

JVS SVFFRAGII.

THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SVFFRAGE NEWS



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Subscribers to the INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE NEWS are reminded that the current year ends with the September number. Stiff covers for binding may be obtained from Headquarters, 11, Adam Street, Adelphi, W.C.2, at a cost of 1/6 each.



The Turkish Woman Deputy, Laffite Hanoum, in riding costume and native head dress, with her husband, Mustapha Kemal Pasha.

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF WORKING WOMEN.

Vienna Congress.

THE First Biennial Congress of the International Federation of Working Women was held at Vienna in August, and under the constitution adopted at Geneva in 1921, all national trade union centres affiliated to the International Federation of Trade Unions (Amsterdam) or approved by the Executive Board were invited to send delegates. Belgium, France, Great Britain, Italy, Sweden, United States, Argentine, Chile, China, Hungary, Japan and Roumania were all represented; and the International Labour Office, Geneva, which has always been ready to help the Federation, deputed Dr. Marta Mundt to attend and report on the proceedings.

The most important work before the Congress was that dealing with the future development of the Federation and with an agreed policy among working women on such matters as trade union organization, home work, and the low wages paid for it; the system of family allowances in addition to wages; international labour legislation as it affects women, and the questions of disarmament and world peace. Definite plans were made for trade union work among women. On the much disputed family allowance schemes, the Congress came to the decision that the allowances in addition to wages for industrial workers should not be regarded as more than a temporary expedient to meet the economic difficulties developed in capitalist society. Workers should aim first at the provision of grants of public money to meet the special emergencies of child-birth, unemployment, illness or death of the family wage-earner, and such grants should be available to all. An inquiry is wanted into the possibility of a scheme of pensions for all children in the period during which they are normally dependent upon their parents. On this question the Congress endorsed Dr. Marion Phillips' proposal.

Factory inspection is down on the agenda for the October meeting of the International Labour Office, and Congress dealt with the matter fully. A resolution adopted declared that nationally and internationally there should be minimum standards of work, such as the eight-hour day. The methods by which such standards are to be obtained, whether by trade union agreement or by law, or by both means, should be determined by the organized workers in all countries according to the conditions prevailing in each. The Congress declared in favour of labour legislation for women where the organized working women wish to work for improvement of industrial conditions along this line.

The Congress stood for disarmament, and urged as a means towards it the revision of the Treaty of Versailles. Delegates agreed that reparations ought to be confined to the actual material damage caused by the war, and that inter-Allied war debts ought to be cancelled, provided that steps towards disarmament were taken. The occupation of the Ruhr threatens the standard of life of all working people. Congress demanded the simultaneous withdrawal of all foreign troops from Germany.

We realized at the Congress that the international difficulties were greater than in 1921; that there was much work to be done to get even a decent standard of life for working women in most countries. For our future development, we decided to join hands with the men trade unionists in one big international organization inclusive of all workers. Our American delegates had no mandate to vote on this issue, but will refer our decision to their Congress next June. We were encouraged by the fact that in most countries people are becoming alive to the rights and needs of women workers; we women have grown up as trade unionists. There are nearly three million women trade unionists in Germany, and nearly one million in England. The German and Austrian women who are in mixed unions will not take part in separate women's trade union

internationals. Our aim is to link up the working women of all countries, and this can best be done within a joint international.

Our new President is Mlle. Burniaux, of Belgium, in succession to Mrs. Raymond Robins, of U.S.A. We have to enter now on the big task of uniting working women everywhere and of impressing upon them that in spite of all the nationalist quarrels and jealousies, the only hope of the world lies in the mutual understanding and goodwill of all workers.

EDITH McDONALD,
Secretary.

International Federation of Working Women.

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN.*

A Call to the Women of the World.

IT will be remembered that on the occasion of the joint meeting of the two boards of officers of the International Council of Women and of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance in London last November, Mrs. Chapman Catt suggested the possibility of a Congress in which all the chief international women's organizations should take part. A committee was then formed, on which were appointed two representatives of the British branches of each of the following Associations:—

The International Council of Women.

The International Woman Suffrage Alliance.

The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

The World's Young Women's Christian Association.

The International Federation of University Women.

The World's Women's Christian Temperance Union.

Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon was elected chairman, and after full discussion at several meetings which were held, it seemed impossible to make arrangements for such a joint international gathering before 1926, because of various international meetings already fixed to take place during the intervening years.

At the last meeting, however, a very strong feeling prevailed that, in view of the very anxious situation of the world, some effort should be made to rally the active co-operation of women of all races, creeds and classes in a movement which would strike at the very roots of the causes of war.

It was, therefore, unanimously agreed to request the Marchioness of Aberdeen, in her capacity of President of the International Council of Women, to take the initiative in calling a Joint Conference of Women's International Organizations for the purpose of a full discussion of the prevention of the causes of war, with the object of giving an urgently needed opportunity for women to demonstrate their united support of an international policy based on the promotion of permanent peace, and at the same time of educating women to understand the responsibility that rests upon them in this matter, and how they can individually and collectively promote the growth of an enlightened public opinion in all countries which will demand the prevention of war.

Lady Aberdeen accepted this invitation on behalf of the International Council of Women provisionally on the understanding that the draft programme drawn up by the Joint Committee should be submitted to the Board of Officers, together with the recommendation that the Conference should be held not later than March, 1924, in London.

At the recent meeting of the officers at the House of Cromar it was decided by a majority to accept the Joint Committee's recommendation of date and place, and to call the Conference for March, 1924, to take place in London.

The draft programme, with certain amendments, was also accepted as a basis, and will be found below.

* N.B.—See note on page 15.

In view of the fact that the constitution of the International Council of Women "excludes from its programme political and religious questions of a controversial nature affecting the inter-relationship of two or more countries," the following resolution was also passed as a safeguard:—

"In view of possible contingencies and in order to assure the complete harmony and success of the Conference in London, it shall not be permitted to speakers to make any reference either directly or by way of illustration to the actual events of the last war or to the existing political controversies arising therefrom."

The Board of Officers desires to give as much publicity as possible to the decision to call such a Conference, and invites all National Councils to co-operate with them in announcing it through the Press of their respective countries, and hopes that the National Councils will remind their members that the promotion of permanent peace has been the fixed policy of the International Council of Women ever since its adoption by the London Quinquennial of 1899, and that it has been again and again re-affirmed by successive Council meetings.

A special responsibility, therefore, rests upon our Council, and we are indeed thankful to have the privilege of responding to the request of our sister international women's organizations and of summoning in conference women of all races, creeds and classes to consider what measures we can take, as mothers and guardians of the human race, to protect future generations from the appalling catastrophe now shadowing the world in the shape of another war. Surely our best protection will lie in educating the rank and file of the public to realize their power and their imperative duty to avert this dread calamity, by spreading the knowledge of the causes which lead to war, by driving home the realization of what another war would mean to mankind, and by inciting all to determine to take an active share in averting the dread calamity by deliberately removing the causes which lead to war and supporting all movements tending to promote sympathy and mutual understanding amongst the nations.

Draft Programme for Conference on the Prevention of the Causes of War.

In the past the relations of Sovereign States have been based upon force. War, the threat of war, preparedness for war have always lain behind diplomacy. But war is in fact international anarchy.

The Covenant of the League of Nations was intended as an instrument of international right, to replace international anarchy. But this instrument can be used for its rightful purpose only by the power of the international mind; it can easily be misused by Governments not having the international mind, and its best safeguard lies in the clear consciousness of the people as to the causes that tend to give rise to war, and a definite intent on their part to avoid all such causes.

It is the business of this conference to discuss how women can use their activities to develop the international mind in—

- A.—Individuals.
- B.—Governments.

A.—THE INTERNATIONAL MIND IN INDIVIDUALS.

I.—The moral and spiritual basis of human relationships:—

1. Training in freedom and responsibility for all.
2. Consistent support of international justice and peace.
3. Common interests and duties of motherhood in all countries.

II.—Education in schools and colleges—

1. History and geography from the international standpoint.
2. International civics.
3. Non-military athletic training.
4. Intellectual co-operation between nations.

III.—Education of citizens to consider—

1. The rights of other nations in regard to—
 - (a) Access to raw materials.
 - (b) Trade exchange.
 - (c) Emigration and immigration.
2. The rights of minorities in their own countries in regard to—
 - (a) Language.
 - (b) Religion.
 - (c) Education.
 - (d) Compulsory military service.
3. The rights of women to full citizenship.
4. The rights of the worker.

B.—THE INTERNATIONAL MIND IN GOVERNMENTS.

I.—Improvement in security, by—

- (a) Establishment of an all-inclusive League of Nations.
- (b) Universal reduction in all kinds of armaments with the ultimate aim of total universal disarmament.
- (c) The extension of demilitarized zones under international guarantees.
- (d) The categorical outlawry of war.

II.—Democratic control of foreign affairs—

1. Parliaments to be more fully informed and consulted by Governments.
2. Adjustment of diplomatic service to modern conditions.
3. Consideration of some means of restraining newspapers from the publication of false and inaccurate information on foreign affairs.
4. Popularization of the League of Nations and its possibilities.

III.—International organization of humanitarian activities—

1. International conventions—
 - (a) Traffic in women.
 - (b) Transport and communication.
 - (c) Maternity and insurance.
 - (d) Industrial.
2. Struggle against famine and disease.

IV.—Reference of all disputes to arbitration or conciliation by an all-inclusive League of Nations International Court of Justice.

V.—Resolutions.

NATIONALITY OF MARRIED WOMEN.

FORTUNE is specially favouring the propaganda of the Alliance on this subject. The most representative international organization of jurists, the International Law Association, is holding a special conference in London on October 4th and 5th on the question of nationality and naturalization, under the chairmanship of Dr. Estanislao. The discussion is to be opened by Dr. E. J. Schuster, K.C., LL.D., in a paper on "The Effect of Marriage on Nationality." Dr. Schuster is a strong supporter of the view that women should have the independent right to their own nationality. The discussion will, therefore, have the most favourable start. As Chairman of the I.W.S.A. Committee on the subject, I have been invited to attend and to bring other members of the Committee, and am to be given an opportunity to put the case of the Alliance. The Draft International Convention adopted at Rome will thus be placed before this important organization.

As the meeting will be attended by representatives from a number of countries we specially hope that some other members of our Committee may also be able to be present.

CHRISTAL MACMILLAN,
Chairman of Committee.

CHINA.

MISS W. T. ZUNG writes that the Shanghai branch of the Women's Rights League intends to apply for affiliation, and that meanwhile a great effort will be made to unite all the branches so as to put the movement on a national basis. The movement was started in Peking in August, 1922, by a few women, whose example was at once followed by women in other cities and provinces. As most of the active workers in Peking are students, there is no definite headquarters with office organization; Peking has not felt able to constitute itself the headquarters and to assume responsibility for organizing a national movement, so the branches have acted independently.

DENMARK.

Large Legacy for Women's Education.

SINCE the Congress at Rome, only one thing has happened here of international interest. The Danish Auxiliary to I.W.S.A., "Dansk Kvindesamfund," has received the trusteeship of a legacy of 200,000 Danish crowns (at pre-war rate of exchange, over £10,000), the interest of which is to be disposed of yearly in shares of not less than 300 crowns to young women who are in need of assistance towards the cost of education, to enable them to be self-supporting. This large sum has been bequeathed by the late Judge at the Court of Appeal, Victor Andrae in memory of his mother, a most distinguished woman, Mrs. Hansine Pouline Andrae. Mr. Victor Andrae had already, years ago, together with his brother, handed over to Dansk Kvindesamfund 30,000 crowns as a legacy bearing their mother's name, the interest of which was destined to the same object. It will now be possible for the board of Dansk Kvindesamfund to dispose of a considerable sum yearly to help young women forwards, and, of course, this munificent gift has been a great encouragement in the daily work.

Feminist Organization.

As there are no other events to put on record, it would perhaps be of some interest for the readers of JUS SUFFRAGII to hear a little about the organization of the everyday work of the Danish Auxiliary to I.W.S.A., Dansk Kvindesamfund.

Dansk Kvindesamfund is an old organization (fifty-two years). When Danish women obtained the vote, the leaders were of the opinion that there would, however, still be ample work for a national organization where women of all political parties could co-operate on women's questions, even if many of them took up party work besides. Time has proved that this opinion was right, and our officers have had plenty of work to do, according to the lines set forth in Section I in our Constitution, as it stands since we got full enfranchisement.

The object of Dansk Kvindesamfund is:—

- To educate women to the responsibility and work of the fully-enfranchised citizen.
- To work for the promotion of women's full equality with men in family, society and State.
- To improve the living conditions of women and children, particularly through legislation.

The main work has been organized in three "Centrals," following the three points set forth above. Each Central has its president, taken from the board of officers, who organizes the work in the standing committees of her Central and reports on this work at the annual meeting of delegates from the local branches all over the country.

Central I. is the Educational Department, with standing committees regarding (a) instruction in public schools for children and continuation schools; (b) courses of different kinds for adult women (in sociology, household and sewing, motherhood); (c) domestic work. During many years the courses arranged have been of great value, not only to the pupils for the practical knowledge

obtained therefrom, but also to Dansk Kvindesamfund, because this work helps our organization to come in touch with thousands of women all over the country. The Government has recognized the usefulness of this work through a yearly subvention towards the expenses.

Central II., Full Equality between Men and Women, has standing committees on: (a) Equal pay and right to work; (b) family laws; (c) equal moral standard; (d) married women's nationality. The President of the Equal Pay and Right to Work Committee is Miss Anna Westergaard, Traffic Assistant at the Danish State Railways. Miss Westergaard has contributed effectively to the fact that women obtained equal pay in the service of the State, and she is a very active president of her committee, seizing every occasion to do practical work. Recently a certain chief of administration in Copenhagen would maintain that although equal pay for men and women was the rule, the men ought to have the promotions to the higher posts, because they had to provide for a family. Now a promotion was to take place, for which a particular woman was fully qualified, whilst the chief in question was preparing the nomination of a younger, married man. The women of the office in question asked Miss Westergaard for Dansk Kvindesamfund's assistance, which Miss Westergaard, as President for the Equal Pay Committee, promptly organized, and, through intervention to higher authorities, the promotion was secured for the qualified woman. The Committee on Married Women's Nationality has handed the Draft Convention from the Rome Congress to the Danish Ministry of Interior, but so far we do not know the attitude of the Government to this proposal.

Central III. is called the Children's Central. It has standing committees regarding children born out of wedlock, widow's children, and other questions regarding children.

Besides the committee work described summarily above, a constant look out is kept on what is going on in Parliament in order to step in with petitions or arrange public meetings, where action is needed regarding women's interests. Local branches all over the country may take up local questions, and are, of course, holding meetings, for which speakers must often be provided from headquarters. When elections come on, the different political parties are asked to put a sufficient number of women candidates on their lists, and public meetings are arranged with speakers from all political parties in order to interest women voters to do their duty at election day.

Such is the everyday work of the Danish Auxiliary to I.W.S.A., and we think that it has been useful, although we have now got the vote and have women sitting in Parliament.

LOUISE NEERGAARD,

Secretary of Dansk Kvindesamfund.

Copenhagen, September 14, 1923.

GERMANY.

The New Bill Against Alcoholism.

IN spite of the strong opposition the temperance idea had to meet with in public opinion, especially among the alcohol capitalists, in the fatherland of Rhine wine and Bavarian beer, the temperance movement had been spreading steadily already before the war. This was due to a number of national organizations who, following the example of the Scandinavian countries, as well as of the United States, worked on different lines: either for limitation or for total prohibition of alcoholic drinks. Amongst them the Association of Abstinent Women (Deutscher Bund abstinenten Frauen), founded 1901, and affiliated to the World's Women's Christian Temperance Union, belonging to the latter group, always had a considerable share. It was rather difficult to rouse understanding and interest on the question in women's local and national organizations; but when once they had grasped its immense importance for the welfare of women and children, for family life and national health and

culture, they eagerly took up the fight against alcoholism, and their work on this line has proved particularly effective.

During the war the consumption of alcoholic drinks had from genuine reasons, and by compulsory measures, considerably diminished, and with the consumption the many evils resulting from it: drunkenness, delirium, diseases of different kinds, moral offences, crime. Since 1918, after the removal of those measures, as a matter of course, all the evils of alcoholism showed themselves again, and are increasing rapidly and in an alarming degree, as the figures of the drunkards and lunatic asylums and the medical and criminal statistics show. But, accordingly, in the meantime the struggle against the evils and their only fatal source likewise increased, and became much more intensive and energetic than before, involving wide circles which formerly were indifferent or even hostile to the movement. Not only the physicians and teachers but also the clergy more and more declared themselves in favour of prohibition, and it must be recorded as a particularly good omen for the future that the organizations of the youth, boys and girls, at their national and local conventions, passed strong resolutions to the same effect. In a petition to the Reichstag the different groups, embracing not less than two million members, recently joined in claiming prohibition of the sale of all alcoholic drinks to persons under 18 years. The most significant fact seems, however, a resolution in favour of the anti-alcoholic movement passed in the last convention of the Socialist party, in Görlitz. It was, further, self-evident that, in view of all these endeavours and the general need, women would not be backward. The work of the Deutscher Bund abstinenten Frauen shows, indeed, in spite of the difficulties of the time, considerable progress and success on all lines: in organization and propaganda, as well as in practical undertakings.

So the time had come, at last, also for the Government to take legal measures in this direction which hitherto it always had hesitated to do with regard to the brewer and innkeeper taxpayers. A new Bill for Public Houses (Schankstättengesetz), which in June was brought before the Reichstag and passed its first reading, is at present under discussion in the Committee on Population Politics, and will probably return to the Reichstag for second and third reading in October. It does by no means cover the wishes of the anti-alcoholists, or answer the needs of the day, but it is at least a beginning, the first official step on the way to our aims.

The most characteristic feature of the Bill is that it makes possible local option for new licences, i.e., no provision is made for a national legal regulation in this direction; it is left, explicitly, to the legislatures of the single States whether they may or may not introduce local option in their territories. It is obvious that—though the possibility of this long-striven-for reform is given at last—this means new hard struggles within the respective States, before the possibility may become certainty. But even if this be the case, there are other limitations in the Bill which would make local option rather ineffective, as e.g., the clause that one-fifth of the voters must vote it; that at least seventy-five per cent. must have voted on it; that only by a two-thirds majority a licence can be denied, etc. Other drawbacks on behalf of licences—which as a rule shall be granted only in case of "want"—likewise meet with the disapproval of the anti-alcoholists: that, e.g., no licence shall be necessary for the sale of bottled beer; that licences shall be given for lifetime; that the sale of brandy is allowed Sundays, etc. One great progress, on the other hand, is the paragraph forbidding the sale of brandy and all liquor of that kind to persons under 18 years. But as, however, wine and beer are to be forbidden only for children under 16, it seems absolutely necessary to raise the age for these beverages, as well as for the sale of cigars and tobacco, likewise to 18 years.

It is to be hoped that the Bill will, in the Committee and finally in the Reichstag, be amended on the lines we desire. Anyhow, the draft clearly shows that we are still very far from their accomplishment and that very

much work is still to be done. In her short address at the last Congress of the W.W.C.T.U. in Philadelphia, in November, 1922, the valiant president of the Deutscher Bund abstinenten Frauen, Frau von Blücher pledged herself that they would do their utmost "to get Germany dry by 1930." The German women will, I am sure, not lose courage and confidence in the final victory, even if the goal should be reached a little later.

MARIE STRITT.

Dresden, September 20.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Women and Science.

THE ninety-first annual meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Learning met in Liverpool. Women took part in considerable numbers. Dr. Gertrude Ellis, M.B.E., was President of the Geology Section, and chose for the subject of her presidential address "Evolutional Palaeontology in Relation to the Lower Palaeozoic Rocks." In the sections dealing with Anthropology, Geography, Education, Botany, Biology, Psychology, and Economics, women read papers or took part in the discussion. The meeting next year will be held in Toronto, Canada.

Science has recently lost a distinguished representative by the death of Mrs. Hertha Ayrton. Mrs. Ayrton leaves behind her a record of original work which few women in this country can show as a writer and inventor. In 1915 she invented a fan for protection against poison gas, which was used during the war. Mrs. Ayrton took an active part in the suffrage movement, but possibly it was her career even more than her suffrage work which helped forward the cause of women, by showing what use a woman could make of equality of opportunity.

Mrs. Fawcett's Reminiscences.

Mrs. Henry Fawcett, J.P., LL.D., whose name needs no introduction to readers of this paper, is contributing weekly articles to the *Women's Leader* under the title of "What I Remember." During Mrs. Fawcett's long life she has been brought into contact with most of that which is best worth knowing in the academic and political life of her time. Her early chapters deal with her childish recollections of Aldeburgh, the East Coast town where she was born, and her introduction at an early age to politics during the Crimean war. It is fascinating reading—the simple tales of gallant rescues at sea and humble local friends, her first impressions of London in the 'fifties, and it will be more fascinating still as she reaches her approach when still a young girl to the arena of politics.

It is seldom that such vivid memories of bygone times are given to the world by one who is still actually engaged in public work as a Metropolitan Magistrate and in many other directions. These reminiscences will no doubt appear later in book form, but many admirers of Mrs. Fawcett will be glad to read them first in the paper so closely associated with Mrs. Fawcett's work for woman's suffrage.

Our Own Concerns.

The Summer School at Portinscale, Keswick, has, we hear, made an excellent beginning, but it is too soon to give any report of its proceedings. When this is over the National Union, both at headquarters and in its societies, will settle down to a heavy winter's work. Arrangements have already been made for a vigorous campaign in connection with the Bill for Equal Guardianship of Children, still under consideration by a Joint Parliamentary Committee, and in connection with Pensions for Civilian Widows. A mass meeting on the inequalities between the vows of man and woman in the marriage service has been fixed for November 12, at which the Countess of Selborne and Miss Maude Royden will speak.

A reception in honour of Dame Edith Lyttleton, substitute delegate to the Assembly of the League of Nations, has also been arranged.

The National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship.

IRELAND.

The Irish Elections.

THE August elections are of much interest to feminists. For the first time men and women voted on a basis of complete equality. Every citizen of the Irish Free State over the age of twenty-one possesses the franchise and the word "citizen" is interpreted "without distinction of sex." Thus the franchise differs from that in Great Britain, where the vote, with certain exceptions, is given only to women over thirty. The restriction was probably due to the fear lest the large increase in the electorate involved in the enfranchisement of all women over twenty-one would be too dangerous an experiment. This fear was evidently shared by many in the Free State, as is shown by a remark in the *Irish Independent*: "As for the new electorate, it is fair to assume that many of them voted Republican, as women between twenty-one and thirty voted for the first time." The figures, however, do not support this view. The election was fought on a register including 400,000 new names, mostly young men and women. The proportionate strength in the Dail of the official anti-treaty forces has remained practically stationary, the increase being only six votes per thousand. These figures show that in reality the influence of the young woman does not produce any revolutionary change. Strange to say, she is influenced by much the same motives as the older woman and the older man. Indeed one could almost wish that some striking change had followed the admission of the woman under thirty to the franchise. In County Dublin the Republican candidate, a well-known woman doctor, an enthusiastic worker in all causes involving the welfare of women and children, was returned, but by a majority which did not rise to the spectacular heights reached by other women whose claims rested mainly on their political services. The young women of Ireland still seem to have followed the old traditional lines, and to have thought for the most part only of the one issue. The dissensions in the Irish Labour Party account in part for the large number of non-voters, probably including many young working women. However, if the ardent feminist is annoyed by the figures, there is no reason why ordinary politicians should be allowed to use them as an argument for delaying the grant of equal suffrage. They should be reassured by evidence that even that dangerous young person, the woman under thirty, will show a remarkable tendency to follow the beaten tracks of party voting, at least when, as in this case, the issue is vital to the national existence.

As for proportional representation, which was the electoral method employed, it may be said that it has made good. To quote Lord Monteagle, who writes as a representative of the Proportional Representation Society, "In County Dublin the twenty thousand odd papers which gave first preference to the Government candidate showed second choices, the great bulk of which were cast for other Government candidates, and the balance, on a descending and obviously reasoned scale, for the other parties. Similarly in South Dublin City, the transfers from the Government candidate went with few exceptions to other Government candidates, and the same is true of Carlow and Kilkenny. These figures go far to dispel the rumours of reckless voting. Do they not also go to show that the proportional representative system reflected the views of the Irish electorate? It also appealed, notwithstanding its novelty, in a surprising degree to their intelligence and cannot fail to stimulate their political education."

An examination of the figures shows that the remark about "reflection of the mind of the electorate" is literally true. On the actual voting, the Government would have been entitled to 57.3 seats in the new Dail, and the Republicans to 40.4; the number of seats actually obtained was 60 and 44 respectively. Thus proportional representation really gives the voter that share in the personnel of the elected Assembly to which the numerical strength of his group entitles him.

As regards women candidates, seven stood and five were elected. In one instance a Republican woman was defeated by one of her own party; in another, a woman

of the same party was returned head of the poll. The figures show four Republican women elected and one member of the Government party, sister of the late General Collins. Feminism had little to do with the matter in any case. It is the realization of this fact that has led to the formation of a new society, called the Women's Independent Association. To quote the hon. sec. of this body, "A number of women, representative of all parties, have come to the conclusion that no further time must be lost in endeavouring to secure an adequate representation of women on Local Government bodies and in the Oireachtas. The entry into public life of women prepared to put the welfare of the community, especially of children, before any party issue, is bound to have far-reaching results."

With proposals for reform in the judicial system, in Local Government and in the methods of Poor Law administration, promised for the new Dail, there is certainly need for such an effort on the part of women who put the interests of women and children before those of party. It is a hopeful augury that the effort is being made.

DORA MELLONE.

INDIA.

The First Woman Councillor in Burma.

THE recent reforms gave the Burmese Municipal Councils the right for the first time to elect women as Councillors. With great and commendable public spirit one of the most popular women in Rangoon stood for election at the first opportunity, and so pleased were the electorate to have this Doctor C. Kingsley that over 500 signed her candidature form and no other candidate would oppose her. Miss Kingsley has accordingly been returned unopposed as the first Woman Councillor of the Rangoon Corporation and sets a precedent for all Burma. We offer her our heartiest congratulations and feel sure that the interests of the women and children will be secure in her hands.

Dr. Kingsley's History.

Miss Kingsley comes from an old Burmese family and lived in her childhood in Moulmein and Prome. She was first educated in the Government High School, Moulmein, and later came to a school in Bangalore. On her return from India she became a student of Rangoon College, where she took her Arts degree. She then went to Calcutta and took her Medical degree there, after which she started to practise as a doctor in Rangoon, in 1910. Between 1911 and 1914 she studied in London and Dublin, taking further degrees. Since her return to Rangoon she has built up a large practice amongst all communities. The Editor of *Stri Dharma* met her there last year and was struck by her atmosphere of dedication to the improvement of humanity. She has done a great deal of social work in Rangoon, the most striking being the prominent part she took some years ago in a "purity crusade," which resulted in the closing of a number of houses of ill-fame in the very heart of the city and the introduction of the Burma Brothels Act. She has been a great advocate of Temperance, and given lectures to women on first-aid and other topics of interest. We wish her great strength of body to carry through her noble mission of civic purification, for to take on a further public responsibility must be a strain on one who is already overworked.

The Social Evil in India.

The Calcutta Legislative Council has taken a fine step forward by introducing a Bill for the Suppression of Immoral Traffic, which was received and referred to a Select Committee without a dissentient voice being raised. The object of the Bill is to make it illegal and punishable for certain classes of people to make money through the immorality of others. These are gariwallas and rickshawallas who help in solicitation, landlords who let out houses for brothels, and finally procurers of girls for such places. The Bill has provided for the deportation of the last-named, which is the only punishment fit for them, for they are not fit to live amongst civilized people.

The Select Committee recommended that when a girl of under 16 has been rescued from a disorderly house

the Court may detain her under the procedure laid down by the Bengal Children's Act until the age of 18 instead of 16 as first proposed, and that the punishment possible for all those who live on the earnings should be made more severe. It considers that whipping should be authorized for males, as fines are not a sufficient deterrent. We women do not like the idea of whipping; some form of segregation or deportation is more desirable.

It is very necessary that private effort through the establishment of Rescue Homes shall supplement this fine and prompt attempt of the Bengal Councillors to cleanse their city of a foul evil, which the Chairman of the Corporation says employs 38,000 women in the city, and brings into it 1,200 fresh victims yearly.

Bombay's Purity Campaign.

Just at this same time, but a year after the Report on Prostitution had been published, the Bombay Government have passed a Bill to amend the law relating to prostitution in Bombay City. It deals with professional and commercialized vice only and aims primarily at making it impossible for procurers to induce (1) any woman whatever to this life, (2) or to induce any woman under 18 to any illicit intercourse whatever. The Bill does not make any mistress or landlord of such houses punishable and thus it falls far short of the Calcutta Bill and of women reformers' wishes. Also it is only fooling with a most serious subject when the Bill provides a punishment of two years only for persons who detain inmates of a brothel *against their will*—though already in the general law of the land anyone who confines another for 10 days or more against their will may get a term of imprisonment extending to three years. The Bombay Bill is not thorough and it is not based on big principles. It fiddles with details instead of striking at roots. Still, anything is better than nothing, and it is good to see the social conscience waking on this matter which is so wrapped up with the happiness of women, both pure and fallen. The subject is not one which anyone of us likes to think of, but it is our duty to know the truth and to cleanse the dark places in our cities. Ignorance is not innocence. Knowledge of the evil in the world, and the power to withstand its temptations is true innocence. We hope that the Bombay Council will very soon amend its Bill in many particulars.

Stri Dharma,

Official Organ of the Women's Indian Association.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Women's Enfranchisement Association of the Union of South Africa.

Parliamentary Report.

THERE were several Bills of special interest to women before the House last session, the most important of which was the Women's Enfranchisement Bill, which was introduced by General Byron, and defeated by one vote on the second reading. The division was lost, because promises given by some members were deliberately broken, as on former occasions. These members were, therefore, directly responsible for the defeat of the Bill.

If the second reading had been passed the Bill would have been referred to a Select Committee. The results of this would have probably been a drastic revision of the Bill in its present form, such as a qualified franchise for women; to which the House might have possibly agreed. On the other hand, the result of the deliberation of the Select Committee (the members of which would have been chosen from opponents as well as supporters of the Bill) might have ended in a complete deadlock. Failing a Government measure, a private member's Bill will be introduced again next session.

Mr. Close introduced a Bill to amend Section 2 of the Girls' and Mentally Defective Women's Protection Act of 1916, by the deletion of the first provision of this section, by which the accused is allowed to plead as a defence that he had reason to believe that the girl was a prostitute. This Bill passed its second reading last year, but was wrecked in Committee; this year it has again been defeated. Mr. Close will, no doubt, re-introduce the Bill next session, but there is little hope of

its being carried through the House until women become voters.

THE MAINTENANCE ORDER BILL. This is a short measure to facilitate the enforcement in the Union of Maintenance Orders made in any other part of the Dominions and vice versa. This Bill has now become law.

THE WOMEN LAWYERS BILL, introduced by General Byron in 1922, was again brought forward this year, and has been placed on the Statute Book.

An important and long-needed measure has been brought forward by Mr. Feetham, to provide for the adoption of children. The Bill is based on the New Zealand Act; it is somewhat lengthy, and provides in detail for the status of the adopted child, by whom it may be adopted, and magisterial powers regarding provisional and final orders of adoption. An unmarried man may not adopt a female child unless he is 40 years older than the child; if the child is a boy, he must be 20 years older. The same regulations apply to an unmarried woman; she is required to be 40 years older than a male child and 20 years older than a female child.

THE MEDICAL AND PHARMACY BILL, introduced by the Minister of Health, contains clauses of special interest to trained nurses and mid-wives. The Trained Nurses' Association represented their views in regard to these clauses before a Select Committee. The Bill was shelved, but the secretary of the Trained Nurses' Association thinks it will be introduced early next session.

THE CIVIL SERVICE BILL, introduced by the Minister of the Interior, and sent to a Select Committee, vitally concerns the status and pay of the women in the service. If equality were once achieved by women in the Civil Service, we should have created a precedent which local authorities would soon find it almost impossible not to follow. Evidence was given by members of the Civil Service, and by the Parliamentary Secretary of the W.E.A.U. at the request of the Civil Service women.

This Bill has become law. There is no idea of establishing equal pay, but under the new regulations the women lose less than the men.

There seems to be grave need at the moment for the most careful and thorough investigation of the whole question of women's wages in the various trades. The wages boards are not working as well as we hoped they would; the result of this is that in many cases women and girls are being paid at a rate far below the standard of decent subsistence. I would urge the Women's organizations to give this question the most careful consideration, with a view to united action being taken to secure better conditions in this respect. The bad housing and the underpaying of women are, in my opinion, two of the most vital questions which we have to tackle before general conditions can be materially improved.

LUCY JOHNSTONE SCOTT.

URUGUAY.

Women as Notaries.

The Feminist Alliance has started an intense campaign to obtain the admission of women to the profession of notary. Their admission is strongly opposed by the men.

Dr. Paulina Luisi, president of the Uruguayan Alliance, has obtained a promise from the Parliamentary party "Colorado Batlista" to support the Bill giving women access to this profession.

The Traffic in Women.

Dr. Luisi, in an interview with the President of the Council of State and with the President of the Republic, asked them to hasten the signature of the Convention of 1921 against the traffic in women. The two Presidents promised their support. The point is to carry out modifications of the Penal Code to put it in agreement with the above Convention.

The Feminist Alliance, for its part, is working actively for the same purpose. We hope to be able to communicate shortly the news of the signing of the Convention of 1921.

R. MAUTHONE FALCO,

Secretary.

WOMAN IN PRESENT-DAY TURKEY.

By ARTHUR FIELD,

Secretary of the Anglo-Turkish Society.

WHEN we are asked what is the progress to-day in Turkey of the emancipation of woman, we feel constrained to preface our reply by a brief profession of faith. Here it is: We protest emphatically against the still widely current belief that woman in Turkey has been a slave, as compared with woman in Christendom, as a whole.

Methods and customs have been different, it is true; it is hardly necessary to admit it. The balance has sometimes inclined a trifle to the side of the Christian countries; at others it appeared to favour the women in a Muslim country like Turkey. For instance, the right of a married woman to her own property, only gained in England late in the last century, has been enjoyed for many centuries in Turkey.

"But she has been cooped up in a prison." It is untrue. The work of Miss Grace Ellison (1915), "An Englishwoman in a Turkish Harem," gives a proper perspective of the old Turkish, or, indeed, orthodox Muslim, view as to feminine propriety. To show how very much it is a matter of etiquette and culture, one should ask this question of a well-bred English lady: "Is it not slavery to say that a woman shall not walk unattended in London streets at 2 a.m.?" The interrogated lady simply *doesn't want to*. If she were compelled to, she would find means of being accompanied or escorted.

The veil, too; oh, that veil, what writing it has forced us to do! The veil was a custom, an etiquette—not a religious observance or an emblem of servitude. It is absent in many parts of Islam—generally the more plebeian or simple parts. People of breeding and education in Turkey would no more have desired to be unveiled than an English lady would claim the right to walk Regent Street in ball-dress on a Saturday afternoon.

The veil was an imperial "swank," borrowed from the sumptuous court of the Byzantines, to whom the Turks succeeded. They copied this display of the "protection of the noble ladies" from the vulgar gaze of the mob and the savage auxiliaries (supposed, incredibly, to be more lustful than the Byzantine upper classes).

So the veil was, originally, an emblem of sumptuous sanctity and protection. When, however, the growth of opinion transformed it into an emblem of feminine inferiority, the movement to abandon the veil was adopted by Turkish ladies of the very highest rank. The audacity of foreign "crooks" and loafers in Constantinople, the familiarity of low persons, and the taunts of the offended conservatives, combined to sicken these ladies of their brave experiment.

A feminist movement has been going on for years. All ladies receiving education abroad, or influenced (not always nicely) by English and French governesses at home, have submitted more or less to the influence of feminist views. When the New Turk revolution of 1908 swept away a lot of old obstacles, the new authorities were very ready to accord a sympathetic hand to a movement for the abolition of the old outward signs that woman was different in the State from man. Unfortunately, the movement was swamped by the excesses that accompanied it. I will not go into that here. Feminism went very much out of favour for a time.

Nothing, however, could really prevent its ultimate triumph. What stood most in its way was, in my opinion, the fatal resemblance between the customs of emancipated women and the customs of the painted ladies of the foreign quarter. The conservative and the hesitating radical Turkish ladies would say: "We are to remove the veil, go unattended or accompanied by strangers; wear indoor costumes out of doors, showing the figure and exposing our hair and hands; parade the streets at night, and appear in the company of anyone, or alone, at theatres and concerts. Well, that is exactly what the gay women do!"

To this day such considerations do operate, but then the objectors are chiefly "elderly persons, you know." The young are "going to have a shot at it."

Some of the shots will inevitably be of the boomerang variety. Nevertheless, the tide has turned, and it is nearly fashionable to do to-day what was vulgar and therefore proscribed in the past.

It is to the war that the immense impulsion now evident in the direction of feminine emancipation is due. The feminist movement was there, but it was marking time, before the war. The war opened up many closed avenues, and women poured in. Turkey was forced to call all Turks (more or less) to arms. Many of these Turks had filled offices or followed employments in business enterprises or mercantile establishments. To replace them during their absence, the women were, as here, called upon. As many were found to be, not the "illiterate slaves of the harem," as our kind Christian friends used to say, but educated, intelligent and capable women, they were engaged not only as nurses but in the public offices, even in the Ministries. Women were everywhere, in shops and restaurants, on the one hand; in Government bureaus and public offices, on the other. As with those who have to work, as with the poor field-workers or workers in vineyards or dried-fruit establishments, the veil yielded to industrial needs. These employees and public servants had to cast aside the veil. They proved capable, and that was more important than the question of veils. The war over, they might have returned to their home fires. But events have demanded a large force of public servants, and have removed many of the old-time occupants and to some extent the class that filled such posts. The women therefore remained at their posts. Big numbers of the old official (male) class are in the most terrible distress. Woman has not so much "come into her own," as dropped into someone else's. Thus was woman ushered into public life. Woman, attired in full libertarian regalia of male boots and breeches, sweeps the streets in Constantinople. She has the further satisfaction that while the sweeping away of the old system of home protection has not given her a "cushy job," her better educated sisters are in society gatherings, at colleges as lecturers, in shops and merchant offices, markets, the newspaper offices, the stalls of the theatres and the super-cinemas, speech-making, and so on.

Furthermore, this side of feminine emancipation in a great city is not completely described without a reference to the smashing, or at least cracking, of good old characteristics of the respectable past. The sobriety and decency of the old Muslim life are in the melting-pot. Abstinence from alcohol, and even from alcoholic liquors—a result of religious tradition and its extension to modern potables—is no longer so universal. Hostesses serve not only liqueurs at dinner, but wine and even spirits. Alaeddin Haidar, in the journal *Echos de l'Islam*, says: "Strangers arriving in Constantinople believing Turkish women are 'désenchantées,' veiled and remaining in their harem after sunset, are very astonished to see Turkish ladies in full toilette, accompanied by their husbands at evening parties, dancing perfectly the shimmy and the foxtrot with secretaries of foreign legations and French officers." The correspondent is as delighted at this "sign of the times" as any pop-eyed Rube on an Atlantic bathing beach. For myself, well, I am just a little sad.

A dear friend of mine, and of Turkey, wrote the following charming little scrap in the *Daily Dispatch* (Manchester):—

There has come into our hands a little paper which, to say the least of it, is startling. It is called the *Indji*, which means "pearl" in Turkish, and it is something in the nature of a *Vie Parisienne*—I should say *Vie Constantinopolitaine*—but not quite. Some of the coloured illustrations are worthy of reproduction. In the olden days, up to the Armistice, in fact, Turkish girls from the age of about 13 wore the "tcharshaff" when going about town or paying formal calls. If the police came across a "hanoum" (Turkish lady) wearing a hat or even a too eccentric "tcharshaff," she, or generally her husband

or father, got into trouble. It should be explained that this alarming-sounding costume merely consisted of an elbow-long cape, which also covered the head and neck. A thin veil hanging down in front (but more often thrown back) completed the regulation armour against the indiscreet gaze of man. What would the old-fashioned and turbaned Turks say now? For we notice a certain tinge of our own "beginning late and leaving off early" habits. It is said that an old Turk from the provinces, on his first visit to Constantinople for over twenty years, remarked to an acquaintance, "Well, well, I have often heard of these Christian young women, and really, though of course not dressed according to *our* ideas, they are quite charming."

"Hamdi Effendi," laughingly replied the other, "prepare for a shock. Those delicious creatures you refer to are young *Turkish-Moslem* ladies." Hamdi Effendi fled away muttering "Allah, Allah."

Now, this sounds very nice, but here comes the *envoi*. Speaking of this anecdote to a Turkish friend, he said at once: "I know of that incident. The delicious creatures were courtesans. The horror of the old Muslim arose from being told that they were—what heretofore has been a thing unknown—Muslim-Turkish girls."

Well, we will pass over this painful part of the story, and join our friends in their joy at the precious revolution by which young ladies have replaced men as interpreters, secretaries or "shorthand-stenogs." Over and beyond the external eruptions attending this change, the fact of an internal revolution is indisputable. Turkish women in Constantinople need no longer fight for their independence; they are now concentrating on equal political rights. In a meeting at Stamboul (Constantinople) University they stated that women mean to participate in the legislative and municipal elections.

Nevertheless, Constantinople is not Turkey. And in the new political regime it has not only ceased to be the capital, but its old influence is under a cloud. Smyrna is a far more important commercial city, and is not bitten, like Constantinople, with the cult of the "shimmy" and the foxtrot. Angora, the Anatolian capital and seat of the Assembly, is a simple little town, in process of feverish extension and reconstruction. There all the blessings of modernity are looked on with far more coolness than in cosmopolitan Constantinople. The picture of modernism which fills my previous lines does not apply to all classes, to any city or town other than Constantinople, nor to the basic Turkish life of Asia Minor (Anatolia). Of the rational part of feminine development, Angora and Anatolia will approve. The director of the Red Crescent (equivalent in Muslim lands to our Red Cross) at Angora is a woman. Women are filtering into the Government offices at Angora. Even in Constantinople there are defensive movements at work. The new relations which have been started between Muslim women and Christians, often of no very good record, are looked upon with distrust by the general public. The Administration has considered it best, in view of certain incidents, to continue to reserve special compartments for ladies in trams, boats and trains, while certain thoroughfares of a notorious international character and certain public establishments, like cafés and dance-halls, are still prohibited to Muslim women.

The *Ikdam* reports a movement among women of higher education in Constantinople in support of political rights for Turkish women. They say they are not impelled by an international example. They have been stirred to action by feeling the need for mutual help in the public field between Turkish men and Turkish women. They consider that the late war and recent events have proved that if the sex had been represented, no matter how little, in the Turkish Assembly, the country would have greatly profited by it. The nine fundamental principles of the Ministerialist party ("Defence of Turkish Rights" group) are of prime interest to women. For example, "Economic Development of Turkey."

"However," say these ladies, "we do not ignore the present level of our sisters, and we are not partisans of a precipitate action. . . . Our motto will not be 'hurry

up,' but will consist in moderation and prudence. . . . People who accuse us of being frivolous, and of having only theoretical ideas, will soon recognize their grave error. For the present we have not formed a definite programme, but will fix it later in consultation with our fellow-women. We hope to arrive at a programme, or else to secure the addition to the Defence of Rights programme of some stipulations directly interesting the women's world. At the approaching Congress which we shall hold we will convene all the graduates of the higher schools for women, and ladies who are distinguished by superior culture and their intellectual record."

This movement is directed by the following ladies: Neziheh Mouheddin, Latifeh Behir, Nimet Remedeh, Zeliha, Matloubeh Eumer, Nadjeh Said, Lénich Izzeddin, Nasimeh Ibrahim, and Nadjeh Naim Hanoums (Mesdames).

BOOK NOTICES.

International Reviews and Publications.

"THE MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS" for August 15, reports on the twenty-fifth session of the Council. Its contents include:—

(1.) The Permanent Court of International Justice, Third Session; Status of Eastern Carelia; the s.s. "Wimbledon."

(2.) The Financial Reconstruction of Austria.

(3.) Reduction of Armaments—preparation of a draft Treaty of Mutual Guarantee; proposal for demilitarized zones between States with a view to avoiding wars, and to facilitating the definition of the aggressor State in case of hostilities.

(4.) International Agreements.

(5.) Technical Organizations—the Provisional Health Organization; the League Health Committee and the Rockefeller Foundation; Constitution of the Permanent Health Organization; Economic and Financial Organization; Communications and Transit.

(6.) Administrative Questions—Danzig; the Saar.

(7.) Protection of Minorities in Albania, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland.

(8.) Political Questions—Hungary and Roumania.

(9.) Social and Humanitarian Questions—Refugees, Opium, Traffic in Women, and Slavery.

"THE WORLD'S HEALTH," monthly organ of the League of Red Cross Societies. The August number contains a notice of an International course of training in public health nursing, to be held at Bedford College for Women, University of London. Among the many interesting articles in this number are:—

An Account of the Canadian League of Youth for Health.

The New Garden City at Rheims.

Sidelights on Child Welfare in India.

The Spanish Red Cross.

*A Health Circus in Czecho-Slovakia.

CORRECTION TO THE ROME CONGRESS REPORT.

Miss Rosa Manus, Secretary of the Dutch National Committee for International Affairs, asks us to make a correction in the Report of the Election of the Board on page 70 of the Congress Report, where it is stated that Mrs. Ramondt-Hirschmann was nominated by Holland among other countries. Miss Manus points out that Mrs. Ramondt was not nominated by Holland, as the Dutch Committee had decided that only one Dutch member, namely, Miss Manus herself, should be nominated by Holland.

*N.B.—The Report on Jugo-Slavia is given in French on p. 13.

tout par conviction, mais par intérêt. Mais Mme Hristitch assistait toujours les sociétés suffragistes mêmes dans leurs efforts, quoique restant passive dans la question comme présidente du Conseil. Les esprits plus avancés auraient préféré qu'elle réclamât toujours et sans cesse le vote. Chez la feu présidente c'était une question de tactique et non de manque d'intérêt, et c'est grâce à son influence que le Gouvernement de Belgrade a déjà, à deux reprises, envoyé une déléguée officielle aux Congrès internationaux d'Alliance. Si les femmes de la Yougoslavie sentent aujourd'hui leurs grandes responsabilités, si elles cherchent à jouer un rôle effectif dans le gouvernement de leur pays, si elles obtiennent avant peu leurs droits politiques, elles en doivent beaucoup à l'énergie, au dévouement et à l'influence de la noble femme serbe qui vient de mourir.

NOUVELLES FÉMINISTES.

N.B.—This Section consists of a Summary of Reports contained in the English Section of the paper.

Afrique du Sud.—Un bill d'affranchissement et un bill de protection des femmes, proposés par la dernière Chambre, ont été rejetés. Une proposition de loi pour l'entrée des femmes dans le barreau et une autre pour l'adoption des enfants ont été acceptées. Le traitement des femmes fonctionnaires a été amélioré.

Un appel aux femmes de tous les pays.

A l'occasion du meeting des deux bureaux du Conseil international des femmes et de l'Alliance internationale pour le Suffrage, à Londres en novembre dernier, Mrs. Chapman Catt a suggéré la possibilité d'un congrès des principales sociétés féministes : Conseil international, Alliance internationale, Ligue internationale pour la paix et la liberté, Association chrétienne de jeunes filles, Fédération internationale des femmes universitaires, Union chrétienne de tempérance. Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon a été élue Présidente, et la Marquise d'Aberdeen a accepté de prendre la direction du congrès qui aura lieu en mars 1924. Le congrès aura pour objet de discuter les moyens de prévenir les guerres futures en travaillant à développer une mentalité internationale chez les individus et dans les gouvernements. Le Bureau central invite tous les Conseils nationaux à coopérer à ce congrès en annonçant dans les journaux des divers pays affiliés et en appuyant tout mouvement qui tendra à développer les sympathies et l'entente mutuelle entre les nations. Le congrès exclura de son programme toutes les controverses politiques et religieuses affectant les relations entre deux ou plusieurs pays. Il se défendra toute allusion à la dernière guerre et à ses suites politiques.

Programme du Congrès pour la prévention des causes de guerre.—Dans le passé, les relations entre les États ont été basées sur la force. Les guerres ont toujours suivi l'action diplomatique. Mais, en fait, la guerre est l'anarchie internationale.

Le principe de la Ligue des Nations a été de devenir l'instrument du droit international qui doit remplacer l'anarchie internationale, mais cet instrument ne peut fonctionner que par le pouvoir de l'esprit international.

L'objet de ce congrès est de discuter comment les femmes peuvent employer leur activité à développer l'esprit international : A) chez les individus; B) dans les gouvernements.

A. — L'ESPRIT INTERNATIONAL CHEZ LES INDIVIDUS.

I. — Bases morales et spirituelles des relations humaines.

Education de la liberté et de la responsabilité. Efforts vers la justice et la paix internationales. Intérêts et devoirs communs des mères de tous les pays.

II. — Education dans les écoles et les universités.

Histoire et géographie du point de vue international. Education civique internationale. Sports non militaires. Coopération intellectuelle entre nations.

III. — Education des citoyens en vue de considérer :

Les droits des autres nations dans l'usage des matières premières, les échanges commerciaux, l'émigration et l'immigration. Les droits des minorités dans leurs propres pays au point de vue de la langue, de la religion, de l'éducation et du service militaire. Les droits politiques des femmes. Les droits des travailleurs.

B. — L'ESPRIT INTERNATIONAL DANS LES GOUVERNEMENTS

I. — Accroissement de la sécurité par :

L'établissement d'une Ligue des Nations universelle; la réduction des armements tendant au désarmement final universel; l'extension des zones démilitarisées sous des garanties internationales; l'illégalité catégorique de la guerre.

II. — Contrôle démocratique des affaires étrangères

Parlements informés et consultés par leurs gouvernements, adaptation du service diplomatique aux conditions modernes. Mesures pour empêcher la publication de nouvelles inexactes sur les affaires extérieures. Popularisation de la Ligue des Nations.

III. — Organisation internationale des activités humaines.

Conventions internationales contre la traite des blanches; pour la maternité et les assurances, les industries, les transports et communications. Lutte contre la famine et les maladies.

IV. — Recours de tous les conflits à l'arbitrage ou la conciliation par une Cour de Justice internationale universelle.

V. — Résolutions.

Conseil législatif des femmes de l'Etat de Washington.

— DÉCLARATION DE PRINCIPES. — Considérant que dans une démocratie, tous les adultes doivent avoir les mêmes droits devant la loi dans l'industrie, le commerce et le gouvernement, indépendamment de la race, de la classe et du sexe, le Conseil réclame : un minimum de salaire, la journée de huit heures, une police pénale constructive et une morale égale pour les deux sexes. Il demande un système d'éducation qui arme tous les enfants pour la vie, la prohibition du trafic des liqueurs, une loi fédérale commune à toutes les provinces sur le mariage, le divorce, le travail des enfants, le suffrage. Il déclare que la nation étant une grande famille, les mères doivent être représentées dans toutes les branches du gouvernement.

Indes.—Grâce aux dernières réformes, le Conseil municipal de Burma a pu élire des conseillers féminins, Miss Kingley, docteur à Calcutta, a été élue à l'unanimité. Elle a fait ses études médicales à Rangoon, Londres et Dublin. Dans la lutte contre la prostitution et l'intempérance elle a réussi à faire voter des lois d'épuration.

Le Conseil législatif de Calcutta a présenté une loi pour la suppression de la traite des blanches. Ce projet de loi, qui a été accepté par la commission législative, est plus complet que celui du gouvernement de Bombay, qui n'intéresse que la prostitution légale.

Danemark.—La "Dansk Kvindesamfund," branche danoise de l'I.W.S.A., est une organisation qui date de 22 ans. Elle est dirigée par trois comités centraux, qui répondent aux trois objets suivants : 1° Education civique des femmes; 2° Droits égaux des sexes dans la famille, la société et l'État; 3° Amélioration du sort des femmes et des enfants. Ces trois "Centraux" ont des branches locales dans tous les pays. La Société vient de recevoir, du juge Victor Andrae, un legs de 200.000 couronnes pour la fondation de bourses d'étudiantes.

Elections en Irlande.—Pour la première fois, les hommes et les femmes ont voté sur les bases d'une complète égalité. Tandis qu'en Angleterre le vote n'est accordé qu'aux femmes âgées de plus de 30 ans, dans l'État libre d'Irlande, chaque citoyen, "sans distinction de sexe," a le droit de vote et d'éligibilité à partir de

21 ans. Il y avait sept candidates, dont cinq ont été élues : quatre républicaines et une du parti gouvernemental. Cette dernière est la sœur du général Collins.

Chine.—Un grand effort est fait en vue d'unir toutes les branches de la Ligue du droit des femmes, inaugurée à Pékin en 1922, de sorte que le mouvement deviendra national. La branche de Shanghai va demander son affiliation.

LATE NEWS.

I.C.W. CONFERENCE ON CAUSES OF WAR. (See page 2.)

In connection with the proposed I.C.W. Conference on the Prevention of the Causes of War, Mrs. Corbett Ashby addressed a letter, on behalf of the I.W.S.A., to the Marchioness of Aberdeen and Temair, on June 21, in which she stated that the invitation to take part in the Conference had been carefully and sympathetically considered by the Board, and that the Alliance did not feel able as a body to take part in the proposed Conference for the following reasons :—

That it was just emerging from its own Triennial Congress, and was therefore not in a position to give financial aid or undertake responsibility; that the Conference to be effective must pass definite and practical resolutions, but if the Alliance were held responsible for such resolutions, its own special suffrage work might be injured.

But the Alliance sends best wishes for the success of the Conference, with whose objects many of its auxiliaries and individual members are in warm sympathy.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Woman President of Trade Union Congress.

Miss Margaret Bondfield has been elected chairman of the General Council of the Trades Union Congress. She will hold the position for a year and by virtue of it will preside at next year's Congress. She is the first woman to be chosen for the chairmanship, and the appointment is a recognition both of the large part which women now take in trade unionism and of the consistent and conspicuously able service which Miss Bondfield has rendered to the industrial and the political Labour movement.

Miss Bondfield at 14 years of age was a shop assistant apprentice. Seven years later she was an active member of the Shop Assistants' Union, and in 1897 was appointed assistant secretary. Two years later she attended the Trades Union Congress—the first woman delegate. She became associated with Miss Mary Macarthur's movement for the organization of women workers, and continued it after Miss Macarthur's death. In 1921, when the National Federation of Women Workers was amalgamated with the General Workers' Union, Miss Bondfield became secretary of the women's section of the amalgamation. She was one of the British representatives at the Labour Convention at Washington in 1919, and again at Geneva in 1921. She opposed Mr. C. A. McCurdy, M.P., at Northampton at the last election.

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF OFFICERS AT GENEVA.

AS the Board Meeting came to an end only on Friday, September 28, it has been necessary to write only a very brief and hurried note of its deliberations in order to find a place at the very last moment in the October issue. Readers will please excuse any shortcomings.

It was decided in Rome that it was of the utmost

importance that the Board should meet as soon as possible so as to plan out the programme of work indicated by the Congress. The middle of September in Geneva was chosen as affording an opportunity for the members of the Board to get into touch with the women representatives attending the Assembly of the League of Nations. Unfortunately, the President of the Alliance was taken suddenly ill a few days before the date chosen, and the meeting had to be postponed till September 26, when the Assembly was nearly over and the rush of work accumulated by the departing delegates made communication difficult.

It is never easy for the International Board to muster its full number, and on this occasion there were unfortunately many absentees. Mrs. Corbett Ashby, Mme. de Witt Schlumberger, Frau Lindemann, Miss Sterling and Miss Gourd were able to be present, and Frau Schreiber Krieger was already in Switzerland when the sudden summoning of the Reichstag made it necessary for her to return immediately to Berlin. Many regrets were felt at the inevitable absence of Mrs. Catt, the Honorary President, and the other members, but still the Board was able to get through some very useful work.

Among other subjects, the Board discussed the important matters of action taken on the resolutions passed at Rome and the programme of general work before the Alliance. Among these the question of the Nationality of Married Women received special attention in the interviews accorded by the Secretary-General of the League and by the International Labour Office. The question of Women Inspectors, dealt with by a special resolution at Rome, was regarded as of special immediate importance in view of its impending discussion at the International Labour Conference, and Miss Gourd has been specially appointed to represent the Alliance at the meetings of the Conference, while it is a piece of great good fortune that Frau Arenholt, the Chairman of the Special Committee on Equal Pay and Right to Work, will attend the Conference as a technical expert appointed to the Danish Delegation.

The generous promise of the Leslie Commission to continue its contribution to the Alliance for the next three years has put the financial position on a better basis, but our members are reminded that work cannot properly be carried out without a real sufficiency of funds. It is hoped, therefore, that a very prompt and generous reply will be given to the appeal which the Honorary Treasurer proposes to make shortly.

It will be recalled that invitations have already been received for the next Congress, but, in accordance with the usual custom of the Alliance, the final acceptance was postponed till nearer the time when the Congress is to take place.

In fulfilment of the desire expressed in Rome for co-operation with the International Council of Women, it was decided to appoint Mrs. Corbett Ashby, Mme. de Witt Schlumberger and Frau Lindemann as delegates to the Congress on the Prevention of the Causes of War, to be held in London in March.

With regard to the next meeting of the Board, it was evident that no full attendance would be possible before the summer, but the members present felt that the interval would be too long, and that it would be worth while to take the opportunity afforded by the presence of at least three members of the Board in London on the occasion of the Congress referred to above, in order to have an interim meeting. The general view was that while partially attended meetings are not wholly satisfactory, they are, nevertheless, of great use in forwarding the work of the Alliance, and in keeping up its vitality.

The Board took the opportunity to express its great sympathy with the new Japanese Auxiliary on the terrible disaster of the earthquake, and to offer its condolences with its fellow-member, Dr. Ancona, on the death of her mother.

Congratulations are also to be sent on behalf of the Alliance to the Queen of Holland, on the occasion of her Jubilee, as being the only woman constitutional sovereign in the world.

In spite of the difficulties already referred to, the Board did not omit to take advantage of the unique opportunity for contact with the League of Nations. Mrs. Corbett Ashby had a brief but cordial interview with Sir Eric Drummond, the Secretary-General, and the whole Board was invited to visit the International Labour Office, where the Director, M. Albert Thomas, gave them a personal welcome, and where they had the opportunity of seeing and hearing much of the greatest interest and value, not only to the individual members, but also to the work of the Alliance in the future. Short visits were paid to the meetings of the Assembly, and brief glimpses were vouchsafed of such friends as Mrs. Wicksell, Miss Forchammer and Mme. Spiller, who has been a tower of strength to Miss Gourd in her work with the League, being always ready with advice and practical help.

The postponement of the date had made it impossible to give more than four days to the long programme before the Board, but, nevertheless, the members found time for a most enjoyable reception given by Mme. and Mlle. Gourd at the Athenée, where they had the pleasure of meeting some of the staunch supporters of the Swiss movement together with many of Geneva's ever interesting international population. The Ligue Internationale pour la Paix et la Liberté gave a delightful little tea-party in its old-world house, with tiny garden hanging to one of the old bastions of Geneva. Nor were the intervals of business merely social, for one evening was devoted to a most successful public meeting under the chairmanship of Miss Gourd, addressed by Mrs. Ashby and Mme. Schlumberger, which was so well attended as to give a bright view of the suffrage cause in Switzerland.

Officers of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, elected at the Ninth Congress, Rome, May 12—19, 1923.

- President:* Mrs. CORBETT ASHBY, 33, Upper Richmond Road, London, S.W. 15, England.
Hon. President: Mrs. CHAPMAN CATT, 404, Riverside Drive, New York, U.S.A.
First Vice-President: MME. DE WITT SCHLUMBERGER, 14, Rue Pierre de Serbie, Paris, France.
Second Vice-President: FRAU A. LINDEMANN, Köln, Marienburg, Wolfgang Mullerstr., 20, Germany.
Third Vice-President: DR. M. ANCONA, 8, Via Morigi, Milano 8, Italy.
Fourth Vice-President: Mrs. GIFFORD PINCHOT, Executive Mansion, Harrisburg, Pa., U.S.A.
AFFILIATED COUNTRIES:—Argentine, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Czecho-Slovakia, China, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain and British Dominions Overseas—viz., Australia, Canada, Ireland, India, Jamaica, Newfoundland, New Zealand, South Africa—Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Palestine, Poland, Portugal, Roumania, Russia, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United States of America, Uruguay.

By-law of the I.W.S.A. Constitution.

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

Headquarters and EDITORIAL OFFICES of the I.W.S. NEWS: 11, ADAM STREET, ADELPHI, LONDON, W.C. Telegrams: "Vocorajto." Telephone: Regent 4255.

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No Entrance Fee will be Charged from July 31st to December 31st.

WEEKLY LECTURES.

- Wed., 10th Oct., "The City Churches: The Case for their Preservation," 8.15 p.m. MAJOR RIGG.
 Wed., 17th Oct., "The Crosby Hall Endowment Scheme." PROFESSOR WINIFRED CULLIS.
 Wed., 24th Oct., "Some Famous Classical Stories." J. WELLS THATCHER.
 8.15 p.m.

LUNCHEONS, TEAS AND DINNERS. Full particulars, Secretary.

THE CATHOLIC CITIZEN

(Organ of the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society).
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 55, BERNERS STREET, LONDON, W. 1.

THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE, 144, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C. 1.

Thursday, October 18th, at 3.30 p.m.
AT HOME,
 MINERVA CLUB, BRUNSWICK SQUARE, W.C. 1
 (Corner of Coram and Hunter Streets).
 TEA 3.30 p.m. At 4 p.m. Mrs. JUSON KERR will speak on "The Tea and Sugar Boycott Scheme."

Monday, October 29th, at 7 p.m.
PUBLIC MEETING,
 MINERVA CAFÉ, 144, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C. 1.
Speaker:—Mrs. NORTHCREFT.
Subject:—"Women at Work in the League of Nations."
Chair: Mrs. DEXTER. ADMISSION FREE.

EVERY FRIDAY. ONE PENNY.

THE VOTE

THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE PAPER.
144, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C. 1.

All communications respecting advertisements in the I.W.S. NEWS to be addressed to—
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NEWS OF THE YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION THROUGHOUT THE WORLD



Published by the World's Young Women's Christian Association
 34, Baker Street, London, W. 1.



- President:* THE HON. MRS. WALDEGRAVE. *General Secretary:* MISS CHARLOTTE T. NIVEN.
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FIRST NATIONAL CONVENTION OF CHINESE Y.W.C.A.

THE first national convention of the Young Women's Christian Association of China is to meet October 18 to 26, 1923, at Hangchow, the City of Heaven. To those who know China and Chinese history, Hangchow is a magic word. Because of its commercially favourable location on the Grand Canal, and the beauty of its setting, its history has been a vivid one of the pageantry of empire, the tragedy of conquest and destruction, but the ancient city has stood and has held its attraction for lovers of beauty down through the ages. It is said to have been the first interior city visited by foreigners, and the first city in China to accept Christianity. The three missions which now work there (American Presbyterian, Southern Presbyterian and Baptist) date from about 1858, and all were established during the eight years that followed. Their history has been one of courageous hanging-on and beginning over again, due to the shifting fortunes of war between provincial governors, but the several schools for girls and for boys, the largest mission hospital in China, and Hangchow Christian College are concrete proof of the success which devotion has brought. One picturesque bit in the history of Hangchow is the fact that Marco Polo stopped for several years in his travels to hold provincial office and live in Hangchow, still the capital of Chekiang Province, and one of the narrow winding streets still bears the name he gave it, of Great Street. "It is, without doubt, the grandest and best city in the world," said Marco Polo in the latter part of the thirteenth century.

Perhaps one reason for its charm is West Lake, which lies at one side of the city and spreads its irregular shores between the hills that are a part of the loftiest mountain system in the world. Ancient temples, grass-grown pagodas, an emperor's summer palace, and a long gracefully curving causeway, known as Dawning Spring Road, with the familiar hump bridges of China, and a tree-bordered road that stretches from the Winding Hall of Fragrant Breezes to Thunder Pagoda—all these combine to make the spell of West Lake a rare and lasting one. Perhaps it is because there is so little in nature that is beautiful in this part of China that one clings to the memory of Hangchow. The choice that sends the women of China to this city for the first national Association convention is a wise one. It will be a perfect setting for such a conference.

Hangchow boasts the first Y.W.C.A. in China, but that was thirty-seven years ago, in the Girls' Union High School. The present Hangchow Association was organized a short eight months ago. It has an obvious fate, for it is inevitable that foreigners, travelling in the East, should wish to see this traditional beauty spot,

and there is no foreign hotel nor place where a Chinese girl might safely stay. The Chinese have long used it as the Atlantic City of Central China, and there are several Chinese hotels there, but at present the Association is the one logical resource for the foreign or Chinese woman visiting Hangchow. The secretarial residence is a moderately small house, comfortable for the three women who live there, and conspicuous for its exposition, in that interior city, of Western home culture, but certainly it is not sufficient for entertaining to the extent of the demand that is increasingly made upon them.



Hangchow.—One of the Secretaries.

The Association building is set in the midst of the old part of the city, and to reach it one turns off from the modern wide avenues (built as a part of the restoration since 1862, when the Long-Haired Rebels worked such destruction) into a narrow, roughly paved street, where China walks and lives and trades and pursues the old, old course of its daily life. Now you pass a whining beggar shaking his clasped hands in real or acquired misery, now a shop where a whole family works industriously at its trade, now the high wall of a wealthy family compound; now comes a sedan chair with drawn curtains, or a group of soldiers or a quickly trotting Mongolian horse that scatters the crowds and pulls up the line of rickshaws with dangerous suddenness. Then you turn a corner and ahead you see the familiar blue triangle with the Chinese characters for "Young Women's Christian Association." Around an inner court are the

brick and flag-stone classrooms and offices combined, and a small assembly hall at the front.

Hangchow is typical of other Chinese cities in that it is changing with a rapidity that is bewildering, and that leaves the old cheek by jowl with the new. It is no longer necessary to go to Shanghai to buy tooth-brushes from America. Palm-olive soap, French perfumes, Sun Maid raisins, Hennessy's brandy, German thermos bottles, Egyptian cigarettes and Japanese rubber articles make up part of the international window decorations of the shops.

A new bank building that would do credit to Wall Street is taking two years to build, while business goes on in the old place with its dark, dingy entrance flanked on either side by waste jars. Worm-eaten doors hang by wooden hinges, while the concrete pillars for the new building are being carefully moulded by hand in great wooden frames placed by the roadside. The little umbrella man who, two years ago, painted gay pagodas with the help of a few apprentices, now runs a shop with a real counter and many clerks. A huge red banner, bound in white, flaps in front of his shop stating that this is the most famous umbrella shop in Hangchow. Exporters come here to order, and it is said that to-day his wares are to be found in the best shops in America.

People seem to be changing, too. There is a woman member of the Provincial Assembly. The chairman of the central committee for the Better Baby Week, carried on each year under the auspices of seven organizations, including the Police Yamen, the Provincial Educational Society, the Y.M. and the Y.W., is a woman. The Police Commissioner has become a Christian. And so it goes, one thing after another, a hodge-podge of contradictions, a series of shocks, among which old residents wander in a daze, grasping now at this straw, and now at that, for some means in which to piece the bits into an intelligible whole.



Physical culture, Hangchow Y.W.C.A.

In this changing society the Chinese Y.W.C.A. is a stabilizing factor, for with the one hand it stretches out to the fine traditions of the past, with the other it gathers in and adapts the best of the present.* The National Committee is almost entirely Chinese, and year by year the Chinese staff increases. At the Convention this October the foreign members of the staff will be conspicuous, because a minority, among the Chinese women and girls from all the centres of work, and the questions to be discussed will affect not merely the membership, but the large body of Chinese women with whom the Association is in touch.

* NOTE.—The now well-known Physical Training School is an example of this combination. The methods combine the best of several systems, but they are all adapted to Chinese needs and Chinese conditions; and side by side with the physical work is hygiene and social science.

MIDWEEK HOLIDAYS FOR MOTHERS and MOTHERS' DAYS.

IT is a good thing when the different members of a family bring back different interests to the home, but a bad thing when those outside interests break into the family routine, turning home into a boarding-house for members of different societies. This problem has been much on the minds of Y.W.C.A. committees in many countries. The movement is primarily for "young" women, but it is for young women in relation to their homes, their churches, their communities. How can suitable activities be offered to girls which will offer them scope for the full development of personality, but which will not take them outside the home circle?

In many countries, one of the first comments on increased privileges for girls and young women is that they will weaken their love of their homes and will not leave time for home duties. It is interesting in this connection to notice the popularity of Mothers' Days, Fathers' Suppers, and similar festivities, in many Y.W.C.A.'s. An account was given in these pages of the Mothers' and Daughters' Banquet in Constantinople, similar to those reported from Canada. A Parents' Day in South China brought out 2,000 people. A noticeable feature of programmes of work with younger girls is the recognition given to various home "jobs" and the opportunities for adding to a knowledge of baby welfare, house sanitation, cookery and similar subjects. Mothers' Days in Latvia and Esthonia have been some of the most successful of many successful social occasions, and a charming account comes from Paris of the way in which the members celebrated the last of their "membership Sundays" in May, when summer plans begin and the regular meetings of the winter and spring come to an end. Children were chosen, by the little group responsible for the arrangements, to give each mother a bouquet and a picture card of Madame Le Brun with her daughter, and there was a programme of poetry and music on motherhood and family life, followed by an appropriate address and tea. It is not always easy for mothers and daughters to keep together, especially when economic necessity keeps them apart for all but a very few of the waking hours of the day, but the desire for a closer relation and its possibility is shown by the success of these mild experiments.

Plainfield, New Jersey, is trying yet another experiment. It owns a charming cottage up in the mountains, near a trolley-line. Every week-end mothers are sending daughters to enjoy the wide views, the quiet and the bracing air. The Plainfield Y.W.C.A. now suggests that daughters should send mothers to the cottage for any of the days between Monday and Friday to enjoy just the same country pleasures that they find so restful.

NEW GENERAL SECRETARY FOR AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND.

AUSTRALIA and New Zealand are emphatically international. The Y.W.C.A. hopes to call a Chinese travelling secretary to its staff; it has representatives in India, China and Japan, and until recently in Roumania; and its General Secretary for the next period of work is an American, Miss Esther Anderson. Miss Anderson has had a distinguished career in the American Y.W.C.A., and is offering the National Board two years' service. She succeeds an Australian woman as General Secretary, whose predecessor was British. Miss Anderson's appointment is illustrative of the advantages of an international movement. National development is a basis for international co-operation, but national development can be accelerated by sharing the life and the experience of other nations.

A CAMP FOR COUNTRY GIRLS.

HOW many countries have camps for country girls? When money is collected to hire an old monastery in Bulgaria, or to build open shacks in the Laurentian mountains, or to put up grass-mat huts in Burma, the usual plea is that city girls need country life. But in South Carolina, the Y.W.C.A. and a County Home Demonstration Department joined this year to provide a holiday camp for girls from rural districts, and as money is sometimes not easy to find on a farm, the payments were fixed in kind. Each girl brought with her sandwiches, two hard-boiled and six raw eggs, half a pound of bacon, a chicken, one pound of sugar, and one of lard, six ears of corn (maize), half a gallon of potatoes, coffee, fruit, tomatoes, cake, butter and pickles. Winthrop College sent two lecturers from its Home Economics Department to give instruction in house planning, diatetics, dress, etc., and the Y.W.C.A. provided leaders for discussions on other topics of rural and individual interest, for Bible study groups and recreation. Next year it is hoped that girls in other districts will have a similarly happy and helpful experience.

THE Y.W.C.A. MOVIE CLUB PLAYS HOSTESS.

THE Studio Club at Hollywood, California, organized by the American Y.W.C.A., has a history of steady growth. Its residents, members and visitors include women and girls working in every branch of the moving-picture industry, from stars and scenario writers to humble supers, and the enlarged buildings will no sooner be finished than they will be full. The campaign for the money for this addition took place in the spring, and Mary Pickford was among the prominent members of the movie colony who gave time and ideas as well as money. The Club was asked to act as hostess for women visitors at the Motion Picture Exposition in Los Angeles. A building specially put up for the purpose was given to the Studio Club, between the Court of Honour and the Women's Court, and the members were wonderfully generous in giving time to this piece of service. It means something for a girl who has been working from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. on a set for the "Hunchback of Notre Dame" to take her share of exacting hostess work. But the members are nothing if not public-spirited, and are asked to take a share in community affairs that it is often difficult to reconcile with the demands of their profession.

BABY CLINIC IN MEXICO.

DEALING in futures, the future health of Mexican babies, the Y.W.C.A. announces a new departure. In Mexico City the Y.W.C.A. will shortly open a daily clinic for the instruction of mothers in the care and feeding of young children.

"The baby clinic will watch the growth of babies brought for examination and train their mothers to care for them efficiently, with attention to proper food and regular hours," says Miss Elena Landazuri. "We will also give food for babies who are in condition to need it, selling at cost artificial food to mothers who cannot nurse their babies."

"The patio of an old convent in a crowded district has been offered to us rent free. Donations and equipment are already coming in. All work will be done under the direction of an experienced physician and nurses."

Mrs. Percy Clifford, who worked in London with the Mother Welfare Association during the war, is chairman of the Baby Clinic Committee.

Miss Landazuri, who supplemented her University of Chicago training with special Y.W.C.A. Summer School preparation at the New York Training School, went to Mexico last year to open Y.W.C.A. work among her own people. Miss Caroline Smith, of New York, is associate secretary.

IN SANTIAGO.

AT the corner of the Alameda and Avenida Brazil, in Santiago, is a fine residence which houses the work of the Young Women's Christian Association, begun three years ago, through the interest and financial aid of the associations in North America under the direction of the World's Committee of the Young Women's Christian Association, in London, and the Continental Committee of South America, in Buenos Ayres.

Although the work is primarily for the students of the University of Chile, yet there are also business girls, girls of leisure, governesses, teachers, professional women and mothers who belong to the Association. The membership includes more than ten nationalities.

Besides the various activities which are carried on, such as classes in English, French, basket-making, leather-work, shorthand (in English and Spanish), domestic science, piano, tennis, etc., conferences are held on subjects of special interest to the young women of to-day. Excursions are also planned in places near Santiago, as well as social affairs of various sorts where the girls become acquainted. For the last two summers the Association has pioneered in having the first girls' summer camp in Chile, both of which have been most successful. One of the most interesting developments is the "Blue Triangle Shop," where the handiwork of girls is for sale, from hand-made lace, d'oyleys and children's dresses, to marmalade and sweets.

The building, open from 9 a.m. until 7 p.m., with attractive salon, library, game-room, tea-room, offices and classrooms, besides two rooms which may be used for transient guests, serves as a club-house for members and friends, and all day long from morning till night girls are coming and going for one thing or another—students to study between classes, some to exchange lessons, others to while away an hour playing games, reading the latest magazines or playing the piano; a girl coming for a hot bath; a girl out of work looking for employment, or a woman looking for a governess or a servant; groups of girls coming for tea or classes; a tourist asking to be taken to a suitable "pension" or to be supplied with a guide and interpreter (while in the city the Association has a list of University women who can be called on for this service at small charge).

There could be no better proof of the wisdom of establishing the Association work in Chile than the growth which has come within these two years of actual work, and the loyalty and devotion of the Chilean girls to it. This is shown by their having undertaken last year to raise their own budget locally, with the exception of the salary of a North American Secretary, which still comes from the United States.

CIVIC RECEPTION FOR WORLD'S Y.W.C.A. INDUSTRIAL SECRETARY.

MISS MARY A. DINGMAN, Industrial Secretary to the World's Y.W.C.A., landed in Australia early in August after visiting the United States, Canada, China, Japan, Korea and the Philippines. She is spending three months in Australia and New Zealand before returning to China. Miss Dingman had the honour of a civic reception at which she was welcomed to Australia by the Lord Mayor of Sydney. In the evening she was entertained at the Women's Club by a group of welfare workers, factory inspectors, trade organizers, and other women interested in industrial and social questions, and later she met the Industrial Welfare Council, which is discussing the possibility of holding a public conference on the "Human Factor in Industry" when Miss Dingman revisits Sydney in October. Miss Dingman's time in Australia and New Zealand is so short that her programme is as concentrated as possible. For example, in New Zealand she has taken part in "institutes" lasting several days in Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin, to which women came from other towns and from the country districts.

THE Y.W.C.A. IN YOKOHAMA AND TOKIO.

AS we go to press there has not been time for more than brief cables from Japan announcing the safety of the Japanese, American, Australian and Canadian staff; but the last mail brings reports of work which have a peculiar interest in view of the possibility that girls described in them are scattered, that the older women are busy with relief work and the Association as a whole facing problems of reconstruction.

For example, the land round about Fujiyama is devastated. What does this mean to the girls who were looking forward with such pleasure to their very own conference site at Gotemba? A secretary writes:—

"But perhaps no one else will tell you that things are actually moving in the matter of the development of our beautiful new conference grounds at Gotemba. Every week, and indeed almost every day, money comes in for it, much of it in small sums from girls all over Japan. It is really thrilling—to use that much overworked and moth-eaten word—to see how the girls are rallying to this need. They are working and saving and denying themselves to keep their thin little stream of money pouring in—and a thin little stream will do a lot if it keeps right on running and doesn't stop. One week, without any special effort, yen 500 floated in, but that, of course, was unusual, and there were some pretty large sums in it. It was not all the girls' mites. We now have a little over yen 14,000 toward the building plans, and are getting things ready to make an active though quiet campaign directed toward people from whom we hope a few thousand will come. The entire plan of development will call for about yen 100,000. The local associations, especially Tokio and Yokohama, are getting under it and taking responsibility in a very encouraging way. We have decided on our architect, and are beginning to think about building plans. You might be interested to know that this building seems likely to be quite international in character, being built on land bought mostly with gifts from American girls for Japanese girls, after plans drawn by a Czech, ably assisted by his French wife, both of them being really artists. This will be the first thing of its kind to be built in Japan for the use of women, and we do not want to make any more mistakes than necessary."

In Yokohama the Y.W.C.A. was at work in three buildings, with a fourth house right down on the beach for a hot-weather holiday home. There was the general building where classes and clubs met and from which work with factory girls and migrants was carried on; there was a big new hostel for wage-earning Japanese girls; and finally the "Residence" on the Bluff, where foreign women and girls could stay. The guest book for a few months showed Irish, Swiss, Indian, Australian, East African, Russian, American and other transients. The cable says that two buildings have been destroyed. Was the Residence one of them? It was built originally for the Swiss Ambassador, and stands in charming gardens, a large airy house with room for fifteen guests and more. A recent visitor was a young Polish girl from the northernmost part of Japan, the daughter of one of the Polish refugees who made it their home a generation ago. She had never left her home town before, and spoke only Polish and Japanese. The isolation of her community was shown by her clothes, which were in the fashion of forty years ago, and in the friendly family atmosphere of the Residence she felt able to show her interest in the modern clothes of the other girls in the house. She came down to find a child to adopt, and went back radiant with a baby.

The word "friendship" takes one very naturally to the Nitobé House in Tokio, lent by Dr. Nitobé, of the League of Nations, to the Japanese Y.W.C.A. as a centre for international hospitality. Here a succession of hostesses have lived, and have done an extraordinarily interesting piece of work in bringing Japanese and foreigners together. Individual introductions and courtesies, luncheon parties, receptions, conference

groups—the hostess has few idle moments. And in addition to this use, the house serves as a home for various Y.W.C.A. secretaries, and a place for meetings. Two secretaries write:—

"I want to tell you specially of an Inter-City Staff meeting which was held at Nitobé House on Saturday, May 18, for the secretaries of the National Yokohama and Tokio Associations, together with the students at the Training School now in progress, and the language student. I think that there were twenty foreigners and thirty Japanese there, so you can imagine what a good time we would have. It was a perfect sunny spring day, and we were all able to come out in our thin, pretty clothes.

"We opened with Devotions led in English by Mrs. Eddy, and in Japanese by Kawai San, and when we sang hymns we sang in Japanese and English words to the same tune at the same time. Our conference began at 9 o'clock, and we went home in the moonlight at 7 p.m."

"I think one of the happiest events of the term was the Yokohama-Tokio Inter-City Staff meeting. It was on one of the first lovely warm days in May. The Nitobé House (where we met), so cool, spacious and inviting, the happy look of friendship on all the merry faces—not one minute of the entire day but was filled with pleasure, interest, and enthusiasm. Mrs. Wood's talk on the practical aspects of the labouring women of Japan was interesting and lucid. And how would Miss Dingman take up the whole afternoon, I wondered? But as she talked of work—past experiences—ideals for the future—the minutes ran into hours, the hours passed till the sun set, and we were scarcely conscious of it."

Another example of this friendship and co-operation between different classes and different races was the reception of the Chinese delegation to the seventh Far Eastern Olympics met with. The girls left China under the escort of three Y.W.C.A. secretaries, and were full of apprehensions. The following extract tells its own story:—

"This year women's entries were received for the first time, and groups of Chinese and Filipino girls came over. The Chinese delegation was made up of girls from all parts of China, some from Government schools, and others from Mission schools, but led by three Association secretaries. The day before they were to land a Chinese gentleman, resident in Kobe, came to say that the Chinese of Kobe had arranged a banquet and programme for the athletes the next day. He was much disturbed because there was no proper place for the girls to stay over, and asked our advice. That was easily given, for we said that we would be delighted to have them stay at the Y.W.C.A. if they would take things camp style. So it was agreed, and that is the way our Association came to entertain them. All we had to offer was floor space, but we rustled around and borrowed mattresses and bedding, and that night we stored away twenty-five people. The next two days were about the most interesting I have known here. Of course, it was an experience for all of us, but to the girls it was a real revelation. We gave a party for them one afternoon; then some of us were invited to the banquet at the Chinese temple. During those few days of play and fellowship there grew a wonderful spirit of understanding and genuine comradeship. When the girls returned to Kobe, on their way back, there was time only for a short visit at the boat, but the songs of good wishes and "come agains" which followed them out of sight were given in hope of an answer. It is just such meetings as this that are going to do most in bringing the nations of the world together."

Yokohama is devastated; Tokio badly damaged; whole districts destroyed; but no material loss can touch the spirit of life, progress and international friendliness which the members of the Japanese Y.W.C.A. share with their brave and beautiful country. One waits eagerly for the next mail, but one knows in advance the temper of the letters.