vote aux femmes de race blanche à 21 ans et sans condition leur donnant ainsi une prépondérance politique incontestée.

Le projet de loi égalise les conditions de vote pour

les hommes et femmes de race blanche. L'âge seul, 21 ans, est requis. Les conditions de cens et de capacité sont conservées pour les hommes de couleur de la colonie du Cap. Dans les autres états la franchise indigène était pour ainsi dire inexistante. Aucune mesure ne pouvait être plus défavorable à la représentation indigène.

## CHINE.

Une loi vient d'être récemment promulguée à Nanking qui accorde aux filles les mêmes droits qu'aux fils dans les questions d'héritage et de partages familiaux. Un mois après sa promulgation une jeune fille de Tsinanfu intenta un procès à ses frères et gagna sa cause.

## NATIONALITE DE LA FEMME MARIEE.

Les organisations qui, à l'invitation de la Société des Nations ont formé un Comité pour l'étude de la dite question se réuniront au Secrétariat le 2 juillet pour l'adoption du rapport final.

Une réunion préliminaire aura lieu le 20 mai et dans l'intervalle un rapport est préparé par les personnalités compétentes que sont Mesdames Bakker Nort, M.P., Miss Macmillan, Miss Paul et Madame Maria Vérone.

## ESPAGNE.

Senorita Victoria Kent, avocate, en exercice depuis deux ans, vient d'être nommée Directeur Général des Prisons par le Gouvernement de la nouvelle république espagnole. Les féministes espagnoles applaudissent à ce succès et espèrent qu'il est d'un bon augure pour la reconnaissance de leurs droits par le nouveau Régime.

## L'ILE BERMUDE.

On peut raisonnablement espérer que les femmes de l'île Bermude, auront bientôt le droit de vote. L'île Bermude est une dépendance coloniale de l'Angleterre mais dès le 17ème siècle un acte royal lui accorde le droit de représentation—et une Assemblée élue au suffrage mâle restreint, avec un cens très élevé gouverne ses destinées.

Le premier projet de loi pour le suffrage féminin fut présenté en 1895. Restreint aux femmes non mariées il rencontra peu d'opposition dans l'Assemblée, mais le Conseil Législatif le refusa catégoriquement. En 1923 la Société Suffragiste Bermudienne fut constituée. Plusieurs projets de vote paroissial, et d'élections aux jurys échouèrent successivement. Un grand coup fut porté lorsque une militante, Mrs. Morrell, riche propriétaire, refusa de payer ses impôts. La presse s'émut et un appel des femmes bermudaïses au Secrétaire d'Etat pour les Colonies, Lord Passfield, eut un résultat positif. Lord Passfield envoya une note à l'Administration bermudaïse signalant que les électeurs représentent à peine 6% des habitants de la colonie, que dans tout le reste de l'empire Britannique les femmes ont obtenu le droit de vote et qu'à son avis il serait temps que la Législature bermudaïse concédât une extension de la franchise locale qui la mettrait en conformité avec les autres institutions britanniques contemporaines.

Félicitons nos collègues des Bermudes, pour leur action énergique qui ne manquera pas, sous peu, de leur assurer le succès.

## AUTRICHE.

Notre correspondante autrichienne, Gisela Urban, nous écrit qu'une attaque sérieuse contre le travail de la femme mariée est à présent engagée dans la république autrichienne. Là, comme en bien d'autres pays cette attaque est le contre coup de la dépression économique et du chômage. Mais elle est particulièrement amère contre les femmes qui sont, par leur intelligence et leur travail, parvenues à des emplois publics dans l'enseignement et l'administration.

Le Conseil national des femmes autrichiennes a réuni les femmes de tous les partis politiques et proteste contre une discrimination qui atteindrait seulement le travail des femmes. Un homme peut en effet exercer deux occupations, ou avoir deux sources distinctes de revenus; une pension et un salaire par exemple, et si la femme mariée travaille c'est parce que les ressources du ménage sont insuffisantes—circonstance économique—ou parce qu'elle aime particulièrement la profession qu'elle a choisie et qu'elle y excelle, et il est donc à l'avantage de la profession de conserver son travail.

Cette économie à courte vue, que le travail de la femme mariée déplace le labeur masculin est malheureusement très répandue depuis la guerre. Le Conseil national des femmes autrichiennes mérite toute notre sympathie pour sa défense des droits de la femme.

Dr. Hansi Diech employée depuis 1926 dans le service postal autrichien—diplomée en physique et mathématiques—est Directeur du Laboratoire des Services postaux et porte le titre de Commissaire.

Le Président de la République autrichienne a conféré le titre de Conseiller commercial à Elisabeth Kohlhaupt, propriétaire d'une Agence de Tourisme à Graz.

## ETATS-UNIS.

Miss Henni Forchammer du Danemark fait un tour de conférences en Amérique où elle relate le progrès du travail des femmes dans les Comités de la Société des Nations qu'elle même a suivis de près.

La campagne pour l'extension du Droit d'être juré dans tous les Etats de la Confédération ne se relentit pas. Vingt-deux états seulement autorisent les femmes à être jurés.

## UN LIVRE UTILE ET INDISPENSABLE.

"La Femme—Ses droits—Ses devoirs et ses revendications." par Georgette Ciselet, Avocat près la Cour d'Appel de Bruxelles. (*Librairie de l'Eglantine: Bruxelles.* Préface de Mr. Charles de Yongh, ancien bâtonnier de l'Ordre des Avocats).

C'est la troisième fois en moins d'un an que nous saluons la publication d'un excellent livre sur "La Femme." Nous avons eu déjà "Les Lois du Libre Amour" de Signor Quartara, une apologétique enthousiaste des libertés féminines, qui, par son étude rétrospective des conditions de la femme à travers les âges sortait des cadres de la péninsule italienne. Nous avions, le mois dernier, le plaisir de souhaiter la bienvenue à cet Encyclopédie de la Femme en allemand rédigée sous la direction de Frau Ada Schmidt Beil. Et voilà que Madame Georgette Ciselet, avocat au Barreau de Bruxelles, vient enrichir notre documentation d'une étude en langue française, sérieuse, concise, lucide, exempte des technicalités que l'on associe trop souvent au vocabulaire légal, partant aisée et agréable à lire, et qui doit trouver sa place non seulement dans les Bibliothèques des féministes, mais de toute femme qui se soucie de ses droits et des responsabilités sociales qui lui incombent.

La majeure partie de l'ouvrage est naturellement consacrée à la femme belge, à ses droits politiques, encore restreints au suffrage municipal, à ses droits civils en tant qu'épouse et mère, lesquels en l'espèce sont surtout des incapacités, à sa condition sociale, récemment transformée, comme ailleurs, par le développement de l'industrialisme. Suivent une soixantaine de pages où Mme. Ciselet fait une revue rapide mais précise des législations étrangères. Une coïncidence remarquable et dont Mme. Ciselet sait habilement

CONFERENCE DE LA PAIX:  
BELGRADE.

## PROGRAMME.

## Dimanche 17 mai.

- Matin.** Présidente: Miss Ruth Morgan.  
9-30. Réception par les autorités civiles et la Présidente du Comité organisateur.  
10-15. Les Buts de l'Alliance: Mrs. Corbett Ashby.  
10-35. Les Buts de la Conférence: Miss Morgan.  
10-50. Salutations des déléguées fraternelles:  
Conseil International des Femmes:  
Mme. Petkovitch.  
Ligue Internationale des Femmes pour la Paix et la Liberté:  
Mme. Ramondt Hirschman.  
Union Mondiale des Jeunes Filles Chrétiennes Fédération Internationale des Femmes diplômées.  
La Petite Entente féminine:  
Mme. Theodoropoulos.  
12-30—2-30. Déjeuner avec courts discours:  
Présidente: Mlle. Rosa Manus.  
Orateurs: Mlle. Atanatskovich, Mme. Malatterre Sellier, Mlle. Gourd, Frau von Velsen et représentantes des organisations nationales.

- Après-midi.** Présidente: Miss Ruth Morgan.  
3-30. La situation économique et la Coopération Européenne:  
M. Nintchitch.  
M. Delaisi.  
Princesse A. Cantazucène.  
Dr. Ulich Beil.

## Discussion.

## Lundi 18 mai.

- Matin.** Président: Miss Ruth Morgan.  
9-30. DESARMEMENT.  
(a) La promesse de désarmement.  
(b) Projet de la Convention de désarmement formulé par la Commission Préparatoire de la Conférence sur le désarmement. Commander B. F. Adams, D.S.O., R.N. représentant de la Société des Nations, etc., etc.  
Discussion.

- Après-midi.** Présidente: Miss Ruth Morgan.  
3-30. DESARMEMENT (suite).  
(c) Les Sanctions de Sécurité: M. Ruysen.  
(d) Un pourcentage fixé pour la réduction des armements:  
L'Amiral Drury Lowe.  
(e) Le Désarmement et le Chômage.  
Discussion.

- Soir.** Dîner, présidé par Miss Ruth Morgan.  
Discours de Mrs. Corbett Ashby et membres de la Commission de la Paix.

## Mardi le 19 mai.

- Matin.** Présidente: Mlle. Rosa Manus.  
9-30. Résumé de la procédure de la Conférence:  
Miss Morgan.  
Comment les Femmes peuvent influencer l'opinion publique:  
En temps de Paix: Mme. Theodoropoulos.  
En Temps de Guerre:  
Mme. de Reuss Jancoulescu.

tirer profit est le fait que de tous les pays latins encore régis par le Code Napoléon, la Belgique est le prototype, car "non seulement la lettre du Code est scrupuleusement respectée mais le législateur belge en a accentué l'esprit" de sorte que dans tout ce qui ressort de la famille ou de la propriété, la femme n'est, selon le mot célèbre de Bossuet "qu'un os surnuméraire."

La jurisprudence française, au contraire a une tendance fort nette à restreindre la portée du vieux dogme. Mme. Ciselet note que la Cour de Cassation en Janvier 1921—"a renoncé à l'effort illusoire de maintenir la femme mariée dans l'obéissance."

Le Gouvernement Italien, même, en dépit de son autocratie reconnaît à la femme mariée une personnalité propre. Il est vrai que son attitude à l'égard du divorce est empreinte de la plus stricte et traditionnelle orthodoxie. Cette intransigeance en matière de divorce n'est cependant pas l'apanage exclusif des vieux pays catholiques. L'Angleterre dont Mme. Ciselet admire le progressisme, a, en dépit de tous les droits politiques et juridiques reconnus aux femmes, refusé jusqu'à présent de modifier la loi sur le divorce, ne l'autorise qu'au cas d'adultère et lui préfère le plus souvent l'odieuse et antinaturelle séparation de corps. La Belgique, au moins, a adopté la clause du "consentement mutuel" qui tout en satisfaisant les désirs des intéressés sauvegarde la dignité de la famille.

Le plan suivi par Madame Ciselet, simple et clair, suggère d'intéressants parallèles. La condition de la femme, dans chaque pays, est étudiée sous son aspect politique, juridique et social. Il est intéressant de noter que l'émancipation politique n'est pas toujours en accord avec la libéralité du Code civil. Les dispositions juridiques du Code, en France ou en Suisse par exemple, où la femme n'a pas l'ombre d'un droit politique sont d'un esprit extrêmement large et la législation du Travail admet au moins le principe d'égalité. En Belgique le parti clérical est favorable à la Franchise féminine complète (peut-être y a-t-il en cette instance, une arrière pensée de gain électoral) mais la jurisprudence affirme et maintient l'autorité maritale selon la plus intransigeante tradition catholique.

Le livre de Mme. Ciselet présente toutes les étapes du féminisme jusqu'au régime le plus évolué qui est celui de la République soviétique. Ici, égalité absolue, responsabilité presque identique. La tendance individualiste du Code est telle que la famille ne compte plus, et l'Etat se substitue à l'autorité paternelle pour la surveillance et la protection de l'enfant.

Madame Ciselet présente les faits avec la plus complète impartialité. (Une ou deux erreurs se sont glissées dans cette masse d'intéressantes notations! Depuis la publication de l'ouvrage, la Chambre des Représentants au Japon a consenti aux femmes le droit de vote aux conseils municipaux, au même titre que les hommes—c'est à dire à 20, ans mais la Chambre des Pairs l'a refusé. En Angleterre, même avant le "Qualification of Woman Act" qui accordait le vote aux femmes de 30 ans, les hommes étaient électeurs à 21 ans—âge qui fut universellement admis pour le suffrage des deux sexes en 1928). Le dernier chapitre où l'on entrevoit la personnalité militante de Mme. Ciselet démontre la justice et la nécessité des Revendications féministes. L'auteur reconnaît à notre Alliance Internationale la part immense qui lui revient dans l'affirmation des Principes et la lutte pour l'Egalité civique. Sa conclusion est un programme que les féministes auront à cœur de réaliser! "Que les Femmes s'intruisent. Que les Femmes s'unissent. Que nos associations multiplient leur activité. Que les hommes sachent ce que nous voulons et pourquoi nous le voulons. Et la face des choses sera bientôt changée."

ALINE MARTIN REES.





## SUBSCRIPTION FORM.

To the Secretary, I. A. W. S. E. C., 190, Vauxhall Bridge Road, London, S. W. 1.

\*I desire to become an Associate Member of the Alliance and enclose £1, for a year's subscription  
or

A subscriber to the INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S NEWS and enclose 6s. for the yearly subscription, post free.

Name .....

Address .....

\*N. B.—Membership includes subscription to the paper.

Board of the International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship, elected at the Eleventh Congress, Berlin, June 17-22, 1929.

**President:** MRS CORBETT ASHBY, 33, Upper Richmond Road, London, S.W.15, England  
**Hon. President and Founder:** MRS. CHAPMAN CATT, 171, Madison Avenue, New York, U.S.A.  
**First Vice-President:** ADELE SCHREIBER (Germany). **Members:** HODA CHARAOUTI (Egypt), SUZANNE GRINBERG-AUPOURRAIN (France), INGEBORG HANSEN (Denmark), PAULINA LUISI (Uruguay), RUTH MORGAN (U.S.A.), ALISON NEILLANS (Great Britain), EUGENIE DE REUSS JANCŒULESCU (Roumania), BESSIE RISCHBIETH (Australia), JOSEPHINE SCHAIN (U.S.A.), LA MARQUESA DEL TER (Spain), AVRA THEODOROPoulos (Greece), DOROTHEE VON VELSEN (Germany), INGEBORG WALIN (Sweden).  
**Second Vice-President:** ROSA MANUS (Holland).  
**Vice-Presidents:** GERMAINE MALATERRE-SELLIER (France), FRANTISKA PLAMINKOVA (Czecho-Slovakia).  
**Treasurer:** FRANCES M. STERLING (England).  
**Corresponding Secretary:** EMILIE GOURD, Crets de Pregny, Geneva, Switzerland.  
**Assistant Secretary:** MILENA ATANATSKOVITCH (Jugoslavia).  
**AUXILIARIES IN:** Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bermuda, Brazil, Bulgaria, Ceylon, Cuba, Czecho-Slovakia, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jugo-Slavia, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palestine, Peru, Porto Rica, Portugal, Roumania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Turkey, Ukraine, United States of America, Uruguay.

**INTERNATIONAL STANDING COMMITTEES.**—Committee for an Equal Moral Standard and Against the Traffic in Women: Chairman, Dr. Paulina Luis. Committee for Like Conditions of Work for Men and Women: Chairman, Froken Ingeborg Walin. Committee on Illegitimate Children: Chairman, Frau Adele Schreiber Krieger. Committee for Peace: Chairman, Miss Ruth Morgan. Committee on Women Police: Chairman, Miss Manus. Committee on the Civil Status of Women: Chairman, Mme. Suzanne Grinberg. Committee for Suffrage and Elections: Chairman, Mme. Plaminkova.

## By-Law of the I.A.W.S.E.C. Constitution.

"The International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship, by mutual consent of its auxiliaries stands pledged to preserve absolute neutrality on all questions that are strictly national."

Headquarters and EDITORIAL OFFICES of the I.W. News: 190, Vauxhall Bridge Road, London, S.W.1.

Telegrams: "Vocorajto."

Telephone: Victoria 0285.



## TIME AND TIDE

The only weekly review in the world edited and controlled solely by women.

EVERY FRIDAY, 6d.

**A Weekly Review is not a luxury—**  
*It is a necessity for everyone who wishes to be well informed upon current events.*

## DIRECTORS

Mrs. Chalmers Watson, C. B. E., M. D. (Chairman)  
The Viscountess Rhonda (Vice-Chairman)  
Prof. Winifred Cullis, O. B. E., D. Sc. Miss Winifred Holtby, M. A.  
Miss E. M. Delafield Lady Llewellyn  
Miss Cicely Hamilton Miss Marion Jean Lyon  
Miss Rebecca West

Subscription Rates 26/- a year; 13/- six months;  
7/6 three months.

Specimen Copy free of  
The Circulation Manager, TIME AND TIDE,  
32, Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C.1.

EVERY FRIDAY. ONE PENNY.

## THE VOTE

THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE PAPER.

144, HIGH HOLBORN, W. C. 1.

## THE CATHOLIC CITIZEN

(Organ of the St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance).

PUBLISHED ON THE 15th OF EACH MONTH.

PRICE 2d. (Annual Subscription, post free, 2/6.)

St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance,  
55, BERNERS STREET, LONDON, W. 1.

## THE WOMAN'S LEADER

2d. WEEKLY.

WOMEN in different parts of the world interested in the Woman's Movement in Great Britain should read this paper every week. SHORT, CHEAP, UP-TO-DATE.

10/10 post free at home or abroad.

Write for a specimen copy to

The Manager, THE WOMAN'S LEADER,  
4 Gt. Smith Street, London, S.W.1.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.—All communications respecting ADVERTISEMENTS should be addressed to:—

The Advertisement Manager,  
190, Vauxhall Bridge Road.

## ADVERTISEMENT RATES.

Full page facing editorial matter..	..	£8 0 0
Half and quarter page pro rata.		
Full page not facing matter ..	..	£6 0 0
Half and quarter page pro rata.		

## Series Discounts:

3 insertions 5%	6 insertions 10%
12 insertions 15%	

## SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS.

Small advertisements 5s. an inch, and 2d. per word over.

NOTICE TO READERS.—All communications respecting Subscriptions and Editorial contributions should be addressed to:—THE EDITOR, I.W. NEWS, 190, VAUXHALL BRIDGE ROAD, LONDON, S.W.1.