

# THE CATHOLIC CITIZEN

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Daughter of the ancient Eve,  
We know the gifts ye gave and give;  
Who knows the gifts which you shall give,  
Daughter of the Newer Eve?

*Francis Thompson*

## ST. JOAN'S À ROME

Découvrir ou retrouver Rome est toujours chose émouvante.

S'y trouver lorsque les feux de l'été apaisés—et, comme cette année, effacés les dégâts d'exceptionnelles intempéries—les lauriers—roses ouvrent leurs dernières fleurs, est chose charmante.

S'y rendre à l'heure de Vatican II à l'appel de St. Joan's Alliance, c'est chose unique.

Jamais encore, sûrement, St. Joan's, lors d'une de ses rencontres internationales, n'avait fait précéder l'ouverture de ses travaux d'un cocktail et d'une conférence de presse. Jamais, répondant à son invitation, n'avait pu par conséquent se retrouver ainsi un après-midi d'automne un tel mélange de tenues diverses, masculines et féminines, ecclésiastiques et laïques, un tel échantillonnage sinon d'idiomes, du moins de couleurs de peau.

Jamais sans doute non plus la cohorte empressée et un peu redoutable des journalistes ne s'était vu convier à rencontrer des femmes catholiques de cette sorte.

Là résidait bien quelque risque. La retenue dans l'élan et dans l'expression de leur pensée dont leur Présidente fait une règle à ses adhérentes, ces spécialistes de l'inédit, du sensationnel, n'allait-ils pas la trahir?

Il y eut bien en effet dans les comptes-rendu de presse quelques légères inexactitudes, dans les propos rapportés quelques exagérations. Dans l'ensemble, le bilan de ce préambule de la vingt-deuxième Conférence de St. Joan's Alliance tenue

à Rome les dix-huit et dix-neuf septembre 1965 devait se révéler largement positif.

Rome est la ville où, à tout moment, le présent, enjambant les siècles, rejoint d'un bond le passé. La Rome du Forum et celle de Michel Ange ne sont qu'un double aspect de la Ville Eternelle. Et les splendeurs vaticanes peuvent n'apparaître que comme un jalon entre le dépouillement des Catacombes et cette Eglise des pauvres qui se cherche aujourd'hui.

La Villa Bassi, qui offrit aux congressistes de St. Joan's la discrète élégance du quartier résidentiel où elle se situe, est bâtie sur les pentes de ce mont Janicule où Saint Pierre fut mis à mort. Quel contraste entre ce que l'on peut se représenter d'un gibet antique et l'harmonie des constructions modernes noyées dans la verdure qui en occupent aujourd'hui l'emplacement! De même, quelle distance entre les premières revendications pour que la femme prenne dans la cité sa juste place et l'acte d'espérance, l'acte de foi en l'avenir qui ont maintenant le droit—encouragés qu'ils sont par les voix les plus autorisées, les voix les plus hautes—d'être formulés!

Chère Miss Barry, vous nous avez quittées trop tôt. C'est vous qui auriez dû être à Saint-Pierre, ce matin du 19. Mais grâce à votre appui invisible, l'Alliance, n'est-ce-pas, malgré tant de difficultés surmontées depuis l'hiver, tant de difficultés à surmonter encore, doublera largement le cap de l'année de vie qu'avec une prudence certainement excessive, elle s'est donnée à Rome?

**P. Archambault**

## OUR PRESIDENT

After Mme. Archambault's charming vignette on Rome and St. Joan's International Council Meeting, there should appear the President's own report of her activities.

This she is herself unwilling to give as it would be "only a string of names"—but we may be permitted to give the string of names so that those who have any imagination may know something

of the devoted activity our President has dedicated to the building up of the edifice so shaken by our loss last winter.

From Israel to London she came in February to pay loving tribute to Miss Barry and to look, with her sorrowing colleagues, at the task ahead. Back to Israel where the work of vacating one embassy and preparing for another would satisfy

one housewife's urge to action—but no, on the way she would represent St. Joan's Alliance at Teheran—and wherever she went it was contacts and the mot juste all the way. A visit to Rome gave her an opportunity to thank His Holiness for admitting the "auditrices" to the Vatican Council.

Her visits to Geneva were frequent and fruitful, were they to fetch her youngest son from school or to consult with well-tried friends at ILO, OIC, IAF, etc., and our own consultant Mlle. Archinard. At home for a brief time in Belgium she could by her very presence bring the section we have hoped for into being—and even when on holiday by the sea found contacts and conversations of value to St. Joan's.

And now she has gone to a new field, and one of grave anxieties if great possibilities—St. Joan's Alliance has had many good friends in India and its President is likely to make more. It will be difficult as things are to keep the close contact a President should have with her aides—but situations bring their solutions to the brave of heart, and that "hardiësse apostolique" of which Père Danielou spoke in his pregnant address to our delegates at Mass on September 18th, is the solution our President brings to this as to all difficult situations.

#### ROMAN ITEMS

We are grateful to Miss Joan Morris who is a member of the Company of St. Paul and of St. Joan's Alliance, for arranging the reception on Friday evening together with a delightful outing on Saturday night, and numerous other services for our comfort.

Père Danielou S.J. whose writings have helped the cause of women said Mass for us on the Saturday morning and gave us a brief sermon afterwards in which he said:

"L'Eglise compte bien sur la co-opération de la femme pour l'aider à résoudre l'immense problème de l'évangélisation de tous les peuples en face de la civilisation technique.

"Ce que sera la place et le rôle de la femme dans l'Eglise sera le résultat d'études et d'expérience. Vos recherches et vos efforts sont certainement bénis de Dieu ainsi que votre esprit de hardiësse Apostolique.

"L'Eglise opérera son aggiornamento, sa mise à jour, dans ce domaine et elle compte sur vos prières."

We were delighted to welcome Señorita Margarita Imaz, representing our affiliated society in Argentina, the Centro Femenino di Cultura Civica; and Madame Fontainas who was in Antwerp last year, and who brought news of a Belgian

section well under way. Dr. von Müller gave an account of her contacts with Dr. Govaarts-Halkes since she attended the meeting at Antwerp as observer. Though she herself could not come to Rome, Dr. Govaarts sent a letter containing the hope of a Dutch section in the near future.

A most welcome observer was Dr. Spagnoletti who has joined the Alliance and will gather members in Italy. Two nuns, one of them an English member working in Rome on the question of the priesthood for women, were an unusual happy addition to our Council.

Several of us had also the privilege of meeting the Patriarch Maximus IV through the good offices of Dr. Margarethe von Müller who has done so much for the better understanding between East and West. He was congratulated at the Vatican Council on the sixtieth anniversary of his ordination (he is now ninety-eight) and could "only acknowledge the ovation with a smile." Dr. von Müller took us to the hospital where he rests between sessions and he spoke to us most kindly and gave us his blessing.

At the Conference of the Major Superiors, representing one hundred and eighty thousand U.S.A. nuns, it was unanimously resolved to ask that their representatives be appointed as permanent active or consulting members of the Sacred Congregation of Religious, of the Commission for the Revision of Canon Law and of all Post-Conciliar Commissions for the application of Vatican II decrees relating to nuns.

#### THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS

Pope Paul in a *Motu Proprio* announced the setting up of a world-wide synod of Bishops to give advice and counsel to the Pope who will convoke the synod whenever he considers it opportune. National Conferences of Bishops will appoint delegates in accordance with the number of Bishops—one up to twenty-five, two up to fifty and so on—and the male religious orders will send representatives.

The delegates to St. Joan's Council Meeting on reading the *Motu Proprio* wrote to His Holiness rejoicing at his providing for this world-wide channel of information, but they humbly beg to suggest that, to make it more perfect, representatives of women's religious orders should be elected and that an opportunity be found for consultations of the laity, both men and women.

We are delighted to report the efforts of President Lyndon B. Johnson to appoint women, wherever possible, to governmental positions of importance and responsibility. We trust the President's example will be followed throughout the world.

#### NOTES AND COMMENTS

The annual Mass for deceased members associates and benefactors of St. Joan's Alliance will be offered on Sunday, November 7th, as usual at St. Patrick's, Soho Square. We hope as many members as possible will attend. Kindly note that the Mass this year will be at 6 p.m.

An Anglican nun has been appointed as assistant chaplain at Hull University. She is Sister Hilary of the Order of the Holy Paraclete, which has its mother house at Whitby and also a house at Hull where members of the Community teach in local schools.

This is the first time that a woman has been appointed to a university chaplaincy post in the diocese of York. The Bishop of Selby (the Rt. Rev. Douglas Sargent) points out, however, that women do hold similar positions in other universities throughout the country.

"We feel strongly that in modern mixed universities there ought to be a woman on the staff of the chaplaincy," he commented on Monday. "And a nun seemed to be the best person for the job."

(Church Times, September 3rd)

Miss Roma Flinders Mitchell is Australia's first woman judge. She has been appointed to the Bench of the South Australian Supreme Court. She very wisely said that "as far as being a woman is concerned, I am hopeful that in my lifetime appointments such as this will not excite comment"—perhaps she feels that Judge Elizabeth Lane's appointment has received comment enough. Judge Jiage of Ghana is also a High Court Judge in the Commonwealth.

The *Guardian* carried a picture of the first negro woman to receive a degree from the University of Alabama, walking with other graduates at the ceremony.

St. Joan's Fair. The Annual Sale will take place on Saturday, November 27th, at St. Patrick's School, 24 Great Chapel Street, W.1 (two minutes walk from the office), from 12 to 5 p.m. Gifts for the Sale or donations in cash should be sent to Miss C. Dickson, Honorary Sale Secretary, at the office after November 14th. Volunteers to man the stalls are requested to send in their names to the office as soon as possible. The Alliance counts on the help of every member to make this sale the success it was last year as we depend on the proceeds to balance the accounts before the end of the year. Our expenses continue to soar, particularly the cost of producing *The Catholic Citizen*. There will be lunches and teas provided at reasonable prices. Please come and bring a friend.

We learn from the Federation of Catholic Universities that His Holiness Pope Paul has graciously accepted the report of the Federation's meeting in Washington (1963) and has drawn special attention to the importance of sections dealing with East-West cultural relations and the need for Catholic University centres in developing countries. We readily comply with the request of the University of the Sacred Heart (Milan) with which we exchange publications to pass on this information to our readers.

St. Joan's Alliance sends congratulations to the Catholic Institute for International Relations which celebrated the Jubilee of the foundation of the Sword of the Spirit, and its new name, at a dinner at Church House on October 5th.

Miss Gordon represented St. Joan's Alliance as fraternal delegate at the Conference of the IFUW at Brisbane last month.

Dr. Shattock will be speaking at the monthly meeting of "The Patricians" at the Challoner Club at 8 p.m. on Monday, November 8th. Our members are welcome.

The eighth Alison Neilans Memorial lecture will be held under the chairmanship of Lord Sorenson, at the Caxton Hall, on Thursday, November 4th, at 6 p.m. The lecture, 'A Hundred Years' War', will be delivered by Lieut. Colonel Bernard Watson, of the Salvation Army.

#### TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

Domrémy—"The Catholic Citizen", 15 October, 1940

Last autumn after visiting the house in which St. Joan of Arc was born, Mr. William C. Bullitt, U.S. Ambassador to France, went to the small village church and was amazed that the only altar showing the saint was made of plaster and this was cracked. The priest explained that Domrémy is but a small place, its people are poor and the times are hard.

"I will see that your church is provided with a proper altar," Mr. Bullitt told the Curé. In Paris Mr. Bullitt called in Maxime Real del Sarte, the celebrated artist, and commissioned him to design a suitable altar with a statue of St. Joan of Arc.

It was Mr. Bullitt's original intention to defray all the cost himself. However, he was soon summoned back to the United States by President Roosevelt. While there he brought up the subject in private amongst friends, and person after person asked to be permitted to participate. . . . On Sunday, June 9th (in the midst of the great German drive on Paris), Mr. Bullitt accompanied by Louis Marin, Minister of State, and Mgr. Rodrigue Beussart, Auxiliary Bishop of Paris, slipped quietly to Domrémy to dedicate the altar.

(Owing to the danger from flights of German airplanes over the regions no crowds were permitted to gather.) At the close of the ceremony Mr. Bullitt placed a white rose at the foot of St. Joan's statue in the name of the President of the United States.

## ST. JOAN'S ALLIANCE

founded 1911

BRITISH SECTION OF ST. JOAN'S INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE

AND

Editorial Office of "The Catholic Citizen"

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Signed articles do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Society.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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### TWENTY-SECOND COUNCIL MEETING AT ROME

By Miss F. McGillicuddy

This is indeed the year when all roads lead to Rome; delegates to St. Joan's Council took several of them. On the Janiculum, high above St. Peter's dome and other monuments of Rome, we were lodged and well cared for at Villa Bassi in Monteverdi Vecchio (Via G. Carini, 24) a pension maintained by the Company of St. Paul. The Council meetings as well as the reception were held at Villa Bassi but it required only ten winding minutes for the "G" bus to whisk us to St. Peter's.

Pre-Council activities on the part of the President involved among other things preparing for the reception. Those who arrived in Rome early assisted in the addressing of invitations. In an article entitled "Feminists eye Council (Vatican) Closely", the *Rome Daily American* wrote, "Their representatives in Rome have been passing out literature since the Council's (Vatican) fourth and final session began last week."

The coincidence in time and place of St. Joan's Council meeting with that of the Vatican Council's 4th session enabled us to make St. Joan's Alliance better known in Rome and through the international press well beyond the Eternal City. Furthermore our reception was attended by archbishops, bishops, priests, sisters, journalists and many other less easily classified members of the "people of God". Our guests represented a world-wide geographic range. Addressing our guests in French, Madame Leroy briefly outlined the history of St. Joan's International Alliance, its work, past achievements and present hope for

the fuller participation of women in the work of Church. The lifelong labour and devotion of Florence Barry had been recognised by Pope Pius XII who awarded her the cross "Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice" in 1951.

Papal encouragement of the work of the Alliance had been renewed by Pope John XXIII who sent his apostolic blessing on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the movement. Last January Pope Paul VI sent a message of encouragement and blessing when we celebrated the golden jubilee of *The Catholic Citizen*. Madame Leroy quoted a passage from the encyclical *Pacem in Terris*. "Tout être humain (hominibus) a droit à la liberté dans son état de vie. Il a par conséquent le droit de fondé un foyer où l'époux (vir) et l'épouse (mulier) interviennent à égalité de droits et de devoirs; ou bien celui de suivre au sacerdoce ou à la vie religieuse."

Dr. Mackenzie Shattock gave a parallel account of the founding of St. Joan's Alliance by two young girls who had met by chance outside the gates of Holloway Jail while waiting for the release of women who had been imprisoned for their participation in suffrage demonstrations and who had been on a hunger strike. "Then and there with the foolhardy generosity of youth they founded the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society; total membership—two." The movement grew, however, and later placing itself under the patronage of Joan of Arc has spread to five Continents. Dr. Shattock recalled that in its earlier days the

Alliance had attracted "both praise and blame", had been toughened by ridicule, even detraction; and was reported to Rome: nothing came of that except worry and some publicity.

Madame Leroy then presented the leaders of the movement. Dr. Bardenhewer (Germany), Mrs. Kinsella (Australia) and the writer of this article (U.S.A.), each spoke a few words.

The Council meeting opened the following morning. Before discussion of the first item on the agenda the President paid tribute to Miss Florence Barry, the blow of whose death had shaken us all. The Council rose in prayer for the repose of her soul. Florence Barry was never absent from our thoughts, for we sensed her presence and collaboration.

Our new section, the United States, was admitted to membership. Reports indicated that we may look forward to the founding of two additional sections next year.

The President's address and the International Report and that of the Treasurer stressed the major problems of the Alliance: the Secretariat and finance. It was decided to create the office of "co-ordinator" of international affairs. Dr. Harper agreed to assume this charge. The publication of *The Catholic Citizen*, a feat Miss Barry used to call "the monthly miracle", has required even greater supernatural aid since her departure. Measures to divide the work and financing of the *Citizen* among the various national sections were proposed and discussed.

Resolutions adopted at Fribourg and Antwerp relating to the fuller participation of women in the service of the Church and the revision of certain canons were reaffirmed and additional resolutions adopted. (See text of resolution on page 74.)

The Council heard from its representatives at the United Nations New York Headquarters and in Geneva, and from representatives of the Alliance who attended the U.N. Status of Women Commission in Teheran, the I.L.O. meeting in Geneva and the meeting of the International Catholic Organisations in Vienna. Reports from national sections revealed a great variety of activities undertaken. It would seem that each section in developing its programme has adapted in accordance with its own needs and resources the principles of St. Joan's Alliance. (Abstracts of the various reports will be published in the November issue of *The Catholic Citizen*.)

We record with admiration and gratitude Dr. Harper's tour de force in translating as need arose. She was in constant demand as well by the press. The Council especially appreciated the yeoman services of the "men's auxiliary" consisting of Ambassador Leroy and the two youngest Leroy young men, Daniel and Denis. During the entire week preceding the Council meeting they per-

formed worthy tasks on all levels; addressing and mailing invitations, supplying diplomatic advice and "know-how", and maintaining the high morale of the President.

All too soon the roads which had led to Rome led therefrom as our members dispersed, but not before resolving to meet again next year in England—a return to the Source.

### MEMORABLE MOMENTS

The first group of delegates to reach Rome had the privilege of attending the Pope's audience almost on arrival. The President commended St. Joan's Alliance to His Holiness to whom an account of the Alliance and its former contacts with Pope Paul's Predecessors had been sent. He gave her and the Alliance his blessing. The whole group attended the Pope's Mass on the following Sunday when His Holiness said Mass in Italian, the people answered as in any parish church in Italy, and we could all follow his moving sermon on the compassion of Christ in His raising of the widow's son—il piccolo ragazzo—and the need for Christian compassion in the world today. After the Mass the Pope spoke to the people and amongst the groups whom he read out was St. Joan's International Alliance. Two representatives of the Alliance were called to speak to His Holiness and to them he gave beautiful medals together with a blessing for themselves, their families and "the good they were trying to do" and touchingly asked for their prayers for the Church "and for me".

Certainly our prayers have gone with him on his unprecedented journey to the United Nations to plead for peace on earth to men of goodwill.

As the Pope was flying to the United Nations, I, glancing at Laura Knight's autobiography, came across this (on the eve of the war, 1914), "We decided that every owner of a radio throughout the world, should be told to listen-in at a certain hour to a matter of world-wide consequence. Christ's Sermon on the Mount would then be broadcast... the B.B.C. were enthusiastic. 'A splendid idea,' they said, 'but the B.B.C. is banned from politics; we suggest you write to the League of Nations.' This I did. The League of Nations agreed it was a good idea but did not see their way clear to do anything about it—'Write to the Pope,' they begged. Discouraged, I turned back to my real job—painting." So that was the end—then.

P.C.C.

\* \* \*

St. Thomas Aquinas occupies an exalted position as a Doctor of the Church, but is "not to be considered as an exclusive exponent of God's truths," Pope Paul told delegates to the sixth Thomistic Congress in Rome.

(*Catholic Herald*, September 17th)

## RESOLUTIONS PASSED AT THE TWENTY-SECOND COUNCIL MEETING, ROME

### 1. Political Rights

St. Joan's International Alliance calls upon its National Sections to urge the Governments of those States that have not yet accorded to women equality of political rights with men to do so without delay.

### 2. Marriage

St. Joan's International Alliance believes that the Sacrament of Marriage entails an indissoluble monogamous union entered into with the full consent of both parties; with a full sense of responsibility and in conformity with the teaching of the Church.

The Alliance expresses confidence that the Church will find a solution to the question of birth control which, while interpreting Divine Law, will take into account present human conditions.

Recalling the words of His Holiness Pope John XXIII in *Pacem in Terris* "Human beings have the right to choose freely the state of life which they prefer and therefore the right to set up a family with equal rights and duties for men and women."

(A) It demands that those laws which still impose a measure of civil incapacity upon the wife and married mother be rescinded.

(i) A married woman should have the same rights as other citizens:

(a) regarding nationality and domicile;  
(b) to contract, earn and to exercise rights over her own earnings and property.

(ii) A married woman should exercise equal rights with her husband over the children born of their marriage or adopted by them.

(iii) There should be no legal bar to a married woman undertaking work outside the home.

(iv) The economic status of the housewife should be raised. It should be legally recognised that husband and wife are partners, and each of them is entitled to share in the family income.

(B) St. Joan's International Alliance calls upon its National Sections to urge their Governments to instruct their delegates to the General Assembly of the United Nations to re-insert a minimum age of marriage of fifteen years for both sexes.

### 3. Maintenance

St. Joan's International Alliance calls upon its National Sections to urge their Governments to alter their legal systems where necessary in order to make it possible for them to sign the United Nations Convention on the Recovery Abroad of Maintenance, adopted in June, 1956.

### 4. Inheritance Rights

St. Joan's International Alliance calls upon its National Sections to urge their Governments to ensure equality of inheritance rights of men and women by providing that men and women in the same degree of relationship shall be entitled to equal shares in the estate and shall have equal rank in the order of succession.

### 5. Mutilations Based on Custom

St. Joan's International Alliance trusts that those States in which the practice of mutilation based on custom still survives will take the necessary steps for its early abolition. It further requests the Status of Women Commission to continue to give its attention to this matter.

### 6. Equal Moral Standard

(a) In reaffirming its belief in the same high moral standard for both sexes, St. Joan's International Alliance deplors the fact that the pernicious system of State Regulation of Prostitution persists in several countries. It calls upon its National Sections to urge their Governments to ratify the Convention on the Suppression of Traffic in Persons and the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others.

(b) St. Joan's International Alliance reaffirms its belief that laws to safeguard public order should apply equally

to men and women and that all measures taken to prevent the spread of venereal disease should be free, voluntary and confidential.

### 7. Equal Pay and Opportunities (Conditions of Employment)

St. Joan's International Alliance calls upon its National Sections to urge their Governments and all appropriate bodies:

(i) to ensure as rapidly as possible the application of the principle of equal pay for work of equal value;

(ii) to press for the same opportunities for training, employment and promotion for both sexes; that any Government requests for assistance from the United Nations and Specialised Agencies shall be for women equally with men; that in all labour legislation equal protection shall be given to men and women against exploitation, injury, industrial accident or disease and equal provision made for re-entry into employment, part-time work, retirement and pension.

### 8. Education

St. Joan's International Alliance believes that the aim of education is the full development of the human being both as an individual and as a member of society and reaffirms its belief that education should be based on religious and spiritual values.

The Alliance calls upon its National Sections to urge their Governments to ensure that in all schemes of education the same opportunities shall be available for both sexes.

### 9. Slavery

St. Joan's International Alliance calls upon its National Sections to request their Governments to instruct their delegates to the Economic and Social Council to urge the appointment of a permanent committee of experts to hasten the abolition of slavery, the slave trade, and institutions and practices similar to slavery.

### 10. Fuller Participation of Women in the Service of the Church

(a) St. Joan's International Alliance requests the appropriate authorities to permit women to follow the courses in theology of all grades, to take the necessary qualifying examinations and to receive these diplomas and degrees, and urges that these facilities be made available in countries where they do not, as yet, exist.

(adopted at the Council Meeting, Freiburg, 1963)

(b) The Vatican Council in its Constitution on the Church has decreed the introduction of an independent diaconate. St. Joan's International Alliance recalls the tradition of women deaconesses in the early Church and begs that No. 29 of the Church Constitution shall apply to women as to men.

(c) St. Joan's International Alliance records its gratitude to the Holy Father for his invitation to representative women to attend the Vatican Council as auditors. The Alliance trusts that competent women will be included in the post-conciliar commissions.

(d) St. Joan's International Alliance reaffirms its loyalty and filial devotion, and expresses its conviction that should the Church in her wisdom and in her good time decide to extend to women the dignity of the Priesthood, women would be willing and eager to respond.

(adopted at the Council Meeting, Freiburg, 1963)

### Liturgy

St. Joan's International Alliance recalling the recent changes introduced into the Ritual of Marriage in the Liturgy Constitution (III 78) begs that this be further considered so that it may express the equal rights and duties of husband and wife as affirmed in the Encyclical *Pacem in Terris*.

### Canon Law

St. Joan's International Alliance, encouraged by the Encyclical *Pacem in Terris*, respectfully petitions the Commission entrusted with the Revision of Canon Law to amend those Canons which concern women so that these no longer assign to women a position of inferiority which no longer corresponds with their civil and social status. The Alliance further requests that qualified women be consulted on the revision of these Canons.

With this end in view, the Alliance submits that the fundamental right of all baptised persons be recognised as affirmed in Canon 87:

Baptismate homo constituitur in Ecclesia Christi persona cum omnibus Christianorum iuribus et officiis, nisi, ad jura quod attinet obstat obex, ecclesiasticae communionis vinculum impediens, vel lata ab Ecclesia censura.

The desired changes in the Codex of the Church's legislation would give recognition to the dignity of women and accord them greater possibilities of service to the Church.

The Alliance therefore begs for the revision of certain Canons, for instance:

Canons 93, 98, 506, 709, 813, 968, 1067, 1262, 1264, 1327, 1380, 1979, 2004.

### DISCUSSION AT THE COUNCIL

A resolution proposed by the French Section on Marriage was discussed. It pointed out that a woman married to a man who subsequently uses her for the purposes of prostitution suffers a grave injury and should be released from her yoke. "She thought she had married a husband and found she was bound to a souteneur."

The Council considered that Canon Law covered such a case. The president felt that the subject was not sufficiently ripe for consideration as a resolution and asked the French Section to pursue it for next year. It seemed to her that a ruling that the marriage was valid should be challenged in the higher ecclesiastical court. It was clearly a case of ill-intention and a marriage based on "erreur de la personne".

Dr. Von Müller asked that the Alliance should press Governments to appoint women equally with men to positions of responsibility. Members pointed out that the Resolution No. 7 covered the case; that women must continue to apply for such posts and plan their lives so as to be able to undertake the responsibilities involved.

Frau Münch reported on Church Constitution 29—which details the pastoral duties of an independent Diaconate, now open to married men of a certain age and young men who must be celibate, but not to women. These duties include festive baptisms, the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, to assist at and bless marriages and take the Last Sacraments to the dying and to direct funerals. They may also conduct services for the faithful.

An emergency resolution drawn up by a sub-committee to the Conference dealt with the recent directive issued by the Commission on the Liturgy forbidding women to be Readers in Church.

A lively discussion followed in which members expressed their concern at this renewed prohibition and drew the attention of the Conference to the necessity of publishing a protest without delay. It was, however, reported that a member of the Commission itself had stated that the published directive or "clarification" was not official. He added that any "official" decisions of the Commission would be presented in a manner that would leave their official nature indubitable. Nevertheless much heart-burning had been caused among both priests and people where the custom had taken root.

Finally, the President asked that the documentation on this point should be published in *The Catholic Citizen* in an article from the sub-committee.

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We take the following extracts from an article by Doctor Hilde V. Borsinger in *Die Schweizerin* Number 1, 64/65:

The question of deaconesses had been passed over in silence although they had been in existence in the Early Church and their contribution might be greater than that of married men. Jean Colson's diagram (Deacons and Bishops in the first three hundred years of the Church) shows clearly the prevailing ordinance and the place occupied by the deaconess (Diaconia in Christo, edited by K. Rahner and Herbert Vorgrimier, Herder).

The discoveries of biblical studies should be applicable to woman, Bishop Frotz of Cologne wrote in an essay on "Die Frau in der Kirche des Aufbruchs". The social status of women at the time of St. Paul is known and it is clear that this influenced the conception and opinion of the Apostle in regard to women. It is therefore the task of biblical study to sift what is of value and lasting from what is temporal and locally conditioned.

We are only at the beginning. We expect no answer from this Council, only a beginning.

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ECOSOC. It is good to know that Mr. Mohammed Awad's Report on Slavery, the Slave Trade and Institutions and Practices similar to Slavery was, in spite of difficulties, accepted by the ECOSOC, and that his term of office has been extended to allow him to complete an "historic document". He is to be permitted to "make suggestions"—one of which will certainly be for what St. Joan's Alliance and other organisations have asked for, a Committee of experts to facilitate the implementation of his proposals in his Report. It was sad that Mr. Awad himself was in hospital during the discussions and everyone must hope that he will recover and complete his work.

## COMPAGNIA DI SAN PAOLO

The Company of St. Paul, whose charming Villa Bassi, 24 via G. Carini, St. Joan's International Alliance made its headquarters during its Twenty-Second Council Meeting in Rome, is a Secular Institute of Pontifical Right, and is directly dependent on the Holy See.

The Company is composed of three divisions, women, laymen and priests. There is a true dialogue between the priesthood and the laity; they hold a Chapel in common and work together in the Apostolate. Members are totally dedicated, taking vows annually.

The apostolate is one of penetration and its activities vary according to local needs. These include journalism, pilgrimages and tours, adult education, social work, etc. Members may work privately and individually or in groups.

The Company of St. Paul is international, with members in Italy, France, England, Belgium, Switzerland, South America and the United States. In England, Joan Morris produces art and religious films and has formed a business association Ikonographic Films Ltd., for promoting this form of apostolate.

Miss Morris herself was on the point of embarking on a world tour with the film she showed last autumn to the Council Fathers—concerning which M. Raymond Millet wrote in *Le Figaro*: "Dans la salle de spectacles d'un hôtel de la via della Conciliazione, près de St. Pierre de Rome, Miss Joan Morris, M.A., directrice à Londres de l'Ikonographik Films, a présenté à des Pères conciliaires et à de nombreux invités, son dernier film en couleurs exécuté au moyen de peintures dont elle est l'auteur.

Le thème est celui de l'unité religieuse sur le plan mondial. La première partie évoque la confusion, l'incompréhension et la désunion causées par l'orgueil des nations. La deuxième partie montre la venue du Saint-Esprit à la Pentecôte. La troisième partie traite chaque religion séparément et fait voir de quelle façon chacune a contribué à disposer les esprits à l'acceptation du christianisme.

La doctrine de Zoroastre est évoquée comme ayant enseigné la croyance en la résurrection finale du corps et du monde dans une forme plus parfaite et immortelle. La philosophie grecque intervient comme ayant été introduite dans le christianisme: Platon par Saint Augustin, Aristote par Saint Thomas d'Aquin. Le loi romaine devint la base du Droit Canon de l'Eglise.

La religion égyptienne enseigne qu'une grande pureté de conscience est indispensable pour le jugement final (la pesée des coeurs et des âmes). Ce concept de la pureté préparera à la morale chrétienne. Enfin la religion juive est montrée à la racine de la religion chrétienne."

## ST. JOAN'S ALLIANCE

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## OBJECT

To band together Catholics of both sexes, in order to secure the political, social and economic equality between men and women, and to further the work and usefulness of Catholic women as citizens.

## MEMBERSHIP

All Catholic women are eligible as Members, who approve the object and methods, and will pay a minimum annual subscription of £1 which includes *The Catholic Citizen*. Men are invited to join as Associates, on the same conditions, with the exception that they may not elect or be elected to the Executive.  
Life Membership £10.

The International Treasurer, Mme. Marthe Gouffé, put forward a proposition at the Council Meeting, which she considers necessary in view of the continually growing needs of the Secretariat. This proposal will be discussed by the sections. Meantime we would draw attention to the individual membership form for foreign adherents which states that the membership fee is 30s. (to include *The Catholic Citizen*). The British advertisement on the back page of *The Catholic Citizen* still retains the membership of £1 though those who have it within their power are asked to raise this minimum, and we gratefully acknowledge that many do.

It is, however, necessary to point out that even with two issues omitted *The Catholic Citizen* costs 1s. per copy and we ask those who wish for extra copies to note this. The only alternative is to cut out more issues and this we are reluctant to do, particularly as the paper is becoming more international in character.

DUPLICATING, verbatim shorthand, typing (Tapes/Mss), translating.—Mabel Eyles, 10 Beaconsfield Road, London, N.11. Ent. 3324.

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