

THE WOMAN'S LEADER

AND THE COMMON CAUSE

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CONTENTS.

	PAGE
THE CONSUMER ON THE DEFENSIVE	359
A RURAL COMMUNITY COUNCIL IN BEING. By A. E. F.	359
TWO SPRING VISITS TO PALESTINE, 1921, 1922. By Millicent Garrett Fawcett, J.P., LL.D.	360
WHAT WE SHALL NEVER FORGET. By Ray Strachey	361
SOCIAL INSURANCE III. By W. A. Elkin	361
THE LAW AT WORK: "REFORMATORY REFORM"	362

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NOTES AND NEWS.

The Opening of Parliament.

Whether we are supporters or opponents of the Government we unite in a feeling of relief that whatever blows fate may ultimately deal this Parliament, and whatever disadvantages there may be in one unduly extended and tending to get out of touch with the nation, at any rate, all the portents show that it is likely to have a sufficiently long life to enable it to get through a great deal of legislative work. Whether we shall approve of all that it accomplishes and its method of dealing with the many and pressing problems awaiting decision remains to be seen. But there is, at the bottom, a vast mass of work to be done, a large proportion of which can have the support of all parties. Almost anything is better than the abortiveness of the last three sessions owing to their sudden curtailment. This Parliament unfortunately inherits a big legacy of bills which failed to complete all their stages in earlier sessions. The Prime Minister will be finding it difficult to know to which of these many claims to give priority. We sincerely hope that the reforms for which we stand are not allotted a back seat in the Parliamentary char-a-banc. Mr. Whitley's election as speaker was, of course, a foregone conclusion, but was none the less welcome.

Prices and Profits.

For those women's organizations which are prepared to promote the serious study of prices and profits as an accompaniment to the current developments referred to in our leader, we would recommend the following official publications as a basis for study: the report of the 1919 Committee on Trusts, containing an admirable memorandum on Trusts and Combines, by Mr. John Hilton—the whole originally published at 6d., now obtainable for 1s; the published reports on Separate Industries issued under the authority of the Profiteering Acts, 1919 and 1920. These reports vary in size, price, and interest, but in no case does their cost amount to more than a few pennies; there are from forty to fifty of them. The final report of the Linlithgow Committee on the Price of Home Produced Foodstuffs, price 3s. 6d. All these publications can be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office, Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C. 2. We would add that since the reports issued under the central Profiteering

Acts refer to a short and admittedly abnormal post-war period in the history of British industry, their study should be supplemented as far as possible by the accumulation of later information concerning the fortunes of the industries concerned. For instance, if the reports are distributed among the members of a study circle, it might be possible for the member entrusted with the investigation of a particular industry to keep an eye open for published company reports or contemporary press references to its position. However, even without any such added effort, the reports themselves throw much light upon the general methods by which the disturbing forces of competition can be deliberately held at bay under modern economic conditions.

Teachers and their Salaries.

On Saturday, 29th November, the Executive Committee of the National Union of Teachers decided (subject to acceptable terms of reference) to consent to refer the present salaries dispute to arbitration. It will be remembered that a little while ago the Association of Education Committees proposed arbitration as a solution of the deadlock which had arisen in connexion with their proposal for a 10 per cent. cut in salaries. Lord Burnham was the arbitrator then indicated. It will also be remembered that the teachers are at present voluntarily foregoing 5 per cent. of their salaries on grounds of urgent public economy. What will be the outcome of such arbitration, we cannot of course forecast. But we obstinately dare to hope that the teachers and the education authorities between them may evolve a more equitable method of securing an adequate professional life-standard for married teachers with families than the present clumsy and unjust practice of paying all women less than all men irrespective of the relative quality of their work or the relative magnitude of their reasonable needs.

The Revision of the Marriage Service.

Marriage service revision was discussed in the House of Clergy last week. There is a strange difference now between the question asked of the woman "wilt thou obey him and serve him?" in the earlier part of the service and the later vows which have been amended so as to eliminate the word "obey". The idea of mutual service is very suitably retained, and both husband and wife promise "to love, cherish, and to serve." The retention of "with all my worldly goods I thee endow" was justified on historic and legal grounds, although some listeners were not satisfied as to the soundness of the arguments. "Worship" becomes "honour" in the phrase "with my body I thee worship," and a great improvement is made in the prayer of blessing where there had been specific prayer for faithfulness for the woman but not for the man. The prayer as amended now ends, "that they may so live together faithfully in godly love and honour that this life ended they may inherit Thine everlasting kingdom." This change, although apparently a small one, will certainly strengthen the hands of those working for purity, in that in no equivocal terms it upholds a single standard of morality for both sexes. Much more might have been done in the way of reform, but so far so good. Will the Bishops go a step further?

Married Women and the Income Tax.

On 26th November, the N.U.S.E.C. held a conference, reported in another column, at which various women's organizations were represented, to discuss the question of married women and the Income Tax. The present position is that the income of a married

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woman is deemed to be the property of her husband, and is taxed jointly with his; as a result, a married couple may have to pay more in Income Tax than two single persons with the same income. There is thus a real practical hardship besides a gross violation of the principal of the Married Women's Property Act. To find a satisfactory alternative is, however, not an easy matter. At present a married man is allowed £90 tax free on account of his wife over and above the ordinary allowances for single persons, and an additional sum if his wife's income is earned. Whenever the question is brought up, it always tends sooner or later to crystallize into a discussion of what is to happen to these allowances. If they are discontinued, and the husband and wife taxed separately, it means that in cases where the wife's income is less than £150 earned, or £90 unearned, the couple would lose by separate taxation if there were no marriage allowances. The N.U.S.E.C. had proposed a scheme under which married couples would be given the alternative of being taxed separately without marriage allowances or of continuing on the present system. The Conference on 26th November, however, favoured a scheme by which husband and wife would be taxed separately in all cases, the marriage allowances being still continued in all cases. This is very different from the attitude taken at a similar conference held last year, when this latter same proposal was put forward and rejected by the societies represented, on the grounds that it asked too much, and that there was no justification for asking for separate taxation as well as the marriage allowances.

Children's Allowances in the Income Tax.

It is a rather significant fact how much comment the Conference just described raised in the Press. That an involved and technical point of this kind should be given so much space both in the London and provincial Press shows how widely spread is the interest in questions relating to the Income Tax. We noticed that one paper remarked that the Conference lost sight of the main issue—the provision of a more adequate allowance for children. But that is a quite different issue from the one under discussion. It would, however, be a possible point of view to take that the cost of living of two persons is only increased by marriage if there are children, and that therefore marriage allowances should be abolished and the allowances for children increased. It would be in many ways a more logical proposal than the two discussed in the preceding note to demand that married persons should be regarded entirely as separate persons for the purposes of Income Tax, that is to say there should be no marriage allowances in any case, but that children's allowances should be made more adequate. Any increased burdens due to the cessation of marriage allowances would then be made good by the increase in children's allowances in the case of married couples with family responsibilities.

Extended Health Insurance.

Lord Dawson of Penn recently read a paper before the London Insurance Institute on the need for extended Health Insurance, in which he dealt largely with the needs of the middle classes in this connexion. He pointed out that with the growth of knowledge the measures taken both for the investigation and treatment of illness were becoming more complex, and consequently more expensive. Moreover, the investigation and treatment of illness might require several methods and often several workers. Each of these methods required plant and equipment which could be more efficiently organized under one roof. Access to hospitals and clinics were therefore needed for the middle class patient quite apart from the fact that it was often difficult in a middle class home to provide the quiet and nursing conveniences that were required. He considered facilities of this kind should be the joint responsibility of the individual citizens and the community. He referred to the action of the city of Bath which had bought a site of 21 acres on the outskirts of the town with a paying clinic and hospital, an orthopedic hospital, and a pensions hospital. One difficulty in the way of voluntary insurance was that the healthiest people tended to stand out. Lord Dawson suggested as a way of overcoming this that there should be insurance for the family as a unit. The idea of a widely spread system of family insurance against sickness worked in connexion with communal paying hospitals is certainly an attractive one, though there are difficulties. Such a scheme might tend to turn an increasing number of doctors into full time municipal servants, which would have serious drawbacks; it does away so largely with the patient's choice of a doctor, and

consequently removes a certain stimulus to the doctors to give their best work. The doctors too dislike too great a degree of officialdom but some change in the present system of providing medical attendance for the middle classes is certain to develop, indeed, it has already begun with the growth of paying wards in the hospitals under the pressure of economic circumstances.

Training for Home Life.

Some interesting figures were produced at the annual meeting of the National Council for Domestic Studies recently. According to the Census returns there are 751,000 girls between 12 and 14 years; of these 497,450 are learning Domestic Subjects in Elementary and Central Schools. There are over 2,000 older girls taking full or part-time Domestic Training in Technical Schools. In addition, there are 416 secondary schools giving teaching on Domestic subjects out of the 794 secondary schools on the recognized list, as well as a small number in other organizations. A smaller proportion of girls in the secondary schools, it will be noticed, are taught domestic subjects than is the case in the elementary schools. The supply of instruction after the age of 16 is in excess of the demand, and the training colleges for domestic subjects have a large number of vacancies. The meeting passed the following resolution, "That this meeting affirms that a course of domestic studies is an essential part of the school education of all girls, and that the Board of Education be asked to require that by a given date a minimum of a two year's course, or its equivalent, be provided in all State-aided Schools."

Liberal Re-organisation Committee.

Whether it is desirable or possible to give a fresh lease of life to the Liberal party is a question on which our readers are certain to have very varying views, but it will certainly be a cause of rejoicing to all Liberal women, and probably to the majority of women in the other parties, that Mrs. Wintringham has been appointed on the Liberal Central Organization Committee. It has been a practice of at least the two older parties to rely largely on women's work in the constituencies without admitting them to the inner circles of their organizations. Last month the Women's National Liberal Federation passed a resolution urging the appointment of a woman on the Central Committee, and Mrs. Wintringham's appointment is, we suppose, the result. It will certainly add fuel to the fire of the Liberal women's enthusiasm, but it will have we hope more than a party significance, since we feel sure that Mrs. Wintringham will continue to act as the women's champion in this new position. We will be very surprised if at the next General Election we do not find a very different attitude amongst the party organizers towards the women candidates; it will, we trust, mean an end of the state of affairs which relegates women of capacity and party loyalty, such as Mrs. Corbett Ashby, to take but one example, to fight in constituencies where they have hardly a sporting chance.

Scottish Women's Hospitals.

The Duchess of Atholl presented the endowment plate of the Elsie Inglis Bed to the Royal Free Hospital on behalf of the Scottish Women's Hospitals Association. This is the second bed to be endowed at the Royal Free in memory of the Scottish Women's Hospitals. The first, the British Macedonian Expeditionary Force Bed, was endowed last year, and the Association are now seeking funds for a third bed, to be known as the Evelina Haverfield Bed. All are maternity beds. The Duchess of Atholl spoke of the work of the Scottish Women's Hospitals. She pointed out how it arose from the refusal of the War Office in the early days of the war to utilize the services of the women doctors. It certainly was a case of good coming out of official folly, since the work of the Scottish Women's Hospitals is something of which all British women will think of with pride in the future, as they did during the years of the war.

A Distinguished Anatomist.

We offer our congratulations to Mrs. M. F. Lucas Keene, M.B., B.S., on her appointment as Professor of Anatomy in the University of London. Mrs. Lucas Keene is Head of the Department of Anatomy in the London School of Medicine for Women, where she has worked as Lecturer in Anatomy and Embryology since 1919.

THE CONSUMER ON THE DEFENSIVE.

This week brings us a step further in the development of Mr. Baldwin's plans for the confusion of the food profiteer. Last week we commented upon the appointment of a Royal Commission and its terms of reference. Since then its membership has been announced and its first meeting arranged for 10th December, and the suggestion thrown out that interim reports on meat and wheat are to be prepared forthwith. In view of recent price fluctuations in those commodities we are glad to know that early information is likely to be presented to the public. And we add the hope that any published report on the latter essential foodstuff may contain an analysis of the precise part played by that efficient and comprehensive "holding company" the Associated London Flour Millers, Ltd., which was founded in 1921 for the purpose of diminishing the pressure of competition among flour millers, and which has since its foundation, we believe, done very well. We do not necessarily imply that this powerful combine has had a malign effect upon the fortunes of bread consumers, but we should like to know!

Concerning the composition of the new Royal Commission, we have a little cause for satisfaction. We know that its two women members, Dame Helen Gwynne-Vaughan and Mrs. Philip Snowden, representing the opposite poles of party-political thought, will serve the consuming housewife efficiently and single-mindedly. Mr. Walter Layton, editor of the *Economist*, is an expert on price questions and an open-minded thinker, though we notice with some trepidation that the *Economist* of 22nd November took a frankly sceptical editorial view of the possibilities of useful Government action, even in the event of the Royal Commission reporting "that in the matter of staple foods the public is being shamelessly exploited by rings and trusts."

Meanwhile, in view of the shortcomings of this present attempt, and the public's very generally expressed scepticism concerning its practical usefulness, we return with added emphasis to our recent plea for greater vigilance on the part of the consumer. And we would have him begin by facing frankly the implications of modern history. During the first part of last century, certain social and technical developments (which historians conveniently call the "Industrial Revolution") gave us in all its complex efficiency the capitalist system which we enjoy to-day. There were those who at that time criticized the system on the ground that it involved a shameless exploitation of various classes of producers. Accordingly, from that time to this, much thought has been bestowed upon the producer and many steps taken for his protection. The legislature has given him factory acts, truck acts, workman's compensation, insurance, and trade boards. Meanwhile, he has taken unto himself, under the banner of trade unionism, the strong shield of the standard rate and the sharp sword of the strike. But to the needs of the consumer no thought was given, and for his protection, the Statute Code

A RURAL COMMUNITY COUNCIL IN BEING.

Xshire is one of the ten counties in which Rural Community Councils have been set up. At the outset we were not at all sure that we wanted to meet each other, and we were quite sure that there was nothing any of us wanted less than another Committee meeting. We were busy people anxious to get on with our own jobs and not more than (not always as much as) politely interested in each other's work. If we were struggling with the difficulties of alcohol or no alcohol in Men's Clubs, or the establishment of W.E.A. classes in villages, or the formation of Women's Institutes, or the more august labours of the Local Education Authority, we felt it an unnecessary and tiresome interruption to be called upon to leave whichever of these matters engaged our interest to meet persons occupied with the others. It took several months of persuasion to bring us together.

When we did meet we found at once that we had certain points in common: we were all faced by the difficulty of getting out to villages which needed help and which invariably appeared to be unapproachable by rail or bus; we all wanted more speakers; most of us wanted County Council help.

The immediate outcome of our attempt to face the problems of village life together and to think in terms not only of individual organizations, but of the county as a whole was (a) the establishment of a rural library scheme, (b) the annexation of a derelict motor van, (c) the pooling of information as to speakers and lecturers willing to go out into the villages. At a later stage the voluntary organizations concerned decided, instead of bombarding the County Council with rival appeals for help,

only contributed a modicum of interference. For it was generally believed that, however it might serve the producer, the new system served the consumer well enough—delivering the goods and delivering them round about cost of production. And in all fairness, it must be confessed that the consumer *qua* consumer, came off pretty well. For his invincible shield (which was not of his own making nor the legislature's) was no less a farce than freely operating industrial competition, continually at work to grind down excrescences on the dead level of reasonable business profits, and whip up the flagging energies of the least efficient producer or the least accommodating retailer as the case might be. The consumer, with his freedom of choice from commodity to commodity, and his freedom of movement from shop to shop, was uncrowned king of the capitalist system.

And now—alas for an age that is past—the capitalist producer has revolted against his arrogant domination, though as yet he hardly realizes that he is king no more. The emergence of a formidable British Trust Movement (a lusty babe of some twenty years' rapid and cumulative growth) has blunted the power of competition to grind down the excrescences of profits or whip up the flagging energies of business men. "The fact is that free competition no longer governs the business world. The common assumption that the rivalry of traders affords a guarantee that the price of commodities will oscillate closely about the necessary cost of production—whatever may have been its degree of truth in the past—is now, in this country, nowhere to be implicitly relied on. It is now-a-days open to doubt whether we ever buy anything at the cost of production. We find that capitalist combination, in one or other form, and at one or other stage of production, transportation, and distribution, now leads in varying degrees the price of practically everything that we purchase." We quote from the minority report of the 1919 official Committee on Trusts.

So far we have spoken of the consumer as "he." In fact, however (and here lies the root of the matter), the consumer is most essentially "she." This tremendous and ramified twentieth century movement towards industrial combination has put upon the newly enfranchised twentieth century woman citizen a self-protective task comparable in its magnitude and its importance to the self-protective task which the industrial revolution put upon the manual worker a hundred years ago. What form is her "labour legislation" going to take? We are inclined to think that her "trade unionism" is co-operation in the varying guises of the co-operative store and the public service—that her "labour legislation" is the hitherto unexploited weapon of ruthless and searching official publicity.

We do not propose to leave the subject here—nor do we apologize for our present obsession with it. It is a burning subject, a neglected subject, and withal, not an uninteresting subject.

to send in their applications in one envelope so that the Education Committee should be able to survey the whole ground that was being covered—or that it was hoped to cover—by the Societies concerned.

After a time the motor van was supplemented by a four-seater. The two cars together ran over 14,000 miles between October, 1923, and October, 1924, and hope to do as much or more this year. The rural library scheme has been taken over by the County Council, and there is now permanent provision of books for the villages. The provision of courses of lectures has become a recognized feature of work in the county, and in addition concerts, illustrated lectures on music, plays, and cinema entertainments are provided; the gift of a wireless set and loud-speaker enables villages to have demonstrations in broadcasting; and Folk Dancing Classes are being arranged for this winter. In every instance each organization represented on the Rural Community Council has full information as to what is available, and the same speaker, or the same concert-party, goes to Women's Institutes one night, and Men's Clubs another; or it may be the two combine to form an audience.

Another development of rural community work has been the issue (at the request of the Local Education Authority) of a leaflet setting out in very simple terms the scholarships and free places open to children in the county. This was distributed through the Clubs and Women's Institutes to the parents of the children concerned—with the startling result

(Continued on p. 360.)

TWO SPRING VISITS TO PALESTINE, 1921, 1922.¹

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

CHAPTER VIII.—NAZARETH, TIBERIAS AND HAIFA.

Nazareth is quite exquisite and is in an exquisite situation, high up in a cup of the hills, clean, dainty, pretty; not like an English village, but somehow its order and neatness compel comparison with the beautiful villages at home: the long lines of cypresses leading up to several of its churches and convents give it a character of its own. Its unlikeness to the other Eastern villages we had seen made its dainty beauty all the more impressive. Dean Stanley in his *Sinai and Palestine*, p. 365, quotes the saying of an old topographer: "Nazareth is a rose, and like a rose has the same rounded form, enclosed by mountains as the flower by its leaves." It is very appropriately a Christian village and we were struck, as we have been at Bethlehem, by the dignified and fearless demeanour of the women. There was no huddled rushing to cover their faces with veils if a man chanced to approach them. To quote Charlotte Brontë, they seem to know that "Eve was Jehovah's daughter, as Adam was his son." The thought that overwhelmed all others in Nazareth was: this is the place where our Lord passed his boyhood and youth, labouring with and for his parents and brothers and sisters. Here he increased in wisdom and stature and in favour with God and man. It is not the particular sites, such as the Chapel of the Annunciation or the workshop of Joseph, which give this character of sweetness, dignity, and calm to Nazareth; it is the whole place itself.

The fountain of the Virgin at Nazareth is an unenclosed well, left much as it must have been from the earliest times; its sacred associations need no emphasis, and it is interesting to see the well still frequented by the women of the village filling their pitchers and carrying them away on their heads. Nazareth to-day is a great centre for Christian Missions; besides Greek and Latin Convents there are English and Scotch institutions; an Orphanage for Girls belonging to the Church Missionary Society does a most useful work, as does also the Edinburgh Medical Missionary Society, which provides doctors and nurses and spreads the knowledge and practice of hygiene through the village and neighbourhood.

Leaving Nazareth for Tiberias the next day, our car climbed a long hill at the back of the village and as we reached the top a most glorious view burst upon us: it was all the greater delight because it was quite unexpected. Hermon, clad in dazzling snow, rose in the distance on our right, whilst to the left came again a beautiful stretch of the blue Mediterranean; Tabor was behind us and Carmel more to the west. It is said that almost the whole of Palestine is visible from this point; certainly many of its most famous places can be seen, and the whole view is of almost unparalleled beauty.

As we drove on, we came across evidences of one of those unseemly contentions which constantly spring up between the Greek and Latin Churches over the matter of sites and relics. A Greek Church at Kefr Kenna claims to be the place where Jesus wrought his first miracle of turning the water at the wedding feast into wine. In order to make good this claim the Greek priest produces the actual water pots used; but Kana el Jalil, where there is a Latin church, could by no means allow the claim of Kefr Kenna to be undisputed and therefore likewise produced its set of very different water pots. No one can help seeing that these unseemly disputes originate largely in the desire for the backsheesh which attends the exhibition of so-called sacred objects. How much it is to be desired that the Churches should at once abandon this form of imposture. Probably they would if they could realize how repellent it is. We heard a Greek priest on our return to Jerusalem lecture at great length on the Rites of the Greek Church. His chief subject was the supposed miracle of the Holy Fire in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre at Easter. After listening carefully for an hour and a half, we were still doubtful what he really meant. Did he contend that the sudden appearance of fire was a miracle or did he not? After consultation with friends more conversant than ourselves with the phraseology of Greek theologians, we were told that what he intended us to understand was that the Orthodox Church did not sanction, nor did its chief clergy endorse, the theory that the fire was miraculously sent from Heaven, but that the ignorant multitude believed this, and on the whole it was best they should do so! No Church can surely have a wholesome vitality which

¹ This is the ninth of a series of weekly articles which will extend over a period of about six months.

allows itself to be nourished by fables such as this. Dean Stanley, usually so gentle in his judgments of religions other than his own, described the "miracle" of the holy fire as "probably the most offensive imposture to be found in the world." (*Sinai and Palestine*, p. 469.)

As we travelled on the road to Tiberias, we had a good view of the hill called the Horns of Hattin, where the Crusaders were overthrown by the victorious Saladin in 1187. The Crusades in all lasted nearly 200 years and the great enterprise ended in defeat and disaster: but not without tremendous results both in the East and in the West. It had been an extraordinarily romantic adventure and had its reverberations even in our own time. Cœur de Lion and Saladin still survive in Palestine, "where breath most breathes, even in the mouths of men." Hattin is said by some to be the scene of the Sermon on the Mount and used to be known as the Mountain of the Beatitudes.

We also passed within sight of Safed, perched on its hill top, which may have been "the city set on an hill" referred to in the Sermon on the Mount. It is one of the four sacred cities held in peculiar reverence by the Jews. These are Jerusalem, Hebron, Tiberias, and Safed; the rabbinical tradition in respect of them is that if prayer ceased to be offered in them the world would come to an end. Safed was almost totally destroyed by an earthquake in 1837. The awful horror of this disaster is graphically described by the American missionary Dr. Thomson in his well-known work *The Land and the Book*. He was one of the first to reach the spot after the catastrophe and to offer help and relief to the stricken survivors. Years after he wrote: "My heart even now sickens at the thought of that long winter night which closed upon Safed half an hour after the overthrow." Nearly four thousand people are believed to have perished, but the city was rebuilt on the old site and in the old manner—with houses one upon the top of another so that the roof of one becomes the roadway of those immediately above.

MRS. SWANWICK AND THE GENEVA PROTOCOL.

A masterly analysis of the Geneva Protocol was made on 27th November by Mrs. H. M. Swanwick, M.A., in the Essex Hall. Explaining that it was the fourth or fifth attempt to find agreement among the nations for a plan for limitation of armaments, according to the honourable undertaking entered upon in the Treaty of Versailles, Mrs. Swanwick showed what an advance it was on the Draft Treaty of Mutual Assistance, developing the idea of law as a factor in security instead of military guarantees. It laid down plans for various kinds of mediation and defined the "aggressor" as the State which takes warlike steps without having submitted its case to judicial decision or arbitration, or in defiance of an award. Sanctions were confined to those laid down in the Covenant and circumscribed somewhat so as to remove to some extent the dangers of these proceedings. Mrs. Swanwick regretted that Partial Military Alliances, although not to be negotiated by the League, as in the Draft Treaty of Mutual Assistance, were still recognized and allowed for in the Protocol. The military obligations of States in the event of war were only such as their geographical position and situation as regards armaments made possible, and the Protocol was dependent on the success of a disarmament conference to be called for June, 1925. Machinery for calling the Conference was already set up, but it could not be called until three Permanent Members of the Council and the other States had ratified the Protocol. On the whole, Mrs. Swanwick thought it was the best plan yet put before the League of Nations, and perhaps as good as was likely to find agreement among the Powers. It was very desirable that Great Britain should not turn it down without putting forward a good constructive alternative.

A RURAL COMMUNITY COUNCIL IN BEING.

(Continued from page 359.)

of a rise of 50 per cent within three months of the number of entries and a considerable raising of the standard.

Nor is the activity of the Rural Community Council confined to educational questions (in the narrower sense of the word): Public Health, Rural Industries, the social facilities of village life: and the formation of Village Social Councils all come up for discussion. There are moments of optimism when we even dare to hope that our joint efforts may some day find a method of disposing of rubbish in villages. Anything concerning the community concerns us, because we meet as villagers to consider how best we can co-operate in developing village life as a whole on the best and broadest lines.

A. E. F.

WHAT WE SHALL NEVER FORGET.

By RAY STRACHEY.

Mrs. Fawcett's reminiscences,¹ which appeared first in the columns of this paper, have now been published in book form with several illustrations. In this form, in which one can read them all at a gulp, they are even more attractive than when we got them a bit at a time; and yet even so one is struck on every page by the multitudinous things Mrs. Fawcett doesn't say, and which one wishes she had!

The book gives a delightful picture of the community in which she lived as a child, and a sketch of her father and mother which brings them almost among the range of one's own most cherished friends; it gives, too, an exceedingly entertaining picture of Cambridge society round about 1870, and a glimpse, though all too fragmentary, of the political circles of that time. But even in these chapters, and still more in the later ones, Mrs. Fawcett has omitted to put in any real picture of what is, to us, if not to her, the centre of the book, namely herself. One turns over the pages eagerly, "Surely she will let us in somewhere?" but she hardly does. Once, twice, perhaps three times in the book we see what she felt; here and there we get a hint of her opinions, and now and then by putting two and two together we can deduce her own relation to the things and the people she describes. But she doesn't help us in the task. Other people come freely and clearly into the pages, the stories they tell, the jokes they make, and the funny characteristic things they do. But the most interesting one of all stays hidden away. Among the things Mrs. Fawcett remembers, apparently she herself does not take much place.

Of course, this very fact is an important sidelight upon herself, but it stops so to speak at that. It is one of those indications of character which pull one up short; one hardly likes to push further, it is intrusive, impertinent, intolerable. And yet we can't help it. Mrs. Fawcett has done so much, and inspired so many, she has steered so very straight a course, and won so very fine a victory that we can't let her slip out of our clutches like that. We must wonder and speculate and admire, whatever she may do to prevent us, and so we must grumble at this book a little for the things it doesn't say.

There is a second class of things which are left out from these pages, and which perhaps Mrs. Fawcett doesn't remember any better than she remembers her own share in the great struggle. But we have not forgotten, if she has, the disagreeables which went along with the fight, the weariness and toil, the unending round of deadly committee meetings, and the devastating differences of opinion. We vividly remember, too, the difficulty of some of the decisions she had to take, the refractoriness of some of her most useful colleagues, the everlasting shiftiness of so many of the individual politicians with whom she had to deal, and to crown it all, the steady grind of begging for money. Mrs. Fawcett knew it well at the time, for she took the leading part, not only in the triumphs but in the drudgeries; however, things like that slip out of her mind, it seems, or else she does not wish to record them. But in a lesser degree one regrets that too. For my part, I remember very clearly some of the difficulties in which I myself took part. One autumn, in particular, things within the National Union were very strained, and the differences of opinion among us were at white heat. All through those months Mrs. Fawcett kept order. When the antagonists were met to do battle she always came (trying though it must have been) and by sheer astonishing power she steadied us all down. She kept by her at that time a constant stock of red herrings, and when things were at their worst she would bring one out and trail it round the committee table. We would sit, glaring and fuming, while she proceeded calmly with her anecdote, and as it went on we all had time to swallow our rage and remember that the cause was greater than the quarrel. But she never let us know what she thought underneath, and she doesn't tell us yet. I wonder if she can really have forgotten? One might multiply instances like these for ever. Year after year, as Mrs. Fawcett led the movement, she kept it straight. Time after time her own judgment and her own determination were its main bulwark of defence. Democratic the movement was, in form and spirit, but for all that she was its leader. Nowhere else in my experience of organizations has democratic control worked so fully as it did in the old National Union of Woman Suffrage Societies, and yet nowhere else have I seen a leader so fully trusted. Silent though she may be about it in her book, Mrs. Fawcett cannot but remember, what we who followed her never shall forget, that it was she, more than anyone else in the world, who won us our victory in 1918.

¹ *What I Remember*, by Millicent Garrett Fawcett (T. Fisher Unwin, 12s. 6d. net.)

SOCIAL INSURANCE.

III.

Nothing has been said in the previous articles with regard to the two existing forms of compulsory insurance, Unemployment and Health Insurance. As far as concerns Unemployment Insurance, the advisability of including persons engaged in private domestic service and agriculture has been frequently suggested. Their inclusion is certainly necessary to any complete insurance scheme, but it should be on terms which allow for the unusually low risks of unemployment. Another far-reaching question is for what periods unemployment pay should continue. Payment for an unlimited time is impossible. If a man is unemployable, or if there is no room for him in his normal occupation, is he to be allowed to draw unemployment pay for the rest of his life? It would be expensive for the State and demoralizing for the individual. On the other hand, if payment is only made for a comparatively short period it would lead to great hardship in a period of abnormal unemployment like the present. The system of having a "gap" and then a renewed period is most unsatisfactory, since it too often only means that Poor Relief is substituted for Unemployment Pay. Sir W. Beveridge suggests as a solution that after a certain period unemployment pay should only be given on some such condition as that the person concerned should accept training for another occupation. Some development on these lines is unquestionably urgently needed.

With regard to Health Insurance, certain suggestions have already been considered; Health Insurance and Employer's Liability should be worked together, and non-industrial accidents should be included. Much more should also be done in the way of preventive work, which has dropped sadly into the background. But more far-reaching administrative changes have also been suggested. Some people consider that the ideal form of social insurance would be a completely unified scheme worked by the State, which would supplant the Approved Societies in the administration of Health Insurance. Any extension of State Insurance is certain to rouse much opposition, though it cannot be said that private enterprise is necessarily more competent, as the facts already given with regard to Employers' Liability and Burial Insurance are sufficient to prove. Moreover, the administration of Unemployment Insurance, the only scheme completely under the State, though it is often criticized, compares favourably with that of Health Insurance. The administrative expenses of the former, including the cost of placing, are only 8 per cent and payment is made without the delay, whilst the administrative costs of the Approved Societies are 13 per cent, and payment takes from a few days to a fortnight. The two services are of course very different, but there is nothing here to suggest that for insurance purposes the State is less economical or competent even than officially recognized private organizations, such as the Approved Societies. It is claimed on the contrary that if the thousand existing Approved Societies (there are 1,192) which all wastefully compete for business were replaced by the State, there would be considerable administrative economies arising from unified control. If all compulsory insurance were under the State, there would need to be but one insurance office in each locality, which would be a great simplification for the insured persons, and one payment would cover all forms of insurance. This may reasonably be regarded as the counsel of perfection, but there are the Insurance Companies and Friendly Societies to reckon with. It may be admitted that their claims to special consideration are not in reality great. The Friendly Societies were financially in a very unsound condition when the Health Insurance Act was passed; it was admittedly the Act that saved them. As for the insurance companies, their work as friendly Societies is young and came to them through the State; there is no reason why it should be regarded as a sacred possession. But no Government is likely to face the opposition that expropriating them would arouse. As a compromise it is suggested that insured persons should have the right of insuring for health purposes either with the Government or with the Approved Societies. The drawbacks of adding to competition between the Approved Societies themselves by the introduction of competition between the State and the Societies is obvious. On the other hand, if Health Insurance should be extended to include the illness of the dependents of insured persons and burial insurance, it would mean a great increase in the work at present done by the Approved Societies, and it is certainly undesirable to make them the present of this future work and to create a new vested interest.

W. A. ELKIN.

THE LAW AT WORK. "REFORMATORY REFORM."

Everyone who has to do with the management of an Institution must often feel a desire to get from the inmates an unbiased and candid view of the place and the treatment. Such views are for many and obvious reasons not easy to come by. In a book recently published under the above title, by Longmans, Green, and Co., the author, Mr. Isaac Briggs, gives us his recollections of the time when he was a Reformatory boy. This was twelve years ago, and many changes have taken place within reformatory walls during those years, but as a picture of the life at that period the book is of considerable interest.

The writer was an exceptional boy, nervous and excitable, and suffering from epileptic fits till he was eight years old. He came from a respectable home and gives a frank account of his offence, which consisted of stealing from the pockets of other boys in the dressing-room of a gymnasium when he was fifteen. He was convicted, though it was his first offence, and committed to a reformatory until the age of 19. He spent the days awaiting trial in prison and the days awaiting his departure to a Reformatory in the workhouse, all of which is graphically described. He also writes of the sense of despair which fell upon him at the thought of remaining at the reformatory for over three years. It seemed as if the time could never pass, and, to a boy of 15, nineteen does appear an impossible age which he will never reach. A month's hard labour would have seemed a trifling punishment in comparison.

It was a farm school to which he was sent, and the boys were put into coarse corduroy coats and trousers. In spite of this heavy clothing the impression on the author's mind is that they were always cold and chilblains were rife. Many of these boys worked out of doors in all weathers, and the pipes in the school-room were only heated on "red letter" days. It has to be remembered that though poor boys in slum homes may be very thinly clad they have a chance to warm themselves at a fire in their homes, and may miss, in Institution life more than anything else, the warmth and snugness of home. The schoolroom, dining hall, and dormitories, were all as bare and institutional as possible, and the writer complains of the utter want of refinement and the depressing effect of this on the boys, especially on those from good homes. He writes: "For three years . . . I never sat on a chair, never saw a carpet, a picture, or even a piece of oilcloth, never a cup and saucer, or a decent tablecloth, never wore a collar or a tie, or had any cause to take any interest in my personal appearance, and though approaching manhood and soon to have a vote, never saw a daily paper."

The hours were long—eight hours at the boy's particular job, and three at school. "Happiness depended largely on one's job." The garden work was most disliked because of the incessant digging and the bitter cold. The kitchen was popular, so was the job of trap boy to the superintendent, or most of all that of greenhouse boy, because he was always warm and dry. The farm boys could get shelter in the worst weather, and occasionally saw a pig killed. The school room lessons seem to have been regarded with boredom and dislike, and in the evening after eight hours' work in the open air, many of the boys were too tired and sleepy to pay much attention to them. Of the staff as a whole, we are told that the men selected had trade training and nothing else. "They were decent working class men, neither better nor worse than the most of us, but with no knowledge of juvenile, much less delinquent juvenile, psychology."

Perhaps the most bitter complaint is that the boys received no help or instruction whatever in matters of sex. Ninety boys, from 12 to 19 years old composed the school, varying from childhood to manhood, including every type from the mental defective and the street gamine to the intelligent boy from a good home. Evil was common, but as a rule went on unchecked. When it was discovered it was punished with a flogging.

The reader will be interested to learn that after two years and nine months at the school, Isaac Briggs entered for an examination in gardening, and gained a scholarship to a Horticultural College. His troubles were not over as he had not enough money to finish the course, but after many vicissitudes he made good in the end.

The second part of the book consists of the author's views on the proper treatment of Juvenile Delinquency, and to these we hope to return in this column.

C. D. RACKHAM.

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

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

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A MULTIPLE ATTRACTION.

By "CALLISTHENE."

There is no one who likes *getting things done* who does not enjoy getting a lot of things done at one swoop—killing two birds with one stone—seven at a blow—the old proverbs and folk-lore knew how to express it. And there is no one capable of enjoying one sensation who will not rejoice at the thought of savouring many enjoyments at once.

What is the most enjoyable of your duties at this time of year, O member of the N.U.S.E.C.? To choose the right gift for each of your numerous friends and relations.

What is the constant wish of your heart, O member? To help the National Union is my most constant wish.

(Let us not lapse into a catechismal style, but raise the tone of our discourse and the spirits of our readers by adding:—)

And what event in any afternoon could be more enjoyable than a really good tea (in pleasant company)? And answer came there: None!

Then by all that is reasonable and enjoyable and true, without any doubt or shadow of hesitation you must

COME TO THE SALE OF WORK

ON WEDNESDAY, 10TH DECEMBER, 3 P.M.,

AT CHURCH HOUSE, GREAT SMITH STREET, WESTMINSTER.

As to all the best things in life, ADMISSION IS FREE. The variety of presents waiting to be bought is almost as the sand of the sea, but besides things not less charming because they may also be found in similar form elsewhere—things useful and things beautiful—we must make a special note of the gluttonously good home-made jams and preserves, chutneys and lemon cheeses, and the other produce of farm, garden, and kitchen; the amazing bargains to be picked up on the Second-hand Book-stall and the White Elephant Stall (which is to be furnished by members of the Executive Committee). When is a bargain really a bargain? When it is a White Elephant. (The bun does not come in this time.)

There will be an expert in character-reading to tell us all the complimentary things we so long to know—and perhaps she will discern events which would otherwise be hidden from us behind the tantalizing veils of the future.

Come in good time—because the Sale will be opened at 3 p.m. by Lady Balfour of Burleigh, who is President of the Kensington S.E.C.; and you ought to be there to snap up the very best. But perhaps you are longing to give, as well as to receive, and in that case you should send a contribution for the Sale to Lady Pares, 32 Belsize Park Gardens, N.W. 3—unless it is a White Elephant or farm produce. White Elephants will be welcomed by Mrs. Stein, 31 Bracknell Gardens, N.W.; and farm produce, or cakes for tea, or anything of a perishable nature may be sent to the Secretary at Headquarters, to arrive on the day of the Sale. But above all

COME YOURSELF, AND BRING YOUR FRIENDS.

REMEMBER, REMEMBER, THE TENTH OF DECEMBER!

CONFERENCE ON THE SEPARATE TAXATION OF THE INCOMES OF MARRIED PERSONS, 26th November, 1924.

A conference organized by the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship to consider the question of the Separate Taxation of the Incomes of Married Persons was held on Wednesday, 26th November, at 5 p.m., at the Caxton Hall, Westminster. Miss K. D. Courtney took the Chair, and representatives of ten Women's Organizations attended the conference, as well as a number of visitors. The resolutions given in these columns on 21st November were moved by Miss Chrystal Macmillan, seconded by Miss Elkin.

Considerable objections were raised to these resolutions on the part of Lady Selborne, Miss Nettlefold, and other speakers. Miss Macmillan then referred to the following resolution, which had been put before a similar conference the previous year, but had been referred back:—

"This meeting calls upon the Government to provide in the next Finance Act for:—

(a) The automatic separate assessment and separate taxation of the incomes of married persons, so that in no case shall the fact of marriage involve the payment of a higher income tax, or supertax, or necessitate a special application to make such separate assessment or separate taxation effective.

(b) The sharing of the present or any future marriage and children's abatements between the husband and wife, so that each may avail himself or herself of half of the abatements if necessary, transferring to the other spouse the right to such part of the abatements as he or she may not require.

(c) The repayment of returnable deductions taxed at the source from their respective incomes directly to the husband and/or wife respectively."

This resolution had not the support of the N.U.S.E.C., because it involved asking both for separate taxation and for marriage allowances. The following resolution was therefore moved by Miss Macmillan and was passed by the Conference:—

"That the Government be urged to provide in the 1925 Budget that in no case shall a higher income tax be paid by married persons because of marriage, and that the income of married persons be automatically separately assessed, and that the two schemes be laid before the Government as possible ways in which this could be done."

AT HOME, 26th NOVEMBER.

A most enjoyable At Home was given for the N.U.S.E.C. on Wednesday afternoon, 26th November, by Mrs. Clement Davies, at 11 Vicarage Gate, when members of the National Union were invited to meet members of the Executive Committee and Overseas Visitors. Of the Committee, Miss Beaumont, Miss Deakin, and Mrs. Wrightson were present. Mrs. Wrightson gave a short speech on the work of the N.U.S.E.C., and Miss James (from Australia) also spoke. It is hoped that this will be the first of a series of gatherings at which members of the National Union and visitors from overseas will be welcomed. The thanks of the N.U.S.E.C. are due to Lady Pares, who as Honorary Secretary of the Entertainments Committee is organizing the At Homes.

ELECTION FUND.

We regret that owing to an error Miss Milton's subscription of £1 to the above fund appeared in the issue of 24th October under the name of Miss Milon.

CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE OF WOMEN'S ORGANISATIONS.

A new departure has just been made by the Consultative Committee of Women's Organizations, which held its November meeting on Thursday 27th November. Up till now only representatives of the constituent Societies have been entitled to attend the meetings, but it has now been decided that approved individuals may be present on payment of a small annual subscription. This will enable a much wider circle to profit by the exceptionally valuable discussions of this Committee.

Among the subjects considered yesterday was one of great topical interest, namely the separate taxation of married peoples' incomes. This involves several complicated questions, and so many practical difficulties were brought to light that further investigation is to be undertaken before any decision is made, and it was agreed to see how far the principle that no one shall be penalized by marriage can be secured.

An Urgency Resolution was moved by Miss Boyle, and endorsed by twenty-three societies, urging the Prime Minister to appoint an additional woman on the Royal Commission for Lunacy Reform in place of Lord Eustace Percy, who has resigned. It is felt that the small number of women at present on the Commission, admirable though their appointment was, should be reinforced by another.

A protest is being sent by a group of Societies within the Committee to the Party organizations deploring the selection of women for forlorn hopes with regard to constituencies, and urging that they should be given a better chance in the future.

Mrs. Corbett Ashby, the new Vice-Chairman, gave an address on money-lending among women, which has been the subject of recent investigation. There were two types of moneylenders, she stated, those who had offices, and though asking high charges, were more or less reputable; and those, very often women, who usually made the exorbitant charge of 1d. per 1s. per week, or 433½ per cent. per annum, and kept no written record of the transaction. Working women who lived up to the margin of their incomes and could give no security were often the victims of moneylenders, who made a good income by trading on the ignorance of others. Legislation was urgently needed on various points, including a clear statement of the contract, a maximum rate of interest, and no registration of money-lenders without proper qualifications.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP

A SALE OF WORK

(in aid of the funds of the N.U.S.E.C.)

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CHURCH HOUSE, GREAT SMITH STREET, Westminster,
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THE RICHES AND POVERTY OF WESTMINSTER.

Westminster has been described as a "Black Spot." It has also been described as one of the richest Cities in the World. At two meetings lately, arranged by the Westminster Women's Housing Council, these two aspects of the question have been brought forward: the first was held at the house of Sir Thomas Inskip, and addressed by Mrs. Walter Runciman; the second in the house of Lady Violet Astor, where Miss Picton-Turbervill described the conditions which are weighing so heavily on those who are suffering from them and on the ratepayers who realize their responsibility in regard to them. It was not enough, said Lady Violet Astor, to pay rates and leave the rest to local authorities. The authorities themselves find it difficult to carry out improvements without strong support from local opinion. Miss Picton-Turbervill, President of the Westminster Women's Housing Council, described the efforts that had been made by its members to study conditions, arouse interest in them amongst ratepayers, and secure improvement. They wished the Council to be a body of "awakened ratepayers." It had been in existence scarcely a year, and was non-party, and non-sectarian. At the outset visits had been organized to the worst districts in Westminster. She gave instances of what had been discovered—of the overcrowding not only of those who could not earn good wages but of those who could—revealing the drifting down, through house shortage into the danger zone of those who had been safely above it. The report of the Medical Officer of Health told its own tale, especially in regard to basement dwellings. Of one spot, it was said that nothing worse could be found, except perhaps in Stepney. The housing question in Westminster could not be shelved by saying that the workers need not live there. In regard to many, their callings, especially those of office-cleaners, porters, and waiters, necessitated being close to their work. The dangers of growing resentment were serious, especially as worse evils sometimes followed complaints on the part of tenants. Housing Councils, representing bodies of ratepayers, could insist that the authorities should put into operation the powers they possess. The local authority, for instance, could acquire empty houses and furnish alternative accommodation, pending more permanent arrangement, and the acquisition of sites. Unfortunately, in Westminster the record of the Council during the last few years, as far as building for the working classes went, with the exception of one block of forty flats, was a blank. Street improvements were good, but it was surely better to house families first. The Council had already done something. They believed that they could get further improvement, and they meant to work for it. Mrs. Seyth described the difficulties and drawbacks of some of the working-class block dwellings, and Sir A. Griffith Boscawen spoke of present economic difficulties and of some schemes which the Church Army were putting forward to relieve the housing problem of the poorest citizens.

THE PRESS AND THE PROTOCOL.

(WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE, 55 Gower Street,
London, W.C. 1.)

The need for better information about the Geneva Protocol is continually evidenced in the Press. One well-known daily, rejoicing some days ago over the thought that the postponement of the Council discussion on the relation of the Protocol to the Covenant meant its "scrapping," explained that, as it had to be ratified by all four of the permanent members of the Council, it was ended if Great Britain did not ratify. This is, of course, quite incorrect. If a majority, viz. three of these, together with eight other States, ratify, it goes forward. France has ratified and if Italy and Japan do so it is possible (however improbable) for the Protocol to come into force with Great Britain outside, and for the June Disarmament Conference to be called. The necessary eight other ratifications have already been exceeded.

The alteration in the Agenda of the Council Meeting of 9th December did not mean that the British Government had turned down the Protocol. The desire of the newly established Government to consult the Dominions was wise and natural. Ratification, or the proposal of amendments, are both steps of the utmost importance needing full discussion.

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COMING EVENTS.

GUILDHOUSE W.C.S.

DEC. 8 Expedition to National Gallery, conducted by Dr. Percy Dearmer.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

DEC. 10. 3-6 p.m. Sale of Work in Small Memorial Hall, Church House, Great Smith Street, Westminster.

Barnsley S.E.C. DEC. 10. 6.30 p.m. Annual Meeting in Parish Room, followed by Whist Drive at 7.30.

Edinburgh W.C.A. DEC. 10. 8 p.m. Royal Society of Arts Hall, 117 George Street. "The Permanent Care of the Feeble-minded" (with lantern slides). Lady Leslie Mackenzie, Lecturer on Local Government to the School of Social Study and Training, The University, Edinburgh. Chairman: Lieut.-Col. Sir H. Arthur Rose, D.S.O., Chairman, General Board of Control for Scotland.

Lewisham W.C.A. DEC. 9. 3 p.m. Mrs. F. W. Hubback on "Parliamentary Procedure."

Petersfield S.E.C. DEC. 9. 8 p.m. Mrs. Layton on "The Geneva Draft Protocol."

South Wales Group of Affiliated Societies. DEC. 13. 11.30 a.m. Inaugural meeting at Cardiff. Professor Barbara Foxley in the Chair. 3 p.m. Miss Rathbone on "Family Endowment."

Swansea S.E.C. DEC. 15. 3 p.m. Inaugural Meeting. Miss Rathbone on "Women's Questions and the New Parliament."

ST. JOAN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ALLIANCE.

DEC. 9. 8 p.m. St. Marylebone Hall, Marylebone Road. Public Lecture by the Rev. Herbert Thurston, S.J., on "Communicating with the Dead."

SOCIETY FOR CONSTRUCTIVE BIRTH CONTROL AND RACIAL PROGRESS.

DEC. 10. 8 p.m. Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand. Miss E. F. Rathbone on "Family Endowment and Birth Control." Dr. Marie Stopes in the Chair.

TOYNBEE HALL, E.

DEC. 11. 8 p.m. Miss Rathbone on "Family Endowment."

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

DEC. 4. 8 p.m. Second of series of Lectures on the Geneva Protocol at Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand. "Economic and Military Sanctions," by Mr. W. Arnold Forster. Chair: Mr. Chas. Roden Buxton.

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THE TAYLOR HOME SET OF THERMOMETERS, including book of tested recipes and instructions for their use. (The sugar-boiling and frying thermometers are in silver-plated copper cases.) Price 28s.—Write, Box 1,089, WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

FINE HEMSTITCHED IRISH LINEN HANDKERCHIEFS.—Ladies', 17 in., 4s. 10d.; 12 ins. 5s. 10d.; or with any initial 17 in., 7s. 6d. per doz. Also ladies' fine hemstitched linen handkerchiefs, beautifully embroidered in one corner, six handkerchiefs for 6s. 6d. Men's hemstitched linen handkerchiefs, 17 in., 8s. 6d.; 18 in., 12s. 6d.; 19 in., 16s. 6d. per doz.; or with any initial, 19 inches, 18s. 9d. per doz. Write for Bargain List—TO-DAY.—HUTTON'S, 41 Main Street, Larne, Northern Ireland.

THE "OLIO" RECIPE BOOK cannot be beaten for Reliability, Cheapness, Goodness. Edition XIV enlarged to 1,776 Recipes and Hints. Paper 2s. 6d., cloth 4s. All Booksellers.

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

DRESS.

THE HAT DOCTOR, removed to 52 James Street, Oxford Street, W. 1, cleans, reblocks and copies hats at lowest possible price. Renovates furs. Covers satin or canvas shoes or thin kid with brocade or velvet. Materials and post, 13s. 6d.; toe-caps, 8s. 6d.; your own materials, work and post, 8s. 6d., in three days.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS.

ADVERTISER would like to hear of a jolly family living in town who would take a Spanish girl of good family for three weeks and give her a good time, dances, etc.; terms by arrangement; references.—Box 1,112, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

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

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