

THE WOMAN'S LEADER

AND THE COMMON CAUSE

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CONTENTS.

	PAGE
WHEN AND WHAT?	35
WHAT IS BEING DONE FOR LIBERAL WOMEN. By Mrs. S. B. Collett	35
A SUFFRAGE MEETING IN JERUSALEM. By Millicent Garrett Fawcett, G.B.E., J.P., LL.D.	36
THE GENEVA PROTOCOL. By M. Chick	37
THE NATIONALITY OF MARRIED WOMEN. By Chrystal Macmillan	38

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NOTES AND NEWS.

Equal Franchise.

Our prophecies of last week were justified by events. On Friday last the second reading of the Representation of the People Bill was defeated by a majority of 67, owing to the fact that it was opposed by the Government, who put forward the following amendment: "This House declines in the early stages of a new Parliament to accord a second reading to a Franchise Bill, involving, as it would, a general election with the consequent interruption of important legislative and administrative work, and records its opinion that a considered scheme of franchise reform should be brought before this House at a suitable opportunity within the lifetime of the present Parliament." It was hardly to be expected that the Government would take over a Private Member's Bill on a matter of this kind, but we do deplore the fact that the undertaking given by the Government at the time of the General Election to appoint a Committee is not to be redeemed till 1926. As no Bill can be introduced until the Session after the Committee reports, this involves a further year's delay. Not only, therefore, are we faced with the difficulty of achieving an "agreed measure" in a house where a large number of members of the Conservative Party appear to be in favour of a minimum age of 25 for all voters, whilst the Leader of the Opposition has declared himself irrevocably opposed to any raising of the age for men voters, but we are also faced with the uncertainty of tenure of life of any Government. Accidents happen to even the most firmly established of Parliaments. The present position is discussed more fully in our leading article.

Impressions of the Debate.

Never in our recollection do we remember such a full House on a Private Members' day with full front benches; towards the close of the debate both the Prime Minister and the late Prime Minister were present, and took part in the debate. Miss Wilkinson's speech, in seconding the motion for the second reading, made an excellent impression on the House. Mr. Arthur Henderson spoke with intimate knowledge of the course of past developments, and Mr. Pethick Lawrence, another good friend of the past, spoke in favour of the Bill. Lady Astor made a spirited and characteristic speech, in which she said it was impossible to vote against the Bill, though the intervention of the Government put her and those who felt as she did in a very awkward position. Captain Wedgwood Benn, always a stalwart friend, who spoke for the Liberal party, made one of the best speeches in a debate in which the speaking was of a high order.

Conservative Friends—New and Old.

We regret that pressure on our space will not allow us to print in full the division list on the Representation of the People Bill last Friday.¹ But we must print the names of those members of the Conservative Party who stood by us in a difficult situation. Lady Astor, Sir Robert Newman, and Lord Henry Cavendish-Bentinck, who never fail us, were reinforced by some members less well known as supporters:—Colonel H. W. Burton, Sudbury, West Suffolk; Mr. J. H. Cunliffe, K.C., Bolton; Mr. A. C. N. Dixey, Penrith and Cockermouth; Mr. Percy Gates, Kensington, N.; Lieut.-Colonel V. L. Henderson, Bootle; Mr. A. R. Kennedy, K.C., Preston; Mr. E. A. Radford, Salford, S.; and Captain W. W. Shaw, Westbury, Wiltshire.

Summary Jurisdiction (Separation and Maintenance) Bill.

The Government measure promised in the King's Speech has now been introduced by the Home Secretary, and will be coming up for its second reading at any time. With one important exception the Bill is exactly the same as last year's Bill as it left the House of Lords. This exception is that "persistent cruelty" to the children by either the husband or wife is to be a ground for an application for a separation order by the other. We must admit that the slight alterations in the law made by the present Bill come as a very real disappointment. Such an excellent case has been made out for a more thorough revision that we hope that the Bill will be drastically amended during its passage through the House. We hope to publish an article next week which will describe in detail the contents of the present Bill and the proposed changes.

The Nationality of Married Women and the Dominions.

The question of the nationality of married women seems to have approached appreciably nearer solution as the result of the discussion in the House last week. We print elsewhere an account by Miss Macmillan of this discussion—we cannot call it a debate since there was no opposition. The declaration from Mr. Locker-Lampson seems to make it clear that it is now not a matter of convincing the Government of this country, but of obtaining the concurrence of the Dominions. We hope this may be forthcoming, but if it is not there will be an important task for the proposed British Empire group of the International Suffrage Alliance, to which we referred in recent issues. The situation shows how necessary it is to set up machinery for effective co-operation between women in the different parts of the Empire.

Equal Guardianship of Children.

A footnote in our last issue drew attention to the fact that the Government Guardianship Bill had been introduced and will be coming up for its second reading at any time. In our leading article last week we outlined the main provisions of the Bill; in some slight respects it is an improvement on last year's measure, but, in the main, our arguments put forward last year for and against stand. The Bill does not give the complete equality for which women's organizations have long been working, but it gives so large a measure and will relieve so many cases of real hardship that we shall feel that something has been achieved when it reaches the Statute Book. This does not mean, however, that in future sessions, when any real defects that still remain have been revealed by experience of the new act, fresh efforts will not have to be made to remedy them.

¹ Copies of Hansard containing the debate (7d. post free) and copies of the division list (on receipt of a stamped envelope) may be had on application to the N.U.S.E.C., 15 Dean's Yard, S.W. 1.

The County Council Elections.

We print elsewhere an appeal from Miss Bertha Mason on behalf of the forthcoming County Council elections in London and elsewhere. We have secured from the three parties a complete list of women candidates for London, but we have been unable to secure a complete list for the provinces. Of the names of forty-four candidates which have been sent us, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire boast the largest number, five each; Surrey, Sussex, Warwickshire, and Essex, three each; Berkshire, Staffordshire, and Yorkshire, two; Cardiganshire, Cornwall, Herefordshire, Huntingdonshire, Kent, Lincolnshire, Merionethshire, Middlesex, Monmouthshire, Montgomeryshire, Norfolk, Northamptonshire, Oxfordshire, Shropshire, Wiltshire, and Worcestershire, one each. We hope that this list will be greatly extended by nomination day and that the result of the election will show a considerable accession to the number of women County Councillors.

Poor Law Guardians and Widows' Pensions.

We are sorry to see that the Poor Law Guardians Conference voted against a motion urging the Government to introduce Widows' Pensions. The motion followed on a paper by Mrs. Carter, of the Buckland Board of Guardians. Mrs. Carter took the view that widows' pensions were desirable, but should be administered through the Poor Law. She maintained that the women depend on their husbands for help in deciding how their money should be spent; when they are left as widows and this assistance is taken from them they are lost, and unless they can turn to someone there is no hope of their ever managing their home and children methodically. This guide, philosopher, and friend is provided by the Poor Law Guardians. A more complete travesty than this picture of the ordinary working class woman it would be hard to imagine. The daily expenditure of money on housekeeping and the ordinary routine of life in the vast majority of cases is a thing in which the husband does not interfere at all; it is the wife's province. If the widows of the poor find themselves unable to manage the home and the children methodically, it is because in too many cases they have to combine the function of breadwinner and housekeeper. Nor are we impressed by this picture of the Guardian as the widow's practical and moral mainstay. It may be true in some cases; if it were universally or even generally true there would not be the antagonism to the Poor Law that unquestionably exists to-day. The Guardians, like other bodies of experts, cannot see that their work needs improving and supplementing. In this they are much in the same position as the Local Police Authorities. We notice in the course of the debate that the statement was made that only about 25 per cent. of the widows were in need of relief. It is, of course, a question of what standards are set up, but it seems to us impossible to maintain that three out of every four men who die leaving a wife and dependent children have saved enough to provide them with adequate means of subsistence.

Mr. Trevelyan Thomson's Housing Bill.

Under the ten minutes' rule, Mr. Trevelyan Thomson moved "that leave be given to bring in a Bill to prevent any reduction in the existing facilities for the housing of the people." Mr. Thomson said that in the last two years between thirty and forty houses in his town, Middlesborough, had been turned to other purposes, such as garages, offices, workshops, or clubs. He gave this as an example of what was happening in one locality, as complete figures were not available. Though thirty or forty conversions to other than dwelling purposes is not a great number for a large town, we fully agree with Mr. Thomson that, when considered in conjunction with other districts, it is too much in view of the degree of overcrowding that exists to-day. It is more important to house the people of this country than to provide garages for its cars. Mr. Thomson's Bill seeks to restore the powers which were given in the 1919 Act. In those days of high faith it was believed that the housing shortage would be rapidly relieved and those powers were therefore only given for a limited time. They have since lapsed, but the housing shortage is still with us. The Bill was approved for a second reading.

Women Police.

The situation with regard to the appointment of women police in Sheffield is interesting. The proposal to appoint four additional police women was recently turned down by the Watch Committee, but the City Council has taken a diametrically opposite view. A motion that the decision of

the Watch Committee should not be confirmed, and that the appointments should be made was moved by Mrs. Longden and carried by 28 votes to 17. It is not expected that the Watch Committee will stand out against the decision of the Council. We have also received information with regard to progress at Tunbridge Wells. As the result of much spadework, in which the head mistresses of all the girls' schools, the Conservative Women's Association, the Women's Co-operative Guild, the Girl Guides Organization, and the Free Churches were all concerned, the Watch Committee agreed to appoint a police matron and a woman constable, who is sworn in but does not wear uniform. The women's organizations are, however, not satisfied with this and are pressing for the appointment of two uniformed women police.

Closing Hours and the Brewster Sessions (London).

The question of the permitted hours of sale of intoxicating liquor under the Licensing Act has again attracted the concentrated effort of Temperance and Trade societies alike, with the result that the advantages gained in preceding years by the workers in the temperance cause have, with a single exception, been somewhat unexpectedly maintained. A constant reopening of this question at the Brewster Sessions is hardly to be expected, and the decision of the justices in certain districts to leave the point in abeyance for another year narrowed the fight down considerably. Among those Temperance Societies making representations to the justices for the earlier closing hour, either for Sunday, weekday, or both, the Temperance Council of the Christian Churches played a prominent part, and was responsible for some very effective spadework. While, to the casual onlooker, no material advantage has been gained this year, it must be remembered that, in view of the strong opposition of the Trade, the very fact of being able to hold a position is to be appreciated. The "closing hours anomaly" is drawing nearer a solution—the uniform early closing hour.

Education and Peace.

An all-day conference which cannot fail to arouse interest is announced for Saturday, 14th March, at the Guildhouse. Miss Maude Royden will be in the chair, and the speakers include many men and women who are worth hearing on this subject, among others Dr. Maxwell Garnett, of the League of Nations Union, the Rev. Harold Costley White, Head Master of Westminster School, Professor Graham Wallas, Dr. G. P. Gooch, Miss K. D. Courtney. In the afternoon special matters such as Disarmament, the Colour Question, the Scout and Guide movement, will be discussed, and in the evening the teaching of History and the teaching of Scripture. The Guildhouse is becoming known as a centre of discussion on problems of the day, and this promises to be one of the most useful which have been held. Tickets for the whole conference, price 1s. each (6d. per single session), can be obtained by post from the Conference Secretary at the Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1, or at the door.

Eighteen Shillings a Week.

Considerable criticism has been aroused by the appointment by the Lewisham Borough Council of a woman junior assistant, a girl of 20, at the Central Library at a salary of 18s. a week. It is manifestly impossible for any girl of 20 to live on this sum; her earnings must be supplemented by her family, either in money or by free or partially free board and lodging. In other words her family is paying part of the wages of her services to the Borough. And the Borough Councils put a fair wages clause into their contracts! We are glad to see that the Lewisham W.C.A. has sent a letter to the Council protesting against this wage.

Questions in Parliament.

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT AND UNMARRIED MOTHERS.—In reply to a question from Major George Davies, Sir A. Steel-Maitland stated it would require fresh legislation to extend dependants' unemployment benefit to include unmarried mothers wholly or mainly maintained by a son. He could not give any pledge in the matter, but would note the point for consideration if and when it became necessary to propose fresh legislation in connexion with Unemployment Insurance.

WIDOWS' PENSIONS.—In reply to questions from Lieut.-Col. Dalrymple White and Mr. Basil Peto, the Prime Minister stated that the questions of Widows' Pensions and improved Old Age Pensions were being studied, but he was not prepared to make any statement.

WHEN AND WHAT?

Many people think that one of the worst mistakes of the late Labour Government was the failure to introduce a Government measure for equal franchise. We have consistently held that this is a matter of such fundamental importance that nothing short of a Government Bill stands much chance of success. A Private Member's Bill passed its reading last session, went to Standing Committee, but before it had time to reach its final stages, Parliament dissolved. Our readers will remember that we repeatedly urged that the late Government should make the Bill its own. But this was not done until, as it turned out, it was too late. Now the Labour Party, this time out of office, has once again introduced a Private Member's Bill, which was opposed by the Government on grounds, which we cannot dispute, that extensions of the franchise have always been the result of a Government Measure, and, further, that the Prime Minister had already promised to deal with the matter.

We need not discuss here the solution put forward by Mr. Arthur Henderson that the Bill be dated not to operate before a General Election, but that the augmented register be immediately prepared, with a view to facilitating a conference on such questions as redistribution (the startling inequalities in the size of constituencies was emphasized by several speakers), costs of elections, corrupt practices, methods of voting, etc. The Home Secretary's reply was that a fancy register of five million "starred" women, "a kind of aliens waiting for good things to come to them," would inevitably lead to a demand for an earlier election. Without expressing any opinion as to this, we would, however, remind the Home Secretary that whether they are on a register starred to vote at the next opportunity or not, there are still over five million women in this country who are, to use his own words, "aliens waiting for the good things that are to come," and that of this number, *two million* are over the age of thirty. We think this figure should be heavily stressed, for the Press, equally with many speakers last Friday, talks too much about "girls of twenty-one." These women of thirty and over are getting older; their best years of service as teachers, nurses, professional and industrial workers, domestic servants are passing. How long must they wait?

But though the debate tempts us to linger on such points as these, we are mainly concerned with the future. Mr. Whiteley's Bill was defeated. To quote *The Times* of the following day, "partially assured that the Government's position was one of standing on dignity rather than reaction, the House agreed to postponement by a majority of 67." The Government had already definitely promised to appoint a conference of all political parties, on the lines of the Committee presided over by Viscount Ullswater which led to the first great step in the enfranchisement of women:

WHAT IS BEING DONE FOR LIBERAL WOMEN.¹

By Mrs. S. B. COLLETT.

The Liberal Party has not been slow to realize the enormous importance of women in modern civilization.

Their aim now is to offer to women voters a political education which shall really fit them to play their part worthily as enfranchised citizens. The privilege and responsibility of the vote is still not entirely appreciated by the mass of women electors; many are still inclined to vote on the advice of husband or friend rather than on an independently formed opinion, and the whole of Liberal organization to-day is combating this tendency by concentration on education, education, and again education.

The Women's National Liberal Federation now has nine hundred affiliated associations which are organized along approximately similar lines. Working in conjunction with their central and divisional associations, the average Women's Liberal Association will have a responsible women's committee, officered by President, Treasurer, and Secretary, and in many cases a Literature Secretary in addition. Meetings will be frequently held, in many cases fortnightly or weekly. This creates a steady stream of requests to headquarters for speakers, and it is an encouraging symptom of the growing discrimination of women voters that these requests are no longer for "a woman speaker" but for an expert on any and every aspect of domestic or international politics.

Realization of the crowded home routine of many women's lives which makes it impossible for them to attend meetings

¹ Articles on the Education of Women in the Conservative Party and in the Labour Party appeared in our issues of January 30th and February 13th respectively.

now we have more explicit promises; a committee will be appointed next year, and a Bill will be introduced in 1927.

Now we know exactly where we are, and we have something to aim at. Those who heard the debate or who have read the speeches will agree that the removal of inequalities over thirty may be predicted with some degree of certainty. The crux is going to be the woman under 30. On Friday even the few reactionary speakers admitted the injustice of inequality in age, but there was an ominous reiteration of 25 as the fitting age for both sexes. On the other hand, the late Prime Minister warned the House that the Labour Party would oppose with all its strength any limitation of the present franchise as now enjoyed by men. It is the policy of this paper to stand for the vote on equal terms for men and women, whatever the age may be. The raising of the age of a man voter to 25 is a matter on which we have no editorial opinion, except in so far as it may retard the reform for which we are pressing. There are many outside the House who genuinely hold the view expressed by Miss Violet Markham that universal suffrage at 25 would "bring in the younger generation in the heyday of its strength and avoid some of the obvious evils which wait on an unwieldy electorate." On the other hand, there are those who believe that no Government would do anything so unpopular as to withdraw a privilege once conferred, even if no individual be actually deprived of voting powers. This view has been strongly expressed in letters to *The Times* this week by Lord Danesford (better known as Sir John Butcher) and by Sir Henry Craik. But, apart from the question of the precise age fixed for both sexes, what are the chances of a Bill becoming law before a dissolution? We have no reason to charge the Government or any Member of it with any deliberate dark design of keeping a promise to the ear and breaking it to the sense. But everyone with political experience knows the dangers that attend a Bill postponed until late in the life of a Parliament. We have not forgotten that Parliament consists of two houses, and that ample time is sometimes necessary to overcome the prejudices of the Upper House. Perhaps, however, those Members of Parliament who, though pledged to this reform are not genuine friends—and we can find some of these in all parties—and who may be accumulating secretly a stock of red herrings to draw across the detested trail, will be deterred by the reflection that they may as well secure for themselves the credit for an inevitable reform.

But we do not wish to end on a cynical note. We realize that our friends in the Conservative Party were placed in a very difficult position owing to the attitude of the Government, and that we can rely on many who were not prepared to go into the Opposition lobby on Friday to give us loyal support when the matter once again becomes practical politics.

has led to the largely increased distribution of educational literature. This is largely carried out by personal visiting, thereby creating a valuable opportunity for Liberal women workers to keep in constant and personal touch with the women electors.

These women's associations are always kept in touch with up-to-date methods and ideas by the occasional loan of a member of the highly trained and experienced staff of organizers which are maintained by the Women's National Liberal Federation.

Voluntary assistance in many recent elections and by-elections has led a number of Liberal women to adopt the career of political agent, and it is a significant fact that the Society of Certificated Liberal Agents has welcomed these new recruits and admitted them to their examinations.

Encouraged by the magnificent record of work on women's questions made by Mrs. Wintringham in the House of Commons, increasing numbers of women candidates are now showing themselves ready to face in the future the same arduous and inspiring standard.

In the constituencies the W.N.L.F. is well and faithfully served by its voluntary speakers, but the growing custom of weekly meetings has outdistanced even their willing service, and it has become necessary in all areas to form speakers' classes where local talent may be trained and educated. Study circles have in many cases inspired the enthusiasm and supplied the knowledge which has later led through the speakers' class to the platform and the public meeting.

It is encouraging to find that the younger women who are

(Continued on page 37).

TWO SPRING VISITS TO PALESTINE, 1921, 1922.¹

By MILLICENT GARRETT FAWCETT, G.B.E., J.P., LL.D.

CHAPTER XIV.—A SUFFRAGE MEETING IN JERUSALEM.

One of the first calls I received on my arrival in Jerusalem had been from Dr. Rosa Welt-Strauss, a keen Zionist and also a keen suffragist, who had organized in Jerusalem a society affiliated to the N.U.S.E.C. working on constitutional lines for the equal citizenship of women. She asked me to address a meeting of her association, "The Jewish Women's Association for Equality of Opportunity," and I agreed to do so, only asking her to make the date as late as possible so as to give me time to get more or less into touch with the existing conditions of the country; and this she willingly agreed to do.

When, after the Suffrage victory in Great Britain, news of the adoption of political freedom for women began to pour in from other parts of the world, we heard that Palestine was one of the countries that had accepted it. This, however, was a misconception. There was at that time no talk even of the setting up in Palestine of Representative Government. No Parliament elected by the people with power to pass laws and raise or remit taxation existed, or at present exists, in the country. There was no suffrage for anyone, and therefore none for women. But there had been formed A REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL OF PALISTINIAN JEWS, and for the election of this body the Jews of Palestine, whether men or women, have votes. This was, from the Suffrage point of view, a privilege of considerable value, as the R.C.P.J. has the right of officially presenting its views on current political affairs to the High Commissioner. It was one of the grievances of the Moslems and Christians with whom I had conversed at Haifa and elsewhere, that similar Representative Councils with similar official access to the High Commissioner had not been created. This when offered to the Moslems and Christians of Palestine in 1923 was refused by them. They had made an application to the High Commissioner on the subject: and he had asked them if they accepted the principle of the Balfour declaration, viz.: *Palestine to be a National Home for the Jews, it being clearly understood that this meant that nothing should be done to prejudice in any way the civil or religious rights of the non-Jewish inhabitants of the country.* To this question they had replied in the negative, and Sir Herbert Samuel therefore told them that he could not sanction the setting up a Representative Council for Arabs or Christians with its attendant privileges unless they accepted the Balfour declaration as fundamental. This refusal to recognize the Balfour declaration was in my judgment a serious political error: but it was done and could not be undone.

But I was very glad not to be called upon to address a Suffrage meeting before I had time to get some glimpse of the main facts governing the political situation. The meeting came off on Sunday, 3rd April, in the room already set aside as the Library of the future Zionist University, which it is proposed to build on Mount Scopus to the north of the city. I, of course, spoke in English and for the first time in my life had to pause between each sentence to allow a clever, pleasant young man to translate my remarks into Hebrew. At first my task was a very easy one: to give in brief outline a history of our own fifty years' struggle for the political emancipation for women. I told how our chief friends had been the rank and file Liberals and the leading Conservatives; our chief enemies the rank and file Conservatives and the leading Liberals: and how the first group was an army without officers and the second officers without an army, and how the coalition of the later years of the war had amalgamated these two groups of our friends and had led to our victory. But of course I recognized that nothing at all resembling these conditions existed or ever would exist in Palestine. I also strongly advocated the methods of peaceful persuasion and abstention from violence or the threat of violence. Now came the more difficult part of my task: to deal with existing conditions in Palestine and what I had discovered to be the raging hatred which existed between its peoples. I was speaking to an Association of Jewish women claiming equality of opportunity, and I pressed them to make it clear in all their demands for social and political equality

that they were not asking them for Jewish women alone, but for the women of all the races of Palestine who were fitted to benefit by them. The best, perhaps the only way, to allay hatred was to prove by actual fact that the Jews were not working for domination and that what they were seeking for themselves they desired to see extended to the non-Jewish natives of Palestine. I was so anxious about this part of my speech that I committed it to writing and said, "You, Jews, have in some countries endured centuries of cruel oppression and persecution. You have endured all with unflinching courage and fortitude: now I hope I may, without incurring your censure, appeal to you to show yourselves as great in prosperity as you have been in adversity. Enlarge your aims for gaining equality of opportunity for women so that they shall include those not of your own race. You are here a small section of the population, some say about one-seventh² of the people of this small country. "Small," I call it, for it is small in the area it covers and in the number of its inhabitants; but in another sense it is great: great in that it is in a sense a world metropolis. It is the area from which three of the world's great religions have had their origin: it contains the Holy Places of Jew, Mahomedan, and Christian. It will not truly have fulfilled its destiny until Jew, Mahomedan, and Christian are strong enough to set aside their strife and antagonism and unite to make Palestine a strong nation in which each race within its borders shall not be content with its own prosperity but shall ardently desire to promote the welfare and contentment of all.

"Palestine, it seems to me, is a sort of microcosm of the League of Nations. So many races, so many conflicting interests, are combined within it. But as we believe that much may be done through the League of Nations to promote the Principles of Peace, Goodwill, and Justice, as the solvent of international difficulties, so we should also strive in Palestine to bring to an end the terrible antagonism which exists between the different sections of its population."

Addressing this meeting was almost the last thing I did in Palestine. Lady Samuel was present and drove me back to my hotel. Before I parted from her she told me she liked what I had said and that it needed saying. She and her husband both gave me the impression of facing their very difficult task with courage and devotion, full of dutiful desire to do the very best they were capable of to carry Palestine on towards its highest possibilities.

The next day was spent by us mainly in packing up, paying bills, and saying good-bye to our many friends, but we managed to get in one more delightful ramble, guided by Miss Newton, through Jerusalem. She took us to the Pools of Bethesda, near the Church of St. Ann, where a charming old white-robed Father, a Frenchman, acted as our cicerone and conducted us to see the pools, the garden and the well-arranged little ecclesiastical museum. On our way home through David Street, Miss Newton took us into a shop and, politely asking leave of its owner, conducted us through surprisingly ample warehouses, to find behind them all, another great pool, the Pool of Hezekiah. Jerusalem is full of these surprises, and we felt that it contained multitudes of things which we had no notion of. We had only just begun to find out how much there was to see. After dinner that evening, we were conducted to the railway station, packed into our sleepers on the desert railway, and in the small hours of the next morning were on our way home. It was a sirocco, and a blinding sand storm prevented our seeing more than a few yards from our train when we once more crossed the desert. It was disappointing, but again it helped us to realize what our officers and men must have endured in their long protracted campaign in this region.

One night at Port Said, and one at Alexandria, and then embarking again in the *Vienna* we went up the beautiful Adriatic, enjoying two heavenly days among the islands, to Trieste and thence by Orient express once more to Paris, and so home.

THE WOMAN'S LEADER
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¹ This is one of a series of weekly articles which will extend over a period of several months.

² I have since learned that I should have said "one-ninth."

THE GENEVA PROTOCOL FOR THE PACIFIC SETTLEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL DISPUTES.

By M. CHICK, Women's International League, 55 Gower St., W.C.

I. *The Protocol in relation to the Pact of Security, the Draft Treaty of Mutual Assistance and the Covenant of the League of Nations.*

No apology is needed for returning again to the subject of the Geneva Protocol. The issues involved can scarcely be over-rated, for the final rejection of the scheme would have far-reaching consequences and in the opinion of many would be a definite set-back to the development of a system of international relations based on justice and international law. At the same time it is no use to try to develop peace abroad while causing dissension at home, and for peaceful progress in international affairs the Government must win the consent of a large body of informed opinion in the country, together with a measure of support in the Dominions.

In the following series of articles we shall give a brief survey of the events which preceded the launching of the scheme and a summary of the plan set forth in the Protocol for arbitration, disarmament, and security, concluding with suggestions of the probable lines of amendment required to make the Protocol acceptable to the British Government and the Dominions.

The Protocol is the latest and most hopeful attempt to satisfy the desire for security stressed repeatedly since the Armistice by France and certain of the smaller states of Central and Eastern Europe. The problem of security was raised at the Paris Peace Conference in 1919. At that time, it will be remembered, France demanded that the Rhine should be her eastern boundary, thus incorporating into French territory areas that are undoubtedly German. The Paris Conference would not agree to this, and in return for the abandonment of the claim, France was promised a *Treaty of Guarantee* under the terms of which Great Britain and the United States would defend her if she were attacked by Germany. Owing to the fact that America did not ratify the Peace Treaty this Pact of Guarantee lapsed, and France has sought unceasingly alternative provision for her security.

This is made to some extent in the Covenant of the League of Nations by means of Article 10, where members of the League agree to "respect and preserve as against external aggression the territorial integrity and existing independence of all members." This pledge was held to be too vague in its terms to provide the assurance needed if nations are to feel safe enough to disarm in accordance with Articles 8 and 9 of the Covenant, which deal with disarmament and the appointment of an expert commission to deal with military matters generally. The First Assembly (1920) appointed a Temporary Mixed Commission consisting of persons of more general experience, and for three years this commission laboured to find a basis on which nations would agree to disarm. The 3rd Assembly (1922) passed a resolution stating that reduction of armaments should be made in return for guarantee of security, and that defensive agreements should be concluded which would bind the signatories to come to the immediate help of any member attacked. During 1923 the Temporary Mixed Commission worked to prepare a Draft Treaty following the terms of this resolution. This Draft Treaty of Mutual Assistance was duly prepared and presented by the 3rd Committee (Disarmament) to the 4th Assembly of the League in 1923, and in its final form was circulated to the Governments of the world for their consideration.

The Women's International League took a definite line of criticism in regard to the Treaty for several reasons, the chief being that under it the League of Nations would be using its energies to organize force rather than to promote conciliation, mediation, and arbitration; that the partial military treaties contained in it were injurious to the solidarity of the League, and finally that it contained no definition of the "aggressor" state against whom coercive force would be employed under League auspices.

The States Members of the League, together with nations as yet outside, sent in reasoned replies, some favourable, some adverse, to the Treaty. The British Labour Government, under Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, rejected the scheme, and before the 5th Assembly met in September, 1924, the Draft Treaty was "dead."

In the meantime the European situation had undergone important changes. France had a more progressive Government under M. Herriot, and relations between her and Great Britain were exceptionally cordial. Further, the intolerable strain

between Germany and France, owing to the occupation of the Ruhr since January, 1923, was relaxing. A measure of agreement in regard to the Reparations problem had been reached at the London Conference held during the summer, and the Dawes Plan was already in operation. At the 5th Assembly there was a general feeling of hope that at last it would be possible to take a great and courageous step forward towards the abolition of war as a means of dealing with disputes between nations. By participating, even unofficially in the negotiations leading to the Dawes Plan for reparations, America had come into close contact with European problems once more and there was general expectation that Germany might apply for admission to the League at the 5th Assembly. Thus the atmosphere was favourable, and the presence of the Prime Ministers of France and Great Britain at the earlier sessions, their cordial relations, and the evident desire of the delegation representing both countries to work in harmony, made possible the production of a scheme for the settlement of international disputes by peaceful means built on the basis of arbitration, disarmament, and security.

Comparison of the earlier Draft Treaty of Mutual Assistance with the Protocol shows the great advance made in the later document. Here the stress is on arbitration and the compulsory jurisdiction of the Permanent Court of International Justice; in the Draft Treaty it is on the organization of coercive force; in the Protocol an aggressor is defined (this definition will be dealt with in the following articles), such definition is lacking in the Draft Treaty; the Protocol is not a Treaty within the League, but its provisions are framed for incorporation into the League of Nations Covenant by means of amendment and development of the existing Articles.

At the Assembly last October representatives of 48 nations voted for the Protocol—14 signed on behalf of their Governments, including France. The British Government is now considering it in consultation with expert committees and the Dominions. It is significant that rumours of rejection by the British Government immediately revive the proposition of a Security Pact with France. In any case the problem of security must be faced. Is it to be solved by Protocol or by Pact?

WHAT IS BEING DONE FOR LIBERAL WOMEN.

(Continued from page 35.)

not as yet enfranchised show a particular interest both in study circles and in the activities of local branches of the League of Young Liberals, which provide both for them and for young men voters ample scope for political investigation and discussion.

The *Liberal Women's News*, the official publication of the W.N.L.F., in its new form will appeal to women of every type. In fulfilment of the educational policy of the Federation its main features are articles on every aspect of topical politics written by Members of Parliament, and others, who by reason of special experience or knowledge are best qualified to present to our women readers a clear and well-focused point of view. In addition it offers "practical politics" in the form of household hints and cookery receipts, fashion articles, and of course among the competitions the Cross-word puzzle holds first place.

To meet the demands of the lighter side of political life the Liberal Social Council arranges concerts, and also undertakes dramatic and other social entertainments.

During the year large conferences are held in various parts of the country of which a special feature is open discussion on organization. Much valuable advice is both given and received by Women's Liberal Association members at these Conferences, and they prove again and again a valuable stimulus to work and enthusiasm.

Politically women are modest in their claims to knowledge. "We want to know more" is the cry of every secretary—and the battle of the educationist is half won when he goes out to meet that spirit.

LECTURES ON PARLIAMENTARY AND COMMITTEE PROCEDURE.

The Consultative Committee of Women's Organizations has organized a course of five lectures to be held on Wednesdays at 3 p.m., beginning on 4th March, which will be held at 194 Queen's Gate, by permission of the Royal British Nurses' Association. The first, on Committee Procedure, will be given by Mrs. Corbett Ashby. On 11th and 18th March there will be lectures on Parliamentary Procedure, the first by Mrs. Wintringham and the second by Mrs. Hubback. Mr. Innes, of the League of Nations Union, will speak on 5th March on the organization of a big public meeting, and the course will conclude on 1st April with a debate led by Col. Hurst, M.P.

THE NATIONALITY OF MARRIED WOMEN.

Has it ever happened before that no speaker on a House of Commons resolution seeking to give a right to women—and married women at that—has been against the reform? Yet this is what happened last Wednesday in the debate on Major Harvery's motion, which proposed to give a married woman the right herself to decide on marriage with an alien whether she would retain her British nationality. The only difference between the speakers was as to the method in which it should be done. Fortunately, without a division, the resolution passed in its original form, which provided that a woman on marriage with an alien should remain British and not lose her nationality unless she made a declaration of alienage. Sir Henry Slesser's amendment, which he ultimately withdrew, had proposed that a woman in such a case should lose her nationality unless she took special steps to declare that she wished to remain British. Lady Astor, in seconding the resolution, drew attention to the absurdity of the argument that a woman should take her husband's nationality because of the children, by pointing out that when a British woman marries, say, a German, and lives in this country and has children born here, she is treated as a foreigner while her children are British.

The Under-Secretary for the Home Office, Mr. Lockyer-Lampson, made an important declaration. He said that the Government were prepared as soon as they had the agreement of the Dominions to introduce legislation on the lines of the proposals of the recent Imperial Conference Sub-Committee and the one unanimous proposal of the Select Committee. These are that a woman whose marriage has come to an end for practical purposes, as for example by separation or desertion, should be able to be readmitted to British nationality, and that a British woman on marrying a foreigner should not lose her British nationality unless by the laws of his country she acquires his. But of greater importance was his declaration on behalf of the Government that they were not opposed to this resolution. They could not engage, he said, in legislation on this without the assent of the Dominions, but directly they got their replies, if these were practically unanimous, the Government could pass to legislation on the subject.

CHRISTAL MACMILLAN.

CROSBY HALL DINNER.

The dinner in aid of the Crosby Hall Endowment Fund at the Savoy Hotel on 19th February, attended by the Prince of Wales, resulted in the addition of £13,700 to the Fund. Lady Astor, who originally secured the interest of the Prince, was Vice-President of the Dinner Committee, and thanked him for his presence in an amusing speech, which coupled him with herself as a devotee of hunting and outdoor life, to whom speech-making is a curse which ruins the best of dinners. For Professor Winifred Cullis, Lord Burnham, and Mr. Augustine Birrell, the other speakers, she had no sympathy. "They like it," Mr. Birrell, in his airiest vein, talking of the love of Erasmus for English women as the best product of English Tudor life, sounded in truth as though he did like it. He wants to see a statue of Erasmus in the quadrangle of Crosby Hall "saluting" the prototype of the girl graduate, who will live on the site of Sir Thomas More's garden, in the residential wing to be begun this spring as a result of the dinner.

Professor Winifred Cullis made the appeal, and was able to announce an anonymous gift of £5,000 as a send-off, together with the gift of £1,000 by Sir Otto Beit. The Prince's consent to announce any further gifts of £1,000 was greeted with general laughter. Nevertheless, two more anonymous ones were forthcoming, one of which is to name a room in the hostel after General Sir William Birdwood.

An appeal was inaugurated for a separate fund to build a gallery in connexion with Crosby Hall, to contain a collection of pottery by William de Morgan and pictures by Evelyn de Morgan, which Mrs. Stirling, the sister of the late Mrs. William de Morgan, has offered to bequeath to the Federation of University Women. With the addition of the £18,000 already collected by the University women of the world, this dinner will enable the dream of the beautiful 15th century hall as a centre for colonial and foreign post-graduate women in London to become a reality.

AGNES CONWAY.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

President: Miss ELEANOR RATHBONE, C.C., J.P. Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. SODDY.
Parliamentary Secretary: Mrs. HUBBACK.

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Telephone: Victoria 6188.

ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING, 11th-14th MARCH, 1925.

RAILWAY VOUCHERS.

Those able to attend any or all the Sessions of the Council are asked to communicate immediately with Headquarters if they have not already done so, in order that the railway vouchers for reduced fares may be arranged for. The vouchers can be used from Tuesday, 10th March, to Monday, 16th March, or on any days in between these dates.

PUBLIC LUNCHEON, FRIDAY, 13TH MARCH.

Names of groups of members or visitors who wish to sit in group at the Public Luncheon must reach this office by 2nd March. Tickets: 5s. for members; 7s. 6d. for others. Captain Wedgwood Benn, M.P., will be one of the guests of honour.

RECEPTION, BEDFORD COLLEGE, 8.30, 11TH MARCH.

Guests of Honour: Dame Millicent Fawcett, G.B.E.; Dame Louisa Aldrich-Blake. Tickets (for all except delegates and visitors) 2s. 6d., to be obtained from this office.

CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION AND PEACE, SATURDAY, 14TH MARCH, 1925.

The attention of delegates is drawn to particulars with regard to this Conference, given in another column, as there will be time for them to attend both the afternoon and evening sessions.

VISITS TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Those attending the Council who wish while they are in London to obtain a ticket of admission to listen to the debates in the House of Commons are advised to write well in advance to their M.P.s for these tickets, as they have frequently to be balloted for a week in advance.

PARLIAMENTARY.

EQUAL FRANCHISE—NATIONALITY OF MARRIED WOMEN.

Accounts of the debates on both these subjects are published in other columns. Secretaries of Societies and others who wish to see how their members voted on the Representation of the People on Friday last may apply to Headquarters for the Division List gratis. Copies of the Hansard Reports on both debates can be had from Headquarters, price 7½d. post free. The speeches on both occasions, but especially perhaps on Equal Franchise, were so interesting that these reports are very worth while possessing. Both in the general press and in the House of Commons during the debates frequent references were made to "pledges given by candidates at election times, which showed conclusively how important it is to send back members pledged to our reforms. Of the 11 Unionist members who voted for the Equal Franchise Bill, 9 come from constituencies in which we have affiliated societies.

WALSALL BY-ELECTION.

As we have at present no Society in Walsall, a body of sympathizers is putting the questions on our Parliamentary Questionnaire at the meetings of the three candidates. We hope to print their answers in next week's issue.

BOLTON W.C.A.

The Bolton W.C.A. convened on the 19th inst. a public meeting in support of Widows' Pensions which is described in the *Bolton Evening News* as "unique." "In all probability" says the *News*, "the annals of Bolton cannot furnish a parallel to the united meeting of Bolton women which was held in St. George's Road Congregational Chapel." Nearly all important women's organizations were represented. The following resolution was moved by Mrs. Slater, of the Women's Unionist Association, supported by Miss Mildred Taylor, of the Bolton Women's Liberal Association, and Mrs. Agnew, of the Bolton W.C.A., and carried unanimously: "That this meeting of organized women notes with satisfaction the intention of the Government to deal with the vital question of pensions for widows and dependent children. It urges the Government, and the local Members of Parliament, to do all in their power to secure this pressing reform." We congratulate the Bolton W.C.A. on the magnificent success of the meeting.

PRESTON W.C.A.

A good audience, presided over by Councillor Mrs. Pimblett, the only woman member of the local Watch Committee and a member of the W.C.A. executive, heard Inspector Champneys on 10th February speak on "Women Police." The meeting was extremely opportune as the Watch Committee had just begun to consider the Report of the Committee on the employment of police women appointed last April. Inspector Champneys enumerated the various duties and occasions for which police women are of vital importance. She gave instances to show how well their worth was recognized among the people they claim to protect. A resolution was passed urging the reinstatement of the women police and was forwarded to the Town Clerk.

THE COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTIONS, 1925.

Miss Bertha Mason writes:—
Next week the triennial County Council Elections will take place throughout England and Wales. The men and women who are elected will serve for three years. For the return of suitable representatives, women electors are as responsible as men electors. Do women electors fully realize the importance of the issues involved? Do they realize that the health, the happiness and the well-being of millions of people, children as well as adults, depend in no small measure upon the manner in which County Councils discharge the duties of their office? Do they realize that County Councils are concerned, amongst other things, with Health and Housing, with Motherhood and Infant Welfare, with the Education of the Young, with the Care of the Destitute, the Sick and the Mentally Afflicted? These are matters which are of supreme importance to the home and the Nation. Again, do women electors realize that the work entrusted to County Councils is work which cannot be efficiently carried out without the advice and help of intelligent and sympathetic women, who have knowledge of the needs of the people amongst whom they dwell, and practical experience of the requirements of the home? We wonder, and for this reason. There are sixty-two Councils in England and Wales; the last returns available (1922-3) show that seventy-five women, including aldermen, were serving on thirty-three County Councils, of which number seventeen sit for London. This means, roughly speaking, that half the County Councils were without women members. There is urgent need for the number of women to be increased, and the opportunity for doing so presents itself next week. It is good to be able to report that of the twelve retiring women London County Councillors eleven have signified their intention of standing for re-election. It is encouraging to learn that amongst the new candidates there are several quite young women. Our hearty good wishes attend their adventure. The final decision, however, does not rest with the candidates. That is in the hands of the electorate, and we would remind women electors that good wishes are not in themselves sufficient to ensure success. Hard work beforehand and votes on polling day are needed to carry the candidates we desire to see elected to victory. Not all women can offer themselves as candidates, but all women electors (with few exceptions) can go to the polling booth next week, and can exercise the power they possess to secure the return of men and women who, in their opinion, will serve their constituents and the State with intelligence, common sense, tact, and sympathy. The call of the moment is Vote! Vote! Vote next week!

LIST OF WOMEN CANDIDATES FOR L.C.C. ELECTION.

Municipal Reform Party.	
Fulham, E.	Dame Beatrice Hudson Lyall, D.B.E., J.P.
Greenwich	Miss M. Hill, J.P.
Hackney, N.	Mrs. Evelyn Emmet.
Hammersmith, N.	Mrs. Worsthorne.
Islington, E.	Miss Thelma Cazalet.
Islington, N.	Miss Rosamond Smith.
Kensington, S.	Lady Trustram Eve.
Lambeth, Norwood	Mrs. Dunn Gardner, J.P.
St. Marylebone	Dr. Adeline Roberts.
St. Pancras, N.	Mrs. Elliot.
St. Pancras, S.E.	Mrs. E. Hopkins.
Poplar, S.	Miss Nesta Macbeth.
Shoreditch	Miss M. Goff.
Stepney, Limehouse	Mrs. C. B. Lankester, J.P.
Stepney, Whitechapel	Miss Sturgess.
Woolwich, E.	The Countess of Limerick.
Progressive Party.	
Hackney, Central	Miss Adler.
Lambeth, N.	Miss Edith Neville.
St. Pancras, N.	Mrs. Baker.
St. Pancras, S.W.	Mrs. Alliston.
Stepney, Limehouse	Miss Hill.
Stepney, Whitechapel	Miss Ida Samuel.
Labour Party.	
Battersea, N.	Mrs. C. S. Ganley.
Bermondsey, W.	Mrs. E. M. Lowy.

We have compiled the above list from information kindly supplied to us by the three Parties concerned.

Camberwell, N.	Miss A. Dawson.
Camberwell, Peckham	Mrs. Hugh Dalton.
Chelsea	Mrs. D. Russell and Mrs. A. L. Walton.
Fulham, E.	Mrs. M. Douglas.
Fulham, W.	Miss Joan Howson.
Hackney, N.	Mrs. Merrifield.
Hackney, S.	Mrs. A. Salter.
Hammersmith, S.	Mrs. B. Drake.
Islington, E.	Mrs. Macrae Gibson.
Islington, N.	Mrs. Miall Smith.
Islington, S.	Mrs. M. Coleman.
Islington, W.	Miss E. Rickards.
Lambeth, Brixton	Miss Sayle.
Poplar, S.	Miss A. S. Lawrence.
St. Marylebone	Miss N. Jacob.
St. Pancras, N.	Dr. Harrison-Bell.
Southwark, S.E.	Dr. Stella Churchill.
Stepney, Limehouse	Mrs. Mathews.
Stepney, Mile End.	Mrs. Scurr.
Wandsworth, Central	Mrs. Cook.
Westminster, Abbey	Mrs. Mark Starr and Mrs. Malone.
Westminster, St. George's	Miss J. Stephens and Miss M. Carlin.

A CLUB FOR CITY WOMEN.

We have received particulars of a new Club, the Langbourn Club, which is to be started in the City. Its object is to provide women working in that district with the means of obtaining a wholesome and inexpensive lunch in comfortable surroundings, hot water for washing in the middle of the day, and dressing rooms where they can change if they are going out after work hours. There will also be a reading room where members can rest, meet their friends after office hours, or fill in odd times, for example between work and evening classes or before they need go and catch a train. No one who knows anything of the life of the City girl clerk can doubt the need of such a club. The annual subscription is £2, payable quarterly, and every member must take a share in the company to the value of 2s. 6d. £1,000 must be raised to start the Club, and the Committee are anxious to find a few stockholders who would be prepared to advance £10 now and take up more stock on an approved scheme. The address of the Committee is 106 St. Clement's House, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street.

WOMEN AND ELECTRICITY.

Some time ago we gave an account of the formation of the Women's Electrical Association. It has now published its first pamphlet, which gives a list of the Officers and Council of the Association, and also outlines its policy. Its aim is "to promote the wider use of Electricity in the service of women" and to "bring home to women a better understanding of the service of Electricity in private and public life." The Association is ready to provide lectures on various aspects of electricity as affecting the interests of women, and arrangements are in hand for popular lectures and demonstrations of electrical apparatus to be given in various parts of the country. The address of the Association is 26 George Street, Hanover Square, W. 1.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE MENACE ON THE RHINE.

MADAM,—In reference to the letter signed "Englishwoman and Internationalist," in your issue of 13th February, I think everyone should read an article in *The Review of Reviews* by General Morgan (who was D.A.G. on the Military Control Commission), in which he replies to an appeal by Professor Foerster to state the Allied case for the postponement of the evacuation of Cologne. Having read it I fear there can be little question as to who is not telling the truth and keeping faith and also that concessions made to Germany do not further the peace we all hoped for. We paid too dearly for civilian interference with purely military duties during the war, and I feel strongly that a military and unscrupulous country like Germany, who (if we are to believe such a witness as General Morgan) is no doubt preparing for revenge, can only be dealt with by military precautions on the part of the Allies.

EUPHEMIA M. LANCASTER.

ONLY A GIRL.

MADAM,—When the Representative for Georgia heard that President Roosevelt's first grandchild, just born, was "not a boy but a girl," he promptly withdrew his proposal for a holiday in honour of the occasion, although congratulations were sent to the child's parents. This seems a curious contradiction of the current English belief that women are as highly valued as men in the U.S.A.

AN ENGLISHWOMAN.

L.C.C. ELECTION, WEST FULHAM.

Voluntary Workers Urgently Wanted.

JOAN HOWSON, Labour Candidate, will be grateful if any able to help indoors or out will apply to her at 9 Lettice Street, S.W. 6. Phone: Putney 2040.

COMING EVENTS.

FEDERATION OF CHILDREN'S RESCUE COMMITTEES.

MAR. 6. 5.15 p.m. Public Meeting at Kingsway Hall. Chair: The Duchess of Atholl, D.B.E., M.P. Speakers: The Lord Bishop of Kingston, Dr. A. H. Norris, and Dr. Elizabeth Sloan-Chesser.

GUILDHOUSE, ECCLESTON SQUARE, S.W.1.

MAR. 14. Conference on Education and Peace. Chair: Miss Maude Royden. Morning Session, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Speakers: Dr. Evelyn Saywell, L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., and Professor Graham Wallas. Afternoon Session, 2.15-4.15 p.m. Speakers: Miss K. D. Courtney, Mr. Hubert Martin, C.B.E., and the Rev. Frank Lenwood, M.A. Evening Session, 5.15-7.30 p.m. Speakers: J. C. Maxwell Garnett, C.B.E., M.A., Sc.D., G. P. Gooch, D.Litt., M.A., and the Rev. Harold Costley-White, M.A.

GUILDHOUSE W.C.S.

MAR. 9. 3.15 p.m. Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Visit to Chelsea Royal Hospital.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE.

MAR. 3. 5 p.m. 35 Marsham Street, Westminster. "Family Endowment: III—The Case For and Against." Speakers: Mr. J. E. Gregory, D.Sc., London School of Economics, and Miss Eleanor Rathbone, J.P., M.C.

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NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

Annual Council Meeting. MAR. 11, 12, 13 and 14. At the King George's Hall, Y.M.C.A., Tottenham Court Road, W.C. For further particulars see page 38. Reception to Delegates and Visitors to all business sessions, Wednesday, 11th March, at 8.30 p.m., Bedford College, Regent's Park, N.W. Public Luncheon, Friday, 13th March, at 1 for 1.15 p.m. Holborn Restaurant, High Holborn.

Brighton S.E.C. and N.C.W. MAR. 2. 8 p.m. Royal Pavilion. Miss Eleanor Rathbone, J.P., on "The Family and the Minimum Wage." Chairman: Mrs. A. O. Jennings, J.P.

Kensington and Paddington S.E.C. MAR. 2. 3.30 p.m. Pembroke Lodge, Pembroke Gardens, W. 8. Mrs. White on "Inequalities in the Civil Service," and Miss Winifred Holby on "Equal Pay in the Teaching Profession."

Petersfield S.E.C. MAR. 5. 7.30 p.m. Miss K. D. Courtney on "Family Allowances."

SIX POINT GROUP.

MAR. 2. 5-7 p.m. Committee "At Home" at 92 Victoria Street. Miss Winifred Holby on "Widows' Pensions under an Insurance Scheme."

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

FEB. 26. 8 p.m. Public Meeting at Holmwood, Waldegrave Road, Teddington. Mrs. Juson Kerr, J.P., on "How to form a Housewives' Union and bring down the Prices of Food." Chair: Mrs. Foster Lumb.

PROFESSIONAL.

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PILLOW LINEN.—Remnant bundles of superior quality snow-white pillow linen, sufficient to make six pillow-cases, size 20 x 30 ins., 20s. per bundle. Write for Bargain List—TO-DAY.—HUTTON'S, 41, Main Street, Larne, Northern Ireland.

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

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

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ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE, 35/37 Marsham Street, Westminster. Weekly meetings, 5 p.m. Tuesdays, February and March. Topical subjects. Influential speakers. See "Coming Events" each week. Admission free. All welcome.

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Sunday, 1st March. 3.30. Music; Lecturer: Alec Miller, Esq., on "Sculpture as History and Revelation." 6.30, Maude Royden.

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