

NOT TO BE TAKEN AWAY

# THE WOMAN'S LEADER

## AND THE COMMON CAUSE

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### NOTES AND NEWS.

#### King's Speech (Equal Franchise).

This year's King's Speech reminds us of the old recipe for making lace. Some holes and sew them together. Certainly its main characteristics are to be found in what it leaves out. Where are the measures on which definite pledges have been given—the Franchise Bill, the reform of the Poor Law? Where are any indications that the recommendations of the important reports presented during the last year or two, those of the Royal Commission on Lunacy and on National Health Insurance, are to be incorporated in any legislative proposals? Where, oh where, at all, is any reference to Equal Franchise? The signs of things had unfortunately convinced us that there was little or no chance of legislation on this to us all important subject being referred to, but we did hope that there would be some indication that the Government intended at least to consider the matter by means of a Speaker's conference or committee. What makes our impression more profound is that although the omission of Equal Franchise was raised by Mr. MacDonald in the House of Commons the Prime Minister answered every one of the other points referred to by him, but ominously omitted this one. Furthermore Lord Beauchamp drew attention to the need for the Government to carry out its pledge in this matter in the House of Lords, Lord Salisbury replied that the subject was still under consideration, "and he could make no further promise of it." We know of a large number of amendments to the Bill on Equal Franchise, and have been informed that Lord George will also deal with the matter in his speech. We can hardly, however, believe that *nothing* will be done by the Government, and hope that even before this is in the hands of the House of Commons some indication will have been given either in the course of the Government's case on the Address, or in the course of the questions, that at least some movement is to be made. In the meantime, it is some slight satisfaction to read that the next session will see the introduction of Poor Law reform and the Factories Bill.

#### Book Revision.

The Bishops' proposals, now that they are published, reveal themselves as a cautious compromise. If the Prayer Book was revised at all in the direction desired by the English Church Union, less than the suggested changes could hardly have been made, and yet what is offered should make it possible for Catholics who really desire to remain in the Church of

England to possess their souls in patience—unless, of course, their parishioners refuse the new alternative provisions. For the Bishops' intention is that no one shall be able to force a clergyman to leave the old prayer book, and that no clergyman shall be able to force his parish to use the new. The points of special interest to women are the alterations in the marriage service. "Obey" is to go; the woman is to be asked the same questions as the man; the blunt English of certain passages is to be changed verbally, but not in meaning; "worship" becomes "honour" and "With all my worldly goods I thee endow" is altered to "All my worldly goods I with thee share." This we take leave to regret. The rhythm is bad, the law is worse, and the syllables are awkward to pronounce. The English law, unlike that of many countries, does not recognize any system of sharing goods between husband and wife, either by their being held in common, or equally divided between the two. The practical significance of the new sentence is therefore the same as that of the old—it means "I shall treat you more or less as my social equal and not as a mere housekeeper." To lose so much sound for so small a gain in sense is not worth while. Further, now that married women own their own property, this vow should be repeated by the wife as well as by the husband. The other alterations are more skilfully effected, and may be welcomed.

#### Dental Officers.

Approved Societies are now spending such large sums on the provision of dental treatment—a sum of over £2,000,000 a year—that the Ministry of Health has decided to set up a service of Regional Dental Officers to check estimates of cost received from dentists and "in order to enable Societies to obtain a second opinion as to the need for such treatment." Six full-time officials are to be appointed to cover England and Wales. We should like to know more about this new service. In the first place the two sets of duties set out seem hardly suitable for performance by the same man. The need for dental treatment should be determined by medical men familiar with the locality in question, which can hardly be the case with an officer responsible for the area proposed. The checking of estimates could surely be done by an accountant with a little special knowledge—if, indeed, it can be fairly done at all by anyone who has not seen the patients' mouths. Secondly, if Approved Societies want a second opinion, why cannot they get one for themselves? Why should every society in an area be compelled to come to the same official, who will probably have a personal bias one way or the other and will certainly have an official bias towards uniformity? Finally, what staff are these officers to be allowed for the detailed work of checking and will the money they save by such checking equal their cost, which is to be met out of the funds of the Societies?

#### The Fight for Women Police.

For the third time the Rotherham Women Citizens' Association has pressed its Watch Committee to appoint at least two police women, and for the third time its pressure has proved unavailing, in spite of the fact that Rotherham, unlike the majority of towns which have made this refusal, appears to have a sympathetic Chief Constable. Among the reasons given for the rejection of the proposal by certain local magistrates, was the assertion that there were no large factories employing women in Rotherham, nothing to cause an influx of women workers,

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and fewer women in the town than men. This last fact seems to us a very relevant consideration, but applicable in a contrary sense to the intentions of its framer. It is precisely in areas where there is little or no industrial work for women and where the men outnumber the women that conditions calling for the activities of women police are likely to arise.

#### The Monstrous Regiment.

The 1927 edition of the Coventry City Municipal Handbook shows that in five wards of the City the women municipal electors outnumber the men electors. Here we have in miniature the situation which was (and is) so gravely feared by those who oppose the extension of the parliamentary franchise to women on the same terms as to men. It would be interesting to know whether any of the anticipated unfortunate results are as yet perceptible in these dangerous areas of Coventry. Are the women combining to vote *en bloc* against the men? Are the inhabitants of the five doomed wards unpleasantly conscious of a "monstrous regiment of women"? Is there any tendency for the exercise of physical force (of which we have been told the vote is a mere token currency) to usurp the functions of the ballot at election time? We shall watch with interest the developments of this precarious situation.

#### Women Registrars.

The Press awoke last week to the fact that since the passage of the Sex Disqualifications (Removal) Act in 1919, numbers of women have been employed up and down the country as Registrars and Deputy Registrars of births, deaths, and marriages. The chief point which has struck the public is the fact that these duties may involve the officiation of a woman at a civil marriage. Miss Underwood of the Freedom League has called the attention of a Press representative to the obvious fact that compared with much of the work which women do, officiating at a wedding is quite a simple job. It is, of course—much simpler than officiating at a birth.

#### Women Magistrates.

The N.U.S.E.C. recently promoted a question in Parliament on the faulty distribution of women J.P.s. The National Council of Women has now analysed the magistrates' list. There are now 1,420 women on the bench in England and Wales, and 237 in Scotland. This makes a total of 1,657 women out of 23,000 magistrates. Of this number, London has 100, and Edinburgh sixteen. The 733 county petty sessional divisions have 749 women magistrates, but on many benches there is no woman at all, and the tendency seems to be to increase the number of women where there are women rather than to appoint them where there are none. This is both natural and complimentary, but to be resisted. We are glad therefore to learn that Lord Haldane has informed the Magistrates' Association that progress is being made with the reorganization of the advisory committees—which deal with the appointment of magistrates—and that they now contain 150 women members.

#### Women in the League of Nations.

The report of the Executive Committee of Women in the League of Nations raises some interesting points. In spite of the efforts of the Committee no woman lawyer has as yet been appointed to the Committee for the Progressive Codification of International Law, only one woman, Mrs. Dreyfus-Barner has been appointed to the Sub-Committee of Experts appointed to consider methods of introducing the ideals of the League into the minds of the youth of all nations. On the other hand, the Committee reports with pleasure that Dame Janet Campbell had been appointed British Expert to assist the medical directors of the League in the preparation of a preliminary report on infant welfare. It also extends its gratitude to Monsieur Albert Thomas for the official reminder to Governments and associations of employers and workers that women are equally eligible as delegates or advisers for the International Labour Conference. The report ends with a survey of the results of the inquiry undertaken by Mrs. Hoster on the appointment of women in the Secretariat of the League.

#### Women as Property Managers.

The Octavia Hill system of property management should receive a fresh impetus from the decision of the Chesterfield Town Council to appoint Miss J. M. Upcott as the manager of the St. Augustine's estate. Two and a half years ago the same experiment was tried by Kensington, who chose Miss Dickson to manage a large section of their working-class houses. In that

case the system has been entirely successful, and we hope that another success at Chesterfield will induce many other local authorities to study and to adopt it.

#### Woman Suffrage in France.

The Suffrage Commission of the French Chamber adopted unanimously a proposal for the extension of the franchise to women. Our readers will remember, however, that the principal anti-suffrage opposition in France is lodged not in the Chamber of Deputies, but in the Senate. Our colleagues in Paris must be growing desperately impatient.

#### The Vindication of Mr. Gladstone.

We acclaim with delight the unanimous opinion of the jury which last week affirmed the truth of Lord Gladstone's description of Captain Peter Wright as "a foul fellow." On behalf of our Conservative, Liberal, and Labour readers we offer to the Gladstone family our hearty congratulations upon the satisfactory conclusion of the tiresome legal process which has been forced upon them. Since the days when Mephistopheles was first tormented by the moral rectitude of Faust, his humbler disciples have experienced similar discomfort, and been stirred to similar ambitions by the sight of immaculate goodness. But we regret that in vindicating a great man's reputation, Mr. Justice Avory allowed himself to defame the fair name of an innocent suburb. There is no evidence that the type of gossip which Captain Wright calls history is a peculiar prerogative of the "tittle-tattle of the Tooting tea-tables." Indeed, in this case it might be more accurately described as the scurrilousness of the smoking-rooms of St. James or the mendacities of the muck-heaps of Mayfair. We do not know what kind of a career the ratepayers of Tooting have for a libel action against Mr. Justice Avory, but at any rate they have our sympathies. Meantime, it is always amusing to speculate on what might have been. Supposing Captain Wright had been a woman—how the Press would have revelled in any generalizations at the expense of all women writers, all women politicians, all women of sports and all ages!

#### Mrs. Pankhurst.

Last week Mrs. Pankhurst was unanimously adopted as Conservative candidate for Whitechapel and Georges, and it is reported that the meeting which adopted her was one of the largest ever held in the division. There is no denying that our gratification at seeing her once more playing an active part in English politics is tempered with regret that should not be more prominently and wholeheartedly associated with the last lap of the campaign for Equal Franchise. However, if for some of us she is a "lost leader" for others she is a "found leader," and there is no doubt that the Whitechapel Conservatives have done very well for themselves!

#### Women on Licensing Committee in Liverpool.

At the quarterly meeting of the City Justices of Liverpool, on 27th January, when the election of the new Licensing Committee was proposed, Mrs. Stewart-Brown moved that it be enlarged so as to include two women members. On a vote, it was found that her motion was carried by the narrow majority of two votes. Three women were then nominated for the two seats on the Committee, and the result on the voting ballot was the return of Mrs. Stewart-Brown and Miss Margaret Beavan. This is the first time that women have found a place on the Licensing Committee of Liverpool. All the Conservative women J.P.s, with one exception, a former Liberal, voted *again* for the appointment of women on the Licensing Committee, and all the Labour J.P.s were in favour of it, both men and women.

#### Private Members' Ballot.

Although it is, of course, too early at the time of writing to be able to announce the result of the Private Members' Ballot, the Labour Party has announced that the first and second places it gains will be given to a Representation of the People Bill and a Factories Bill respectively.

*POLICY.*—The sole policy of THE WOMAN'S LEADER is to advocate a real equality of liberties, status and opportunities between men and women. So far as space permits, however, it will offer an impartial platform for topics not directly included in the objects of the women's movement but of special interest to women. Articles on these subjects will always be signed, at least by initials or a pseudonym, and for the opinions expressed in them the Editor accepts no responsibility.

### THE KING'S SPEECH.

As we write, the outline only of the King's Speech is known, but it is clear that the Government have determined on a light programme. Some observers attribute this to the belief that there exists a general weariness of legislation, others to the consideration that as the King and Queen will not be able to visit Canada in July, it would be well for Mr. Baldwin to do so. In any case, we are to have only one important Bill—that to amend Trade Union law—while those relating to Unemployment Insurance and the film industry may be called half-important. The surprises of the announcement are that neither the Factories Bill nor a Poor Law Reform Bill will be introduced. It can hardly be called a surprise that there is to be no attempt this session to amend the House of Lords. There is, admittedly, a great deal to be said for the theory that the country does not require new legislation. Our statute book is distended with Acts, beneficent in themselves, but passed so rapidly and in such profusion that even the people for whose benefit they were enacted are hardly aware of their existence. If a respite from the making of new laws were accompanied by a quickening of the zeal and intelligence of local and other administrative bodies, we believe that the nation would be much the gainer. But as the wind of the spirit will probably not visit us with any especial force during the next session, we fear that the Government's best supporters must regret the abandonment of the Factories Bill. It contains, as we know, certain clauses opposed by feminists, but these there was strong hope of amending, and we desired in any event the opportunity of stating our case. In the main the Bill is a sound Conservative measure, in the best tradition of the party, prepared because sorely needed, before the war, and brought up to date by two Unionist Home Secretaries. It has been the subject of recent definite and repeated pledges. It is desired as much by good employers as by ill-treated workers.

### WHAT IS EQUALITY?

[The two articles printed below, by Miss Rathbone and Mrs. Abbott, are intended to express the views of both parties to this controversy.]

By ELEANOR F. RATHBONE.

The object of the National Union for Equal Citizenship is:—  
"To obtain all such reforms as are necessary to secure a real equality of liberties, status, and opportunities between men and women, and also such reforms as are necessary to make it possible for women adequately to discharge their functions as citizens."

Probably no two members of the N.U.S.E.C. or of the other women's societies working for equal citizenship, would put exactly the same interpretation upon this formula.

But broadly speaking, there are two schools of thought. Some take what may be called the jurist's view of equality. It would be achieved, they think, if every right, or opportunity, or responsibility which belongs or is supposed to belong to men, were extended on identical terms to women, and if every restriction or prohibition applying to women only were removed.

Under this interpretation men are always, so to speak, the measuring tape for women; or (to change the metaphor) it is always men who set the pace. If they have got something or want something for themselves, it is assumed that that thing is probably good, and that in any case it should be open to women to have it if they want it. But if men have not got a thing and are not asking for it, it is assumed that the thing in question is probably bad, and that in any case it is not part of the business of the women's movement to ask for it. Women may want it as social reformers, but not as feminists.

To those of us who belong to the other school of thought, this seems a pitifully narrow interpretation of equality. We want equal rights and opportunities in respect to the world as we find it, but we want much more. When we go up to the top of our thinking towers, we see spread out before us a world planned, laid out, built over by men to suit their own conceptions and needs. Not that men are intentionally selfish. But they cannot help seeing things from the angle of their own natures and experiences.

For example, most men are or expect to be sometime husbands and fathers, never wives and mothers. The consequences of marriage are usually, and of parenthood invariably, different for men and women. To the man, marriage usually involves an increase in financial responsibility, without any corresponding increase in income. Even the extra strain of "making two ends

Finally, since it will have to be introduced some day, no moment could be so opportune as the session which is to see us grappling with the laws affecting Trade Unions. That these need attention, no one outside the Labour party will deny. Nor will there be many found who doubt that such a Bill should be passed with the greatest possible measure of agreement between both sides. Whatever changes are made in the law, it is the Trade Unions who will be called upon to administer the new conditions, and whether they work well or ill must depend in no small degree upon the atmosphere in which the Bill is debated. If this can be made reasonable, if the cut and thrust of party warfare can be minimized, then may we say that the feminine, as opposed to the masculine, temper will have triumphed to the enormous advantage of the country as a whole. But to drop, at such a time, after such declarations, such a measure as the Factories Bill, will not promote a temperate spirit. It will falsify the situation, and persuade many that the Conservative party have not the welfare of the people at heart. It will put a weapon into the hand of the agitator who seeks to display the Government's policy as an attack by one political party upon the political opportunities of another. There is no equal urgency in the case of Mr. Chamberlain's Bill, though that, too, could only have benefited by being introduced early and debated at some length. It is the decision to take neither which is disappointing. As for our crowning disappointment over Equal Suffrage, what shadow of an excuse is there left for the refusal to face it?

[Since this article was written Mr. Baldwin has informed Mr. MacDonald that both the bills discussed are to be introduced in November, and that he hopes to secure the second readings by Christmas. This is better—if it can be done—but it would have been better still had he introduced one of them now.]

meet" which this implies, falls mainly on the woman, as the distributor of the housekeeping money. She has in addition, if she belongs to the wage-earning or poorer middle classes (as at least seven out of eight women do), usually the whole work of the joint household to do. When the children come, all the disabilities and risks of pregnancy and confinement, all the subsequent tasks of nursing and rearing, fall upon her. For the great majority of women, their dwellings are their workshops as well as their homes.

It follows inevitably that questions such as birth control, family allowances, housing, smoke abatement, though they affect both sexes, do not affect both sexes equally. The interest of women in these reforms is both more extensive and more intensive than that of men, because the evils which the reforms are designed to remove—e.g. the failure of the wage system to meet the special needs of the period of child dependency, the strain of large families, the discomforts of over-crowding, smoke, etc.—press far more heavily on married women than on married men.

Again, take the question of war and peace. Even the strictest equalitarians do not demand the removal of the laws and customs which prevent the enlistment of women on equal terms and for precisely the same purposes as men in the fighting forces. Consequently women's outlook on these questions is affected neither by fear of wounds and death for themselves, nor by the spirit of adventure and the fear of seeming afraid. Their concern with the subject is just as great as men's, but their psychological reactions to it cannot but be more or less affected by this sex difference.

There is probably scarcely a department of human activity in which the physiological differences between men and women and the ensuing differences in their activities have not some effect, though in many departments it may be only slight, upon the outlook of the two sexes.

To those who hold this view, "equal citizenship" means something more than a knocking down of barriers and a removal of disabilities. It means a world in which women citizens are taking their full share in the "regional survey" and "town planning" of the surface of society. In such a world, both men and women will walk freely on the roads and have access to the dwellings, factories, institutes, planned by the other, but in those concerns which more especially concern women, on which their special functions and experiences qualify them the best, their influence will probably predominate and the same will hold good of men.

"Ah yes," says the Old Feminist, "that is all very well, but the removal of barriers and disabilities come first. Let us concentrate upon that." This might be sound reasoning, if concentration upon the destructive side would help us to accomplish it quicker. On the contrary, the two sides of the work interact and are essential to each other.

For example, we do not help on the achievement of "equal pay" by refusing to recognize the one solid argument against it, viz., that so long as the financial cost of rearing future generations comes, broadly speaking, out of the wages of men, they must be given some extra money to meet it. We must clear away this difficulty by providing for the children through family allowances.

Again, we do not help to secure "equal opportunity" in industry, by saying—when told that the whole trade union movement, including its women members, desire a certain measure of "protection" for women—a fig for trade union opinion! the women are misled by the men." Or again, "health precautions are no concern of ours. Our sole business is to reach equality by the shortest possible route." Such an attitude only alienates and irritates. Rather should we by study and understanding show how the claim for equality may be used to strengthen the claim for higher standards of well-being, and so enlist the cohorts of the wage-earners on our side.

Lastly, the greatest service we can render to the cause of "equal citizenship" is by multiplying proofs that women are capable of constructive thinking, not merely "good at repetition processes," but fit to be pattern makers in the engineering workshop of Society.

II.

By ELIZABETH ABBOTT.

The most honest of brokers has the right to a private preference for certain types of investment. The article in another column which invited us to interpret Equality makes its own interpretation evident—if we charitably overlook that unfortunate allusion to the broad and narrow ways, on the respective merits of which a decisive opinion was given some two thousand years ago. It is obvious that this challenge to discuss and define Equality originates with the so-called and self-called "New Feminism." Let us be frank as to the issue. It is not, as has been suggested, a conflict between those who accept and believe in certain equality reforms, clearly interpreted by the Council, but desire to add other reforms in which, according to their measurements, equality also resides; and those who wish only to work for equality. "New Feminism" does not accept and does not believe in many of the equality reforms defined by plain resolutions. It seeks to re-interpret those demands according to its own measuring line; and then to add to our programme schemes of social reform into which, having measured the available space, it proposes to fit just so much of equality as seems proper and convenient. If equality will not fit into the scheme it is not the scheme that must go; it is equality that must go.

That is the real issue. Theoretical discussions on "what is equality" are valueless—another red herring across the equalitarian track. The issue is not between "old" and "new" feminism. (There is no such thing as "new" feminism, just as there is no such thing as "new" freedom. There is freedom; and there is tyranny.) The issue is between feminism—equalitarianism—and that which is not feminism.

"New Feminism" defines equality as "arid, legal, and uninteresting." Things discovered and interpreted by the dead method of the measuring line are, of course, dry. "New Feminism" reaches for the dictionary; runs its finger down the letter E; reads Equality—Sameness; calculates... "Men and women are not the same; therefore they are not equal; therefore we cannot ask for equality. What shall we do? For we wish much good to women. We must go with our measuring line and make this inequality of women as well-built and secure and comfortable as possible—according to our own views of what comfort and security are."

Equalitarianism, looking not in the dictionary, but at life—and at the whole of life, not measured as beginning with the industrial revolution in Great Britain—says: Low as the standard of the world is, there are those without any standard; and they are women. There are those just within the standard, semi-citizen, who yet lack the most precious of all things in any State, personal rights and liberties. Though I may wish to change the standard of the world or of my state in a hundred ways, the first and fundamental change is to secure for women the

recognition of those rights, inalienable in the case of every other adult citizen. Until those rights are granted to women, no woman is secure from an infringement—on the ancient pleas of "necessity" and "protection"—of even such personal liberty as she at present possesses.

The demand for equality has never been a demand for sameness, nor an effort at imitation. The cheapest, perhaps, of all the gibes levelled at the equalitarian is that she is no more than a voice crying "me, too." In the lives and work of individual women throughout history and in the woman's movement as we have known it in this and other countries, the demand for equality has been a demand that such rights, liberties, and opportunities as the State allows to its citizens shall not be withheld from women; a demand that wherever and whenever the State sets a value upon its citizens, it shall not set an inferior value upon women; a demand for the removal of every arbitrary impediment that hinders the progress, in any realm of life and work, of women. That is equality.

"New Feminism," with the measuring line, calculates "withholding" and "impediment" as "protection," "inferior value" as "unavoidable difference." Feminism bluntly names them unjust. The distinction between doing injustice and avoiding to do justice belongs to "New Feminism." Feminism disclaims it.

The charge is made, and can be sustained by direct reference to definite resolutions passed by the governing body of the N.U.S.E.C., that "New Feminism" rejects equality. Twice has that governing body demanded that propaganda for Equal Pay shall be carried on throughout the country. "New Feminism" rejects both definition and command, and states, and has acted on that statement, that to demand Equal Pay for women, as defined by the Union, is not, according to its measuring line, equality. The value of the woman worker must be measured; the value of her work must be measured; above all the superior rights of a man to get better wages than a woman must be measured, and measured high. And so "New Feminism" measures, measures... immeasurably. And Equal Pay is a silence and a nothingness.

At that cardinal point for the feminist and equalitarian, equal rights and conditions and opportunities for the industrial woman, with regulations based upon the nature of the work and not upon sex, "New Feminism" pauses. Once more it calculates: "Impediment exists. It exists in Trade Union rule and custom; it exists in law. There must be a reasonable reason. Is not impediment protection? We must be wise; we must be practical; we must consult. And, having consulted, we must measure every inch of equality and liberty and opportunity that may, for what we consider her good, be extended to the industrial woman. What, after all, is personal liberty, or mere equality compared with the sweeping improvements, which we approve of, throughout industry?"

The equalitarian knows that all such wisdom and consultation and measurement is useless and misleading; and that it is impossible to single out any class of women and treat them as a class apart—treat them mercifully, benevolently, and unjustly—without in the long run lowering not only their status, but lowering the status and limiting the opportunities of all women.

"New Feminism" sees in maternity an eternal disability—just as anti-suffragism saw eternal disability in other generalizations such as "sex," "motherhood," "the home." The equalitarian knows that it is not maternity in itself which is the disability; it is the horribly low and unequal status of woman, the everlasting conception of her as a means to an end instead of as an end in herself, that makes not only maternity but sometimes every hour of a woman's day a disability.

"New Feminism," inspired by the spirit of benevolent despotism, hopes to raise the status of women by improving their circumstances; by the re-combination of that which is dead it hopes to make something alive! Equalitarianism, inspired by the spirit of liberty, realizes that it is only by the liberation of human energy and its self-turning towards the creation of better conditions that permanent improvement can be effected.

This is an old conflict. It is as old as man. We have to choose between the value of the material measuring line and the value of that which is materially immeasurable.

"And I lifted up my eyes and saw, and behold a man with a measuring line in his hand. Then said I, Whither goest thou? And he said unto me, To measure Jerusalem to see what is the breadth thereof and what is the length thereof. And behold the angel who talked with me went forth and another angel went out to meet him, and said unto him, Run, speak to this young man saying Jerusalem shall be inhabited as towns without walls."

MRS. THRALE.

By M. S. REEVES.

I have always thought Mrs. Thrale a delightful woman—one whose friendship it is grievous to have missed. A loyal and generous friend, she must have been an amusing and forgiving enemy. Our impressions of her are social—her hospitality, her conversation, her many friends at one period of her life and her many critics at another and the way in which she won through with her vitality and her wit and her courage and her kindness.

Her husband was rich and liked to entertain with open hands, and we are apt to suppose that Mrs. Thrale had an easy and delightful life. She did not. An only child dragged about by her parents and adopted during her irascible father's lifetime by her rich uncle—to please whom she married a strong, silent brewer for whom she did not care and who cared for her solely because she was the only woman he had asked in marriage who would consent to live in the brewery—she lost her father, who died of temper on hearing of the rich uncle's intended second marriage, and she lost the inheritance.

Her marriage with Mr. Thrale lasted for eighteen years, and during that time she bore thirteen children—eleven daughters and two sons—of whom but four daughters survived her. Her husband, who began by laying down the law that his wife should neither busy herself in the kitchen nor go out into society, her place being either the parlour or the bed-chamber, learned some years later when his affairs were in serious confusion to value her intrinsic strength of character. It was his wife who rounded up her many friends and borrowed a large sum, over £100,000—in those days an immense sum—and managed to pull the business together; incidentally thereby destroying one of the thirteen children who was born in the midst of the negotiations and only lived an hour.

It is impossible to determine how much she influenced the character of Dr. Johnson, who was enchanted by her fun, her strong intelligence, her well-furnished table, and her sweet nature. She fostered and developed a strain in him which opened a new life to the old man who, under her amusing and delightful sway at Streatham, where the Thrales had their country house, became sunny and happy and irresistible.

Mrs. Boswell, after a visit from Dr. Johnson, angry at the influence he had over her husband, said that she had often heard of a bear being led by a man but this was the first time she had heard of a man being led by a bear. Mrs. Thrale did not evoke Johnson's bearishness, but created an atmosphere in which his own wit and his enjoyment of the fun in other people were nourished until he hardly seemed to be the same man who in argument was accused of knocking his opponent down with the butt-end of his weapon. It is certain that when three years after Mr. Thrale's death his widow married again it was acute jealousy which turned Johnson against his warm friend. The fact that her second choice was an Italian singer was used to deprecate and blacken her action—even Fanny Burney, who, later, herself married a foreigner, joined in the general sneer.

Mrs. Thrale, when she became Madame Piozzi, was a happy and devoted wife to a man who proved to be well worthy of her affection. Having saved a modest fortune from his earnings as a well-known singer, he took equal care of his wife's money. He is said to have declared that the only way to guard her from the effects of her too lavish generosity was to take charge of the gold in each guinea while allowing her to deal with the shilling. It is also said that her way of circumventing him was to manage that the tenants on her Welsh estate should as often as possible pay their rent in shillings. With regard to that estate it is a comment on the times to recall a letter written by Dr. Johnson to his old friend Bennet Langton. "Thrale is visiting Wales to take possession of at least £500 a year, fallen to him through his lady." Eventually Miss Burney became firmly reconciled.

Three of the Miss Thrales, who were all left well-to-do by their father, married and are supposed, though never overcoming their disapproval of their stepfather, to have abated their stiffness to their mother, more especially after Piozzi's death. They took it well when at the end of her gallant life Mrs. Piozzi's will made a nephew and adopted son of her second husband her heir.

Mrs. Thrale was a little woman, sturdy and of no particular beauty, as beauty was considered in those days. She was well

(Continued at foot of next column.)

WORLD LABOUR PROBLEMS.

By HEBE SPAULL.

Some outstanding world labour problems have been discussed during the past few days at the meeting of the governing body of the International Labour Organization.

The most important of these problems concerned the ratification of the Eight Hour Day Convention. In May of last year, on the invitation of the British Government, a conference was held in London between the five European countries of chief industrial importance—Great Britain, France, Germany, Italy, and Belgium—with a view to a common agreement being reached as to the interpretation of the Convention. As a result of the conclusions come to at this conference, Belgium has ratified the Convention unconditionally. Italy has ratified on condition that other countries do the same, and France and Germany have introduced Bills with a view to ratification. Great Britain alone has taken no action. Mr. Poulton made a somewhat heated speech during the meeting of the governing body, and stated that it was indeed amazing that Belgium, France, Germany and Italy all stuck to the conclusions of the London Labour Ministers' Conference, and that the Government which took the initiative in that conference was the only one which was still disappointing the hopes raised by it.

No less heated was the discussion on the question as to whether a special Maritime Conference should be summoned in 1928 in order to deal with the international regulation of hours of work on board ship. The British Government and the British employers' delegates opposed the holding of such a conference. Eventually the proposal to hold the conference was adopted by thirteen votes against nine. Only Great Britain and India voted with the employers' group against. The decision, however, has only a provisional character, as a definite decision is to be taken at the April session.

£1,000 FUND TO NAME A "DAME MILLICENT FAWCET" ROOM AT CROSBY HALL.

The Crosby Hall Committee gratefully acknowledge the many small sums received, especially those from distant parts such as Holland, the Riviera, and Canada, but would point out that there is still a need for further large and small sums if the birthday present of £1,000 is to be completed by the return of our intrepid Dame Millicent from Palestine in April.

Promises and donations published in THE WOMAN'S LEADER on 7th January, 1927	£	s.	d.
685	17	6	
Promises and donations received since 7th January, 1927:—			
Lady Courtney of Penwith	10	0	0
Miss C. Maude Eve, J.P.	5	0	0
Mr. C. P. Scott	2	2	0
Mrs. J. M. Young	2	2	0
Mrs. Vatcher	2	2	0
Per A. R.	1	10	0
Miss Cockle	1	1	0
Miss Annie G. Evans	1	1	0
Miss E. A. Howarth	1	1	0
Mr. Leif Jones	1	1	0
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Miss Alice Clark	1	0	0
Miss Druce	1	0	0
Miss O. S. Hepburn	1	0	0
Miss E. Alexander	10	0	
Miss J. Alexander	10	0	
Miss Agnes Teacher	10	0	
Mrs. White Birch	10	0	
	718	18	6

Further donations or promises (due Easter, 1927) will be gratefully received by Mrs. Oliver Strachey, care of the WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, S.W. 1, or by Mrs. Alys Russell, 11 St. Leonard's Terrace, Chelsea, S.W. 3.

(Continued from previous column.)

read and informed, with unflinching courage and with an instinctive knowledge of men and women.

She was the life and soul of a literary circle in a literary age in England. Had fate placed her in the present century in a back-country town in Canada she would have been equally the life and soul of the Women's Institutes (to which she would have added male members) and of the Sewing Circle.

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEWS.

By BERTHA MASON.

## A CALL TO WOMEN: RURAL DISTRICT COUNCILS ELECTIONS.

Elections for Rural and Urban District Councils and Boards of Guardians are governed by the Urban District Councillors and Guardians Election Orders (1898) issued by the Local Government Board (now the Ministry of Health), which prescribes that in any urban district the day of election of district councillors and poor law guardians shall take place on the first Monday in April, except when that date falls on Easter Monday, which was the case last year. It is open to the County Council to fix the date of elections on some other date not earlier than 2nd April or later than 6th April, but it is safe to assume that as a general rule the elections of this year will be held on Monday, 4th April, i.e. in about seven weeks from now.

It is not too early therefore to ask electors, women especially, to consider the work of Rural District Councils (for it is with Rural District Councils we are concerned at the moment) and the need for women on these local authorities. It is a matter for wonder and regret that up to the present comparatively few women are serving on Rural District Councils. The number of these councils is 592, of which, roughly speaking, 350 are composed of men only. It is even more surprising and equally to be regretted that so few women take much interest in the elections for these Councils, seeing that the well-being of those who inhabit rural areas depends in no small measure upon the efficiency, integrity, and vigilance of the members of these councils, which are mainly concerned with matters which affect the health, the happiness, and the home-life of the community. For example, Rural District Councils are responsible for Public Health and Housing. They must attend to the sanitation, drainage, scavenging, and cleansing of the areas they control, and to the notification of infectious diseases. If houses are dilapidated and insanitary, if drainage for slop-water is lacking or ineffective, if water is scarce and impure, if refuse and dust are allowed to accumulate on the roadside and dustbins are not emptied, if food and milk are unfit for human consumption, if roads along which the children walk to school are unsafe or out of repair, the well-being, convenience, comfort, and happiness of the inhabitants must and will suffer. These are matters which concern women equally with the Councils. Further, it must be remembered that District Councils have other powers besides those which are compulsory, which enable them in many ways to improve and brighten the lives of the people in the areas they control.

There is yet another side of the work of Rural District Councils. From many quarters has arisen a call for the preservation of the amenities and beauties of the countryside. Only last month the Ministry of Health issued a circular explaining the provisions of the Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1926. "The Minister," it is stated, "relies on local authorities to make such arrangements in carrying out schemes under the Act which will prevent the disfigurement of buildings and will secure that as far as possible the special character, beauty, and fitness of old buildings will be maintained." No one suggests that unsuitable, insanitary, ill-ventilated cottages which are unfit for human habitation, shall remain as they are, but every lover of the countryside (and the same holds good in respect to towns) hopes that in the reconditioning of ancient cottages and buildings, and in the erection of new ones, care and thought for suitability of material and treatment may be exercised, and the beauty of the country preserved.

Here is an opportunity for women who complain that they neither understand nor care for matters relating to drainage, scavenging, the repair of roads, care of the sick and the young (all matters of vital importance), but who nevertheless are eager to save their country from disfigurement of every kind. Such women are needed on local governing bodies, and those who will come forward now to serve thereon can render in the way indicated not only a local, but a great national service in helping to preserve the beauties and amenities of the countryside.

## A GERMAN PIONEER.

The first woman lawyer in Baden has set up in practice at Mannheim, in partnership with her husband. She is Frau Dr. Rebstein-Metger, who before her marriage practised in Stuttgart.

## 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. HUBBARD

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

## ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETINGS.

Headquarters is now humming with arrangements for the Council. Everything promises well, and we expect large numbers. May we appeal to all those who intend to come for any or all of the events to let us know as soon as possible. Our staff is small for the work that has to be undertaken, and it greatly facilitates arrangements if we can know numbers in advance.

## Times of Sessions.

Wednesday, 2nd March, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, 3rd March, 10 a.m. to 12.45 p.m., and 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Friday, 4th March, 10 a.m. to 12.45 p.m., and 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, 5th March, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## Council Events.

Reception, Wednesday, 2nd March, at 8.45 p.m. at Household and Social Science Department of King's College for Women.

Conference on National Health Insurance, Wednesday, 2nd March, at 4.30 p.m.

Mass Lobbying of Members of Parliament, Thursday, 3rd March, at 6 p.m., at House of Commons.

Mass Meeting on Equal Franchise, Thursday, 3rd March, at 8 p.m., in Central Hall, Westminster.

Public Luncheon, Friday, 4th March, at Criterion Restaurant, at 1 o'clock.

The Final Agenda will be ready on Friday, 18th February.

## WHAT IS EQUALITY?

We call the attention of our readers to articles by Miss Rathbone and Mrs. Abbott. Other members of the Executive Committee will be contributing their views later.

## NEWS FROM SOCIETIES.

## CLACKMANNAN S.E.C.

The Clackmannanshire S.E.C. held a public meeting in the Masonic Hall, Alloa, on 18th January, when Miss Rathbone spoke on "Family Allowances and the Living Wage." There was a good attendance, and several questions were asked.

## ROTHERHAM W.C.A.

Rotherham W.C.A. had a busy day on 18th January. In the afternoon two lectures were given, one by Mrs. Abbott on the Factories Bill, and the other by Mrs. J. L. Stocks on Women in the Poor Law. Both speakers approached their subjects from the historical point of view. Mrs. Abbott pleaded for equal treatment of men and women, and in favour of women being treated as adults in industry and not as permanent children. Mrs. Stocks stressed the need for women playing at least as large a part in the administration of the new Poor Law as at present. At 6.30 p.m. a debate took place between these two speakers, "That this meeting disapproves of restrictive legislation for women in industry." The motion was moved by Mrs. Abbott and opposed by Mrs. Stocks. A vigorous discussion followed, and the motion was lost by nine to seven, only a few persons voting.

## MEETING AT BANGOR N.C.W.

On the initiative of Mrs. Thoday, local correspondent for Bangor, Miss Rathbone recently addressed a meeting of the Bangor branch of the National Council of Women, on Family Allowances, presided over by the Mayor. Miss Rathbone outlined three possible schemes, State Allowances, Industrial Pools, and State Insurance, and referred to schemes already at work.

## EXETER S.E.C.

"Should women employed by public bodies be compelled to resign their posts on marriage," was the subject of a debate held on Saturday, 22nd January, at the Cross House, Alphington, by kind invitation of Miss Douglass. About thirty members were present, of whom a good number took part in the discussion. Miss Bryan opened in favour of the motion, pointing out that married life was generally considered a full-time job, and that she did not consider that if married women held part-time appointments with fixed hours and salaries they could honestly do their duty by the home and the employers. Miss Eva Macaulay asserted that compulsory resignation struck at the very roots of the liberty that women had so arduously and painfully won. Women must be free to choose whether they wanted to work after marriage or not. Other speakers were Miss Baly, Mrs. Fletcher, Mrs. Foulkes, M.B., Councillors Browne and Miss Splatt, Mrs. Wilkinson, M.A. A vote was taken at the close of the discussion, when the question was negatived by four votes to eleven. The Society was hospitably entertained to tea before dispersing.

## WEST BROMWICH S.E.C.

A public meeting was held in the Free Library on 19th January. The Rt. Hon. F. O. Roberts, M.P., was in the chair, and Miss Maude Royden addressed the meeting on Equal Franchise. The chairman stated that he trusted that through the agency of the N.U.S.E.C. there "would come such a volume of agitation that no Government would be able to

listen to any suggestion which might result in the women losing the franchise." Miss Royden pleaded the cause of the voteless women with eloquence and conviction.

## BARNSELY S.E.C.

The Barnsley S.E.C. was addressed on Wednesday, 26th January, by Miss Macadam, M.A., late hon. secretary to the N.U.S.E.C., who gave a résumé of the parliamentary work done by the National Union and the Bills promoted by them. Miss Macadam also touched upon the principal resolutions to be brought forward at the annual council meetings in March. Dr. Francis ably presided, and made interesting comments upon the measures to be brought before Parliament during the coming session. Mrs. Willis moved a vote of thanks to the speakers and chairman. Copies of the LEADER were sold.

## THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN.

A meeting of the Executive and Standing Committees of the International Council of Women will be held in Geneva from the 7th to 17th June. About 200 to 300 delegates are expected to be present. In addition to the Council meetings, there are to be five sessions open to all members of National Councils at which experts from the Secretariat of the League of Nations will give addresses on the different aspects of the work of the League and show how the National Councils can help forward the cause in their own country. M. Thomas, Director of the International Labour Bureau, has already promised to speak on the work of his office. There are also to be three open meetings for the general public at which members of the International Council will speak on what has been done by the National and International Councils to promote international understanding, what they have done for the welfare of children and young people, against the traffic in women and for emigration, and the increasing part taken by women in the administration of Law and Justice. Several receptions are being arranged by the Local Committee, including an excursion on the lake and a dinner.

## CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE—DEBATE ON PROTECTIVE LEGISLATION.

At the meeting of the Consultative Committee held on 27th January an interesting debate was held on the motion "That protective legislation for women is not desirable." Miss Doris Stevens, Vice-President of the National Women's Party of America, and Mrs. Abbott, of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, supported the motion, and Miss Ellen Wilkinson, M.P., and Miss Manicom, of the Workers' Union, opposed. Lady Astor introduced Miss Stevens, who said there were too many "protectorates" and that the protection of women by men was the oldest in history. There was only one good reason for not asking for equality: woman's own belief in their own inferiority.

Many people said that equality was an excellent thing, but that it would not work, but that could not be true of any theory; if excellent, it would work. Labour, whatever route it chose to advance towards bettering its conditions, should take its women colleagues by its side. The opposition was rooted in prejudice and fear—old terrors as to the magical powers of women, old taboos to counter them. Miss Stevens gave instances of these irrational prohibitions. As to prohibited trade, she held that adult women should choose their own trades and find their level on their own merits. She sketched the history of American labour conditions from 1820, showing how law had worsened women's position in industry, and how the policy had been adopted of trying to assimilate the potentially undercutting immigrant man instead of standing solidly by their own women workers. The American feminists had, however, come to their aid and prevented any further differential legislation. Miss Wilkinson held that all who supported Miss Stevens took a theoretic point of view and supposed that as the professional taboos had restricted middle-class women from entering the professions, so protective legislation restricted industrial women's opportunity. This was a fallacy, the need in the case of industrial women being not to secure opportunity (which they had), but to prevent their exploitation, the main directions being hours, then night work, then dangerous processes. In early days factory legislation had been needed to prevent employers from using up their human material too quickly. Public opinion was against the employers where women and children were concerned, and later the concessions were extended to men. Night work was an instance: long prohibited for women, it had been in the 1924 Bill prohibited to men in bakeries. No body of organized or unorganized women wanted the differential legislation done away with. There were many reasons why women were not organized in industry as men were—one, the early age at which they left industry. In the dangerous trades, where she wholeheartedly agreed protection ought to be secured to all, she felt we must at any rate keep some secure, if only the women. She was prepared in every case to fight for men's inclusion in the protective enactments.

but never to lift a finger for women's exclusion. Mrs. Abbott, British member of the International Council for Like Conditions of Work, quoted figures illustrating the lessened demand for women in industry to-day, and deplored the exclusive policy of men workers who preferred for themselves the elasticity of Union agreements and for women the iron hand of the law. Miss Manicom, of the Workers' Union, made the point that legislation was needed to protect the good employers against the bad ones.

## LEAGUE OF NATIONS CONFERENCE ON MINIMUM WAGES.

At the opening meeting of the League of Nations Union Conference on Systems of Fixing Minimum Wages, the chief speakers were Mr. R. H. Tawney, Mr. F. S. Nicholson, of the Ministry of Labour, Miss Ellen Wilkinson, M.P., and Mr. Mallon, the subject being the Trade Boards system. Miss Constance Smith, as chairman, in her opening remarks reminded the audience that the I.L.O. had no policy of its own on these matters. Mr. Tawney dealt with industrial history, which led to the setting up of the Trade Boards. A legal minimum wage was considered a sheer impossibility till 1890, and the Trade Board Act was not passed till 1909. "England never believes anything practical till it is accomplished, and then for a time looks in the opposite direction," was one of his delightful statements. Mr. Mallon gave striking instances as to how the Trade Boards had raised wages. Then came the first breeze of criticism. Ellen Wilkinson, as a Trade Unionist, is content for Trade Boards to function for the unorganized trades, but not for the organized ones. Trade Unions meet the needs of the organized trades more comprehensively. The Trade Boards see to hours and wages, but wages and hours are not everything. The Trade Unions concern themselves with conditions of work, prevention of sickness, grievances such as unjust dismissals, and meet the need of the workers far more comprehensively than the Trade Boards.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

## EQUAL FRANCHISE.

We have received the following letter from the Equal Political Rights Campaign Committee, signed by Lady Rhondda and other members of the Committee:—

MADAM,—We write on the eve of the opening of Parliament, when the one topic of conversation amongst the non-party women's organizations is of the suffrage. They all ask one question. Does the Government intend to include a promise of votes for women at twenty-one in the King's Speech?

We would wish to make one thing clear. We shall, at this late date, be satisfied with nothing less than a Government promise of such a measure. We shall regard any suggestion of the setting up of a Commission of Inquiry or Conference as nothing less than an attempt to evade the granting of votes to women on equal terms with men.

## REFORM OF NURSING SERVICE.

MADAM,—The reform of the nursing service is much needed, but why derry grandmothers? We have been with grandmothers and grand-aunts who thought and dreamed and talked of nurses, and reform, and would rejoice for good work being done.

PENELOPE KER.

## ENGLISH GIRLS IN PARIS.

MADAM,—Your correspondent of 14th January does not show the advantages accruing to Associates or members of the G.F.S. in Paris. At lunch at the Lodge (50 Avenue de Zena) last April, the Secretary suggested to me that I should invite for her summer holidays one of the English governesses working in Paris. She introduced a lady to me, aged about 50, who declared herself overjoyed at the prospect of six weeks in a Hampshire garden. This prospect was realized and the Secretary (Paris) came to see us from Winchester. Ten days ago I found on the Lodge notice board a letter from a French lady offering a large bedroom at the rent of 300 francs per month; across it was written: "The Superintendent cannot be responsible, she knows nothing of this family." The letter was dated 30th November. All the Associates had been too busy to investigate this room, and as I supposed it was no longer available, I took a taxi which quickly brought me to this delightful house, where I am to be boarded and allowed to play on a Player grand piano for 200 francs weekly. I gave as my reference the G.F.S. Secretary. Working associates are urgently wanted in Paris. The Salvation Army have a "Palais des Femmes," 94 Rue de Charonne, that a friend of mine has gone to and finds thoroughly comfortable; a room nicely furnished, with running water, costs 48 francs monthly. The Y.M.C.A. and the Y.W.C.A. have constant dances and concerts, whilst the Quakers at 20 Avenue Victorie provide intellectual stimulus and English books without limit. See enclosed papers for old students of L.M.H. or any Oxford College I should say there is always work in publishers' offices for graduates who can write grammatically in several languages.

NORAH POWYS.

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## COMING EVENTS.

## ACTON W.C.A.

FEB. 11. 7.45 p.m. Central Hall, Priory Schools, Acton Lane. Public Debate on Family Endowment. Proposer: Mrs. Dorothea Layton. Opposer: Miss Helen Fraser.

## ELECTRICAL ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN.

FEB. 15. 5.15 p.m. King's College for Women, Household and Social Science Department, Campden Hill Road, W. 8. Mrs. Christine Frederick on "How the American Housewife Solves her Household Difficulties."

FEB. 15. 7 p.m. E.L.M.A. Lighting Service Bureau, Strand, W.C. 2. Mrs. Christine Frederick on "Household Engineering and Efficiency Tests."

## GUILDHOUSE WOMEN CITIZENS' SOCIETY.

FEB. 21. Visit to Working Women's College, Hillcroft, Surbiton. Leave Waterloo 3.15 p.m.

## NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

Barnsley S.E.C. FEB. 16. 5.30 p.m. St. Mary's Parish Room. Mrs. Aldridge on "Protective Legislation." Chair: Mrs. Willis.

Dundee W.C.A. FEB. 14. 7.30 p.m. East Forrester's Hall. Miss Alison Neilans on "Criminal Law." Chair: Mrs. David Johnstone.

Edinburgh W.C.A. FEB. 11. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. St. John's Church Hall, Princes Street. Conference on "The Solicitation Laws as they affect Scotland." Speakers: Mr. J. Adair, Miss Helen Blair, Judge Morison Millar, Miss Alison Neilans, and Mr. F. J. Robertson. Chair: Mrs. T. Johnston.

FEB. 15. 5.15 p.m. Professor R. W. Johnson on "The Importance of Ante-Natal Work."

FEB. 16. 8 p.m. Gartshore Hall, 116 George Street. Dame Adelaide Anderson on "Factory Labour and our World Citizenship in the Industrial Era."

Newport W.C.A. FEB. 16. 7.30 p.m. Town Hall Assembly Room. Dr. H. Des Voeux on "Smoke Abatement." Chair: Mr. W. Mordey.

Paddington W.C.A. FEB. 15. 8 p.m. Town Hall, Paddington Green. Miss Susan Musson on New Measures affecting Child Life." Chair: Mrs. Karslake.

ST. JOAN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ALLIANCE.

FEB. 23. 8 p.m. Fulham Town Hall. Equal Franchise Meeting. Speakers: Mr. Victor Duval, Councillor Miss H. A. Packer, Mr. J. Palmer, and Miss Gladys Waldron. Chair: Miss E. Butler-Bowden.

## TYPEWRITING.

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OBERRAMMERGAU.—Paying Guests received; large airy rooms; big bathroom; balconies; winter sports; English, German, French spoken; picture of house sent on application.—Miss Ellen Squirrel, Pilatushaus, Oberammergau, Germany.

SOUTHERN FRANCE.—VILLA to be let, furnished, 1st March. Two reception, three bedrooms, bathroom (h. and c.), electric light, central heating. Garden, lovely views sea, hills and picturesque old walled town. Excellent daily servant. Perfect spring and summer climate. 3 to 4 guineas weekly; six months, £75 only.—Durand, Propriété Vermin, Route S. Jeannet, Vence, A.M. France.

TO LET, beautifully furnished BED-SITTINGROOM, conveniently situated in West End near C.L. Tube; gas fire and ring, electric light; fitted basin and use of bathroom with geyser. Rent moderate.—Write, The Hon. Mrs. Dighton Pollock, 13 Kensington Park Gardens, W. 11.

BEDROOM, breakfast or partial board, in lady's quiet house, Harley Street district; might be let unfurnished; board optional.—Box 1,308, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

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PUBLIC SPEAKING.—Lectures, classes, and private lessons. Saturday Speech Club.—Miss Lucy Bell, Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, W.C. 1. Tel.: Museum 4791.

## FOR SALE AND WANTED.

COTTON PILLOW-CASES.—100 dozen Linen-finished Cotton Pillow-cases, real good quality bargain line. These cases are highly suitable for hard wear and will give every satisfaction. Size 20 x 30 ins., four for 7s. 6d. Write for Complete Bargain List To-day.—HUTTON'S, 41 Main Street, Larne, Ulster.

NEVER-FADE LINENS.—For all those purposes for which coloured Linens are now so popular, Hutton's Never-Fade genuine Irish Linens are ideal. Guaranteed absolutely fadeless by sun or washing and this year reduced to 2s. 10d. per yard (56 ins. wide), they are increasingly in demand for curtains, bedspreads, table-runners, etc., as well as for dresses and children's frocks. There are 64 artistic colours to select from, including ten of the newest shades. 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.)

## POST WANTED.

TRAINED WOMAN SECRETARY, graduate, with own typewriter, wishes part-time post.—Write, Miss Chapman, 13 Glebe Place, Chelsea.

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WOMEN WHO CARE!—"THE HELPING HAND BETTER THAN CHARITY." DRESSES, COSTUMES, RENOVATIONS, LINGERIE, MILLINERY MADE. Skilled needlewomen. Very moderate charges. Business Dresses made measure, 17s. 6d.—Stamp particulars, Women's Needlework Depot, 61-62 Chancery Lane, W.C. 2. Holborn 2576.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LONDON AND NATIONAL 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, 13th February; 3.30 Music. Mr. N. C. Sen on "Brahmo Samaj." 6.30, Maude Royden on "Simplicity."

## CHARGES FOR PREPAID CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS.

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	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
12 Words	1	0	2	0	3	6	7	0
18 "	1	6	3	0	5	3	10	6
24 "	2	0	4	0	7	0	14	0
30 "	2	6	5	0	8	9	17	6

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